



IllinoisTimes



6 NEWS | Chinese Franciscan

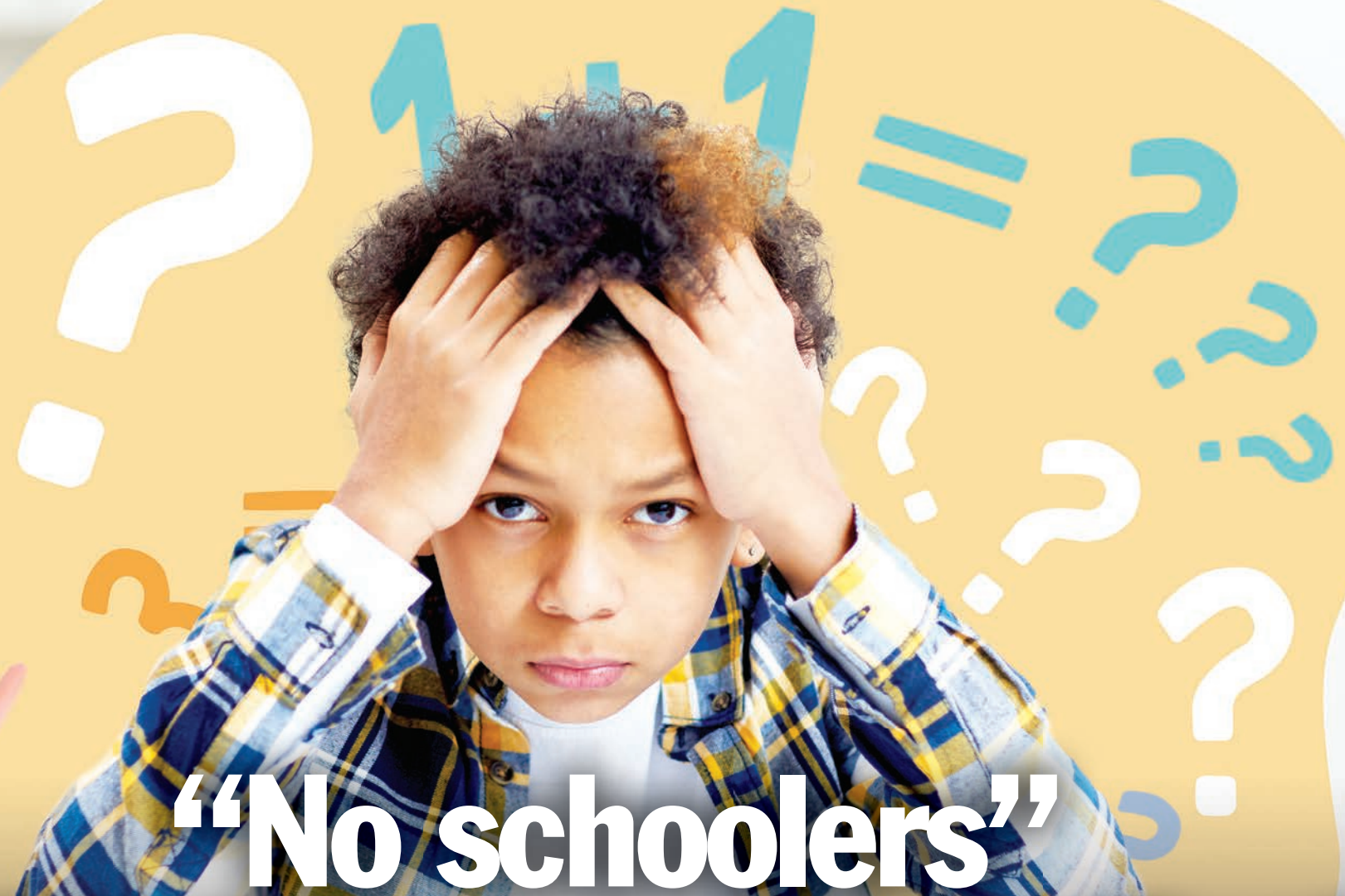


17 FOOD | Sabayon



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FREE July 11-17, 2024 • Vol. 49, No. 49




“No schoolers”

How Illinois’ hands-off approach to homeschooling leaves children at risk

EDUCATION | Beth Hundsdorfer and Molly Parker, Capitol News Illinios

The Animal Protective League's Upcoming Events



APL Junior Volunteer Car Wash

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ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

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July 27 - JV Ice Cream Social, 11 am - 3 pm
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July Adoption Events
Every Saturday, 11 am - 4 pm & Sunday, 12 - 4 pm at PetSmart July 6, Petco, 11 am - 3 pm, 2721 Veterans Pkwy.
July 27, Scoop Du Jour, 11 am - 3 pm, 95 Plummer Blvd, Chatham

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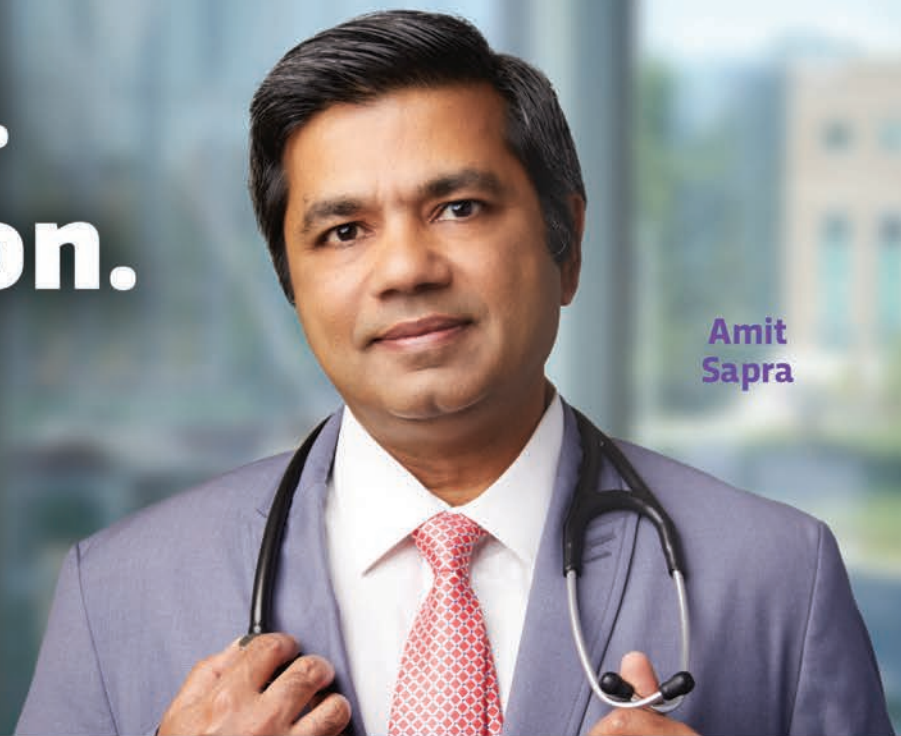


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Sam McCann sentenced to 42 months

Former GOP state senator, gubernatorial candidate misused more than \$683,000 in campaign cash

COURTS | Dean Olsen

Former Illinois state senator and gubernatorial candidate Sam McCann's criminal misuse of more than \$630,000 in campaign funds justified a 3½-year prison sentence and contradicted his stated dedication to serving the public, a federal judge said July 9.

"You knew exactly what you were doing, all the while holding yourself out as a God-fearing man of the people," Judge Colleen Lawless told McCann before imposing a 42-month sentence and two years of court supervision after his release.

McCann, 54, of Plainview, wearing the gray-striped clothing from the Macon County Jail, where he has been held since February, said during the sentencing hearing in Springfield's U.S. District Court that he was proud of being a "voice for the voiceless" as a Republican senator.

But Lawless told him, "Just because you say something over and over doesn't make it true."

Lawless said McCann, who served three terms over an eight-year period, abused his power and took from some of those voiceless people between 2015 and mid-2020. During that time, he was a state senator living in Macoupin County and represented parts of the Springfield and Carlinville areas. He ran unsuccessfully as the Conservative Party candidate for governor in 2018.

Lawless said McCann's actions contributed to the public's lack of trust in elected officials. She said she hoped the sentence – near the top of the range recommended in federal guidelines for defendants such as McCann – would deter future illegal conduct among public officials.

McCann pleaded guilty Feb. 15 to seven counts of wire fraud, one count of money laundering and one count of tax evasion. He was indicted by a federal grand jury in 2021.

His plea came on the third day of his bench trial and as he considered taking the stand in his defense.

McCann previously told *Illinois Times* his prosecution was politically motivated and that his Christian faith eased his worries about potentially going to prison because "God's got



Former Illinois gubernatorial candidate Sam McCann of Plainview speaks with members of the news media Nov. 27, 2023, outside U.S. District Court in Springfield after a hearing on the federal charges of illegal campaign spending he was facing.

PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN

this. ... Whatever happens, God's got it." Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy Bass asked Lawless to sentence McCann to 46 months in prison, the maximum recommended under nonbinding federal sentencing guidelines. Bass said he was pleased with the sentence Lawless handed down, calling it "reasonable."

The minimum recommended under the guidelines was 37 months. McCann's court-appointed attorney, Jason Vincent, asked that McCann be sentenced to 12 months.

Federal inmates generally can be released after serving 85% of a prison term for good behavior.

It appears unlikely that the campaign contributions McCann illegally spent will be repaid in full. The money went toward personal vehicles, a mobile home, a trailer, personal debts associated with his former construction

businesses, family vacations and other personal expenses.

But Lawless ordered that McCann pay \$683,816 in restitution to his biggest campaign donors, with 91% designated for Operating Engineers Local 150 in suburban Chicago and the rest to the Illinois Education Association.

The judge noted that McCann's illegal campaign activity continued even after federal agents spoke with him in July 2018. That was when agents told him he was the target of a federal investigation and that he was improperly spending campaign funds.

McCann apologized for his conduct during the sentencing hearing, but Lawless told him, "It certainly took you a long time to get there."

The judge said McCann "didn't take personal responsibility" for his actions until the third day of his trial, following several attempts to fool her that he was physically and mentally impaired and unable to continue.

Bass said McCann's disregard for campaign finance laws was "severe and ongoing over a significant period of time."

McCann "held himself out as a servant of the public" but was "exactly the opposite," Bass said. "He chose while he was a senator to defraud the very people who contributed to his campaigns."

Even after McCann lost the 2018 election, placing behind Republican incumbent Gov. Bruce Rauner and the eventual winner, Democrat JB Pritzker, McCann used more than \$100,000 in campaign funds "as his own personal junket," Bass said.

Many family members, including McCann's wife of 30 years, Vicki, a traveling nurse who wasn't present at the trial or sentencing, wrote letters to the judge requesting leniency for McCann.

But Bass said Vicki McCann, who was never charged, personally benefited from some of McCann's fraud, and other relatives apparently were unaware of McCann's financial schemes.

"The person these people wrote about is not Sam McCann," Bass said. "It's someone else."

Vincent, however, said McCann was a hard-working family man and "a lot more than a fraud." Vincent said McCann has been "disgraced by his own actions" and went from being a "lofty senator to someone sitting in a county jail."

McCann, who had no prior criminal record, was born in West Virginia and grew up there and in Florida before moving to Illinois at age 19. His attorney said McCann as a youth was passed around by family members in different states, and "it didn't appear he was wanted by anyone."

Lawless said a report from probation officials indicated McCann had a "troubled childhood," lost his parents before he was an adolescent and frequently received corporal punishment.

McCann, whose goal is to become a minister, according to his attorney, didn't explain or try to justify his criminal behavior. He thanked friends and family members during the sentencing hearing – including his two children – and said, "I have the American dream as well as the American nightmare."

McCann said he didn't relish being in jail and going to prison but was "thankful for the blessings it has brought me."

McCann said the people he met in jail erased some of his "preconceived notions" and made him regret some of his votes as a senator, though he didn't specify which votes.

He said elected officials should boost funding for mental-health services and "stop using the penal system as a dumping ground." □

Dean Olsen is a senior staff writer at Illinois Times. He can be reached at 217-679-7810 or x.com/DeanOlsenIT.

Editor's note

The quiet wait-and-see response by Springfield officials to the June 19 downtown fire risks loss of the Adams Street vibe. The situation is reminiscent of early 2023 when a leaderless downtown stood by and let a wealthy corporation "beautify" Washington Street by demolishing a historic building to put up a parking lot. Leah Wilson, a member of the Adams Family and executive director of Kidzeum, raises an alternative vision in her guest opinion on page 11. Leaders see crisis as opportunity. She writes that it's time to make ambitious plans and have the audacity to see them through. — Fletcher Farrar, editor

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NEWS

Partial closure for Interurban Trail

Section temporarily closed for work by Scheels Sports Park

RECREATION | Dean Olsen

A two-mile section of the Interurban Trail used by bicyclists, walkers and runners will be closed until September because of earth-moving work at the future site of Scheels Sports Park at Legacy Pointe.

The closure is needed because contractors are removing dirt from the north side of the site and using it to raise the height of athletic fields being constructed throughout the 95-acre sports park so drainage problems can be avoided in the future.

That's according to Steve Walker, a co-owner of Martin Engineering Co., which is working for Legacy Pointe Development in the joint partnership between landowners and Springfield city government to complete the \$67 million project.

"I know we're being a little disruptive," Walker said. But he said the long-term economic benefits to the community will be worth the inconvenience for users of the asphalt trail extending 8.3 miles from Wabash Avenue in Springfield to Walnut Street in Chatham.

Various sections of the public trail are owned by Springfield city government, the Springfield Park District and the village of Chatham.

The closure, affecting a Springfield-owned section, began in late May, Walker said. Barricades have been erected on the north side of the closed section near where West Centre Street crosses Old MacArthur Boulevard, and at the south end where the trail goes under MacArthur.

Some trail users have disregarded the barricades, which could create hazards for them if they encounter the heavy equipment moving dirt across the trail for up to eight hours each weekday, Walker said. No injuries have been reported.

The closure, currently marked by signs, wasn't a surprise and was part of documents signed and approved by city officials, Walker said.

Any damage to the trail will be repaired before the trail section reopens sometime in September, he said.

Cyclists and pedestrians can use the sidewalk on the west side of MacArthur to bypass the closed section, Walker said. Detour signs directing trail users to the sidewalk have been ordered and should arrive and be in place in a few weeks, he said.

The sports park, catering to traveling youth sports teams and local public school athletes, is on track to be partially operational sometime in 2025 and fully operational in 2026, Walker said.

The park is expected to attract about 250,000



A barricade and sign on the Interurban Trail near West Centre Street and Old MacArthur Boulevard as the trail approaches the future site of the Scheels Sports Park at Legacy Pointe signifies the temporary closure of a 2-mile section of the 8.3-mile public trail. PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN.

visitors to Springfield each year and increase visitors overall by at least 10% to 15% after the first year of operation as the city strives to become a regional hub for sports-related tourism.

Anne Schroll, president of the Springfield Bicycle Club, said she wasn't aware how long the trail closure near the sports park would last until informed by an *Illinois Times* reporter.

She said reactions to the closure from the club's almost 400 members have been mixed.

"It was a surprise," she said. "It wasn't communicated well."

Some trail users have thrown closure signs in nearby ditches out of frustration, she said. "There's this mentality that, 'It doesn't apply to me,'" Schroll said.

Apparently in response to those who have disregarded the signs, an unknown person has spray-painted "Keep out - this means you - bike trail closed" on the pavement in front of one of the barricades.

Some cyclists didn't realize the sidewalk along MacArthur was an option as a detour, so the signs will be helpful once they arrive, Schroll said. □

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.

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Springfield residents sponsor Ukrainian family

Congregation helps a couple and their young son start over in the U.S.

REFUGEES | Scott Reeder

Tunzala Ahaieva knows the terror of war and the joy of finding a new home.

And that new home is in Springfield, thanks to the generosity of a group of local supporters.

The 31-year-old Ukrainian woman arrived in Springfield in March, along with her husband and son, with assistance from Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Before coming to the U.S, Tunzala worked as a nurse and owned a small business with her husband, Arzu Aghayev. The couple also cared for their now 5-year-old son, Hasan Ahaieva. But things changed radically in February 2022 when Russia invaded Ukraine.

“At that moment I heard this bomb. And Arzu tells me that the war has begun. We started hearing this noise outside – explosions. They were shelling our city,” Tunzala said through an interpreter. “Well, millions of people left – it’s a city of a few million with suburbs and everything. Everybody started panicking. The stores were empty. Everybody was trying to get money from the bank. It was just massive insanity.”

Eventually the family of three fled to Germany, where they lived in a single room comparable to a hostel. While there they registered on the website welcome.us, which tries to match refugees with hosts in the U.S.

Meanwhile, Jodi Perko, a retired Springfield state worker, was following the news about what was happening in Ukraine.

“I was talking with my daughter and telling her I would so welcome a Ukrainian family,” said Perko. “And then my daughter was watching some late-night comedy show that had Ashton Kutcher and his wife and the two of them were talking



Arzu Aghayev, left, his wife Tunzala Ahaieva and the couple's 5-year-old son, Hasan, arrived in Springfield in March after being sponsored by members of the Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation. The family was forced to flee their home in Ukraine after Russia invaded in February 2022. PHOTO BY SCOTT REEDER

about (the website) welcome.us.”

Perko's daughter sent her a link to the website. “I just clicked on it and I filled out the application,” Perko said. “Once I completed the application and was approved, the information that I provided was made available to Ukrainians on the same website.

