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18 FOOD | Blackening



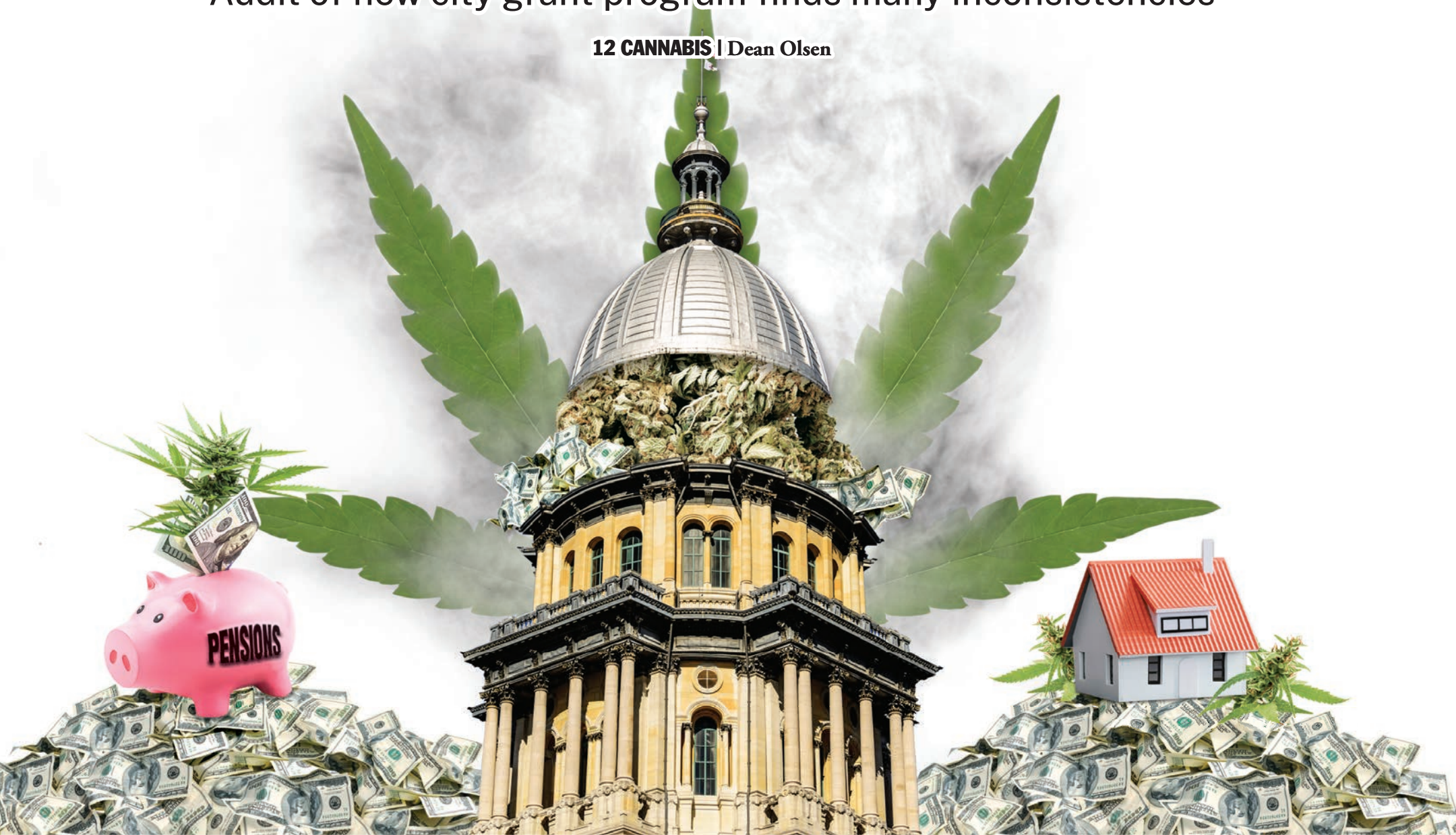
19 MUSIC | FEEL

FREE Ocotober 12-18, 2023 • Vol. 49, No. 11

Marijuana money mistakes

Audit of new city grant program finds many inconsistencies

12 CANNABIS | Dean Olsen



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SIU MEDICINE



Springfield jury awards \$19 million to former inmate

Woman at Logan Correctional Center was sexually assaulted by her prison counselor

PRISONS | Scott Reeder

A woman who reported being repeatedly raped by a staff member at Logan Correctional Center while she was an inmate at the Lincoln prison was awarded a \$19 million judgment last month by a federal jury in Springfield.

The woman referred to in court documents as “Jane Doe” was a gymnastics instructor in McHenry County when she was sentenced to prison and now reportedly resides in Elgin.

Nicole Schult, a lawyer for the Uptown People’s Law Center in Chicago, which represented Doe, said this may be a record judgment against the Illinois Department of Corrections.

“We had heard rumors of this kind of rampant sexual abuse happening at Logan since it became a women’s facility,” she told *Illinois Times*. “We also knew that these kinds of things were happening all over the state. ... It is really difficult for women in custody to report sexual assault because of the retaliation, and oftentimes, even actual punishment with segregation.”

According to a report by the legal news service Law360, the state attorney general’s office offered to settle the lawsuit, at first offering Doe \$10,000, and finally \$50,000. Doe opted for a jury trial in federal court. The \$19 million was awarded after only four hours of deliberation.

“It is certainly the largest judgment that we are aware of,” Schult said. “The jury was sending a message.”

Schult said she anticipates the state will appeal the judgment.

Naomi Puzzello, a spokesperson for IDOC, said the department would not comment on active litigation. Annie Thompson, a press secretary for the attorney general, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The jury awarded \$8 million in compensatory damages and \$11.3 million in



Nicole Schult, left, a lawyer for the Uptown People’s Law Center in Chicago, represented a former inmate, right, at Logan Correctional Center who was awarded a record judgment against the Illinois Department of Corrections by a federal jury in Springfield.

PHOTO COURTESY UPTOWN PEOPLE’S LAW CENTER

punitive damages against prison counselor Richard Macleod, lead prison investigator Todd Sexton and Warden Margaret Burke.

Doe was locked up at the Lincoln prison for most of the sentence she served in the state Department of Corrections between

March 2015 and July 2018, according to her complaint. Among other duties, Macleod was responsible for coordinating and overseeing weekly court-approved phone calls between Doe and her young daughter, the lawsuit stated.

The civil complaint alleges when Doe would go to Macleod’s office to make the phone calls, he repeatedly exposed himself to her. On two occasions, he demanded and received oral sex and on two other times had nonconsensual intercourse with Doe, court documents allege.

Illinois law prohibits sex between inmates and prison workers and such contact is considered nonconsensual, Schult said.

She said an Illinois State Police investigator forwarded her findings to the Logan County State’s Attorney’s Office but criminal charges were not filed against Macleod.

“We don’t know why charges were not pursued,” Schult said. Logan County State’s

Attorney Bradley Hauge did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Sexton spoke to Doe about her experience with Macleod in early August 2017, after receiving information from an unidentified source, but Doe initially refrained from discussing Macleod’s abuse because she was afraid of retaliation, she told the court.

Eventually, Doe discussed her experience with the investigator, but she was then transferred against her will to a Decatur prison, where she couldn’t immediately continue her weekly phone calls or continue the cosmetology classes she had been taking at the Logan facility, her lawsuit stated.

Macleod, who is no longer employed by IDOC, did not cooperate with the litigation.

“The actual perpetrator, Richard McLeod, never showed up to defend himself,” Schult said. “So everything that our client alleged happened was taken as a matter of law to be true. So, the state itself never had a chance or an opportunity to say that none of this happened. No one in the course of this trial has ever said that what happened to my client didn’t happen. The primary defenses that the two defendants, Warden Burke and Investigator Sexton (had was that) they didn’t get a report, which we know from the evidence at trial was incorrect. They received a report in December of 2016 of the ongoing abuse.”

Schult said she is hopeful the verdict will force IDOC to take more steps to protect inmates from sexual violence.

“There were many peer reports, in the course of discovery, that we were made aware of,” she said. “(There was) a state police investigation report on many of the incidents that were substantiated. ... We had another woman, another ‘Jane Doe,’ at trial testify about being treated in a very similar way as our client was by defendant McLeod and having the same fear.”

Schult added she believes the culture at Logan Correctional Center remains unchanged and that inmates fear retaliation if they report being sexually assaulted by a staff member.