“Tunzala was very quick at responding. And we went back and forth and just got to know each other. We had a lot of the same interests, and she seemed so dedicated to her family. She’s a good

mom and hardworking. They just wanted to come to the U.S. to be safe and to work and do their part. It didn’t take me long to say, ‘Do you want me to sponsor you?’”

Sponsorship is an important part of the process because the U.S. government doesn’t want refugees to become wards of the state, Perko said.

“We had to show financial ability to potentially support these people for two years. They expressed a desire to come here and work, so we knew we

wouldn’t have to do that forever,” Perko said. “I reached out to three of my friends from church. I just said, ‘Guys, this is going to be a big job. Will you help? And all three of them gave me an enthusiastic ‘yes.’ That was on a Thursday, and by Monday night we had our first meeting. Fourteen people showed up at my house all wanting to help,” she said.

Members of the congregation located a house and are covering the rent while the family establishes a financial footing.

Congregation member Kenton Childs, who owns Midas auto repair shops in Springfield, Wisconsin and New England, donated a 2012 Hyundai Elantra after having it repaired.

“We knew it would be life-changing for that family to be able to get to and from work,” he said. “The reason (I did it) is as simple as that.”

Tunzala and Arzu are both now employed, Tunzala at TJ Maxx and Arzu with a uniform company.

“Many members from our church donate quite a bit of money every month to make sure they get on their feet because they’re still struggling with English,” Childs said. Tunzala hopes to be able to return to the nursing profession, but first she must develop greater proficiency in English.

“Sponsoring Tunzala, Arzu and their son has really become a whole community effort,” said Perko. “Members of our church, other churches in the community, and even complete strangers have come together to provide aid to this wonderful family.” □

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Faith and forgiveness

How the last surviving Chinese Franciscan, at 103, finds peace

FEATURE | Ed Wojcicki

An immigrant who first arrived in Springfield in 1948 received only three hours' notice to leave her native country of China. The year before, on Christmas Eve, one of her brothers had informed her that "Chinese communist" insurgents had killed their father, mother, sisters and other brothers in a period of religious persecution. As political tensions mounted, she and 15 others grabbed a few belongings and boarded the SS General Meigs in Shanghai and spent 25 days traveling by boat and train – destination Springfield, Illinois. All 16 refugees were Franciscan sisters with their motherhouse being the American Province of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis.

Now 103 years old, Sister Pacis Bao is the last one remaining of the 35 native Chinese sisters who entered the Springfield-based religious community and served in China, the United States and Taiwan. The second-to-last survivor, Sister Therese Fang, died in Springfield in May 2023 at the age of 102.

"I had hatred for the communists," Sister Pacis now admits, reflecting on the violence inflicted on businesspeople and Christian organizations in the runup to the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Her family was in the spirits business, distributing and selling alcohol, and they were devout Catholics. She said that as a girl, they would go to a chapel early in the morning, because their father said, "No prayer, no breakfast."

Born in Shan-Tung, China, in 1921, Bao Yuan Ying – as she was originally known – was the youngest of seven children. When she was a little girl, Japan invaded China and engaged in skirmishes in mainland China, and the Sino-Japanese War eventually became part of the Pacific theater of World War II. The Japanese oppressed Catholics and Chinese landowners, which prompted Yuan Ying's family to place her in an orphanage for her safety. Yuan Ying says for some reason she had a favored status with her father, who wanted her to be a doctor.

Later she was enrolled in a school in Jinan, about 120 miles away, with visits to her family allowed only twice a year. As a high school student, she had her first contact with the Hospital Sisters, who had opened St. Joseph's Hospital in Jinan in 1926 and visited her school in 1940 to speak about their missionary health care work and vocations to religious life.

On one visit in the 1940s, her brother, Peter, took her from the school to the hospital in the same city to see "a friend," who turned out to be the Franciscan superior, Sister Clementia Dasenbrock. An American from Lillyville, Illinois, Sister



Sister Pacis, left, with Lori Wright at the Franciscan Motherhouse in Springfield earlier this year.

Clementia had volunteered to be a missionary in China in 1927. Peter had made arrangements ahead of time for Yuan Ying to stay behind at the hospital, but she was surprised when he left her there alone. It was wartime, with China on the side of the Allies against the Japanese, but also with many Chinese people becoming wary of the growing influence of the Chinese communists. Asked if she became afraid when she was left behind, she joked, "I was too dumb to be scared."

The sisters gave the young Yuan Ying a job in the hospital pharmacy, and she felt safe there. The sisters' simplicity and cheerfulness impressed Yuan Ying. She formally entered the community in 1944 and a year later was given the name Sister Pacis (meaning "peace" because of the 1945 peace treaty that was signed). She did not yet have formal nursing training.

During World War II, from 1943-45, about a dozen Franciscan sisters from America, including

Sister Clementia, were among 2,200 civilians from Allied countries held by the Japanese in the Weihsien Internment Camp before being relocated to a convent (but still detained) in Peking. They were freed when the war ended in 1945.

Sister Pacis professed her first vows in 1947, only to face the abrupt relocation to Springfield a year later. She and the other sisters who arrived unexpectedly in Springfield in 1948 thought they would return to China within three years. "Clementia said to learn as much as possible" because they would be going back to China to run the hospital in Jinan, Sister Pacis said. But that did not happen. They had limited or no contact with their families for the next 30 years.

Sister Pacis, who had learned some English as a child, and the other native Chinese Franciscans, continued to learn English and serve in health care. She worked as a nurse aide and cared for other sisters at the motherhouse in Springfield and

became an American citizen. After working part time as a nurse aide at St. John's Hospital, Sister Pacis became a student at St. John's Hospital School of Nursing. After graduating, she worked from 1963 to 1967 as a registered nurse at St. John's, and from 1967-68 she was a nurse at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Then another missionary call came, this time to serve the poor in the Chi Chin District in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The Franciscans established the Star of the Sea Clinic in a poor, underdeveloped area. Sister Pacis, one of five sisters chosen for this mission, describes it as "very dirty" there.

She recalled an incident in which a man was injured after falling from a scaffold. "It was terrible," she said. "I put my head next to the tabernacle in the chapel and said, 'Jesus, you have to help.' I prayed all night." Then she got word that miraculously, the man had only minor injuries. "I didn't want to stay in Taiwan, but I promised God, and it was a miracle. I stayed for 33 years," Sister Pacis recalled.

Sister Pacis was finally able to return to China in 2000 – 52 years after she left – and then three more times to visit with her nephew and his family. Her own family had been killed, news that haunted her for decades.

"For 50 years I just felt the bitterness, all the hatred in my insides," she now says. "I know the communists killed them. I always thought that I would get revenge. I wanted to take a chance and go to China and kill all the communists." But two years before she left Taiwan, the bishop of Kaohsiung invited her to a prayer service for those who had suffered persecution. That proved to be a moment of conversion for her at the age of 79. She discovered that without forgiving, she was not at peace. She explains:

"I wanted to forgive. I asked the Lord because to get revenge is not Christian. I needed help. I needed everybody's help. My prayer is not sufficient. So I went to this reconciliation. There were over 5,000 of us in this meeting. I think the Holy Spirit was present – he touched our souls; touched our minds. When I came back from this meeting, I felt at peace. I forgive them. That is how a person gets converted."

Since returning to Springfield in 2002, she has remained active. Initially, she was faithful to an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament each day, tended to a vegetable and flower garden, cooked Chinese food, communicated through email and played FreeCell on the computer. In more recent



Left to right: Mother Noel with Sisters Johanna, Martha, Paschal, Theodorine and Pacis at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Springfield on July 15, 1968, as the Chinese missionaries prepare to depart for Taiwan. PHOTOS COURTESY HOSPITAL SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

years, she continues to devote an hour of prayer each day before the Blessed Sacrament and also paints.

And she inspires others with her quiet, soft-spoken presence, which she says is radiating Jesus' presence in her. With a big smile, she says, "Jesus is my best friend."

Hospital Sisters' Communications Director Brian Blasco believes that God had a plan for Yuan Ying (Sister Pacis) all along.

"The wisdom of her father to move her away from their home saved her life, as most of her

family were killed because they were Catholic and landowners," he said. "Sister Pacis continues to fulfill her calling through God's desire for her to be among us for more than 100 years. She is a living witness of love, forgiveness, spirituality and joy. She is a reminder that as we journey through this life, we are here to make a difference – to recognize each encounter as an opportunity to be present." □

Ed Wojcicki, who retired from University of Illinois Springfield and from the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, is a freelance writer from Springfield.

Timeline

- 1921:** Bao Yuan Yang is born in Shan-Tung, China, the youngest of seven children in a prosperous Catholic family.
- 1925:** The American Province of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, based in Springfield, opens a mission and builds St. Joseph's Hospital in Jinan, China (also known as Tsinanfu).
- 1925:** The family places Yuan Ying in an orphanage in a nearby village for her safety.
- 1932:** One of her brothers enrolls her in a school in Jinan, about 120 miles away.
- 1944:** After interaction with the Hospital Sisters while in high school, Yuan Ying joins the community. A year later, she is given the name Sister Pacis.
- 1948:** Sister Pacis and 15 other Franciscans leave China and take 25 days by boat and train to arrive at the Franciscan Motherhouse in Springfield.
- 1963:** Sister Pacis graduates from St. John's Hospital School of Nursing and works as an RN at St. John's and later at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin.
- 1968:** The Hospital Sisters open a mission in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, and Sister Pacis, along with four other Chinese native sisters, volunteer to serve as missionaries. She serves for 34 years.
- 2002:** Sister Pacis returns to Springfield and lives with and serves others at St. Francis Convent.

Hospital Sisters of St. Francis establishes a presence in China

The Hospital Sisters of St. Francis established St. Joseph's Hospital in Jinan after being asked to provide health care and do missionary work in that country. A modern building for its time, it was a three-story brick structure with running water and electric lights. Over the next 24 years, they provided health care at St. Joseph's and in medical clinics they set up in several villages. Overall, the Springfield-based American province sent 26 sisters to be missionaries in China and attracted 35 native Chinese women to join the community.

When most had to leave in 1948, three native Chinese Franciscans stayed to work at the hospital. One of those, Sister Assunta Liu, grew in despair and committed suicide in 1969. The other two died in 1987, with the death of Sister Odorika Lin ending the Franciscan missionary presence in mainland China.

"The legacy of our mission in China is humbling as I recognize that these missionaries brought life to St. Francis of Assisi's message: 'Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,'" said Sister Maureen O'Connor, who has been Superior of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis for nine years. "These sisters shared the love of Christ through acts of kindness to the people they served, often in challenging political, social and environmental circumstances."

Eventually, the original St. Joseph's Hospital in Jinan was torn down. On its site was built a much larger Jinan Second People's Hospital, which is thriving. The current hospital memorializes the Franciscans' presence by displaying the cornerstone of St. Joseph's Hospital in its lobby.

-Ed Wojcicki

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SAFE-T Act report card

Researchers say it's still too early to know whether the law has increased crime

CRIMINAL JUSTICE | Jerry Nowoicki, Capitol News Illinois

Nine months after cash bail ended in Illinois, the state is taking its first steps in publishing the data that crafters of the bail reform law saw as essential to judging its effectiveness.

The data shows that judges in the 75 counties served by the Illinois Supreme Court's Office of Statewide Pretrial Services had collectively issued failure-to-appear warrants in just 5% of more than 28,000 court dates as of Friday. Judges had approved about 63% of petitions to detain a defendant pretrial that were sent to them by prosecutors.

The OSPS, launched in 2021 to provide things like pretrial safety assessments and electronic monitoring for 75 of Illinois' 102 counties, published the data in a new dashboard this week. It represents a key – but still early and incomplete – step in tracking Illinois' progress as the first state to fully end cash bail through a wide-ranging criminal justice reform known as the SAFE-T Act.

Some state's attorneys, sheriffs and other law enforcement organizations were staunchly and publicly opposed to the law when it passed – launching several lawsuits that ultimately delayed cash bail's elimination by nine months. But retired Cook County Judge Cara Smith, who now leads the OSPS, said she believes the data shows everyone is taking their responsibilities under the SAFE-T Act “very seriously.”

“I think judges and the other stakeholders – everyone, regardless of what their position might have been on the policy behind the SAFE-T Act – that everyone's doing their job,” she told Capitol News Illinois.

For David Olson, co-director of the Loyola University of Chicago's Center for Criminal Justice, or CCJ, the data demonstrates the complexities of tracking a reform as large as the SAFE-T Act in a state as geographically diverse as Illinois.

“Everyone wants to know: ‘How's it going in Illinois?’” Olson said in an interview. “Well, which of the 102 Illinois(es) do you want to hear about? There's 102 counties, and every one's a little bit different.”

New pretrial detention system

The SAFE-T Act included a provision known as the Pretrial Fairness Act that ended the use of cash bail in Illinois, meaning a person cannot be jailed while awaiting trial simply because they can't afford a dollar amount assigned by a judge. After litigation forced a



The Office of Pretrial Services, which is overseen by the Illinois Supreme Court (pictured), released data this week about pretrial investigations and detentions nine months after cash bail ended in Illinois. CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS PHOTO BY JERRY NOWICKI

delay in implementing the PFA, cash bail was officially eliminated on Sept. 18, 2023.

It created a replacement system in which prosecutors can petition judges to detain an individual based on the seriousness of the alleged crime and the defendant's dangerousness or risk of fleeing prosecution. Before a judge can order detention, the state must prove “by clear and convincing evidence” that the defendant committed the crime, poses a specific threat to a person or the community and that no other pretrial conditions can mitigate the defendant's risk.

The law also gives defendants a right to legal representation at their first court hearing, with the intention of making hearings more deliberative when an individual's freedom is at

stake as they await a full trial.

Since cash bail ended, OSPS had completed more than 16,600 pretrial investigations as of June 28, with just over 10,200 of them for defendants accused of a felony. As part of those investigations, the OSPS provides individual reports about a defendant to judges, public defenders and prosecutors prior to a first appearance in court. The investigations usually include an interview with the defendant, a detailed criminal history, employment information and more.

The data showed that about 52% of cases that were subject to an OSPS pretrial investigation contained at least one offense considered “detainable” under the SAFE-T Act. As of June 28, prosecutors had petitioned

the court to detain the defendant in 62% of those cases.

The fact that judges approved 63% of those petitions, Smith said, was evidence the system was working.

“If we would have seen 99% of detention petitions are granted, that would have been a red flag,” Smith said.

Smith also stressed that the statewide data only tells part of the story – county and circuit-level data is just as important. The various circuit courts within OSPS' jurisdiction had detention petition approval rates ranging from 48%-84% as of June 28, though Smith pointed out percentages can be misleading, especially in smaller counties with low case volumes.

Four large counties that are not part of the OSPS – Cook, DuPage, Kane and McHenry – report some level of pretrial detention data individually. Detention petitions as of Friday were granted at a 38% rate in Kane County, 41% in DuPage and 40% in McHenry.

Cook County, which has the highest volume of cases of any jurisdiction by far, broke down its data further, reporting that detention was granted for 61% of 93 petitions filed for misdemeanor cases as of June 8, 41% of 1,485 domestic violence cases, and 70% of 2,641 felony cases.

‘We didn't see any sort of knee jerk’

Judges have issued failure-to-appear warrants in only 5% of 28,416 court dates in the 75 OSPS counties since cash bail was eliminated. But Olson – whose CCJ has been studying pretrial detention since before the SAFE-T Act's passage – cautioned that those numbers could increase, as failure-to-appear warrants are most accurately accounted for once a case has concluded.

“The (failure to appear) rates will likely increase as more of these cases have more time to have hearings missed,” Olson said.

However, both Smith and Olson also noted the number is likely driven downward by the SAFE-T Act's instruction to judges not to rely on such warrants as a first remedy for a non-appearance.

“And really, the reason for that is a lot of defendants previously who had warrants issued just, basically, they forgot about court,” Olson said.

Other means of assuring a defendant's appearance in court, Smith said, include simply

sending text message reminders.

“We send about 200 court date text message reminders a day,” she said. “So that has been shown – just like it is when we get a haircut or have a doctor’s appointment – to be an effective way of keeping important appointments at the forefront of people’s minds.”

Another major function of the OSPS is to oversee electronic monitoring of individuals subject to home confinement in its 75 counties from a centralized location in Springfield. The OSPS now absorbs the cost of electronic monitoring – which, in many counties, was previously passed on to defendants.

Smith said OSPS has plans to add electronic monitoring data to a future version of its dashboard, and she added the agency has enrolled about 1,100 people in electronic monitoring.

“I was very afraid of an explosion in the use of electronic monitoring after Sept. 18,” Smith said. “We have not seen that. The program has steadily grown, but it’s grown sort of organically ... we didn’t see any sort of knee jerk.”

Olson echoed that point, noting that the OSPS made electronic monitoring – and pretrial services in general – available in counties where it was never previously an option. But some counties may be reluctant to order electronic monitoring even though it is free to them, he said, because they’d have to expend potentially sparse personnel resources to enforce it.

A lot of variation

While the OSPS data is useful in understanding how certain counties are handling pretrial detention in addition to examining broader trends, Olson said, it further demonstrates the disparities across jurisdictions.

The detainability data specifically applies to individuals who have been subject to an OSPS investigation – and not those whom an officer has simply cited and released.

Olson pointed to one example of how the numbers can be skewed in any individual county based on its practices. He said Loyola CCJ researchers were told by officials in southern Illinois’ Williamson County that all arrestees are held in jail at least overnight prior to appearing before a judge. As a result, the OSPS conducted investigations on all of those individuals, even if their offense was low-level. Thus, only 36 percent of individuals subject to an investigation in that county were detainable, per the dashboard.