“I would like to say that the things at Logan have changed. But we still see a lot of women at Logan in our office and I know that it hasn’t changed, that it’s still happening.” □

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

Editor’s note

We who observe from afar and aren’t directly involved, condemn the attack on Israel, and express our love, support and compassion for our Jewish friends who are grieving. We who know a little about the political situation condemn Hamas, the terrorist organization, while supporting peacemaking Palestinians, as Gov. JB Pritzker did. We who want to go beyond sending “thoughts and prayers,” can pay more attention to the news and learn more about the complex region of the world before we try to fix the problems, if only in our heads. Travel to Israel and the West Bank is a good way to learn how little we understand about ways that make for peace there. — Fletcher Farrar, editor

Police misconduct lawsuit ends in mistrial

City faces sanctions for allegedly hiding evidence

COURTS | Scott Reeder

A police misconduct lawsuit against the city of Springfield ended in a mistrial Oct. 4 amid allegations that the city hid evidence that it was required to share with other parties in the case.

U.S. District Court Judge Sue Myerscough ordered a hearing for Nov. 20 to consider sanctions against the city. It is reportedly the first time Myerscough has declared a mistrial in her 40-year state and federal judicial career.

The lawsuit was filed in 2018 by Toni Wilson, a Springfield woman who was shot three times on her front porch just days after a Springfield police sergeant referred to her son as a “snitch” in a video live-streamed on Facebook.

Police Sgt. James Wangard told a suspect he was arresting that her son, Steven Wells, was “the snitch” that provided the information that led to his arrest. Wangard’s allegations were captured on a Facebook Live broadcast that was repeatedly shared.

Two days later, two men opened fire on Wilson as she sat on the front porch of her Poplar Place home, wounding her three times. While Wilson has no criminal record, her son is alleged to be a member of a street gang.

Louis Meyer, the lawyer representing Wilson, said documents withheld by the city bolster his theory that the shooting was committed by members of a rival gang angered by the assertion that Wilson’s son had informed on them.

Deputy Chief of Administrative Services Josh Stuenkel testified that Wangard was merely joking.

Meyer said the city did not turn over evidence during the legal discovery process as it was required to. Discovery is the process of obtaining and disclosing evidence within a case.

“We realized they did not tender to us during the entire case hours and hours of body camera footage, interviews, photographs – all related to



this, the shooting of our client,” Meyer said.

Upon learning that this information had been withheld, Myerscough issued an order midtrial for it to be turned over, he said.

“Their solution was to give us all of this information over lunch,” said Meyer. “There were interviews of witnesses that were summarized in the police reports, which (had been) read to the jury, which were inaccurate – they did not truly and accurately reflect everything that was said in those interviews. So, it’s very prejudicial.”

Meyer said documents turned over in the midst of the trial said the two men police suspected committed the crime were members of a rival street gang. He added there also was evidence that one of these men had watched the video in which Wangard claimed Wilson’s son was a snitch.

“(This) undercut their theory that we could not show the shooter had watched the video. And so, at that point, we objected again, and I assume

the judge realized the prejudice we had and granted a mistrial,” he said.

Meyer said he anticipates taking this case to trial again. But he said he will seek during the sanctions hearing for the city to reimburse his Chicago law firm for the cost of preparing for the trial, which was ended by Myerscough before it went to the jury for deliberations.

Meyer said it is unclear to him whether the alleged lack of compliance is the result of decisions made by municipal lawyers involved in the case or the police department not cooperating with its own lawyers.

Springfield Corporation Counsel Greg Moredock said, “The city is going to present the justification for its actions at this Nov. 20 hearing.” He added the city is not prepared to comment further on the substance of the case because it is pending litigation.

He declined to discuss for the record what fines or sanctions the municipality could face if

imposed.

Moredock, who replaced Jim Zerkle as Corporation Counsel in June following the election of Mayor Misty Buscher, said turnover within the city’s legal department during the past five years has created challenges.

“Part of the process between now and Nov. 20 is looking at prior counsel’s notes and files to definitively look at the allegations that were made during the mistrial arguments. It’s just a fact that two different attorneys did the discovery process and both of them have left (city employment). ... Part of the issue that we’re dealing with is losing the institutional knowledge that you (would) have when one attorney takes a case from start to finish.”

Stuenkel testified that Wangard made his statement in a “jovial” manner and added it is unlikely anyone took it seriously.

But Meyer ascribed more sinister motives to Wangard’s actions. “It is unconscionable. They want to stoke a gang war or stoke violence. And their defense was that it was a joke and everyone should have known it was a joke.”

Meyer said an audio recording made by investigators who interviewed the juvenile who was being arrested when Wangard made the broadcast statement show that the sergeant’s remarks were indeed taken seriously.

Meyer noted this statement was not reflected in the summary of the investigation provided by the city during discovery.

Meyer said Wangard received a three-day suspension for the incident and is now responsible for overseeing the police department’s informants. □

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

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Nurses unions push for mandatory staff-to-patient ratios

Bill would cap the number of patients per registered nurse

HEALTH CARE | Peter Hancock, Capitol News Illinois

Unions representing nurses in Illinois are pushing for legislation that would impose mandatory staff-to-patient ratios in hospitals, nursing homes and other health care facilities. But lobby groups representing hospitals and nursing homes say they are steadfastly opposed to the legislation, arguing that a nationwide nursing shortage makes it impossible to comply with such a mandate.

The proposed Safe Patient Limits Act, by Sen. Celina Villanueva and Rep. Theresa Mah, both Chicago Democrats, was introduced in February and was the subject of a joint hearing last week in Chicago by two House committees. It's an issue that has been discussed in the General Assembly since 2019 but has thus far failed to gain the necessary traction for passage. The latest hearing came just three weeks before lawmakers return to the Capitol for their fall veto session, which begins Oct. 24.

"Short staffing isn't a mere inconvenience. It's a dire issue," said Shaba Andrich, vice president of nursing homes for the SEIU Healthcare employee union. "It's predominantly a Black and brown issue. In historically marginalized communities of Chicago, these issues are magnified. These communities that already face systemic under-investment are further deprived of adequate nursing care due to chronic short staffing."

The bill calls for setting a maximum number of patients that could be assigned to a registered nurse in specified situations. For example, in units with critical-care or intensive-care patients, the maximum number of patients per nurse would be just one. In units with pediatric patients, the bill would allow three patients per nurse, and in units with psychiatric patients, the bill would allow four patients per nurse.

It also provides some legal protection for nurses, stating that they are to provide their services exclusively in the interest of patients, "unencumbered by the commercial or revenue-generating priorities" of a facility that employs registered professional nurses.

Andrich, testifying before the committee last week, disputed the notion that there is a nursing shortage in Illinois. He said there is only "a shortage of caregivers who are refusing to be overworked and undervalued and underpaid," and that the result of understaffing has direct consequences for patients.



"Such understaffing isn't merely an operational concern. It translates into real world consequences," he said. "Seniors enduring falls, malnutrition, missed medication, avoidable hospitalization and, tragically, avoidable deaths."

Some of those who testified in favor of the bill accused hospitals and nursing homes of being more concerned about labor costs and profit margins than the best interests of patients.

"We need this legislation because hospitals are incentivized to reduce labor costs. This means less staff," said Jeanine Johnson, a critical care nurse at Ascension St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet. "Hospital executives see budgets and labor costs. Nurses see patients and their lives."

A.J. Wilhelmi, president & CEO of the Illinois Health and Hospital Association, a hospital trade group, said it's true that health care providers face significant financial pressures, largely because Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates have not kept pace with the rising cost of health care. But he said contrary to what the unions claimed, there is a significant and growing nursing shortage in Illinois, and the proposed Safe Patient Limits Act would put even more of a financial burden on providers.

During his testimony, Wilhelmi cited a state survey into the registered nurse workforce that was conducted by the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center – which is a state agency that works to promote the nursing profession. Of the respondents to that survey,

27 percent indicated an intent to retire within the next five years. The IHA interpreted that and other data in the survey to suggest the state could see a shortage of 14,400 registered nurses by 2025.

"I'm deeply concerned that many hospitals in the state, particularly safety net hospitals, critical access hospitals, will be unable to absorb the huge cost that ratios would impose," he said. "And given the enormous financial pressures that Illinois hospitals already face, if this bill becomes law, they're going to have to make some tough decisions, like cutting back services, closing hundreds of beds, and eliminating jobs. And frankly, some of our hospitals might be forced to close."

Andy Allison, deputy director of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the agency that administers the state's Medicaid program, suggested that the key to solving the staffing issues in hospitals and nursing homes is to raise wages to make the jobs more attractive.

He noted that last year, lawmakers passed a significant overhaul of the way the state reimburses nursing homes through Medicaid, adding roughly \$700 million in the form of incentives to increase wages and hire more staff.

Before those reforms were adopted, he said, Illinois was home to 46 of the 100 worst-staffed nursing homes in the country. As of March 31, he said, that number had dropped to 14.

"We hope that it becomes zero. We have a way to go," he said. "But in the last five quarters – that is, through March 31 of this year – in that five-quarter period, total nurse staffing hours statewide are up 15 percent."

Denise Stiger, an organizer for Teamsters Local 743, which represents health care workers in many Chicago-area facilities, said that money has not solved the problem, and that in some nursing homes, one CNA still could have as many as 20 patients to tend to during their shift.

"We have to deal with the owners because they're slumlords. That's what they are," she said. "And I understand that they get cited, and it's public. But these owners are not looking at that. These owners are looking at these patients as money." □

Contact Peter Hancock at phancock@capitolnewsillinois.com.



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OPINION



Land set aside for an unneeded second lake could be the site for a big solar farm for Springfield.

Silo Poem

The round barn silo had developed a crack; Dad decided to try out a new form of silo – one on the ground. A space was dug beside the path to the creek, cemented, needed only sides in order to be filled with silage. Time after time the farm workers raised cement panels only to have them slip down before they could be secured into place. Dad studied the ongoing problem, finally said, “Lay the panels slanted on their sides, they don’t need to be upright.” This solved the situation. My dad told me, “They are lying now at what is called ‘the angle of repose’ – complete comfort! I should have thought of it from the start.” Even now, in my elder years I think of how often we could solve many problems with “the angle of repose.”

2023 Jacqueline Jackson

LETTERS

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

EXPLORE SOLAR

I agree, partially, with the author’s idea as it’s time to abandon the experimental coal scrubber, and now gas conversion (“A solar farm for Springfield,” Oct. 6). Let’s make some healthy progress for the citizens of Springfield. Solar and wind energy have a future, and it needs to be explored for our region. I eagerly welcome discussions around renewables and a solar farm is a perfect solution for the city of Springfield.

However, I diverge from the author’s premise when he completely shuns nuclear as a viable alternative. It’s true there are byproducts that have lasting impacts, but the same can be said for large capacity batteries. Likewise, it takes a large, concentrated effort to stand up a new reactor. However, nuclear is going to be a player in the energy sector for years to come. This will only be more apparent when the technology around Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) increase.

Lastly, there is one other thing the author and I agree on, and that’s transparency within CWLP. We, as citizens, have witnessed how the department likes to present forgone conclusions (coal scrubber, gas conversion, Hunter Lake, etc.) to the taxpayers. We have even witnessed this on a small scale with the recent power outages. Transparency is key,

and we need more of it.

Alan Franklin

Via [Facebook.com/illinoistimes](https://www.facebook.com/illinoistimes)

SOLAR IS CHEAPER

Look at all the “experts” claiming things like burning coal is cleaner than solar and wind, as if coal isn’t just about the filthiest, most-destructive mined thing, taking out whole mountains, destroying streams and groundwater and people’s lives. There is zero scientific evidence that says solar and wind energy are somehow “less green” than coal and gas?

Are there environmental costs to solar and wind? Yes. Are they significant? Yes. Can they be mitigated more easily than coal and gas? Yes.

Can solar and wind power everything right now? No, not yet. But that’s not the point. We must achieve a huge reduction in carbon and methane pollution, and this is how it’s done.

A 200-megawatt solar farm in Morgan County with a current capacity factor of 40% was built for a little over \$200 million. Dallman 4 is a 200-megawatt coal plant. Its capacity factor through June 30 this year was just 33%. It cost \$600 million to build the stupid thing in 2007.

Don Hanrahan

Via [Illinoistimes.com](https://www.illinoistimes.com)

THANKS FOR SUPPORT

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Springfield, we would like to thank the Springfield community for the overwhelming support of the Violins of Hope display at the Illinois State Museum and the six musical presentations in Springfield

between Sept. 7-13 (“Violins of beauty, history and remembrance,” Aug. 31). Being able to share these violins with the community was a unique opportunity to showcase a piece of history and how it currently continues to affect our lives. We thank our community partners for financial and in-kind support as well as the many behind-the-scene volunteers who helped to make the week-long event a success.

Thank you again. We hope we can continue to bring more events to our community that encourage education and unity within Springfield.

Karen Westbrook and Merle Shiffman,
co-chairs of VOH

DO IT YOURSELF

I must be that one out of 20 that still writes checks to pay my bills (“The death of checks,” Sept. 28). I want receipts for proof of payment; people who are depending on the receiver of their automatic payments are just plain foolish. When I get my checking account statement, I balance the account. Those checks that have not cleared the account need an explanation. I have due dates written down for where my payments are made, along with the amounts.

How are those people who depend on the business to do what they are supposed to do, actually doing it? I’ll also bet that the people who no longer use the checking account balance system are the same people that rely on day care for raising their children, then complain when something happens they do not like.

Karen LeSeure

Via [illinoistimes.com](https://www.illinoistimes.com)



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Pushback against Chicago as sanctuary city

POLITICS | Rich Miller

I sent a top Democratic strategist who I respect a copy of the Venezuelan migrant-related poll I posted for my subscribers last week.

Among other things, the M3 Strategies poll of 659 likely Chicago voters found that pluralities of likely Chicago voters said they opposed “migrants being housed by the city of Chicago” (49-46), while also saying it’s time to end Chicago’s status as a sanctuary city (46-39). The poll’s margin of error was +/-3.82 percent. This is a Republican pollster, but they very accurately predicted the Chicago mayor’s race results during the first round.

Black and Latino voters really helped drive those poll results, with 49% of Black voters and 57% of Latinos opposing the city’s housing of migrants, and 51% of Black voters and 48% of Latinos saying they want to end the city’s sanctuary system. Several Latino residents have told reporters that they resent the help given to the migrants when they received nothing at all after coming to the United States. 56% of Latino and Black voters told the pollster that the migrants made the city less safe.

“Not surprised by any of this,” the operative texted back. Indeed, plenty of Democratic

legislators have been getting an earful from constituents about the problem, and not just in Chicago.

The question, he said, “is whether this is just another ‘law and order’ issue that polls well and seems persuasive but actually isn’t,” when you match up actual Republicans with Democrats. He said it would probably have more impact on Democratic primaries.

I suggested that Black voter turnout could be driven down by numbers like these. Seventy-nine percent of Black respondents told M3 Strategies that the asylum-seeker situation is “negatively affecting current Chicago residents who may be in need,” which seems to check out when looking at the strong push-back against housing migrants in Black neighborhoods. And Black turnout was already way down last year.

“Maybe,” the operative said, but added, “Elections are an eternity away with how voters’ memories operate.”

I agreed about the voter memory aspect, but countered that his prediction assumes the migrant influx would be resolved a year from now. Some analysts have predicted far more migrants next year.

“Oof,” he replied.

“Support for housing migrants and positive views of the impact on the city is strongest among young, white voters on the North and Northwest sides,” the polling firm reported. Everyone else, not so much.

If this keeps up, there’s no doubt that the anger will spread to suburban communities, many of which have no local sanctuary ordinances. And the migrants have already started to arrive there.

During the uproar after Joliet Township Supervisor Angel Contreras applied for a state grant and more than just implied that he had support from the Joliet Mayor and the city’s fire department when he apparently did not, news reports revealed that 2,200 asylum seekers had already been helped by the Spanish Community Center in Joliet.

Rep. Fred Crespo, D- Hoffman Estates, who chairs an appropriations committee, told me that at least one school district in his northwest Cook County district is “looking at bringing back mobile classrooms,” to help deal with the growing influx, and more are complaining that they can’t sustain the pace.

The poll makes it fairly easy to see why the governor and his administration would like to continue defining this as a Chicago administrative problem.