In neighboring Franklin County, meanwhile, Olson said officials reported they jail only those individuals they believe are detainable, resulting in 59% of investigated

cases containing a detainable offense.

There’s also a lot of county-to-county variance on the percentage of detention petitions granted, Olson added.

“And it really illustrates what we suspect is going to happen, and that is there’s going to be a lot of variation from circuit to circuit and county to county, just based on local practices, priorities, discretion that’s given to prosecutors and who they seek to detain,” he said.

So has it increased crime?

While both Smith and Olson said the dashboard is just an early step in the data-gathering process, Olson added there’s a lot more information to be gathered in the coming years before the end of cash bail can be fully evaluated.

“I think that the biggest question people are going to want to know is, ‘So has this increased crime?’” he said. “That’s still too early to know.”

Olson added that it’s important to differentiate between longstanding cyclical crime increases – such as more crime occurring in warmer weather – and actual effects of the policy. He also advised against extrapolating judgments about the system from any single instance of an individual being released from custody and going on to reoffend – because that also happened under cash bail.

“It’s still too early to say empirically, but there will likely be plenty of folks that talk about it anecdotally,” he said of cash bail’s effectiveness.

Olson’s Center for Criminal Justice also noted the law has had its intended effect of adding scrutiny to decisions affecting an individual’s liberty.

Bail hearings generally lasted about 4-6 minutes in four counties observed by the CCJ prior to Pretrial Fairness Act, according to a March CCJ report. After it passed, observed pretrial hearings averaged about 4-7 minutes – except in cases when detention was requested. Those hearings had median lengths of 10-30 minutes, with some lasting nearly an hour.

“That’s actually one of the positive things that we’ve found is everybody in the courtroom, including the defendant, knows exactly why the judge is reaching the decision,” he said.

Hannah Meisel contributed. Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to hundreds of newspapers, radio and TV stations statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.

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OPINION



Kari Borders is the principal of Douglas School, which serves students who have been expelled from their regular middle school or high school. However, she said many choose to continue to attend Douglas after their term of expulsion is complete. PHOTO BY STEVE HINRICHS

LETTERS

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

DOUGLAS HELPED MY SON

I think sometimes people have a negative opinion about alternative school and the kids that get sent to these schools ("No teen left behind," June 20). I was one of those people who thought negatively, so when my son got expelled and sent to Douglas, I thought his behavior would only get worse from being around "bad" kids. I'm embarrassed to admit that, but they proved me wrong.

For this first time since he started middle school (he was in eighth grade when he got expelled), I got emails and phone calls with positive comments instead of negative. The teachers there really care about the kids. They don't just look at these kids as bad kids who are troublemakers. They uplift and go above and beyond to give these kids a positive school experience. They understand that although they might have made some bad decisions, that doesn't define them.

All kids deserve a second chance and they give them that. I will never be able to say enough good things about Douglas.

*Dena Midiri
Springfield*

THINK BIGGER

I don't pretend to have all the answers, but if the district is serious about helping students make progress at the alternative school (in whatever building that winds up

being) I can suggest a few ways to expand the program before adding more students:

- A school nurse on site to help kids who come to school injured, ill or feeling sick because of anxiety caused by a wide array of worries and problems, and mental health counseling services on site.
- A PE teacher, so that students could at least have PE run by someone qualified, rather than getting the best effort a non-qualified classroom teacher can manage while planning and running all the other classes. (This must be possible; Douglas had a PE teacher before the position was cut.)

- An art teacher, so that students could have at least some artistic expression taught by a qualified professional, rather than whatever classroom teachers can incorporate into math or language arts classes.
- A music teacher (Douglas used to have an itinerant teacher who visited twice a week, but that position was cut by the district.) Again, it would be good if alternative school students could study music and maybe even learn to play a basic instrument or develop vocal skills, but they need qualified teachers to have much of a chance.

While we're dreaming big dreams, a library with a librarian

would probably make a big difference for a lot of kids, too.

*Don Gwinn
Via illinoistimes.com*

FOCUS ON ROOT CAUSES

I am glad we have programs that focus on remediation, but I would like to see a follow-up article on how we can prevent these behaviors from taking place to begin with. When I say "we," I am referring to the community and our local government, not necessarily the school district.

If a student commits an offense egregious enough to merit expulsion, the root of that behavior began long ago, likely in early childhood. How can we better support families when children are young? We want to pave their path to success instead of an alternative placement. We want to prevent, rather than attempting to fix.

*Melissa Hostetter
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

GOOD RIDDANCE

I could have told you Don Tracy would never make it ("Illinois GOP ousts moderate leadership," June 27). He takes every challenge in life for a title only. He does nothing to help the cause of turning Illinois around. We need strong fighters to get this Marxist way of government out of Illinois.

*Karen LeSure
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

LOVE/HATE RELATIONSHIP

I hate what Trump did to the U.S., but I love what he's doing to the GOP.

*Bob Disco
Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

BOTTOMS UP

My artist granddaughter now does tattoos she's decided to refuse young couples names on mutual arms since noting while she was tattooing a girl, her waiting sweetie was leafing through a dating app. Her current assignment is a duck's bottom. Don't ask me why. My rural upbringing gives me duck familiarity and every summer there are ducks paddling in our little Vermont lake but neither she nor I have specifically examined duck anatomy. They do bob upside down when foraging but it would be hard to find one at the exact instant and be able to view it long enough. Try Google?

2024 Jacqueline Jackson

What a flood taught me about the fire on Adams Street

GUESTWORK | Leah Wilson

June 11, 2008, was my daughter's 10th birthday, but instead of frosting a cake, I was filling sandbags in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where we lived. The rain seemed to fall without end that spring, and the Cedar River was threatening to overflow its banks. I was the director of marketing for the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, which was situated on the river. The day was spent evacuating artifacts and books, moving items up on tables, and putting a wall of sandbags around our collections facility. We were all working swiftly, but remained cheerful, feeling sure that our efforts would be enough – maybe even more than what the river would demand of us. By 3 p.m., water started coming up from the storm sewers and filling in low spots downtown. The city evacuated our little ethnic neighborhoods of Czech Village and New Bohemia and we went home to watch and wait.

On Friday, June 13, the Cedar River crested at just over 32 feet, which was nearly 20 feet above flood level. It wasn't a 100-year flood, it was a 500-year flood. More than 10 square miles of our city was drowned. Some 1,400 jobs would be lost and 45 day cares closed. Losses reached \$5.4 billion. How would our city recover? It seemed nearly impossible.

Fast-forward 16 years and it is clear that Cedar Rapids has harnessed the opportunity inherent in a crisis. Empty and underutilized spaces have been repurposed and rejuvenated. An urban bike trail connects an eclectic mix of apartments, condos, cafes, restaurants, shops, entertainment venues and cultural institutions. New Bo City Market offers an indoor shopping hub that is hip and vibrant year-round, accompanied by frequent outdoor events, ranging from music concerts to yoga.

The ethnic neighborhoods of Czech Village and New Bohemia have leaned into their history and



PHOTO BY DEVIN LARSON

strengthened their brand, curating memorable visitor experiences and deepening residents' sense of place. Museums and a beautifully reimaged public library serve as important cultural anchors. An innovative educational model, Iowa Big, brings high school students from all over the school district and puts them to work on projects that embed the students in their downtown. It is next to the business accelerator, NewBoCo. There is real energy in the downtown. A sense of vibrancy that had been fading for decades before the flood.

What made this transformation possible? Leadership, unity of vision, talented city planners and community co-creation. First, Cedar Rapids looked outside of itself to study benchmark cities with successful neighborhood planning initiatives worth emulating. Second, it deeply involved the

community in every step of the planning process. Third, it secured strong local, state and federal support to implement the plan. The vision was compelling and bold – make our city more resilient to future flooding while simultaneously attracting a younger workforce. Local developers stepped up. Private-public partnerships flourished. And all you had to do was look around and see that people from every sector of the city were seizing the day.

The evening of the June 19 fire, I spoke to a news reporter, who asked me if I was worried about the future of Adams Street. I said in the short term, yes, but not in the long term, because I know the people in this neighborhood, and I believe we really can come back better. The flood in Iowa taught me that was possible.

Springfield's downtown may not have been

consumed by an angry river, but it certainly has endured its share of disasters. Many of these aren't painfully visible, like the aftermath of a flood, or fire, which perhaps makes them easier to ignore and harder to solve.

We've lost 5,500 government jobs since 2004. Two governors hacked away at our historic sites, state parks and cultural institutions to balance the budget. The Illinois State Museum, which used to attract more than 200,000 visitors per year at its primary location downtown, was closed for more than 18 months. Key personnel were fired. Given the extraordinary challenges of recovering from such a disruption, I'm not sure a flood or a fire would have been worse for its future. All of this, and then a pandemic, has left us with a downtown that often feels forgotten. If, like our building on Adams Street, we took all the vacant buildings downtown and tore away the facades to be faced with their emptiness, how might we be compelled to act?

Becoming the city we all dream of depends on a unified vision for our ambitious plans – Springfield's Rail Improvements Project, CAP 1908, the Downtown and Medical District Master Plan, and The Next 10 – and the audacity to see them through.

This fire, while devastating, is an important reminder of what is at stake. We cannot predict or prevent all disasters – natural, economic, or otherwise – but we can control how we grow from them. Let this be the moment that strengthens our resolve to become a city that inspires, connects and uplifts us all. □

Leah Wilson is executive director of Kidzeum of Health and Science at 412 E. Adams St. in Springfield.



ILLUSTRATION BY SUSIE ANG FOR PROPUBLICA

At 9 years old, L.J. started missing school. His parents said they would homeschool him. It took two years – during which he was beaten and denied food – for anyone to notice he wasn't learning.

“No schoolers”

How Illinois' hands-off approach to homeschooling leaves children at risk

EDUCATION | Beth Hundsdorfer and Molly Parker, Capitol News Illinois

It was on L.J.'s 11th birthday, in December 2022, that child welfare workers finally took him away. They arrived at his central Illinois home to investigate an abuse allegation and decided on the spot to remove the boy along with his baby brother and sister – the “Irish twins,” as their parents called them.

His mother begged to keep the children while her boyfriend told child welfare workers and the police called to the scene that they could take L.J.: “You wanna take someone? Take that little motherfucker down there or wherever the fuck he is at. I’ve been trying to get him out of here for a long time.”

By that time, L.J. told authorities he hadn't been in a classroom for years, according to police records.

First came COVID-19. Then, in August 2021 when he was going to have to repeat the third grade, his mother and her boyfriend decided that L.J.

would be homeschooled and that they would be his teachers. In an instant, his world shrank to the confines of a one-bedroom apartment in the small Illinois college town of Charleston – no teachers, counselors or classmates.

In that apartment, L.J. would later tell police, he was beaten and denied food: Getting leftovers from the refrigerator was punishable by a whipping with a belt; sass was met with a slap in the face.

L.J. told police he got no lessons or schoolwork at home. Asked if he had learned much, L.J. replied, “Not really.”

Reporters are using the first and middle initials of the boy, who is now 12 and remains in state custody, to protect his identity.

While each state has different regulations for homeschooling – and most of them are relatively

weak – Illinois is among a small minority that places virtually no rules on parents who homeschool their children: The parents aren't required to register with any governmental agency, and no tests are required. Under Illinois law, they must provide an education equivalent to what is offered in public schools, covering core subjects like math, language arts, science and health. But parents don't have to have a high school diploma or GED, and state authorities cannot compel them to demonstrate their teaching methods or prove attendance, curriculum or testing outcomes.

The Illinois State Board of Education said in a statement that regional education offices are empowered by Illinois law to request evidence that a family that homeschools is providing an adequate course of instruction. But, the spokesperson said,

their “ability to intervene can be limited.”

Educational officials say this lack of regulation allows parents to pull vulnerable children like L.J. from public schools then not provide any education for them. They call them “no schoolers.”

No oversight also means children schooled at home lose the protections schools provide, including teachers, counselors, coaches and bus drivers – school personnel legally bound to report suspected child abuse and neglect. Under Illinois law, parents may homeschool even if they would be disqualified from working with youth in any other setting; this includes parents with violent criminal records or pending child abuse investigations, or those found to have abused children in the past.

The number of students from preschool to 12th grade enrolled in the state's public schools

has dropped by about 127,000 since the pandemic began. Enrollment losses have outpaced declines in population, according to a report by Advance Illinois, a nonprofit education policy and advocacy organization. And, despite conventional wisdom, the drop was also not the result of wealthier families moving their children to private schools: After the pandemic, private school enrollment declined too, according to the same report.

In the face of this historic exodus from public schools, Capitol News Illinois and ProPublica set out to examine the lack of oversight by education and child welfare systems when some of those children disappear into families later accused of no-schooling and, sometimes, abuse and neglect.

Reporters found no centralized system for investigating homeschooling concerns. Educational officials said they were ill-equipped to handle cases where parents are accused of neglecting their children's education. They also said the state's laws made it all but impossible to intervene in cases where parents claim they are homeschooling. Reporters also found that under the current structure, concerns about homeschooling bounce between child welfare and education authorities, with no entity fully prepared to step in.

"Although we have parents that do a great job of homeschooling, we have many 'no schoolers'" said Angie Zarvell, superintendent of a regional education office about 100 miles southwest of Chicago that covers three counties and 23 school districts. "The damage this is doing to small rural areas is great. These children will not have the basic skills needed to be contributing members of society."

Regional education offices, like the one Zarvell oversees, are required by law to identify children who are truant and try to help get them back into school.

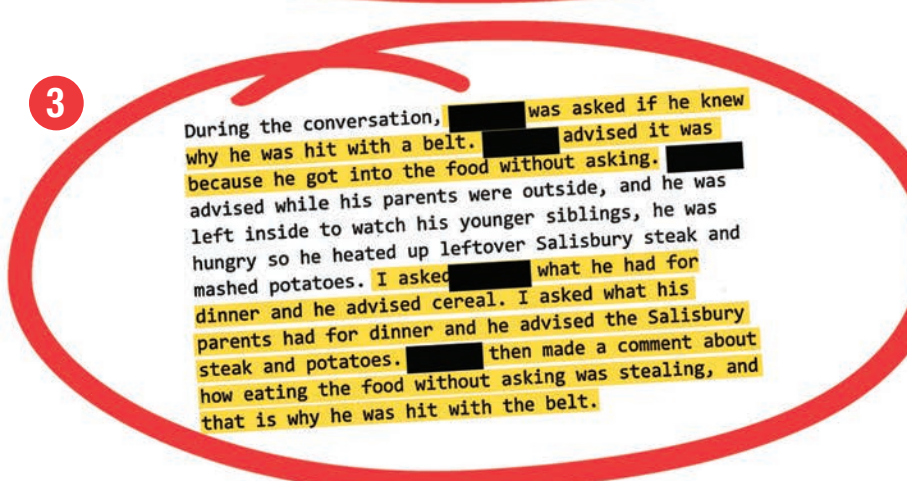
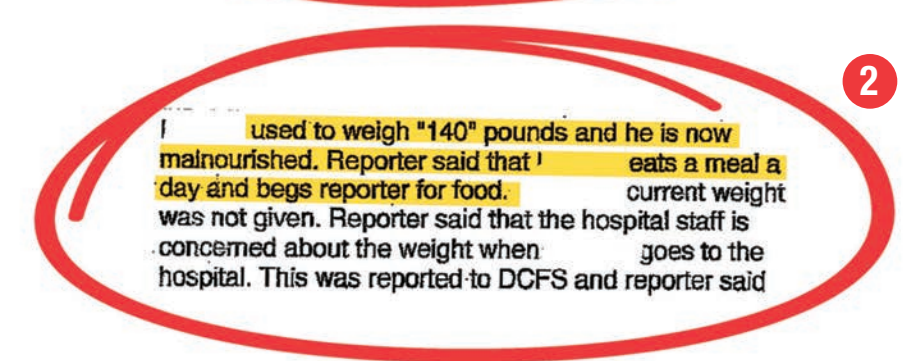
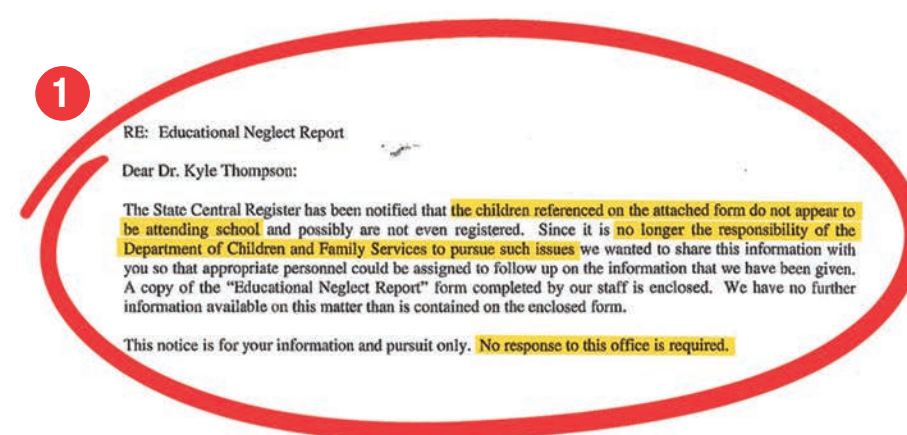
But once parents claim they are homeschooling, "our hands are tied," said Superintendent Michelle Mueller, whose regional office is located about 60 miles north of St. Louis.

Even the state's child welfare agency can do little: Reports to its child abuse hotline alleging that parents are depriving their children of an education have multiplied, but the Department of Children and Family Services doesn't investigate schooling matters. Instead, it passes reports to regional education offices.

Todd Vilardo, who since 2017 has been superintendent of the school district where L.J. was enrolled, said he is seeing more and more children outside of school during the day. He wonders, "Aren't they supposed to be in school?" But I'm reminded that maybe they're homeschooled," said Vilardo, who has worked in the Charleston school district for 33 years. "Then I'm reminded that there are very few effective checks and balances on home schools."

'A huge crack in our system'

There's no way to determine the precise number of children who are homeschooled. In 2022, 4,493 children were recorded as withdrawn to homeschool, a number that is likely much higher because Illinois



1. The Department of Children and Family Services forwards educational neglect claims made to its hotline to regional offices of education handling truancy, stating educational officials need not report findings back.

2. L.J. told police that he was sometimes left alone to care for his baby siblings and punished for eating food without permission, according to Charleston Police Department records.

3. DCFS fielded a complaint about L.J. to its hotline in September 2022 that included concerns about his eating and weight; it also said he hadn't been in school for years. The department forwarded these details on an educational neglect report to the regional office of education in Charleston. OBTAINED BY CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS AND PROPUBLICA. HIGHLIGHTED AND REDACTED BY PROPUBLICA.

doesn't require parents to register homeschooled children. That is a little more than double the number a decade before.

In late fall of 2020, L.J. was one of the kids who slipped out of school. After a roughly five-month hiatus from the classroom during the pandemic, L.J.'s school resumed in-person classes. The third-grader, however, was frequently absent.

At home, tensions ran high. In the 640-square-foot apartment, L.J.'s mother, Ashley White, and her

boyfriend, Brian Anderson, juggled the demands of three children, including two born just about 10 months apart.

White, now 31, worked at a local fast-food restaurant. Anderson, now 51, who uses a wheelchair, had applied for disability payments. Anderson doesn't have a valid driver's license. The family lived in a subsidized housing complex for low-income seniors and people with disabilities.

In an interview with reporters in late February,

14 months after L.J. had been taken into custody by the state, the couple offered a range of explanations for why he hadn't been in school. L.J. had been suspended and barred from returning, they said, though school records show no expulsion. They also said they had tried to put L.J. in an alternative school for children with special needs, but he didn't have a diagnosis that qualified him to attend.

The couple made clear they believed that L.J. was a problem child who could get them in trouble; they said they thought he could get them sued. In the interview, Anderson called L.J. a pathological liar, a thief and a bad kid.

"I have 11 kids, never had a problem with any of them, never," Anderson said. "I've never had a problem like this," he said of L.J. The boy, he said, lacked discipline and continued to get "worse and worse and worse every year" he'd known him.

To support the idea that L.J. was combative, White provided a copy of a screenshot taken from a school chat forum in which the boy cursed at his schoolmates.

At the end of the school year, in spring 2021, the principal told White and Anderson that the boy would have to repeat the third grade. Rather than have L.J. held back, the couple pulled him out of school to homeschool. They didn't have to fill out any paperwork or give a reason.

On any given day in Illinois, a parent can make that same decision. That's due to a series of court and legislative decisions that strengthened parents' rights against state interference in how they educate their children.

In 1950, the Illinois Supreme Court heard a case involving college-educated parents who kept their 7-year-old daughter at home. Those parents, Seventh-day Adventists, argued that a public school education produced a "pugnacious character" and believed the mother was the best teacher and nature was the best textbook. The judges ruled in their favor, finding that, in many respects under the law, homeschools are essentially like private schools: not required to register kids with the state and not subject to testing or curriculum mandates.

In 1989, the legislature voted to change how educational neglect cases are handled. Before the vote, DCFS was allowed to investigate parents who failed to ensure their child's education just as it does other types of neglect. In a bipartisan vote, the General Assembly changed that, in part to reduce caseloads on DCFS — which has been overburdened and inadequately staffed for decades — and also in response to concerns about state interference from families who homeschool.

Since then, DCFS has referred complaints about schooling that come in to its child abuse hotline over to regional offices of education. The letter accompanying the educational neglect referral form ends with: "This notice is for your information and pursuit only. No response to this office is required."

Tierney Stutz, executive deputy director at DCFS, said that regional education officials are welcome to report back findings, but that "DCFS

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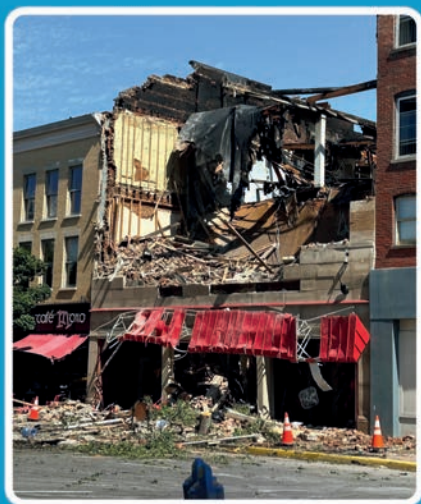
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does not have statutory authority to act on this information.”

“Unfortunately, this is a huge crack in our system,” said Amber Quirk, regional superintendent of the office of education that covers densely populated DuPage County in the Chicago suburbs.

To see how this system is working, reporters obtained more than 450 of these educational neglect reports, representing over a third of the more than 1,200 forwarded by DCFS over three years ending in 2023. About 10% of them specifically cited substandard homeschooling claims. But officials said that in many of the other reported cases of kids out of school, they found that families also claimed they were homeschooling.

Faced with cases of truancy or educational neglect, county prosecutors can press charges against parents. But if they do, parents can lean on Illinois’ parental protections when they defend themselves in court from a truancy charge.

That’s been the experience of Dirk Muffler, who oversees truancy intervention at a regional office of education covering five counties in west-central Illinois. “We’ve gone through an entire truancy process, literally standing on the courthouse steps getting ready to walk in to screen a kid into court and the parents say, ‘We are homeschooling.’ I have to just walk away then.”

More recently, the ISBE made one more decision to loosen the monitoring of parents who homeschool: For years, school districts and regional offices distributed voluntary registration forms to families who homeschool, some of whom returned them. Then last year, the state agency told those regional offices that they no longer had to send those forms to ISBE.

“The homeschool registration form was being misinterpreted in some instances that ISBE was reviewing or approving homeschool programs, which it does not have statutory authority to do,” an ISBE spokesperson told the news organizations.

Over the years, the legislature has taken up proposals to strengthen the state’s oversight of homeschooling. In 2011, lawmakers considered requiring parents to notify their local school districts of their intent to homeschool, and in 2019 they considered calling for DCFS to inspect all homeschools and have ISBE approve their curriculum.

Each time, however, the state’s strong homeschooling lobby, mostly made up of religious-based organizations, stepped in.

This March, under sponsorship of the Illinois Christian Home Educators, homeschoolers massed at the state Capitol as they have for decades for Cherry Pie Day, bringing pies to each of the state’s 177 lawmakers.

Kirk Smith, the organization’s executive director and former public school teacher, summed up his group’s appeal to lawmakers: “All we want is to be left alone. And Illinois has been so good. We have probably the best state in the nation to homeschool.”

‘Nobody knows. He’s not in school.’

Just days after child protection workers took 11-year-old L.J. into protective custody on his birthday, a 9-year-old homeschooled boy, 240 miles away, disappeared and was missing for months before police went looking for him.

Though the case of Zion Staples was covered in the media, it has not been previously reported that his homeschooling status delayed the discovery of his death.

Zion had been living in Rock Island, in the northwest part of the state, with his mother, Sushi Staples. The family had a long history of abuse and neglect investigations by DCFS, and Staples had lost two kids to foster care in Illinois nearly two decades before because she mistreated them; the children were not returned to her. The most recent investigation by DCFS was in 2021. The department did not find enough evidence to find mistreatment and the case was closed.

Despite her past involvement with child welfare services, no Illinois laws restricted her from homeschooling the children who remained in her care, including Zion and five others who were then ages 8 to 14.

When reporters asked DCFS for his schooling status, the agency’s responses revealed considerable confusion about where he was being educated. DCFS originally told the news organizations that Zion was enrolled in an online school program, but the company that DCFS said had been providing his schooling told reporters that Zion had never been enrolled. DCFS later clarified that his mother said he was leaving public school in August 2021 to attend an online program, but no one was required to verify this information.

On a December morning in 2022, Staples told police she returned home from running errands and found Zion dead. A coroner would later find that he died from an accidental, self-inflicted shot fired from a gun the children found in the house. His mother hid the body and later confided to her friend, Laterrica Wilson, that she did it because she did not want to risk losing her other children.

“She said: ‘Nobody knows. He’s not in school. He’s homeschooled. I’ve got this figured out,’” Wilson recalled in an interview with a reporter about a conversation she had with Staples a few months after the child had died. “She said she had too much to lose.”

Wilson, who lives in Florida, said it was one of several calls she had with Staples over the course of months as she tried to figure out what had happened and what to do about it. Police records indicate that in July, in response to a call from Wilson, they visited the home. Staples denied the child even existed. Later, when police executed a search warrant, officers found Zion’s body in a metal trash can in the garage; he was still wearing his Spiderman pajama bottoms. He’d been dead for seven months, an autopsy revealed.

Staples was charged with concealing a death,



Families who homeschool and their supporters assembled at the Illinois Capitol in March to give lawmakers cherry pies, a gesture of gratitude for maintaining regulation-free homeschooling. DOMINIQUE MARTINEZ-POWELL/SALUKI LOCAL REPORTING LAB, FOR CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

failure to report the death of a child within 24 hours and obstructing justice. Staples pleaded guilty to felony endangering the health of a child in February and was sentenced to two years in prison in April.

Staples did not respond to a letter sent to her in prison seeking comment on this case.

DCFS and its university partners study all sorts of risks to children involved with the child welfare system, but they’ve never examined homeschooling and do not track the number of children the agency comes in contact with who are homeschooled. While the agency’s inspector general is required to file reports on every child who dies in foster care or whose family the agency had investigated within the preceding year of the child’s death, the children’s schooling status is rarely noted in them.

For L.J., homeschooling rules also blinded school officials to abuse he suffered, although their administrative office is within sight of his apartment complex. About five months passed from when he was withdrawn to homeschool in the summer of 2021 before the first signs of help arrived. Following a call to its hotline in January 2022, DCFS found White and Anderson neglectful, citing inadequate supervision, but that did not result in L.J. returning to school. DCFS offered services, but Anderson and White declined.

DCFS received more calls to its hotline in June 2022 and again that September, alleging that Anderson and White had mistreated L.J. In both of those cases, DCFS investigators did not find enough evidence to support those allegations and closed the cases.

The caller in September told DCFS the boy appeared malnourished. L.J. hadn’t been in school since 2019, the caller reported. But DCFS said they did not pursue an investigation into his schooling matters because it wasn’t in their policies to do so.

It did send an educational neglect report to Kyle Thompson, the superintendent of schools overseeing

the regional office of education in Charleston. The form didn’t mention physical abuse, but it did say that L.J. had begged for food from neighbors, that doctors were concerned about his weight and that a DCFS caseworker had recently visited the home but no one had answered the door.

Thompson was in his office when the educational neglect report ended up on his desk on an October afternoon. Alarmed when he read the allegations, Thompson went to the apartment that same day. White and Anderson came to the door, Thompson recalled, and eventually agreed to meet with school officials.

“I really feel like we may have saved that kid’s life that day,” Thompson said.

But Anderson and White continued to keep L.J. at home.

In November, a grocery store manager found L.J. in the parking lot begging for quarters and called police, who took L.J. home and later issued a ticket to White and Anderson for violating a city truancy ordinance. L.J. hadn’t been to school the whole year – 70 days.

Anderson said he didn’t know why he was cited, since he was homeschooling. “Apparently, it wasn’t good enough for the school system,” he told reporters.

A few days later, police and child welfare services again visited the home and found welts and bruises on L.J.’s back. L.J. said Anderson had beaten him with a belt as punishment for eating leftover Salisbury steak and potatoes without permission. The boy also told child welfare workers he had not showered for two weeks.

Anderson and White would later tell reporters L.J. was on a diet of fruits and vegetables because he was too fat and prediabetic, but L.J. told police he ate mostly cereal. Though DCFS found credible evidence of both neglect and abuse in its November and December investigations, the couple said they did not abuse L.J. or deny him an education. They are still trying to get the two younger children back, but they say they don’t want L.J. In an April court custody hearing, a judge in their child welfare case admonished them for not accepting responsibility for their treatment of L.J., including keeping him from school.

For its part, the state did ultimately take responsibility for L.J.’s schooling: Caseworkers took the children into custody on a Friday. The following Monday, L.J. returned to public school. □

This article was produced for ProPublica’s Local Reporting Network in partnership with Capitol News Illinois. Mollie Simon of ProPublica contributed research. Andrew Adams of Capitol News Illinois contributed data reporting.

Have a news tip regarding homeschooling, chronic truancy or educational neglect? Email them to Molly Parker or Beth Hundsdorfer at investigations@capitolnewsillinois.com.

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A magical, boozy dessert

Sabayon requires minimal cooking and is easy to prepare

FOOD | Ashley Meyer

Zabaglione (za-ba-lee-ohn) is a seemingly magical dessert that originated in Italy in the 15th century. Egg yolks are whipped with wine and sugar to create what is essentially a boozy custard sauce. Originally made with Marsala, the French quickly adopted their own version of the recipe using Sauternes, a lusciously sweet white wine from Bordeaux. Sabayon, as it's known in French cuisine, often includes gently whipped cream that's folded into the custard. By the late 1800s, savory iterations of sabayon also began popping up and the recipe has since secured a place in the French system of classic sauces.

Whether you call it sabayon or zabaglione, the sauce can be made with almost any type of alcohol. Sparkling wine or moscato have become classic choices, but anything goes from late-harvest riesling to dry sauvignon blanc or even beer. Some recipes use half wine and half spirits or liqueur such as cognac or Grand Marnier. It can also be made alcohol-free by substituting ginger ale or sparkling cider for the wine.

As with many seemingly simple recipes, success in preparing a perfect sabayon comes down to a few key techniques. Temperature is the most important factor, therefore it's helpful to use a candy thermometer or whisk with a built-in thermometer when preparing these types of custard sauces. The yolks, sugar and wine should be gently heated in a double boiler to 165 degrees, at which point the bowl with the yolk mixture should be immediately placed in an ice bath (a larger bowl filled with ice water) to quickly chill the custard and prevent it from cooking further. The custard will break if the temperature exceeds 175 degrees.

When preparing the double boiler make sure the simmering water in the lower pot doesn't touch the bottom of the upper pot as this can cause the egg yolks to scramble. The mixture should be whisked continuously but not too rapidly so it doesn't become excessively foamy, which will prevent it from cooking evenly. Continue whisking once the bowl has been transferred to the ice bath, until the custard is cool to the touch.

Whip the cream in a separate bowl, then stir in about a third of the whipped cream into the chilled custard to loosen it. Fold in the remaining cream and serve chilled in a goblet-type glass topped with summer berries. It's easy to get addicted to this delicate yet satisfying dessert and all of its delicious possibilities, such as a boozy bourbon sabayon over fresh Calhoun peaches with a brown butter sugar cookie or sweet riesling sabayon with strawberries.



A delightful accompaniment to ripe summer fruit, this elegant yet simple dish requires minimal cooking and it's quick to prepare, making it an ideal choice for al fresco dinner parties.

Classic sabayon

6 egg yolks (use the freshest available)
 1/3-1/2 cup sugar (to taste, depending on the sweetness of the wine)
 3/4 cup wine (or use 1/2 cup wine and 1/4 cup liqueur or spirits)
 A tiny pinch of salt
 1 cup whipping cream, chilled
 Fresh fruit and simple cookies, to serve

Prepare an ice bath in a bowl large enough to hold the top bowl of a double boiler.

Combine the egg yolks and sugar in a non-reactive bowl and place it over a pan of simmering water, whisking continuously. Pour in the wine very slowly and keep whisking until the mixture is light and foamy, doubled in volume and has reached a temperature of 165 degrees. Be sure to scrape the sides of the bowl while whisking so that the eggs don't cook on the edges of the bowl. Immediately transfer the bowl with the egg mixture to the ice

bath and continue to whisk until cool.

Whip the cream to soft peaks in a separate bowl. Stir in about 1/3 of the whipped cream into the custard mixture to loosen it, then fold in the remaining cream. Serve chilled with fruit, cookies or pound cake.

Savory lemon herb sabayon

4 egg yolks
 A pinch of salt
 Zest of one lemon
 A small pinch of cayenne
 1/4 cup dry white wine
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1 tablespoon fresh herbs, minced such as parsley, tarragon or dill

Combine the egg yolks, salt, lemon zest and cayenne in the top bowl of a double boiler set over simmering water. Whisking continuously, add the wine and lemon juice and cook until the mixture is thick and has reached 165 degrees. Whisk in the chopped herbs. The sauce is best served immediately but can be held at room temperature for 30 minutes. Serve over seared scallops, flaky fish or grilled vegetables. □

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REMEMBER THE PAST WHILE CELEBRATING THE PRESENT
Times subject to change

MUSIC

July-izing the music

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Last weekend was a phenomenal showing of our music scene, but you ain't seen nothing yet as there's the Morgan County Fair in Jacksonville this weekend, the Menard County Fair in Petersburg and Chatham's Jaycees Sweet Corn Festival the next weekend, then the Downhome Music Festival in downtown Springfield on July 26-27. And after that, we get a weekend off before the Illinois State Fair kicks in in mid-August. So lock in and let's take off.