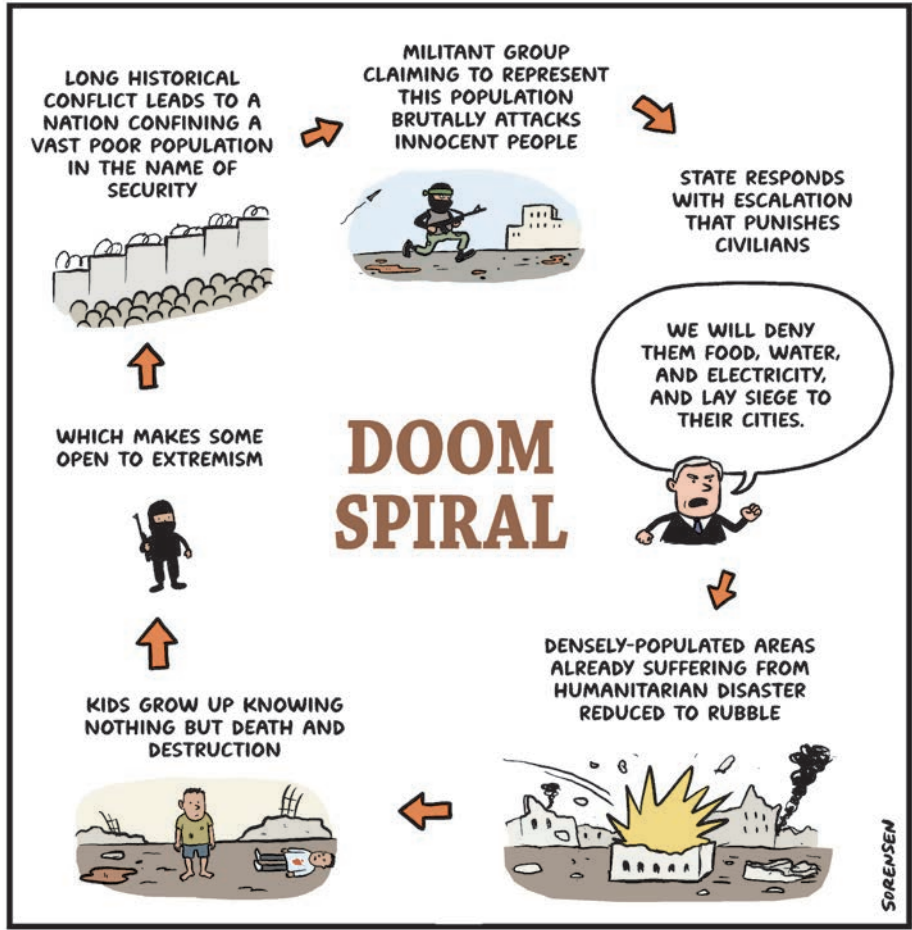
When asked last week about how all these folks could possibly be housed, Gov. Pritzker said, “This is a challenge I think the city has been facing since the beginning,” the governor said. “You know, we don’t do city planning at the state level. This is, you know, a question best directed at the city.”

Pritzker added that the state has been supporting the city “as they have developed plans and as they’ve implemented them.”

What the city has actually done is floated a lot of ideas, but not implemented them and flailed all along the way. And after receiving more than \$300 million in state assistance, the city is coming back for more cash, issuing demands in the news media and meeting with legislators.

Unlike Mayor Brandon Johnson, the Pritzker administration has lots of experience dealing with crises. They’re not perfect, but they did manage to help get the state through the pandemic. And Pritzker’s sharp letter to President Joe Biden last month seems to have helped push the president forward. The White House announced it will resume deportation flights to Venezuela.

Despite the governor’s words, this is no longer a Chicago-only issue. And that means the state needs to start taking more of a lead here. □



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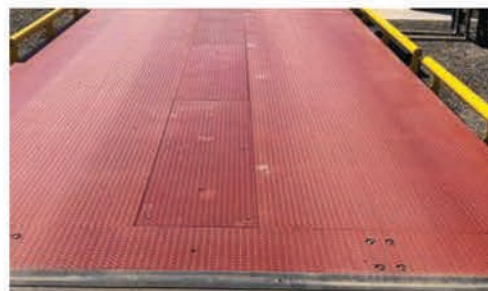
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Why I support building Hunter Lake

GUESTWORK | Reg Davis

Illinois Times has published guest opinion columns opposing construction of a second lake for Springfield. Over the years that the project has been under consideration, IT has published several articles and letters from Reg Davis in support. Here is his commentary on the latest lake proposal.

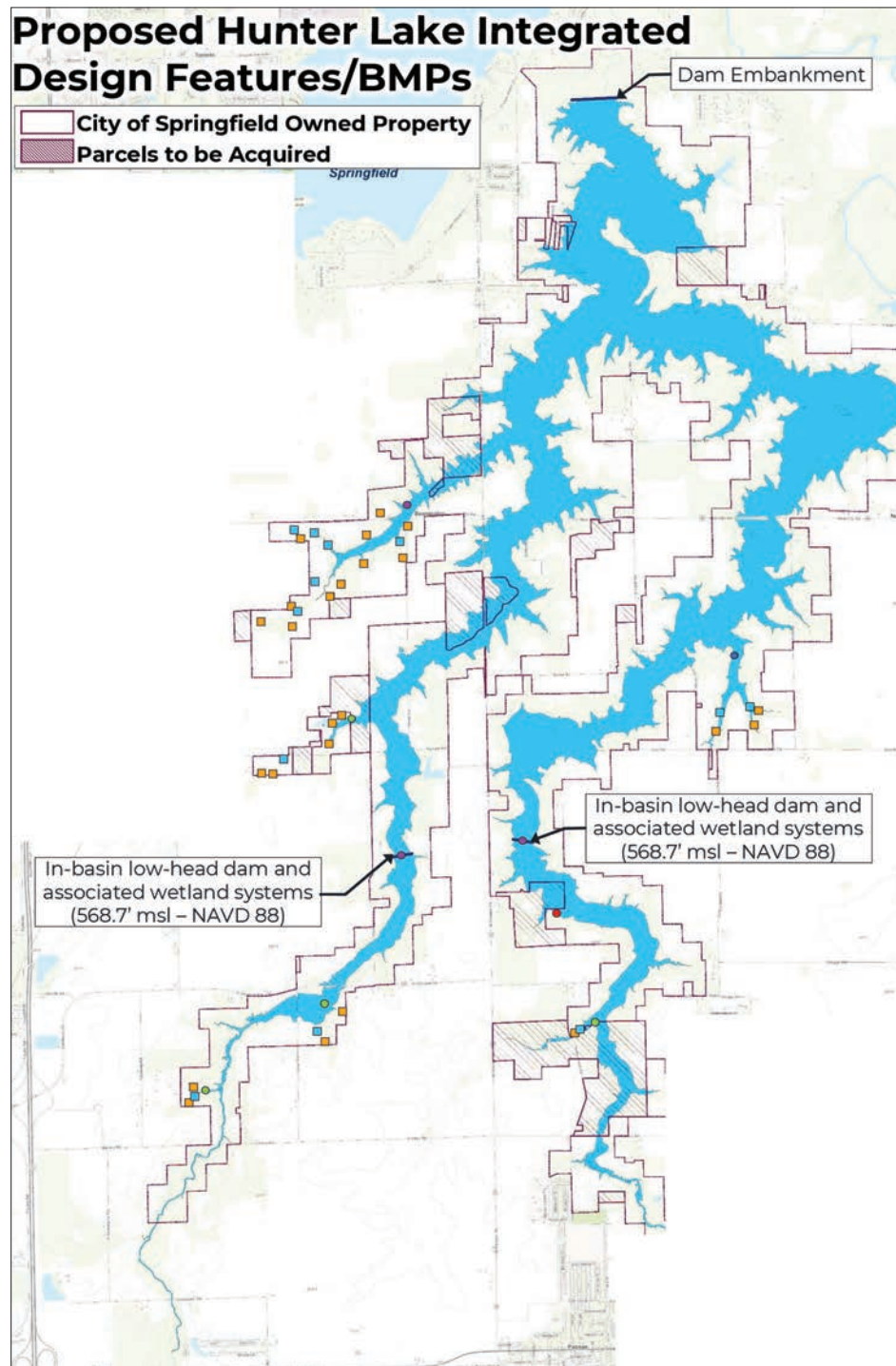
About 15 years ago I attended a Springfield Chamber of Commerce meeting with a friend and was asked: What would you do to help promote the Hunter Lake project? My answer was simple: Educate people on the issue, because if folks know how much it will benefit Springfield in the future, there is no one that has Springfield's best interest at heart that could possibly be against it.

This issue has now come farther than it ever has before. A lot of the credit should go to Springfield's last two mayors and their 12 years of combined support. Besides solving our supplemental water supply problem and giving Springfield enough water to grow and prosper, this project has no equals when it comes to the economic return to Springfield from all the recreational and tourism opportunities it will create, the quality-of-life issues it will bring to our community and the environmental improvement it will make to our area.