Amid the good news of plentiful festival music, we received the sad news that the long-running Old Capitol Blues & BBQ is not happening for 2024. The area's most popular festival for years in our *Illinois Times* Best of Springfield readers' poll is on hiatus according to festival owner/operator Barry Friedman. He also owns the popular downtown bar the Alamo, home for decades to the Illinois Central Blues Club Blue Monday gig and says there's a possibility of the festival returning in 2025.

Meanwhile, the Alamo celebrates 30 years on Aug. 24 with a show by Mark Hummel, stellar vocalist and harmonica player and longtime bandleader of the Blues Survivors, joined by blues guitarist, producer and bandleader of the Rockets, Anson Funderburgh. Congratulations to Barry and the crew at the Alamo for keeping things rolling for three decades and for all the years of supporting the OCB & BBQ. Blues on, my friends.

Thursdays continue to rock this summer with 16 listings, including Reggie Britton with his long-running Black Magic Johnson blues band at Casey's Pub patio and Johnnie Owens and Silk at the Curve Inn Tiki Bar. Thursday Night Live happens at Motorheads, showcasing a long list of local performers such as Aley Alvey, Jeff Massie, Joe Kath, Erica Bunch, Tim Copp, Scott Mundstock, Dan Luparell, Ryan King, Heavy Gun (Joe Cooke, Pat Rolens, Joe Phegley, Jim Engl and Ed McCann) and Star 6 Nine (Joe Calandrino, Albert Capati, Chris Warren, Jim Crowley and Troy Cunningham).

Another showcase occurs at Coonrod's when Mark "Big Guy" Bott sets up his Digital Sound Experience featuring himself along with local vocalists singing to specifically chosen music tracks on a killer sound system.

Week seven of the Levitt AMP music series delivers us local openers Go! Tsunami, a



Black Magic Johnson with Reggie Britton plays Casey's Pub patio this Thursday.

masked surf-rock band, a Bollywood-inspired dance display during band intermission and headliners OKAN, a Cuban music duo.

Friday has nearly 40 events including Bustin' Loose at Pam's Jailhouse, Misery Garden with Sonic Sunday and Master Bastard at the Blue Grouch, Broken Stone at Weebles and The Guilty Boys at Jamie's Route 66 in Southern View.

Saturday clocks in at over 30 shows including Springfield Uketopians at Stella Coffee & Tea (noon-2 p.m.), Dustin Arbuckle & The Damnations (roots rock from Wichita, Kansas) at Brookhills Golf Club (3-6 p.m.), Joel Honey, Borderline, Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas at the second annual Divy Block Party on the square in Divernon (1-11 p.m.) and Heartless and Big Love (tributes to Heart and Fleetwood Mac) as part of Live at the Amp Summer Tribute Concert Series in Sherman.

Sunday has some 16 events with a return to the Brewhaus for live music on Sundays included in the bunch. I played (almost) every Sunday from 1994 to 2014 in various incarnations, and now we're back. The new version of "church" runs every other Sunday evening from 4 to 7 p.m., not 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. (or sometimes later...) as in the days of old. Please come check out the newly remodeled space (restrooms are a delight) that kept the old vibe intact.

Be sure to visit our complete music listings for all the other terrific goings on. □

MUSIC

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

Attention bands, bars and musicians: submit your shows and photos online at www.illinoisistimes.com or by email calendar@illinoisistimes.com.

Thursday Jul 11

Whitney Devine

Broadgauge, Petersburg, 6pm

Manny Lee

Casa Real Cantina and Grill, Second Thursday of every month, 6-8pm

Black Magic Johnson

Columbian Grand Hall Knights of Columbus 364, 5-8pm

Big Guy's Digital Sound Experience with guest singers

Coonrod's Tavern, 6:30-9:30pm

Johnnie Owens and Silk

Curve Inn, 6-9pm

Jackpot Karaoke with Debbie Cakes

Curve Inn, 7-11pm

Open mic with Bob Besser

Decatur Brew Works, Decatur, 6pm

J.C.B. Entertainment Karaoke

La Fiesta Chatham, 6-10pm

The Art of Jazz - Mark Tonelli and Max Beckman

The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 7-9pm

Thursday Night Live

Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 6-9pm

Open mic with Silas Tockey

Spirited Republic/Limerick Brewing Company, Lincoln, 7-10pm

Wes Olson

Springfield Beer Company, Jacksonville, 5pm

Kortney and friends open mic

The Blue Grouch, 7-11pm

Friday Jul 12

Corey Evitts

AJ's Corner, Chatham, 6-9pm

JackAsh

Anchor Boat Club, 7-10pm

it Merideth Crawford and Zach Aaron

The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm

J.C.B. Entertainment Karaoke

Bald Buddha Brewing, 7-11pm

The Tangents

Bar Bella, 5-8pm

Friday Night Jazz & Blues - Kenneth Humble Trio

Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

Wes Olson

Buckhart Tavern, Rochester, 8-11pm

Ella Gibson

Casey's Pub, 6-9pm

Josh Holland

The Crowbar, Decatur, 7pm

Matt Eck

Crowne Plaza Springfield, 6:30-10pm

Off the Wall

Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Strangelove - The Depeche Mode Experience with Electric Duke

Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 7:30pm

The Back Porch Trio

Decatur Brew Works, Decatur, 7-9pm

Sawyer Henson

Docs Just Off 66, Girard, 6-8pm

After School Special

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

Karaoke

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

Chris Blisset

George Rank's, 7pm

Jonny Vodka

Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 7-10pm

The Collective

Goodfellas Pub, 8-11pm

Silas Tockey

Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

Dan Grover acoustic

Hy-Vee Wahlburgers, 5:30-7pm

The Guilty Boys

Jamie's Route 66, Southern View, 6-9pm

Ricarda Rosalina

La Fiesta Grande, 6-9pm

Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors

Lime Street Cafe, 7:30-11pm

Marcus Wilkins

Legendary Small Town Trading Co., Taylorville, 6-9pm

Hippies of the Heartland

Locals Bar, Pawnee, 6:30-9:30pm

Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas

Long Bridge Golf Course, 6:30pm

Karaoke with Jamie Lynn

Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm-12am

Mitchell Tenpenny with Sara Evans

Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 7:30-10pm

Blacktop South

Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 9:30pm

Smokestacks

Mowie's Cue, 8pm

Bustin' Loose

Pam's Jailhouse, 6-9pm

Myers - Brant - Paoni

Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 5-7pm

Micah Walk

The Railyard, 6-9pm

Jason McKenzie

Slauterhouse Brewing Co., Auburn, 7-10pm

Misery Garden with Sonic Sunday, Master Bastard

The Blue Grouch, 6:30pm

The Red Ribbon Revue

VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

Broken Stone

Weebles Bar & Grill, 6:30pm

Saturday Jul 13

Ella Gibson

1st and 3rd Boutique and Wine Bar, Petersburg, 3-6pm

Ptuck

Boone's, 6pm

it Dustin Arbuckle & The Damnations

Brookhills Golf Club, 3-6pm

Captain Quirk

Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Joel Honey, Borderline, Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas

Divernon Town Square, Divernon, 8-11pm

Isaiah Christian

Docs Just Off 66, Girard, 6-8pm

Local Drags, Zuzu's Petals, The Pets, Yardwaste

Dumb Records, 7pm

EaZy PeTey

Goodfellas Pub, 7-11pm

The Collective

Harry's Adult Day Care, 6-10pm

The Jonnie Concaroo Band

Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6pm

Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors

Lime Street Cafe, July 12-13, 7:30-11pm

The Aileana Rawlins Band

Locals Bar, Pawnee, 7-10pm

The Longmeyer Band

Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 8pm

Renegade Karaoke

Northern Lights Lounge, 8:30pm-12:30am

AllNighter

Pop's Place, Decatur, 8pm-12am

Menace to Sobriety

Prop Club, 4pm

Joe Frew

The Railyard, 6-9pm

Sunshine Daydream

Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 8-11pm

Blue Iris

The Rusty Rail Pub, Lincoln, 8-11pm

Positively 4th Street

Sangamo Brewing Co., Chatham, 6pm

Heartless and Big Love

Sherman Village Park Amphitheater, Sherman, 7pm

Silas Tockey

Slauterhouse Brewing Co., Auburn, 7-10pm

it Springfield Uketopians

Stella Coffee & Tea, 12-2pm

Zimmeroo

The Blue Grouch, 6:30pm

The Remedy

Town Hall Pub, Loami, 6pm

Tater Soup Band

Trails End Saloon, Curran, 6-9pm

Mississippi Leghound

VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

99 Proof

VFW Post 99, Decatur, 7:30pm

Brandy Kristin Band

Weebles Bar & Grill, 6:30-10:30pm

Sunday Jul 14

Whitney Devine

Ad Astra Wine and Tapas Bar, 7pm

Dallas Moore

The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 6pm

Rod Grant

Bar Bella, 1-4pm

it Tom Irwin & Friends

Brewhaus Bar, 4-7pm

Kruisn' Marrs

Brookhills Golf Club, 3-6pm

Joe Frew and Ryan Jugan

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

Billy Galt

Harvest Market Coffee Bar, 10am-1pm

Mary Jo Curry Band

Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

The Jonnie Concaroo Band

It's All About Wine, 3pm

Mandy Rose

Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 11am-1pm

Candy Foster

Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

Brandon Elliott

The Railyard, 1-4pm

The Tangents

Springfield Elks Lodge #158, 4-7pm

Triple Threat

Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3-7pm

Monday Jul 15

Kingdom Brothers

The Alamo, 7pm

Al Kitchen

Fulgenzi's Pizza and Pasta, 6-9pm

Joelton Mayfield with Future Crib and Kate Laine

The Blue Grouch, 6pm

Tuesday Jul 16

Open jam with Silas Tockey

George Rank's, 7-10pm

Songwriter open mic with Tom Irwin

It's All About Wine, 6-9pm

Karaoke with Debbie Cakes

The Blue Grouch, 7-11pm

Wednesday Jul 17

Open mic with Joel Honey and Silas Tockey

Boone's, 7-10pm

After School Special

Coz's Pizza and Pub, 7:30pm

GatorHead

Firefighters-Postal Lake Club, 6-9pm

Sarah Schneider with special guest Michael Sullivan

Obed and Isaac's, 6-8pm

Al Kitchen and friends

Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 6-9pm

Open mic with Tom Beverly

Trails End Saloon, Curran, 7-10pm

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THE CALENDAR



**Forever Home Feline Ranch
Comedy Night**
Sat., July 13, 7:30-9 p.m.
Arlington's
210 Broadway
217-503-9898

THEATER & COMEDY | Fundraiser to be “pawsitively hilarious” time

it Four comics will take the stage Saturday during a comedy night fundraiser for the Forever Home Feline Ranch, an organization dedicated to finding homes for cats. “We started in 2009 and continue to grow. Last year we adopted out 351 cats. We are 100% volunteer, receive no grants, and we rely on fundraising and generous donors,” said Cheryl Johnston, president and co-founder of the group. According to Johnston, this is the first comedy night event for the group. Scheduled to perform are comedians Rha-Bea Quance, Larry Smith, Ryne Thorson and Clay Foley. Tickets are \$20 and include appetizers. Drinks will be available for purchase. Proceeds from the event will go toward veterinarian bills. Call or email felineranch@gmail.com to place a reservation and pay at the door.

Special Music Events

New Creation
Sun., July 14, 6pm. Part of the Concerts in the Park series hosted by the Pilot Club of Jacksonville. Bring lawn chairs and blankets to the Big Bandstand. Free. Jacksonville Community Park, Jacksonville, 1201 S. Main, 217-243-5678.

Theater & Comedy

Comedy open mic
Second Sunday of every month, 6:30-8:30pm. Sign up at 6pm. Show starts at 6:30pm. Each month features a different headliner. July 14 headliner is Willie Harms. The Wakery, 5 W. Old State Capitol Plaza, 217-670-2354.

Hello, Dolly
July 12-14 and July 17-21. “Isn’t the world full of wonderful things?” Mrs. Dolly Levi is a matchmaker extraordinaire who decides that the next match she needs to make is for herself. Visit the website or call for tickets prices. atthelegacy.com. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 800-838-3006.

Into the Woods
July 12-14. A modern classic that brings together favorite

storybook characters. Presented by the Active Creative Teen Theatre and directed by Ella Nelson. hcfta.org. \$18. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Open mic comedy night
Third Wednesday of every month, 6:30-8pm. Got jokes? Sign up for a five-minute comedy set at Pizza Records the first and third Wednesday of every month. Sign up starts at 6, and the show starts at 6:30. Come out and support local funny people. You’ll never know who you’ll see. Free. Pizza Records, Jacksonville, 59 E. Central Park Plaza, 217-200-0896.

Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella
July 12-20. Cinderella is mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters because they fear the power of her fine character and beauty. But with the help of her fairy godmother, she learns her own worth and attracts the attention of the prince. themuni.org. \$12-\$22. Ages 5 and under free. The Muni, 815 E. Lake Dr., 217-793-MUNI.

Spoken Word

Expressions in the Dark
Fri., July 12, 12-1pm. Expressions in the Dark, a poetry group led by K.C. Moore, will perform poetry readings. Part of the Artist in the Park series. springfieldartsco.org. Union Square Park, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-753-3519.

Dance

Disney Night Social Dance
Sat., July 13, 6:45-10pm. Grab those dance shoes for an evening of music from some of the great Disney movies and tv shows, Beverages and snacks available for purchase. Music provided by Young Dance Inc. \$5. Prairie Land Dance Club, Illiopolis, 650 Matilda St., 309-660-3534.

Friday Night Open Dancing
Fridays, 7-10pm. An evening of open dancing to a mix of music by the DJ. You can also bring your own music. Two step, West Coast Swing, East Coast Swing, cha-cha-cha, line dancing, ballroom styles, flow dancing. prairielanddanceclub.com. \$5. Prairie Land Dance Club, Illiopolis, 650 Matilda St., 217-413-8646.

Art & Architecture

“Portraits”
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through July 31. Delinda Chapman creates large-scale artwork that combines portraits and abstracts using mixed media. springfieldart.org. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

“EUPHORIA”
Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm. Through July 31. A collection of pastel paintings by juried artist Kristen Houch in the Collective’s newest exhibition space, the Underground Gallery. springfieldart.org. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth 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.

Film & Television

A Hard Day’s Night
Sat., July 13, 8-10pm. The Beatles in their feature film debut, one of the greatest rock ‘n’ roll comedy adventures.

Remastered. All-ages show. Reservations required. Broadgauge, Petersburg, 101 North 7th St., 217-386-5669.

Monday Movie Matinee
Mondays, 2-4pm. Through July 22. Escape the heat. All ages are welcome. Popcorn provided. Visit the website for the movie lineup. lincolnlbrary.info. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

Auditions

Sweeney Todd
Sat., July 13, 8:30am. *The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. Performance dates are October 25-27 and November 1-3. Call or visit the website for more information. hcfta.org. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Food & Drink

History Cooks: Charlie Parker’s Diner
Fri., July 12, 12pm. Former Charlie Parker’s owner Mike Murphy will demonstrate his award-winning English muffin horseshoe. lcc.edu. Free. Lincoln Home National Historic Site, 413 S. Eighth St., 217-786-2200.

Old Capitol Farmers Market
Wednesdays, Saturdays, 8am-12:30pm. Through Oct. 26. Shop for fresh local produce, baked goods and products. Please note health guidelines will be followed. Sponsored by HSHS St. John’s Hospital. Old Capitol Farmers Market, Fourth and Adams streets, 217-544-1723.

it Outdoor Cooking Event
Sat., July 13, 9am-4pm. Outdoor, pioneer cooking. A chuck wagon and several others will be cooking on open fires. Get a \$10 wristband to enjoy a beverage and sample the food. Admission is free to observe and tour the buildings. Clayville Historic Site, Pleasant Plains, Route 125, 217-481-4430.

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.

History Happy Hour
Wed., July 17, 5:30-6:30pm. “The most important man you’ve probably never heard of.” Jeff Nevins of the ALPLM will share the story of Shuji Nakamura, whose blue LED enabled the creation of everything from LED TVs to the smart phone. Because of his dogged determination our world will never be the same. Presented by the ISM and the ALPLM. Free. The Gin Mill, 235 S. 5th St., 217-558-8844.

The Struggle for Public Transit Accessibility in 1980s Springfield
Mon., July 15, 6-7:30pm. A presentation and panel discussing the efforts to advocate for and implement wheelchair lifts on SMTD buses in the 1980s. It will include a timeline of actions, advocates and opponents, demonstrations, hearings, lawsuits, state and national political figure input and experiences of participants. Part of the Sangamon Experience’s “The Struggle for Change” exhibit and project. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-

753-4900.

Vietnam Encampment/French Indo China Event
Sat., July 13, 10am-4pm. Learn about the troops’ experiences and the equipment they carried during the Vietnam and Indo China conflicts. Presented by the Living History Detachment. Free. Illinois State Military Museum, 1301 N. MacArthur Blvd., 217-761-3910.

Fairs & Festivals

Demolition Derby
Thu., July 11, 7-10pm. Enjoy this annual favorite at the Grandstand. Reserved box seats are available. Power Wheels Derby starts at 6:30pm and is included in admission. Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 110 N. Westgate, 217-245-6884.