The north end of the project (the dam) would be located just about a half mile south and east of the Henson Robinson Zoo on East Lake Drive and would border our city limits. The whole 7,983 acres that encompasses the project will in essence be a state park when completed. Springfield already has a 2015 signed agreement with the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources to manage and help develop it. "This is a great opportunity for the IDNR to get in on the ground floor of a project and develop it the right way," said IDNR Director Wayne Rosenthal, as quoted in the agreement. Another part states the project would be "ensuring the best use for the area for maximum recreational opportunities."

One University of Illinois study projects that after Hunter Lake is built there will still be over five times the unmet aquatic recreational (lake) demand in our area. An excerpt from an article in the *State Journal-Register* about seven years ago also reported that "the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau released the results of a visitor survey. The survey of more than 500 recent and potential visitors to the capital city showed that many tourists think the area lacks recreational and outdoor activities."

Another U of I study projects that the economic impact to Springfield from just the



In its new configuration, the proposed lake would cover 2,649 acres and would cost about \$143 million. MAP COURTESY CWLP

aquatic aspects of the lake alone will be \$7.2 million per year and could be as high as \$11.6 million per year. With inflation the numbers would be higher now. Surprisingly, this doesn't include the economic impact from the outdoor

activities that would be created from the 5,000 acres of ground that would surround the lake.

CWLP's latest estimate of the cost to build the project is \$143,242,000. So how long would it take for this project to pay for itself

in economic return to Springfield? Going by the numbers above, one would think it could easily pay for itself within 15 years and most likely less.

Building this project would turn over 3,400 acres of cultivated land, hay lands and pastures into tallgrass prairies, forested lands and wetlands. By comparison, the area of the lake is 2,649 acres. "Total annual load reductions from all CWLP best management practices are estimated at 573,432 pounds for total nitrogen, 60,538 pounds for total phosphorus, and 58,621 tons of sediment." This would be a huge environmental improvement by anyone's standards."

Springfield presently has the lowest water rates in the state, and Chatham's rates are about 4.4 times higher – \$14.80 compared to \$64.84 for the most common residential customer. Assuming this project would be paid for by a water rate increase, what would it cost the average CWLP residential customer? To calculate it exactly depends on the interest rate and term of the bonds at the time of issuance, but going by the information I have gathered I believe at this time a best estimate is somewhere around a 50% to 60% rate increase, or a \$7.40 to \$8.88 per month increase. It is hardly an amount that would adversely affect almost anyone. These numbers absolutely show what a superb job the past and present managers and engineers at CWLP have done managing its Water Division.

Congress recently passed a huge infrastructure bill, and every state budget has funds for community infrastructure needs, tourism and economic development. I would be shocked if this project would not qualify to receive some of these funds. Grants could then lower the amount of the water rate increase needed.

Considering what Springfield stands to gain by building the project, and for the relatively miniscule water rate increase it would cost us to pay for it, I will never understand how anyone that has Springfield's best interest at heart could possibly oppose it.

Reg Davis is a lifelong resident of Springfield. Six generations of his family have and do live here. He is a retired captain from the Springfield Fire Department. Before that he was an engineering technician with the Sangamon County Highway Department and worked on numerous road and bridge construction projects all over Springfield and Sangamon County.



ILLUSTRATION BY BRANDON TURLEY

Marijuana money mistakes

Audit of new city grant program finds many inconsistencies

CANNABIS | Dean Olsen

Industrial-grade equipment that Ernestus Drake bought with a \$20,000 grant from the city of Springfield helped his small business win new contracts, more than double its revenues and add employees.

Drake, 47, who was born and raised in Springfield, said the grant program for minority-owned businesses located in an impoverished area provided a needed jolt to put 4-year-old Drake Commercial Cleaning Inc. “over the hump.”

“It was helping us get to that next level,” he told *Illinois Times*.

But Merrill McDaniels is beyond frustrated with the program — funded with part of the city’s sales tax on recreational-use marijuana sold by dispensaries in Springfield since cannabis sales and production became legal in Illinois in January 2020.

A member of the city’s staff called a few months ago to say a \$40,000 grant that would have helped L&M Gymnastics & Kids Inc. expand would be withdrawn, she said.

The reason given for the withdrawal, she said, was that the gymnastics school she and

her husband, Leroy, have operated for 46 years — currently in rented space at 2717 S. 11th St. — hadn’t yet moved into the part of Springfield’s east side designated to benefit from the business grant program.

McDaniels said the staff never informed her of a deadline for moving there, and the couple were actively searching. The contract she signed with the city did contain a deadline, which has since passed, but she said she didn’t realize there was a deadline until later.

“This was not handled properly or fairly,”

Merrill McDaniels said, adding there was a “total breakdown” of communication with city officials.

The experiences of two of the 22 businesses cumulatively awarded \$631,704 from the city’s Cannabis Business Grant program in 2022 reflect the inconsistencies that a recent audit indicated were rife after the program’s first round of grants was awarded in June 2022.

Program paused

Mayor Misty Buscher, who defeated incumbent mayor Jim Langfelder in the April election, said



Leroy and Merrill McDaniels have operated L&M Gym & Kids Inc., currently at 2717 S. 11th St. in Springfield, for more than four decades. They expected to eventually receive a \$40,000 business grant funded from the city's share of sales taxes on adult-use cannabis and up to \$40,000 in tax-increment financing funds. The couple are upset that after Mayor Misty Buscher took office, a city staff member told them the grant and TIF funding would be denied. PHOTO COURTESY LEROY AND MERRILL MCDANIELS.

she has paused the program, including a second round of grants, for at least several months while her administration fixes problems that caused the program to operate “haphazardly” under the Langfelder administration.

About \$493,000 in cannabis sales tax revenue is available to distribute, and 16 applications for business grants were filed in the advertised sign-up period in May for the second round of the program, according to Val Yazell, Buscher’s director of the Office of Planning and Economic Development.

Buscher said: “The cannabis program can continue, but it clearly needs to have proper oversight because it did not have proper oversight previously. And then I will change some of the internal controls and the requirements for documentation so that we don’t have the problems that we had before.”

The internal audit was conducted by the Springfield office of Sikich, a Naperville-based accounting firm, and commissioned by the Buscher administration after Yazell encountered “inconsistencies” in the program. It found that grant applications filled out by businesses “did not help clarify the confusion that hampered the program.”

The fact that the cannabis grant application was also used to make awards to many of the businesses from property tax revenue in the Far East Tax Increment Financing District only complicated processing issues, the audit said. The boundaries of the TIF district and the Cannabis Occupation Tax Area aren’t the same.

“These challenges weakened any internal controls intended to monitor the evaluation of applications, propriety of awards and verification of services funded with cannabis and TIF funds,” according to the audit, a copy of which was obtained by *Illinois Times*.

The confusion, which reflected a lack of consistent rules and ongoing changes in how grants were administered, resulted in some businesses having to post money up-front for capital and equipment purchases while others were allowed to receive cash advances.

The way in which allocations are disbursed needs to be clarified to make the process fair, Yazell said.

Audit identifies problems

The audit noted that the city initially told the public that nonprofit organizations wouldn’t qualify for grants but reversed course later.

In addition, several businesses failed to submit invoices for all the work that was funded, according to the audit.

One business, Exotic Edible Pineapple Drinks LLC, apparently submitted two fraudulent requests for payment, the audit said.

The operators of Exotic Edible, which city records list as Angela Taylor and Cimmeria Taylor, didn’t respond to a request for comment. They collected \$3,500 of the \$25,000 cannabis grant they were awarded and \$3,500 of a potential \$25,000 in TIF funds.

Exotic Edible Pineapple Drinks and Luxe Floral, which moved out of the Cannabis Occupation Tax Area despite being awarded a \$25,000 grant and collecting all of it, were sent letters requesting repayment under the “claw back” provision of the program when violations occur, according to Corporation Counsel Gregory Moredock.

The city hasn’t decided whether to take those businesses to court, he said, adding that the city has not referred any issues revealed by the audit to the Sangamon County State Attorney’s Office for possible criminal prosecution.

Lisa Gaines, the owner of Luxe Floral,





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declined to comment on the record.

The audit's list of specific observations included B.O.N.E. LLC, a construction business owned by Calvin Pitts, which the audit said "received payment of \$43,719 despite submitting one invoice for \$5,345 for equipment repair."

Pitts didn't return a call seeking comment.

Haley & Associates, a consulting firm at 801 S. 11th St., "was paid far in excess of the amount of supporting invoices it submitted," according to the audit. The firm is owned by Teresa Haley, president of the Springfield NAACP and Illinois State Conference NAACP.

Haley didn't respond to requests for comment.

Buscher, the former city treasurer who took office in early May, said she was surprised at the number of findings in the 45-page audit.