Morgan County Fair
Through July 14. Carnival, food, talent show, pageant, livestock, tractor pulls, rodeo and live entertainment. Entertainment lineup includes Mitchell Tenpenny and Sara Evans on Friday and Brantley Gilbert and Matt Schuster on Saturday. Morgan County Fairgrounds, Jacksonville, 110 N. Westgate, 217-243-5678.

Fundraisers and Galas

Young Philanthropists Kickoff
Wed., July 17, 5:30-7:30pm. Learn more about a giving circle to promote philanthropy and community involvement for young adults. Features remarks by Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln and Springfield Mayor Misty Buscher. cfl.org. Free. Lake Springfield Beach House, 100 Long Bay Dr., 217-789-4431.

Fundraiser for Adams Family

Adams Street Mario Kart Tournament
Sat., July 13, 6-11pm. Grab your Koopa Shells, start your engines and compete in an all-out Mario Kart tournament to benefit the Adams Family. Check-in begins at 5pm with tournament at 6pm. After the tournament starts, stick around to cheer on your favorite contestants for a great cause. See the Facebook page for more info. \$10 donation. Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 406 E. Adams St.

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Fundraiser for The Cats' Pyjamas
Thu., July 11, 6-9pm. Celebrity bartender event! Half of drink sales will be donated to the cat cafe. The cafe was destroyed by fire June 19. Free. Win, Lose, Or Draught, 7004 Kingsmill Court, 217-679-1546.

■ Children's Corner

Camp Firelight VBS
Thu., July 11, 9am-12pm and Fri., July 12, 9am-12pm. Camp FireLight is a weeklong event for kids age 3 through entering sixth grade. Campers are invited to explore how trust in God illuminates even the darkest paths. Campers will learn Bible stories that showcase how biblical heroes trusted in God through their fears. Register online at CalvarySpringfield.org/VBS. Free. Calvary Church Jefferson Campus, 1730 W. Jefferson St., (217) 546-9700.

Fossil Friday

Fri., July 12, 1-4pm. Plant fossils on display are some of the only fossils from the Age of Dinosaurs in Illinois. Be a scientist and learn about past environments by looking at ancient plants. Use exhibits as inspiration to make your own fossil to take home. illinoisstatemuseum.org. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-0061.

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.

it Kidzeum's 6th Birthday

Fri., July 12. Free admission all day. Join the The Migrating Murals ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the first installation of the national series to be featured in the Midwest. The new artwork in the courtyard was created by renowned artist Jane Kim and her team at Ink Dwell. kidzeum.org. Free. Kidzeum of Health and Science Children's Museum, 412 E. Adams St., 217-971-4435.

Little Lincoln's Fireside Tales: Nature

Tue., July 16, 10-11am. Join the ALPLM's Education Team for stories and activities that explore nature and the wonderful world in which we live. Advance registration is required. presidentlincoln.illinois.com. Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

Try-It Tuesdays: Creepy Crawlers

Tue., July 16, 10am-2pm. Attention, young adventurers! Have you ever wondered what a butterfly looks like or if bees have hair on their legs? Find out as we get up close with some of the bugs found in Illinois during this week's Try It Tuesday event. illinoisstatemuseum.org. Free. Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring St., 217-782-6044.

■ Lectures & Meetings

Aviation Mechanics 101 information night

Thu., July 11, 5-7pm. Students interested in careers in this high-demand, high-paying field will learn about the program, cost, and how to get signed up to start this fall. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/e1e9Hd9ftq>. LLCC's Levi, Ray & Shoup Aviation Center, Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, 815 South Airport Dr., 217-786-9103.

Essentials For Building Wealth In Real Estate

Sat., July 13, 2-4pm. Workshop designed to equip participants with the knowledge, strategies and tools essential for successful real estate investing. For beginners or those looking to refine their investment skills. Free. Fresh Visions Community Church, 1551 J. David Jones Pkwy., 217-726-5988.

■ Bulletin Board

Al-Anon District 19 of Greater Springfield

Mondays-Saturdays. Ten meetings are held in the local area each week. Five are in-person and four are hybrid of in-person and via Zoom. One meeting is Zoom only. Visit spi-alanon.weebly.com or call for more information. Various locations, Springfield, 217-891-2981.

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. felinerranch.org. PetSmart, 3183 S. Veterans Pkwy., 217-698-3091.

GriefShare 13-week Support/Recovery Program

Tuesdays, 6-8pm. Through Aug. 27. Grief support group for people dealing with the death of a family member or friend. Over 13 weeks, participants find relief and comfort as they learn what to expect in the days ahead and how to navigate their personal

grief process. Pre-registration is requested but there is no charge to attend. Call or email for more information. trinity-lutheran.com. Free. Trinity Lutheran School, 515 S. MacArthur Blvd., 217-899-9418.

Illinois Product Farmers Market

Thursdays, 3:30-7pm. Through Sep. 26. Local meats, produce, dairy products, baked goods, honey and jams, craft beers, woodworking, jewelry and more. Plus live entertainment and a food truck. agr.illinois.gov. Illinois State Fairgrounds, The Shed, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-524-9129.

Name Change Clinic

Sat., July 13. Provided by The Phoenix Center and Land of Lincoln Legal Aid. Interested individuals can call 217-529-8400 and push "1" for more info. Free. Phoenix Center: Out On Second, 120 E. Scarritt St., 217-529-8300 +1.

Nar-Anon Family Group

Thursdays, 6pm. A 12-step support group for those dealing with an addiction problem of a family member or friend. Call for more info. Leave message if no answer. Free. Laurel United Methodist Church, 631 S. Grand Ave. W., 217-891-5565.

Pop-up Summer Market

Sat., July 13, 9am-2pm. Support small businesses and enjoy a day of family fun filled with community spirit. Includes indoor/outdoor shopping, snow cones, food trucks and outdoor live music. WILD Canine Rescue will be on site from 10am to 1pm. Rain date: July 14, 9am-2pm. Free admission. Brinkerhoff Mansion, 1500 N. Fifth St., 217-361-5555.

Rochester Public Library Farmers Market

Second Sunday of every month, 12-3pm. Through Sep. 22. Fresh produce, artisan crafts and baked goods, farm-raised pork products and a food truck in one location. Call for more info. Rochester Public Library, Rochester, 1 Community Dr., 217-498-8454.

■ Sports

Women's Distance Festival

Sat., July 13. Race on a beautiful 2-mile course through the park. A virtual option is available. Kids can participate in an untimed fun run. Hosted by the Springfield Road Runners Club. Visit the website for registration information. srcr.net. Washington Park, 1501 S. Grand Ave. W., 217-544-1751.

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Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Park Place Securities, Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates Series 2005-WHQ1; Plaintiff, vs. Donald L. Floyd a/k/a Donald Floyd; Cynthia E. Floyd a/k/a Cynthia Floyd; CEFCU; Defendants. Case No. 22 FC 255 Judge Presiding NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL ESTATE

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a judgment heretofore entered by the said court occurred in the above entitled cause, Sheriff of Sangamon, Illinois, will on August 6, 2024, at the hour of 09:00 AM at Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, County Board Chambers or Conference Room on 2nd Floor, Springfield, IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate in the said judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy such judgment to wit: C/K/A: 2516 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703 PIN: 22-09.0-230-005

The person to contact regarding information regarding this property is: Sales Dept., The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540, Chicago, IL 60603. Any questions regarding this sale should refer to file number W22-0474. The terms of the sale are Cash. 10% at time of sale, with the balance due within 24 hours. The property is improved by: single family home. The Property is not open for inspection prior to sale. The real estate, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and tenements, hereditament and appurtenances thereunto belonging shall be sold under such terms. Russell C. Wirbicki (6186310) Christopher J. Irk (6300084) Cory J. Harris (6319221) Tracey M. Coons (6311050) The Wirbicki Law Group LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540 Chicago, IL 60603 Phone: 312-360-9455 W22-0474 pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com 13247270

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS REGIONS BANK D/B/A REGIONS MORTGAGE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO UNION PLANTERS BANK, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO MAGNA BANK, N.A. PLAINTIFF, -vs- Chris L. Gudgel; Regions Bank, Successor in Interest to Union Planters Bank, N.A.; DEFENDANTS NO. 23 FC 144 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on October 11, 2023; Jack L Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on July

30, 2024 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Building, Sangamon County Board Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition.

Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court. Said property is legally described as follows:

Commonly known as 1616 East Glenn Avenue, Springfield, IL 62703 Permanent Index No.: 22-03.477-061 Improvements: Single Family Residential

The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property.

The judgment amount was \$18,230.21. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Bid Amount contact:

Sale Clerk LOGS Legal Group LLP 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 ILNOTICES@logs.com (847) 291-1717 Regions Bank d/b/a Regions Mortgage, Successor by Merger to Union Planters Bank, N.A., Successor by Merger to Magna Bank, N.A. One of Plaintiff's Attorneys LOGS Legal Group LLP Attorney for Plaintiff 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 (847) 291-1717 ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg (6277119) Michael N. Burke (6291435) Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452) Laura J. Anderson (6224385) Mallory Snyderman (6306039) Thomas Belczak (6193705) Debra Miller (6205477) Amy Aronson (6206512)

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.

Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of June, 2024 a Certificate of Ownership of Business was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Sangamon County, stating that: Albert Williams intend to transact, or are transacting business in Sangamon County, State of Illinois, under the fictitious name to wit: Williams Enterprise and that they are the sole owner(s) and proprietor(s) of said business, and the principal place of said business is located at: 2344 S 13th St, Springfield, IL 62703

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAIME L. LEDFERD, Deceased NO. 2024-PR-264 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of JAIME L. LEDFERD, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on July 03, 2024, to Jacqueline Ledferd, 1630 W. Governor, Springfield, IL 62704, as Special 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 January 04, 2025 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 03rd day of July, 2024.

Alex B. Rabin 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 SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of: BARBARA A. SHEA, Deceased. NO. 2024-PR-257 CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Barbara A. Shea of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on July 3, 2024, to Mary Shea Cummins, 6397 Old Salem Lane, Springfield, Illinois 62711, 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 January 10, 2025, 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 3rd day of July, 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 OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the estate of: Karen Marie Phillips, Deceased Case No. 2024-PR-243 Claim Notice Notice is given of the death of Karen Marie Phillips. Letters of Office were issued on June 18, 2024 to Ronald E. Smith as Executor, 2547 Miami Trail, Springfield IL 62702. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the Executor, on or before, Jan. 11, 2025. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor within 10 days after it has been filed. Joseph B. Roesch Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KEVIN LEE BUTLER, Deceased NO. 2024PR000261 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Kevin Lee Butler, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on July 2, 2024, to Ashley L. Fishburn, 713 E. 2675 N. Road, Mechanicsburg, IL 62545, as Independent 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 13th day of January, 2025, or three months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 2nd day of July, 2024. Gregory P. Sgro Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANDREW S. RAMM, DECEASED Case #2024-PR-273 DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of ANDREW S. RAMM. Letters of Office have been issued to MICHAEL T. RAMM, 1117 Harmony Court, Springfield, IL 62703, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Administrator, or both, on or before January 16, 2025, and any claim not filed on or before



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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 2nd day of July, 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 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOYCE M. BARKER, DECEASED.
NO. 2024-PR-250

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS Notice is given of the death of JOYCE M. BARKER, of Springfield, Illinois, who died intestate on March 28, 2024. Letters of Administration were issued on June 18, 2024, to MICHAEL COFFEY of 2612 South Walnut, PO Box 9137, Springfield, IL 62791 whose attorney is DelGiorno Law Office, LLC; 2160 South Sixth Street, Suite D-1, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S 9th St., Room 405, Springfield, IL 62701 or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the 11th day of July, 2024, being the date of first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers>. htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. Dated this 1st day of July, 2024.
MICHAEL COFFEY, Independent Administrator of the Estate of JOYCE M BARKER, Deceased
BY: DELGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
By: /s/ Anthony J DelGiorno, Attorney Attorneys for Estate:
Anthony J DelGiorno (IRDC 6277358)
DELGIORNO LAW OFFICE, LLC
2160 South Sixth Street, Suite D-1
Springfield, IL 62703
Tel: (217) 773-5337
Service: service@delgiornolawoffice.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN RE THE ESTATE OF: BRANDON T. EMERSON, Deceased.
No. 2024-PR-265
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of BRANDON T. EMERSON, Sangamon County, Illinois, on June 8, 2024. Letters of Office were issued on the 27th day of June, A.D., 2024, to JAMES S. BAUMHARDT, 148 North Allen Street, Spaulding, IL 62561, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is Gregory A. Scott, Scott, Scott & Scott, P.C., 611 East Monroe Street, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois, 62701. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street-Room 405, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first

publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the Attorney at the above addresses within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed. DATED this 27th day of June, A.D. 2024. Estate of Brandon T. Emerson, Deceased, BY: James S. Baumhardt, Independent Executor,
By: /s/Gregory A. Scott
SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C., his Attorneys.
PREPARED BY:
Gregory A. Scott (02531712)
SCOTT & SCOTT, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
611 East Monroe Street-Suite 200
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217)753-8200
gas@scottscottlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of GEORGIA ANN HIBBS, Deceased.
No. 2023-PR-319
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE; NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Notice is given of the death of GEORGIA ANN HIBBS of Rochester, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on September 12, 2023 to BRENDA S. WILSON, 5513 North Merrimac Avenue, Peoria, Illinois 61614, 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 July 4, 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. Notice is also given to THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF GEORGIA ANN HIBBS that an Order was entered in the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, Sangamon County, Illinois on September 12, 2023, appointing BRENDA S. WILSON as Independent Administrator. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) an interested person asks the court to become involved by filing a petition to terminate independent administration or to resolve a particular question that arises during independent administration..
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 July 11, 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 OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of PATRICIA JANE BEYERS, Deceased.
IN PROBATE
NO. 2024-PR-263

DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of PATRICIA JANE BEYERS, deceased.
Letters of Office were issued on June 27, 2024 to MICHAEL E. BEYERS, 84 Beyers Lake Road, Pana, Illinois 62557, Executor, whose attorney is Robert A. Stuart, Jr., Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 S. 5th Street, Ste. 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. 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 January 15, 2025, 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. Dated this 27th day of June, 2024.
Robert A. Stuart, Jr.
Registration No. 2761122
Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP
205 S. 5th Street
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 544-8491
rstuart@bhsllaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of MICHAEL L. SIMPSON, Deceased.
IN PROBATE
No.: 2024-PR-246
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of Michael L. Simpson, deceased.
Letters of Office were issued on June 18, 2024, to Travis M. Simpson and Amanda M. Clouser, as Independent Co-Administrators, whose attorney is Claire D. Meyer, Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 6th day of January, 2025, or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Dated this 26th day of June, 2024.
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP
Claire D. Meyer
(Registration No. 6346059)
205 South Fifth Street, Suite 1000
P.O. Box 2459
Springfield, IL 62705-2459
(217) 544-8491
cmeyer@bhsllaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of PENELOPE A. MEYER, Deceased.
IN PROBATE
NO. 2024PR00259
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of PENELOPE A. MEYER, deceased.
Letters of Office were issued on June 24, 2024 to MICHAEL MEYER, 2901 Dartmoor Ct., Springfield, IL 62704, Executor, whose attorney is Robert A. Stuart, Jr., Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 S. 5th Street, Ste. 1000, Springfield, IL 62701. 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 January 5, 2025, 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. Dated this 25th of June, 2024.
Robert A. Stuart, Jr.
Registration No. 2761122
Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP
205 S. 5th Street
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 544-8491
rstuart@bhsllaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In Re the Estate of: HAMILTON I. JONES, Deceased.
Case No.: 2024PR00023
CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Hamilton I. Jones, of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 20, 2024, to Deborah Kay Sidener, as Independent Executor, whose address is c/o her attorney of record, Barry O. Hines, 1224 Centre West Drive, Suite 200A, Springfield, Illinois 62704.
The Estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration, at any time, by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before December 27, 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 ten (10) days after it has been filed.
Dated this 25th day of June, 2024.
Deborah Kay Sidener
Independent Executor
Barry O. Hines - 01220918
Attorney at Law
1224 Centre West Drive, Suite 200A
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: (217) 698-8444
Email: Barry@HinesLaw.net

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JULIE MARIE CARLISLE, deceased.
Case no. 2023-PR-364
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS
Notice is given of death of Julie M. Carlisle, whose place of residence at her death was Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office as Independent Co-Administrators were issued on March 26, 2024, to Sarah Enlow, 2120 S. Glenwood, Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62704 and Michael Carlisle, 7103 Irwin Bridge Road, Pleasant Plains IL 62677 whose attorney is Joseph Ghibaudy, 1415 West Main, P.O. Box 610 Carmi, Illinois 62821.
The Estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless under 755 ILCS5/28-4 any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by filing a petition with the Court within six (6) months after issuance of letters of office.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, on or before Jan. 4, 2025, 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 4th day of July 2024.
Joseph Ghibaudy, Attorney for Co-Administrators
By: Joseph Ghibaudy
Turpin & Ghibaudy, Attorneys at Law
1415 W. Main P.O. Box 610
Carmi, IL 62821
(618) 387-1148
joeghibaudy@gmail.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Matter of the Estate of: CAROLE L. DAVIS, Deceased.
No. 2024-PR-190
NOTICE TO HEIRS AND NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE
Notice is given of the death of Carole L. Davis of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on June 17, 2024, to Aeyshia Crockett, 1815 South Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois, 62703, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney of record is DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC, One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, Illinois, 62701.
Notice is given to all known and unknown heirs of Carole L. Davis of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring Trennetta DeBerry, Zunotrietta Davis, Aeyshia Crockett, Ashanti Crockett, Frankie Davis, and Meyuntoe Davis as the sole heirs of Carole L. Davis. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Sarah Delano Pavlik — 6269250
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC
Attorneys for Administrator
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: 217-544-2703
Fax: 217-544-4664