"It's taxpayer money," she said. "Anyone can buy cannabis. ... All kinds of people are paying that tax. We need to be a good steward of our money."

Buscher said that the Office of Planning and Economic Development, which administered the program, was understaffed during the time period covered by the audit, and the office went without a director for more than a year between 2021 and 2022 after Langfelder fired Yazell in March 2021 without giving a reason. Those issues probably contributed to the program's problems, Buscher said.

Buscher rehired Yazell, who began as interim director in May and recently was affirmed by the City Council as the permanent director. Yazell said a "lack of staff and lack of trained staff contributed to the confusion."

Ravi Doshi, a business projects manager for the economic development office, was on "family leave" and unavailable to consult with grant applicants and recipients during a key period of the program's rollout. Doshi no longer works for the city and didn't return a call seeking comment.

Langfelder had a different reaction to the audit and disputed Buscher's assessment of the rollout of the program.

He told *Illinois Times* he wasn't surprised by the findings for the first year of a new program. The audit, he said, will be useful for putting improvements in place going forward.

The TIF funding, which must be used for infrastructure improvements, was added in the latter stage of planning for the program to provide more money to east side businesses, Langfelder said.

"It is a very complex program from a processing standpoint because there is no template to go on," Langfelder said. "This is the first one in the state, I believe, or maybe in the country."

"Room for improvement"

Langfelder said there's "room for improvement" in the program. He said the program should continue, and he cautioned city officials not to make the program too difficult for struggling



Ernestus Drake, chief executive officer of Drake Commercial Cleaning Inc., speaks with an Illinois Times reporter about the ways his small business on Springfield's east side has benefited from receiving \$20,000 in grant funding from the city's share of sales taxes on adult-use cannabis and \$20,000 from the city's Far East Tax Increment Financing District. PHOTO BY ZACH ADAMS.

businesses to navigate.

Buscher said the mistakes that were made weren't understandable, even in a program's first year. "Not in my opinion," she said with a chuckle. "I'm sure the previous administration would argue with me."

Among the audit's recommendations was a section that said the Office of Planning and Economic Development must have "sufficient staffing to review and evaluate grant applications, execute agreements, train grantees on acceptable practices, accept and review invoices, verify services, process and approve payments and perform necessary follow-up activity."

The audit suggested the city review the program's goals and establish a fraud hotline that allows anonymous reporting of suspected fraud and misappropriation of funds. The audit also called for the city to "establish a protocol for responding to whistleblower complaints."

Yazell said the audit "will help us to build a much better system for distributing the funds."

She said she was "saddened" by the findings, "just mostly for those recipients because there was not consistency. ... I really feel bad for the recipients. They only did what they were told."

When asked whether the business grant program will continue beyond the second round, Yazell would only say, "We are continuing to evaluate the value of this program."

"Focus on the intent of the program"

Langfelder said state lawmakers intended the economic benefits of marijuana legalization to benefit neighborhoods impacted by the "war on drugs" when marijuana was illegal.

"You may have your own opinions on that, but it's mainly for low-income areas, low-income individuals and minority populations," he said. "It is a program that's needed because the need is great, especially on the east side of Springfield. These are individuals that typically don't have the capital, and this provides that capital injection to improve job creation and business development in low-income areas of town."

The City Council decided to devote half of the city's 3% sales tax revenue from cannabis sales to help pay off the city's fire and police pension-related debt. The council is devoting the other half to economic development on the east side, most of it through the business grant program, and the remainder for an exterior home improvement grant program.

Homes and eligible minority-owned businesses must be in the Cannabis Occupation Tax Area, which is bounded by Carpenter Street on the north, Ash Street on the south, Dirksen Parkway on the east and the 10th Street rail corridor on the west, and the business owners must live in Springfield.

Though the audit didn't point out specific problems with the home improvement program,

it said inadequate staffing in the economic development office contributed to a risk for fraud and mismanagement of funds.

Ward 2 Ald. Shawn Gregory said the audit made valid points for improving the business grant program. But he said the audit's contents should have been vetted by him and other city officials to correct some mistakes in the findings and provide more context before the document was sent to council members.

Gregory spearheaded creation of the business grant program with former Ward 3 alderwoman and current state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield. The Cannabis Occupation Tax Area takes in parts of both wards.

"I think the audit was very, very one-sided," Gregory said. "And I think the audit has a lot of inconsistencies and misinformation and makes minority and Black businesses look like thieves and are not to be trusted with funding and this and that, when really that's not the truth."

For example, under the heading "specific observations," the audit said two entities – Motherland Gardens and Ollie Home Care Services – received awards despite having business locations outside the Cannabis Occupation Tax Area. The locations are within the area, though a cursory review of documents that listed the owners' home rather than business addresses could have led to confusion among auditors, Gregory said.

The audit said the city agreed to reimburse Ollie Home Care Services for property acquisition, "yet the company was actually reimbursed for training software and a subscription service." The company, which Illinois Secretary of State documents indicate is linked to Monte Turner, daughter of Doris Turner, didn't respond to a phone call and email seeking comment.

The audit noted that Boyd's New Generation, a restaurant at 1831 South Grand Ave. E., received more than \$39,000 in cannabis grant funding after awards of \$100,000 in TIF funding over the years 2019 and 2020.

But the fact that a business previously received TIF money didn't disqualify it from getting a cannabis or new TIF grant, Gregory said. Boyd's shouldn't have been mentioned in the audit, because including the business among Sikich's list of observations made the grant appear suspicious, he said.

The audit said it appears some vendors were paid "after local politicians intervened and questioned why payments were not made, or requested that recipients be paid in advance."

It's unclear which politicians the auditors were referring to. Gregory said he advocated at public meetings on behalf of businesses waiting on their grants but did nothing illegal.

Gregory didn't take issue with some observations in the audit and said he didn't have enough information to comment on all the details cited.

The audit recommended the city establish scoring criteria and "seek to eliminate outside

influence into awards and payments.” But Gregory said such a scoring system was used and developed with the assistance of the micro-lending company Justine Petersen.

Some of the grant recipients were political supporters of Langfelder, but the former mayor denied exerting any influence to favor them. The scoring system also insulated the process from bias, he said.

Gregory said he favors improvements in the program, and he wants rules clarified so the city is allowed to continue to pay businesses or vendors directly – before work is performed – because many businesses lack cash flow to pay vendors up front and be reimbursed later.

“I want to make sure that we keep the focus on the intent of the program – that we are dealing with people who don’t have a lot of money,” Gregory said. “I think, as a city, we have to find unique and innovative ways to help the poorest communities.”

Ward 3 Ald. Roy Williams said the audit portrayed some businesses and city staff members unfairly.

“No one was doing anything illegal,” he said. “I think it’s learning pains. The audit is not about pointing fingers.”

Critics of Langfelder are trying to use the audit to make his administration look inept and corrupt,

“but that’s not fair,” Williams said. “This was a new program.”

Merrill McDaniels, the gymnastics school owner, said she wants the city to reconsider withdrawal of the \$40,000 cannabis grant and \$40,000 in TIF funds.

“We’ve done nothing but give to the future generations,” she said, noting that future Springfield doctors, lawyers and a judge were among the hundreds of young people who have gone through gymnastics instruction at L&M.

“You just don’t treat people like this,” McDaniels said. “It’s more of a slap in the face. ... when people treat you like you don’t matter.”

Ernestus Drake, on the other hand, continues to appreciate the cannabis award and \$20,000 in TIF funding to Drake Commercial Cleaning that allowed the business, at 600 S. 11th St., to replace part of its roof, repaint the building and make other site improvements.

Drake said he would have preferred some up-front funding because coming up with cash to buy equipment and then being reimbursed by the city slowed him down in acquiring all the equipment he needed.

But he said the cannabis grant eventually “enabled us to take on more bids. The program definitely helped our business grow.”

Val Yazell returns to city government

Val Yazell says she decided to return to Springfield city government as director of the Office of Planning and Economic Development because she saw “so many things that still needed to be done.”

Yazell was terminated by former mayor Jim Langfelder in March 2021, though Langfelder never said why.

Misty Buscher, who defeated Langfelder and denied his bid for a third consecutive four-year term in April, rehired Yazell as interim director of OPED. Yazell began in May to assist the new administration and later decided she wanted the permanent position.

The Springfield City Council approved the move with a unanimous vote on Oct. 3. Yazell will be paid an annual salary of \$109,163, Buscher spokesperson Haley Wilson said.

Yazell has a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and taught kindergarten at one point. She owned a bridal shop in the 1980s and 1990s and was an independent, small business consultant for many years.

Yazell was first appointed interim OPED director by Langfelder in 2017. She was initially hired as a contract employee but later became a regular full-time employee.

Yazell said Langfelder never informed her why she was being fired, “but I can speculate.”

“We did not agree on how projects should move forward,” she told Illinois Times.

IT reported at the time of Yazell’s termination that she

had recently clashed with Langfelder when it came to funding for repairs to a building for the Springfield NAACP at 801 S. 11th St.

A story by Bruce Rushton said: “After the City Council last fall (2020) refused to spend \$150,000 in federal block grants on the building, with council members expressing concerns about a lack of bids, Langfelder in January (2021) told Yazell to sign off on paperwork to allow a lesser amount in federal money for repairs that already had been accomplished. She refused, saying that the plan to spend \$45,000 on work that already had been done might not comply with federal regulations.”

The NAACP later received almost \$5,000, below the threshold requiring council approval, “with the money coming from the city, as opposed to federal coffers,” Rushton reported.

In 2019, Langfelder withdrew his support for Helping Hands of Springfield’s proposed Center for Health and Housing in a former office building in the 500 block of South 11th, contributing to the plan’s demise, even though Yazell helped nonprofit Helping Hands find the proposed site.

Yazell, 72, said she always planned to keep working into her 70s.

She backed Buscher’s mayoral campaign and said she and Buscher “really work well together. She has a similar vision, and she wants to improve processes, and I love a good process.”

-Dean Olsen



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Nightfall with Edgar Allen Poe

Mystery and horror on stage Oct. 12-14, in time for Halloween

THEATER | Mary Young

"Men have called me mad; but the question is not yet settled, whether madness is or is not the loftiest intelligence – whether much that is glorious – whether all that is profound – does not spring from disease of thought – from moods of mind exalted at the expense of the general intellect." Poet Edgar Allen Poe

Just in time for the Halloween season, playwright Eric Coble and Spencer Theatre will take audiences on the haunting journey through the twists and turns of Poe's mind in an eerie production that promises to tingle your spine and quicken a few hearts.

Nightfall, directed by John Sivak, is a 90-minute one-act, four-scene play that presents some of the poet's most well-known and macabre works: *The Raven*, *The Fall of the House of Usher*, *The Pit and the Pendulum*, and *The Tell-Tale Heart*. It asks the audience to judge for themselves whether Poe is mad or not. Or even...what *is* madness? Poet, writer, editor and literary critic Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston in 1809. He was a master of mystery, psychological terror and gothic horror. And you can find all of them at the Hoogland Center for the Arts this weekend, with a bit of fun added in.

The cast includes Michael S. Krcil (as Poe), Michael Clair (Roderick Usher), Brandon Davis (Edgar), Kristin Wheeler (Madeline Usher), Avi McDaniel (Raven), Elise Willow (Sante), Terry Schoppenhorst (Old Man), Jeff Guy (Policeman #1) and Eden Lyons (Policeman #2). Lights and scenic design set an atmospheric, gothic mood, awash in grey, red and black, with plenty of pitch-black



Michael S. Krcil as Poe PHOTO BY RON MCDONALD

moments. Hair and makeup design by Jessica Kent assisted by Erica Metzger is impressively ghoulish with a spot-on depiction of Edgar Allan Poe and cast members in sallow faces and dark features.

The production is also hosting "The Poe Experience," a reception held in conjunction with each performance featuring Poe-themed cocktails, a macabre exhibit by the Sangamon Watercolor Society, a photo station designed

by the Boo Crew Haunted House, and special guests/vendors, including Troy Taylor, author of the Poe biography *Nevermore*, on opening night. Attendees are encouraged to dress in Poe-inspired attire or costumes and register to win a special Poe Package after each show.

As I watched a bit of a rehearsal this week, I was reminded of how, as a child, I was first introduced to the works of Edgar Allan Poe through actor Vincent Price. An ardent fan himself, he often collaborated with B-movie master Roger Corman, who created lavish, opulent horror films that plumbed the complex depths of depraved characters' minds. With Price's unmatched ability to perform the macabre pieces with his signature voice and dark humor, along with Corman's artistically horrific touches, these films fostered an early appreciation for all things that go bump in the night. A similar appreciation might befall you, if you dare to attend *Nightfall*.

The show runs Oct. 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 14 at 3 and 8 p.m. in the Peggy Ryder Theatre and the Hoogland Center for the Arts, with a student performance at UIS Performing Arts Center on Oct. 16 as part of the Class Act series. For tickets visit <https://www.hcfta.org/tickets>. □

Mary Young was born and raised in Springfield has been performing in, producing and directing live theater for decades. She's done film and voice-over work, performs occasionally with local bands and misses making up funny stuff with improv troupe The Portuguese Rodeo Clown Company.



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It's OK to read this book, Jerry Reinsdorf

Why We Love Baseball includes the moment that broke Reinsdorf's 15-year-old heart

BOOK REVIEW | Stuart Shiffman

I am certain that Chicago White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf is not a regular reader of *Illinois Times*. But there are some residents of Springfield who may, on occasion, speak with him. If you do, please make certain you tell Jerry that, despite what he told author Joe Posnanski, he should read *Why We Love Baseball*, Posnanski's latest book, an adoration of baseball that goes directly to the heart of why we love the game.

Posnanski formerly wrote for the *Kansas City Star* and *Sports Illustrated*. Just as others in his trade have done, he has left regular hard-copy journalism and now writes an independent blog. He has also written six books, including *The Baseball 100*, an informal ranking of the 100 all-time greatest baseball players in history.

Why We Love Baseball: A History in 50 Moments, follows the format of *The Baseball 100*, as the author roams far afield from his discussion of great moments in baseball history to discuss moments not so great. Along the way he highlights many personal moments experienced by players, teammates and fans. Regardless of which team you cheer for, or in which generation your baseball experience began, you will find something in Posnanski's paean that will pull strongly on the emotional strings that tie you to baseball. Pauline Kael once described the movie *Star Wars* as like getting a box of Cracker Jack which is all prizes. *Why We Love Baseball* is not only all prizes, but also every one of them is something you really wanted.

Of course, Bobby Thompson's "shot heard round the world" — the event that broke the baseball heart of 15-year-old Brooklyn Dodger fan Jerry Reinsdorf — is one of the moments that Posnanski covers. It is number 16 on the list, which, in all fairness, includes far more than 50 moments. But the three-run home run that came in the bottom of the ninth inning and gave the Giants a victory and a National League pennant in 1951 is discussed with far more detail than just the fact that for many people it was a triumphant baseball moment and for an equal number their worst baseball memory. The Giants, who were the home team that day, had earlier in the season embarked upon a campaign of sign-stealing from their center field scoreboard. Did Thompson know what pitch Ralph Branca was going to throw? If he did, did it really



The St. Louis Cardinals' David Freese celebrates after hitting the game-winning solo home run in Game 6 of the World Series at Busch Stadium in St. Louis on Oct. 27, 2011. Freese's 11th-inning blast lifted the Cards to a 10-9 win over the Texas Rangers and forced a Game 7. PHOTO BY CHRIS LEE/ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/MCT

matter? And what about the reaction of other players as the ball disappeared over the fence? I have seen Bobby Thompson's home run hundreds of times. I even have a bobblehead with Russ Hodges' call of "The Giants win the pennant." But reading Posnanski's account was a fresh view that added to my baseball knowledge.

Baseball fanatics' intensity for the game endures at many levels. A few can name every starting pitcher in the last decade of the World Series. Some can quote you the wins above replacement for everyone on their favorite team. But most are far less ardent. They enjoy

the game and have some sense of baseball history. *Why We Love Baseball* is a book for fans ranging from fanatical to indifferent. It is also a wonderful book for fans whose memories extend from the 1950s to the present day. The great baseball moments: the called-shot, DiMaggio's 56-game streak, the Merkle "boner" and Aaron's 715th are all part of the story. Discussing these events, Posnanski always seems to find a new twist or new information to add to the story you thought was complete years ago. Local fans who support the Cubs, Cardinals and White Sox or other teams will also recall great moments for their squads.

Cardinal fans will gain additional insight into David Freese's World Series heroics. White Sox fans will once again recall and enjoy the 2005 season as well as Mark Buerhle's perfect game. And Cub fans might gain some additional insight into the famous Bartman game, as well as the historic rain-delay speech, which now ranks alongside "win one for the Gipper" and "we few, we happy few, we band of brothers" as inspirational speeches.