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANNA MAY FAWNS, DECEASED.
2024PR00260
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - CLAIMS
Notice is given of the death of ANNA MAY FAWNS, of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on June 27, 2024, to SUSAN E. BUTTERFIELD, P.O. Box 42, Williamsville, Illinois 62693, and DENISE M. YOKLEY, P.O. Box 24, Williamsville, Illinois 62693, whose attorney is Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C., 232 West State Street, P.O. Box 550, Jacksonville, Illinois 62651.
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Sangamon County Courthouse, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the 4th day of July 2024, being the date of first publication of this Notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of

a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it is filed. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk of the court. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. Dated this 27th day of June, 2024.
SUSAN E. BUTTERFIELD and DENISE M. YOKLEY Independent Executors of the Estate of ANNA MAY FAWNS, Deceased, BY: RAMMELKAMP BRADNEY, P.C.
By: Richard Freeman, Attorney Attorneys for Estate:
Rammelkamp Bradney, P.C.
Richard Freeman #6198969
232 W. State Street, P.O. Box 550
Jacksonville, IL 62650
Telephone: (217) 245-6177
Communications: rffreeman@rblawyers.net

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DELLA MAE WEAKLEY, Deceased.
CASE NO. 24-PR-211
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of DELLA MAE WEAKLEY, who died on March 20, 2024. The name and address of the independent legal representatives are David Owen Weakley of 2 Birch Lake Drive, Sherman, IL 62684 and Dulcie Ann Weakley of 19286 Log Cabin Lane, Petersburg, IL 62675; and the attorney of record is Charles K. Smith, whose address is 113 East Douglas, Petersburg, Illinois 62675.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. 9th Street, #405, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with a representative, or both, on or before 01/02/2025. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representatives and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. The estate shall be administered without court supervision, unless under 755 ILCS 5/28-4 of the Probate Act, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. 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 21 day of June, 2024.
David Owen Weakley and Dulcie Ann Weakley
Independent Co-Executors of said Estate
CHARLES K. SMITH
Attorney for Estate
113 East Douglas
Petersburg, IL 62675
Telephone: 217/632-7750
Facsimile: 217/632-2532

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TOM JEFFREY BERSHIRE, DECEASED
Case #2024-PR-254
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of TOM JEF-

FREY BERKSHIRE. Letters of Office have been issued to JENNIFER BERKSHIRE, 23 Woodward Ave., Gloucester, MA 01930, 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 January 6, 2025, 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 June, 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: MARILYN A. FROMM, Deceased. NO. 2024-PR-248 CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Marilyn A. Fromm of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 20, 2024, to Robert E. Fromm, Jr., 2034 N. 11th, Springfield, Illinois 62702, and Kim M. Luparell, 2456 Griffiths St., Springfield, Illinois 62702, as Co-Executors, 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 representatives or both, on or before December 27, 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 representatives and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 20th day of June, 2024. Matthew J. Cate - 06272040 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-4868 matthewcate@barberlaw.com 353154

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELSON LEE NANCE, Deceased NO. 2024-PR-175 DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of ELSON LEE NANCE, Deceased.

Letters of Office were issued on April 24, 2024, to Adrian Nasi, 1002 Rhondell Lane., E. Alton, IL 62024, 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 October 25, 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 18th day of June, 2024. Alex B. Rabin Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP 1119 S. Sixth Street Springfield, IL 62703 217-789-1200

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF Agnes Harmon, Deceased. Case No. 2024 PR 251 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION OF ESTATE AND CLAIMS

INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVE Notice is given of the death of Agnes Harmon. Letters of office were issued on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 to Michael Donald Harmon of 1900 Halifax Drive, Springfield, IL 62703 as independent Executor/Representative, whose attorney is Victoria E. Kerr, 1020 S. 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703.

Notice is given to heirs of the decedent whose names or addresses were not stated in the petition that an order was entered by the court on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 admitting the will to probate. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you 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 Section 6-21 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/6-21). You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate.

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

Claims against the estate may be filed within six months from the date of first publication. Any claim not filed within six months from the date of first publication or claims not filed within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to Creditor, whichever is later, shall be barred. Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, or with the representative, or both. Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to his attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. Dated: June 18, 2024 The Law Office of Kerr & Harmon 1020 South Seventh Street Springfield, Illinois 62703 Phone: 217/522-2244 IL Reg. 6319284

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY - IN PROBATE In the Matter of the Estate of JAMES A. VESPA, Deceased. 2024PRO00233 CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of JAMES A. VESPA of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 12, 2024 to TRINA SCOTT, 14070 Lara Trace, Bloomington, Illinois 61705, Independent Executor, whose attorney is Thomas E. Herr of the Dunn Law Firm, LLP, 1001 N. Main

Street, Suite A, Bloomington, Illinois 61701. This estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Illinois Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims may be filed within 6 months from the date of first publication of this Notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of this Court at the Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Fourth Floor, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or claims may be filed with the Personal Representative, or both. If filed with the Clerk, the claimant must within 10 days mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the Personal Representative and to her attorney and file with the Clerk proof of such mailing or delivery.

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

Dated: June 14, 2024 TRINA SCOTT, Independent Executor By: /s/ Thomas E. Herr Thomas E. Herr, Attorney for Independent Executor PUBLICATION DATES: 6/27, 7/4 and 7/11, 2024 Thomas E. Herr ARDC #6211062 Dunn Law Firm, LLP 1001 N. Main Street, Suite A Bloomington, IL 61701 (309) 828-6241 Email: teh@dunnlaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Estate of: BRENDA K. WHITEMAN, Deceased.

NO. 2024-PR-241 CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of Brenda K. Whiteman, f/k/a Brenda K. Melcher, of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 13, 2024, to Brandon M. Melcher, 1720 E. Cleveland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62521, as Independent Administrator with Will Annexed, 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 December 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 13th day of June, 2024. Matthew J. Cate - 06272040 Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP P.O. Box 79 Springfield, IL 62705 (217) 544-4868 matthewcate@barberlaw.com 352247

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

And Daryc Morrison, Respondent Case No. 2023-DN-000249 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION Notice is given you, Daryc Morrison, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before the 11th day August, 2024, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joseph B. Roesch Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY Re: the marriage of Regina Fanning, Petitioner And Travis Fanning, Respondent Case No. 2024-DN-000103 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION Notice is given you, Travis Fanning, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced against you in this court asking for a dissolution of marriage and other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, in Springfield, Illinois on or before the 27th day July, 2024, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joseph B. Roesch Circuit Clerk

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the Petition of Amanda Sarah Creasey For change of name to Amanda Sarah Noble Case No. 2024-MR-000236 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on Sept. 3, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Amanda Sarah Creasey to Amanda Sarah Noble pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: July 11, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the Petition of Kole Andrew Novy For change of name to Kole Andrew Black Case No. 2024-MR-000249 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on Sept. 3, 2024 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Kole Andrew Novy to Kole Andrew Black pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: July 11, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the matter of the Petition of Erias D'arrin Smith For change of name to Erias Elijah Jones Case No. 2024-MR-000175 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on Aug. 20, 2024 I will petition in said Court

praying for the change of name from Erias D'arrin Smith to Erias Elijah Jones pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: July 4, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS INB, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association, Plaintiff, v. DAMON ADEDEJI HAASTRUP, a/k/a DAMON HAASTRUP, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. No.: 2024FC81

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE Notice is given to defendants, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, of the following described real estate, that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action is now pending, and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said defendants is AUGUST 5, 2024.

The Plaintiff has certified that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action was filed on June 3, 2024, and is now pending.

(i) The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.

(ii) The court in which said action was brought is identified above.

(iii) The name of the title holder of record is:

Damon Adedeji Haastrup, a/k/a Damon Haastrup.

(iv) A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

Lot Thirty-six (36) in Block Four (4) of Payne's Grand venue Subdivision No. 2 in the City of Springfield.

Except any interest in the coal, oil, gas and other minerals underlying the land which have been heretofore conveyed or reserved in prior conveyances, and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal, oil, gas and other minerals, if any. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Tax ID Number: 22-04-209-001

(v) A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows: 1502 South Pasfield Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704

(vi) An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

(A) Nature of instrument: Mortgage.

(B) Date of mortgage: March 21, 2023.

(C) Name of mortgagor: Damon Adedeji Haastrup, a/k/a Damon Haastrup.

(D) Name of mortgagee: INB, National Association.

(E) Date and place of recording: March 30, 2023 in the Recorder's Office of Sangamon County, Sangamon County, Illinois.

(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2023R05008.

INB, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association, Plaintiff

Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930) Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)

Hart, Southworth & Witsman Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza

Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: (217) 753-0055

trigby@hswnet.com

aprillaman@hswnet.com

8051-944337

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS INB, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association, Plaintiff, v.

DAMON ADEDEJI HAASTRUP, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS,

Defendants.

No.: 2024FC82

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Notice is given to defendants, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, of the following described real estate, that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action is now pending, and the day on or after which a default may be entered against said defendants is AUGUST 5, 2024.

The Plaintiff has certified that the above entitled mortgage foreclosure action was filed on June 3, 2024, and is now pending.

(i) The names of all plaintiffs and the case number are identified above.

(ii) The court in which said action was brought is identified above.

(iii) The name of the title holder of record is:

Damon Adedeji Haastrup.

(iv) A legal description of the real estate sufficient to identify it with reasonable certainty is as follows:

The South 30 feet of Lot 21 and the North 10 feet of Lot 20 in Block 2 of the Subdivision of Lots 1, 2, 13, and 14 of Washington Iles' Subdivision No. 2, in Section 3, Township 15 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian.

Except any interest in the coal, oil, gas, and other minerals underlying the land which have been heretofore conveyed or reserved in prior conveyances, and all rights and easements in favor of the estate of said coal, oil, gas and other minerals, if any. Situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.

Tax ID Number: 22-03.0-252-014

(v) A common address or description of the location of the real estate is as follows:

1818 South 13th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703

(vi) An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

(A) Nature of instrument: Mortgage.

(B) Date of mortgage: February 24, 2023.

(C) Name of mortgagor: Damon Adedeji Haastrup.

(D) Name of mortgagee: INB, National Association.

(E) Date and place of recording: February 27, 2023 in the Recorder's Office of Sangamon County, Sangamon County, Illinois.

(F) Identification of recording: Document No. 2023R03093.

INB, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, a national banking association, Plaintiff

Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930) Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)

Hart, Southworth & Witsman Suite 501, One North Old State Capitol Plaza

Springfield, Illinois 62701 Telephone: (217) 753-0055

trigby@hswnet.com

aprillaman@hswnet.com

8051-944336

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Park Place Securities, Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates Series 2005-WHQ1; Plaintiff, vs. Donald L. Floyd a/k/a Donald Floyd; Cynthia E. Floyd a/k/a Cynthia Floyd; CEFU; Defendants. Case No. 22 FC 255 Judge Presiding NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL ESTATE

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a judgment heretofore entered by the said court occurred in the above entitled cause, Sheriff of Sangamon, Illinois, will on August 6, 2024, at the hour of 09:00 AM at Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, County Board Chambers or Conference Room on 2nd Floor, Springfield,

IL 62701, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate in the said judgment mentioned, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy such judgment to wit: THE SOUTH 20 FEET OF LOT 32 AND THE NORTH 25 FEET OF LOT 31 IN BLOCK 34 OF PAYNE'S SOUTH SIDE ADDITION, SIXTH PLAT, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS. EXCEPT THE COAL AND MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL AND MINERALS. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. C/K/A: 2516 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703 PIN: 22-09.0-230-005 The person to contact regarding information regarding this property is: Sales Dept., The Wirbicki Law Group, 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540, Chicago, IL 60603. Any questions regarding this sale should refer to file number W22-0474. The terms of the sale are Cash. 10% at time of sale, with the balance due within 24 hours. The property is improved by: single family home. The Property is not open for inspection prior to sale. The real estate, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and tenements, hereditament and appurtenances thereunto belonging shall be sold under such terms. Russell C. Wirbicki (6186310) Christopher J. Irk (6300084) Cory J. Harris (6319221) Tracey M. Coons (6311050) The Wirbicki Law Group LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 33 W. Monroe St., Suite 1540 Chicago, IL 60603 Phone: 312-360-9455 W22-0474 pleadings.il@wirbickilaw.com I3247270

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS REGIONS BANK D/B/A REGIONS MORTGAGE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO UNION PLANTERS BANK, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO MAGNA BANK, N.A. PLAINTIFF, -vs- Chris L. Gudge; Regions Bank, Successor in Interest to Union Planters Bank, N.A.; DEFENDANTS NO. 23 FC 144 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on October 11, 2023; Jack L. Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on July 30, 2024 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Building, Sangamon County Board Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois. Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon

confirmation of said sale by the Court. Said property is legally described as follows: LOTS 132, 133, 134 AND 135 IN LINCOLN HEIGHTS ADDITION, CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, COUNTY OF SANGAMON, ILLINOIS. EXCEPT THE COAL AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL AND MINERALS. Commonly known as 1616 East Glenn Avenue, Springfield, IL 62703 Permanent Index No.: 22-03.477-061 Improvements: Single Family Residential The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. The judgment amount was \$18,230.21. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Bid Amount contact: Sale Clerk LOGS Legal Group LLP 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 ILNOTICES@logs.com (847) 291-1717 Regions Bank d/b/a Regions Mortgage, Successor by Merger to Union Planters Bank, N.A., Successor by Merger to Magna Bank, N.A. One of Plaintiff's Attorneys LOGS Legal Group LLP Attorney for Plaintiff 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 (847) 291-1717 ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg (6277119) Michael N. Burke (6291435) Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452) Laura J. Anderson (6224385) Mallory Snyderman (6306039) Thomas Belczak (6193705) Debra Miller (6205477) Amy Aronson (6206512) THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION. 8051-943842

Advertisement for Bid Lincoln Land Community College (LLCC) invites qualified GENERAL/SITE Contractors, to submit sealed bids to furnish all labor & material to complete requirements of bidding for installing new concrete training pad and electrical work for TRUCK DRIVER TRAINING EXPANSION. This project is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and all bidders must comply with the requirements listed on the Construction Documents. Sealed bids must be delivered to the attention of MR. TIM ERVIN, Director of Construction & EHS, Lincoln Land Community College, Construction & EHS Office – Mason Hall, 5250 Shepherd Road,

Springfield, IL 62794-9256 (Southeast corner of the LLCC Main Campus), on or before TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2024, at 2:00 PM Central Standard Time (CST), at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. Faxed or e-mailed bids will not be accepted. Vendors are responsible for ensuring that bids are received by the above office prior to the deadline. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Contractors who have submitted a bid are invited, but not required, to attend the bid opening. All Contracts for the Construction will comply with the following: 2 CFR 200 All contractors and subcontractors shall demonstrate experience on projects of similar size and type. All contractor contact and questions regarding any matter concerning this Invitation to Bid must be submitted in writing to MR. ADAM PALLAI, MARTIN ENGINEERING COMPANY, 3695 SOUTH 6TH STREET FRONTAGE ROAD WEST, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703, BY FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024. Submittals of questions may be emailed to APALLAI@MARTINENGINEERINGCO.COM, please put "TRUCK DRIVER TRAINING EXPANSION" in the subject line.) No questions will be addressed after 3:00 PM (CST), on FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024. Other questions regarding the bid documents will be addressed at a mandatory pre bid meeting/site visit for contractors, which shall begin promptly at 9:00 AM, THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024, at MASON HALL CONFERENCE ROOM, on the LLCC main campus. Failure to be present when the meeting begins, may result in the bidder being disqualified. Contractors should have any sub-contractors present at the mandatory pre-bid meeting who may wish to view the site. Further information concerning the specifications of this invitation to bid resulting from questions submitted, either in writing or resulting from the pre bid meeting/site visit, will be communicated in the form of an addendum. E-mail or verbal responses to questions are not a part of the bid documents and only formal addendum will govern. Bid Documents will be available to qualified contractors from the offices of MARTIN ENGINEERING COMPANY on or after FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2024. Qualified contractors may obtain documents by depositing \$50 per set, refundable upon return of documents in good condition within one week of Bid Due Date. The Central Illinois Builders' Non-Cash Security Method for request of documents will be accepted on this project, as well. The bidder shall furnish a bid bond in the amount of 5% of the amount bid made payable to Lincoln Land Community College. The Lincoln Land Community College, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, all contractors will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of the owner's race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, income-level, or LEP in consideration for an award. LLCC reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities in the bids received, or to permit timely correction of minor deficiencies in bids whenever such rejection or waiver is in the interest of LLCC and to accept the bid or bids being most favorable to LLCC after all bids have been examined and evaluated.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Lake Springfield Fire Protection District in the County of Sangamon and the State of Illinois, for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, from and after 18th day of July, 2024. NOTICE is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 4:00 p.m. C.S.T., on the 19th day of August, 2024, at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, and that final action on said Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of said Lake Springfield Fire Protection District at a meeting thereof to be held immediately following on the 19th day of August, 2024, at said 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois. By Order of the Board of Trustees of said District. DATED this 28th day of June, 2024. LAKE SPRINGFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT James Orr, Secretary Board of Trustees LAKE SPRINGFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Woodside Fire Protection District in the County of Sangamon and the State of Illinois, for the fiscal year, beginning June 1, 2024 and ending May 31, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, from and after 11th day of August, 2024. NOTICE is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 5:00 p.m. C.S.T., on the 12th day of August, 2024, at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, and that final action on said Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of said Woodside Fire Protection District at a meeting thereof to be held immediately following on the 12th day of August, 2024, at said 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois. By Order of the Board of Trustees of said District. DATED this 28th day of June, 2024. WOODSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Connie Sebok, Secretary Board of Trustees WOODSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Southlawn Fire Protection District in the County of Sangamon and the State of Illinois, for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, from and after 11th day of July, 2024. NOTICE is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 3:00 p.m. C.S.T., on the 12th day of August, 2024, at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, and that final action on said Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of said Southlawn Fire

Protection District at a meeting thereof to be held immediately following on the 12th day of August, 2024, at said 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois. By Order of the Board of Trustees of said District. DATED this 28th day of June, 2024. SOUTHLAWN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Victor Muchow, Secretary Board of Trustees SOUTHLAWN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the South Oak Knolls Fire Protection District in the County of Sangamon and the State of Illinois, for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, from and after 11th day of July, 2024. NOTICE is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 4:00 p.m. C.S.T., on the 12th day of August, 2024, at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, and that final action on said Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of said South Oak Knolls Fire Protection District at a meeting thereof to be held immediately following on the 12th day of August, 2024, at said 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois. By Order of the Board of Trustees of said District. DATED this 28th day of June, 2024. SOUTH OAK KNOLLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Kent Gray, Secretary Board of Trustees SOUTH OAK KNOLLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Southside Fire Protection District in the County of Sangamon and the State of Illinois, for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, from and after 18th day of July, 2024. NOTICE is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 5:00 p.m. C.S.T., on the 19th day of August, 2024, at 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, and that final action on said Ordinance will be taken by the Board of Trustees of said Southside Fire Protection District at a meeting thereof to be held immediately following on the 19th day of August, 2024, at said 1 North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 200, Springfield, Illinois. By Order of the Board of Trustees of said District. DATED this 28th day of June, 2024. SOUTHSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT Jim Sullivan, Secretary Board of Trustees SOUTHSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE Wishing to avail themselves of the provisions under the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, the below storage facilities give notice of the sale under said act; Friday the 26th day of July, 2024 at 11:00 AM, on that day

will conduct a sale to the highest bidder, with bidding to take place on lockerfox.com, and payment to seller via credit/debit card, the contents of spaces 10 Federal Self Storage, 2225 J David Jones Pkwy, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 600-2778 Martell Beard 283. John Sphar 68. Jamie Gibson 768. Thomas Shephard 394. Andria Beaufort P5. Ayla Gulley 115. Johnathan Pendall 102. Derek James 826. Judith Hamm 100. april valittle 3. Jeremy Word 445/446. Nick Elliott 34. kristopher vincent 121. Ashley Verry 447/448. Phantayesia King 842. June Word 5. Michael Lesser 558. Richard Edwards 41. Nancy Holshouser 60/75. Nancy Holshouser 426; 10 Federal Self Storage, 3500 South 6th Street, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 387-3951 Jaclyn Dewart B154. Lajarvious Smith A64. Kevin E. Denton P13. Kevin E. Denton P10. Anthonysha Davis A76. Toney Jarrett B133. Chad Crim B146. KLINE AMANDA B192/B193. Ronald (Rick) Lufkin A31. Ronald (Rick) Lufkin A45; 10 Federal Self Storage, 500 W Browning Rd, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 339-3865 Michael Williams 290e. Melissa Carter 144C. Marlon Williams 257E. Samuel Jackson 98B; 10 Federal Self Storage, 900 E Straight St, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 286-1550 COURTNEY BRODERICK 81. Otearia Streeter 193. Darion Williams 2. Austin Hunt 241. Precious Morey 74. Sue Beach 124. Christopher Casper 229

In The Circuit Court For The Seventh Judicial Circuit of Illinois Sangamon County, Springfield, Illinois ILL. DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION (Petitioner) VS. POONAM FIRST LLC et al. (Defendant) Case Number: 2024-ED-1 NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS that this action has been commenced for judgment of just compensation for the real property described in the attached Exhibit A and Exhibit B and for other relief. Unless you file your Answer or otherwise file your Appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois, 62701 on or before August 2, 2024, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. Name: R Phillip Reed Attorney for: Ill Dept of Transportation ARDCNO: 2300478 Address: 2616 Hazelnut Drive City: Springfield State: IL Zip Code: 62702 Area Code/Telephone: 217-528-7333 DESCRIPTION OF RIGHT OF WAY FOR DEED EXHIBIT A F.A.P. ROUTE 666 (BL-55 / 6TH ST) SECTION: (110X-5) WRS, N, SW JOB NO. R-96-003-10 PARCEL 6030128A & B SANGAMON COUNTY STA. 49+38.07 TO STA. 54+34.75 (Proposed F.A.P. Route 666(BL-55/6th St.) Alignment) POONAM FIRST LLC, A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Part of Lots 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 in County Clerk's Subdivision of part of Section 9, 10, 15, and 16, Township 15 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian, Sangamon County, Illinois, described as follows: 6030128A Commencing at a mag nail at the northwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 15; thence North 88 degrees 25 minutes 56 seconds East on the north line of said Northwest Quarter, 312.86 feet to the east right of way line of South

6th Street West; thence South 01 degrees 17 minutes 52 seconds East on said line, 115.12 feet; thence South 01 degree 17 minutes 57 seconds East on said line, 484.85 feet to the north right of way line of Saint Joseph's Street; thence North 88 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds East on said line, 288.97 feet to the Point of Beginning.

From said Point of Beginning, thence North 76 degrees 41 minutes 45 seconds East, 54.16 feet to the westerly right of way line of F.A.P. ROUTE 666 (BL-55 / 6TH ST); thence South 09 degrees 54 minutes 07 seconds West on said line. 11.24 feet to the north right of way line of Saint Joseph's Street; thence South 88 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds West on said line, 50.79 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.006 acres or 280 square feet, more or less.

6030128B
Commencing at a mag nail at the north-west corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 15; thence North 88 degrees 25 minutes 56 seconds East on the north line of said Northwest Quarter, 312.86 feet to the east right of way line of South 6th Street West; thence South 01 degrees 17 minutes 52 seconds East on said line, 115.12 feet; thence South 01 degree 17 minutes 57 seconds East on said line, 469.70 feet to the Point of Beginning.

From said Point of Beginning, thence North 88 degrees 34 minutes 28 seconds East, 8.93 feet; thence South 47 degrees 53 minutes 39 seconds East, 13.79 feet; thence South 75 degrees 07 minutes 45 seconds East, 19.80 feet to the north right of way line of Saint Joseph's Street; thence South 88 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds West on said line, 37.97 feet to the east right of way line of South 6th Street West; thence North 01 degrees 18 minutes 07 seconds West on said line, 15.15 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.007 acres or 292 square feet, more or less.

The said Real Estate being also shown by the plat hereto attached and made a part thereof.

Bearings and distances are based on the Illinois State Plane Coordinate System NAD83 (1997) - West Zone
PIN 22-15.0-102-012

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
David Cook, Petitioner
and
Clarissa Hopps, Respondent
Case No. 2024-FA-000167
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you Clarissa Hopps, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced and you are summoned to a child custody case and for other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois on or before the 4th day of August, 2024, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.
Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

Purpose of Easement: 6030128TE1 Grading and Shaping
6030128TE2 Entrance Construction & Grading and Shaping
Part of Lots 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 in County Clerk's Subdivision of part of Section 9, 10, 15, and 16, Township 15 North, Range 5 West of the Third Principal Meridian, Sangamon County, Illinois, described as follows:

6030128TE1
Beginning at a rebar on the westerly right of way line of F.A.P. ROUTE 666 (BL-55 / 6TH ST), said point being 107.03 feet left of the centerline of Proposed South 6th Street at Station 54+33.59; thence on said line the following two courses: South 21 degrees 27 minutes 46 seconds East, 61.20 feet, South 16 degrees 49 minutes 19 seconds East, 28.70 feet; thence South 71 degrees 42 minutes 55 seconds West, 9.25 feet; thence North 16 degrees 40 minutes 59 seconds West, 91.05 feet; thence North 88 degrees 27 minutes 31 seconds East, 4.22 feet to the Point of

Beginning, containing 0.015 acres or 672 square feet, more or less.
6030128TE2

Beginning at a point on the east right of way line of South 6th Street West, said point being 81.18 feet left of the centerline of Existing Saint Joseph Street at Station 5+11.15; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 01 second East, 8.86 feet; thence South 01 degree 25 minutes 32 seconds East, 29.00 feet; thence South 48 degrees 54 minutes 54 seconds East, 16.28 feet; thence South 74 degrees 26 minutes 26 seconds East, 19.01 feet; thence North 88 degrees 33 minutes 44 seconds East, 237.82 feet; thence North 01 degree 25 minutes 32 seconds West, 5.50 feet; thence North 88 degrees 34 minutes 28 seconds East, 43.00 feet; thence South 01 degree 25 minutes 32 seconds East, 3.41 feet; thence South 76 degrees 41 minutes 45 seconds West, 31.68 feet to the north right of way line of Saint Joseph Street; thence South 88 degrees 25 minutes 58 seconds West on said line, 251.00 feet; thence North 75 degrees 07 minutes 45 seconds West, 19.80 feet; thence North 47 degrees 53 minutes 39 seconds West, 13.79 feet; thence South 88 degrees 34 minutes 28 seconds West, 8.93 feet to the east right of way line of South 6th Street West; thence North 01 degree 17 minutes 57 second West on said line, 35.68 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.045 acres or 1946 square feet, more or less.

The said Real Estate being also shown by the plat hereto attached and made a part hereof.

Bearings and distances are based on the Illinois State Plane Coordinate System NAD83 (1997) - West Zone.
PIN 22-15.0-102-012

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
David Cook, Petitioner
and
Clarissa Hopps, Respondent
Case No. 2024-FA-000167
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you Clarissa Hopps, Respondent herein, that this cause has been commenced and you are summoned to a child custody case and for other relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Sangamon County, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois on or before the 4th day of August, 2024, a judgment or decree by default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the complaint.
Joseph B. Roesch
Circuit Clerk

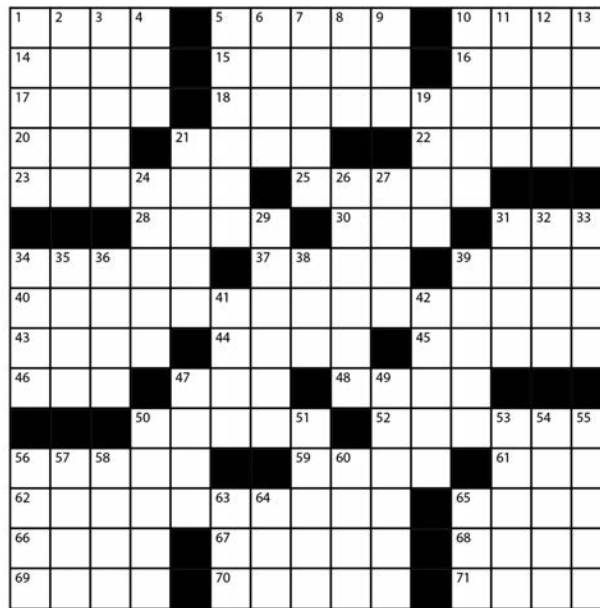
CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF
Paisley Power, Minor Child
No. 2024-GR-000107
To: All Persons Having A Right To Notice:
Please be notified that Tammy Musgrove has filed a Petition for the Guardianship of the Estates and Person of Paisley Power, minor child.
You are required to answer said Petition before July 27, 2024 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.
Dated: June 27, 2024

Library items?

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 849

Across

1. Dalai _____
5. Errand runner
10. Boys
14. Mosque V.I.P.
15. Certain Arab
16. Dublin's home
17. Talk like Daffy
18. *** Some makeup
20. Give it _____
21. Heredity carrier
22. Feudal lord
23. Agree
25. Massenet opera
28. Bonny one
30. "So there you are!"
31. Hole-making tool
34. Inexperienced
37. First-class
39. Fertilizer chemical
40. *** 2004, for one
43. Conceal
44. Treaty subject
45. Frisbees
46. 007, for one
47. Kind of approval
48. Fox or turkey follower
50. Brunch serving
52. Builds
56. Popular potato
59. _____ of the Apostles
61. "That feels good!"
62. *** Remarkable
65. Lush
66. Whispers sweet nothings
67. Bargain-basement

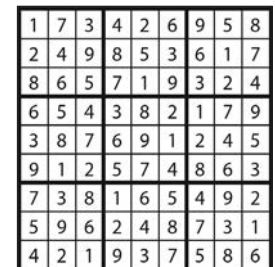


68. "Cogito _____ sum"
 69. Intensifies, with "up"
 70. Bakery offering
 71. Word that could follow the first word of each starred clue
- Down**
1. Light purple
 2. Bud
 3. Kind of jar
 4. Increase, with "up"
 5. Errand runners
 6. Arabian Peninsula country
 7. Aspect
 8. Chemical suffix
 9. Dead letters?
 10. Huey _____ and the News
 11. Assistant
 12. Remnant
 13. Bone-dry
 19. Hodgepodge
 21. Organic fertilizer
 24. Court employee
 26. "I swear!"
 27. "Beg pardon ..."
 29. Small-time dictator
 31. Synagogue chests
 32. TV Guide span
 33. Big name in chips
 34. Sock hop locales
 35. Bring in
 36. "No problem!"
 38. Electrical unit
 39. Come together
 41. Grow dim
 42. Smells
 47. Cleaving tool
 49. Enter again
 50. Kind of board
 51. Foodie
 53. Arab capital
 54. Argentine dance
 55. Trembled
 56. Ancient Andean
 57. Bad end
 58. At the peak of
 60. Chew the fat
 63. Columbus Day mo.
 64. Frat letter
 65. Part of WWW

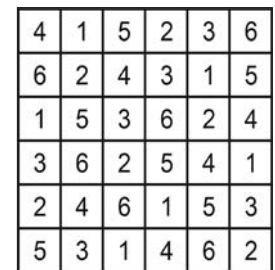
Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week



Crossword answers from #848



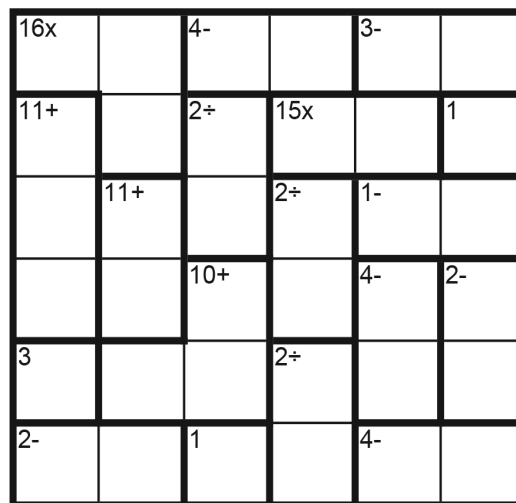
Sudoku answers from #848



JoshJosh answers from #848

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 849

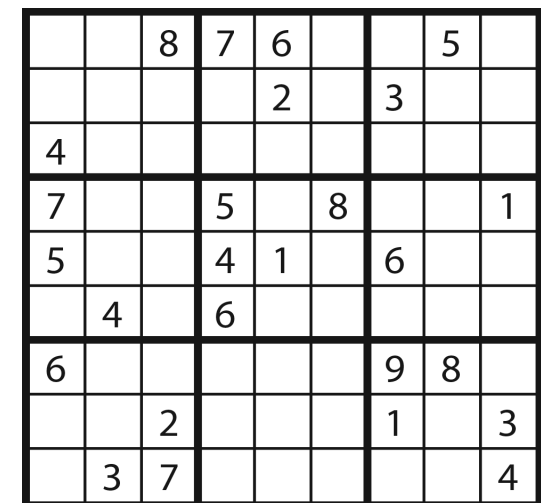
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty hard

Sudoku No. 849

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



Difficulty hard

PrEP to Prevent HIV

Daily Pill **or**
Long-Acting Dose

WE PAY! No Insurance?
No Problem!

Choose SCDPH or your own doctor.



Sangamon County
Department of Public Health
(217) 535-3102



Illinois Department
of Public Health
www.PreP4Illinois.com



What is PrEP?

PrEP, or pre-exposure prophylaxis, is medicine people at risk for HIV take to prevent getting HIV from sex or injection drug use. PrEP can stop HIV from taking hold and spreading throughout your body. PrEP has been [approved by the FDA](#).

Why Take PrEP?

PrEP reduces the risk of getting HIV from sex by about 99% when taken as prescribed. Among people who inject drugs, it reduces the risk by at least 74% when taken as prescribed.

Is PrEP Right for You?

PrEP may benefit you if you test negative for HIV and –

you have had anal or vaginal sex in the past 6 months, and you:

- have a sexual partner with HIV (especially if the partner has an unknown or detectable viral load),
- have not consistently used a condom, or
- have been diagnosed with an STD in the past 6 months.

or

you inject drugs and

- have an injection partner with HIV, or
- share needles, syringes, or other injection equipment.

or

If you are a woman and have a partner with HIV and are considering getting pregnant,

talk to your doctor about PrEP. PrEP may be an option to help protect you and your baby from getting HIV while you try to get pregnant, during pregnancy, or while breastfeeding.