Several years ago, visiting a bookstore in Nashville, Tennessee, I had a brief discussion with the manager. He told me the joy of going to a bookstore comes from purchasing not only the books you came to buy, but the books you didn't know you wanted until you discovered them on the shelf or table. *Why We Love Baseball* is that kind of book. Chapter after chapter yields a new discovery. I learned about a wonderful baseball movie titled *Fastball*, a 2015 documentary with a cast of baseball legends and scientists who explore the magic within the 396 milliseconds it takes a fastball to reach home plate and decipher who threw the fastest pitch ever. I also learned that the full broadcast of the seventh game of the 1960 World Series that ended with Bill Mazeroski's famous home run is available on YouTube and I watched it. I realized what I recalled about the game is far different than what in fact occurred.

I could continue with numerous tiny morsels that Posnanski drops into discussions of baseball moments, many that are also recounted in *The Baseball 100*. But to continue the discussion is to destroy for the reader the joy that might come from learning for the first time an unknown fact in baseball history. That is one of the joys of baseball: Each game presents the opportunity to experience something never experienced before. Not only can it be an experience for you, but it might also be an experience with another baseball fan in your life. Reading *Why We Love Baseball* is a joy beyond description. Read it, treasure it and share it with your baseball fan friends. It's what baseball was meant to be. □

Judge Stuart Shiffman of Springfield retired in 2007. He reviews books on sports, law, history and a range of subjects for Illinois Times and other publications. Last season, after attending baseball games since 1955, he caught his first foul ball. He immediately gave it to his grandson.

When Smoke Gets in Your Eyes

Controlled blackening pushes the flavor of Cajun-rubbed fish

FOOD | Peter Glatz

It was 1984. We had just bought our first house, an old farmhouse built in the late 1800s. The kitchen was outdated and needed renovation. There wasn't a range hood over the stove, and over the years, the ceiling and cabinets had acquired a dingy brownish-grey patina from the buildup of decades of smoke and cooking grease.

Cajun food was all the rage back then, thanks to Paul Prudhomme and his recently released cookbook *Chef Paul Prudhomme's Louisiana Kitchen*. One of his dishes, blackened redfish, had become a national craze and was so popular that it nearly decimated the entire redfish population in the Gulf of Mexico. Demand for the fish had soared to such unprecedented levels that the National Marine Fisheries Service was forced to ban the commercial harvest of the species in federal waters. We decided to try out Prudhomme's recipe with local Illinois catfish.

We dipped the fillets in melted butter, like Prudhomme instructed, and dredged them in a Cajun spice blend that included paprika, cayenne pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, salt and black pepper. We put our biggest cast-iron skillet on the stovetop and cranked the burner all the way up. When the skillet was ripping hot, we tossed in a little butter and cautiously laid down our catfish fillets. In a matter of seconds, the kitchen filled with smoke so dense that we couldn't see past our hands. The smoke alarm was blaring. Our eyes were watering. Our throats and sinuses were burning. We were coughing uncontrollably. I threw open all the doors and started fanning out the smoke with a cookie sheet.

The smoke eventually dissipated. But during our debacle the kitchen was invaded by thousands of flies that had been attracted to the smell. Our catfish had gone from blackened to inedible and we had to spend the next several days swatting flies. It wasn't until years later, after we remodeled the house and installed a \$3,000 range hood, that we attempted to blacken fish ever again.

From a food science perspective, blackening is a phenomenon that lies somewhere between browning and burning. Browning occurs when water is driven off and the proteins or sugars in the food have undergone either Maillard reaction or caramelization, two chemical reactions that



Blackened Mahi-mahi. ANN SHAFFER GLATZ

result in new flavor compounds that smell and taste appealingly complex. Blackening refers to coating quick-cooking proteins in a Cajun spice blend and flash-cooking them in a ripping-hot cast-iron skillet until the fat and spices smoke and char but don't completely burn. The characteristic deep brown to black color of the crust of blackened fish results from a combination of browned milk solids from the butter and charred spices. The blackening that occurs when food chars isn't just a further degree of Maillardization or caramelization. It's a different set of reactions entirely: pyrolysis and carbonization.

Pyrolysis is essentially burning. The term refers to decomposition brought on

by high temperatures. When proteins and sugars are heated to temperatures above 350 degrees, the compounds they formed during Maillardization and caramelization break down even further into smaller molecules that, when taken too far, will taste tarry, smoky and bitter. When taken past browning and brought just to the "edge" of charring, food will develop even deeper, more complex profiles.

A cast-iron skillet is the ideal vessel for getting perfectly blackened fish. The pan can be heated until it is white-hot, which is key to creating the dark brown, crusty, smoky, toasted-spice exterior that is characteristic of this dish.

Paul Prudhomme's Blackened Redfish

A controlled blackening pushes the flavor of this Cajun spice-rubbed fish to a higher level.

Ingredients

For the spice mixture:

- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 2½ teaspoons kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cayenne
- ½ teaspoon dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano

For the fish:

- 1½ cups unsalted butter, melted
- 6 firm-fleshed skinless fish fillets, such as red snapper, mahi-mahi, grouper, haddock, cod, halibut, catfish

Note: To properly blacken fish, the fillets need to be thin enough to cook quickly without burning. They should not be thicker than ½ inch. A thicker piece of fish should be sliced laterally to make 2 thinner slices.

Preparation

In a small bowl, combine the paprika, salt, onion powder, garlic powder, cayenne, thyme and oregano. Mix well. Set aside.

Place a large cast-iron skillet over high heat until very hot, about 10 minutes. It will get smoky, so open your windows, disarm your smoke alarm, and turn on your hood vent if you have one.

Meanwhile, pour 2 tablespoons of melted butter into each of 6 small ramekins; set aside and keep warm. Pour the remaining butter into a shallow bowl. Pat the fish fillets dry with paper towels. Dip each fillet in the butter so that both sides are well coated. Sprinkle the spice mixture generously and evenly on both sides of the fish, pushing it into the flesh with your fingers.

When the skillet is fully heated, place the fillets inside without crowding and top each with 1 teaspoon of melted butter. Cook uncovered until the underside looks charred, about 2 minutes. Using two fish spatulas, turn the fillets over and again add 1 teaspoon of butter on top; cook until done, about 2 minutes more. The fish is done when it flakes apart under gentle pressure of your fingers. Transfer to warmed plates and repeat with the remaining fish. Serve immediately, with a ramekin of butter on each plate. □



FEEL plays Boondocks this Saturday along with the Josie Lowder Band.

Springfield rocks on

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Central Illinois contains a definite rock connection, ranging from early garage band days to producing superstar groups. Nowadays the music world is splintered into many factions but this weekend the rockin’ returns full blast with plenty of heavy hitters hitting the scene, just by chance of the calendar.

While we’re messing with Springfield rock music history, let’s give a shout out to Gary Bloom, currently and forever lead singer of the Groove Daddies. As Gary works through health issues and the GDs are on a bit of a hiatus, we wish him the best for a full recovery. Now would be a good time to Google “Raindeer Army” and listen to Gary doing original music in this local group from the mid-to-late 1960s. There’s some interesting information out there about the scene back then and other members of the band. Rock on, man.

Friday gives us another bit of a Groove Daddies connection as Jeff Kornfeld, currently and forever the lead guitarist of GDs, mentioned his friend, fellow musician and co-writer Ron DeMichiel – who’s originally from this area – being booked at Motorheads this Friday with his band Checker’d Past. Ron began playing music as a young kid in the early 1960s, then proceeded onto a decades-spanning career as a successful performer, keyboardist, guitarist, songwriter and bandleader before returning to central Illinois. Friday he’s joined by the other acclaimed members of this Florida-based band, including Ira Stanley (guitar, slide guitar) who’s performed with his band Dixie Peach all over the country since the ‘70s, August Zona (bass) and Dana Clouser (drums). Along with cool, classic songs, expect to hear a good bunch of original music as well.

On Saturday night out at Boondocks, the Springfield rock scene carries on with a dynamite

show by FEEL, with special guest the Josie Lowder Band. FEEL features founding members Tyler Armstrong (guitar) and T.J. Steinwart (drums), two area musicians who now live near St. Louis, basing the band from there, along with St. Louis resident Rodger Lenhardt (bass) and the latest member, lead vocalist Garrett Barcus. The quartet recently released a new music video, *Find a Love*, and are signed to the Alton-based record label Harbor Music.

The intrepid foursome has done a lot in a little time, opening for big-deal rockers such as Cheap Trick, plus John Waite and Artimus Pyle from Lynyrd Skynyrd, as well as newer popular groups such as Rival Sons and playing a weekend run in Florida with Blackberry Smoke in November. FEEL harkens back to the classic rock of the ‘70s while adding in current influences to create a one-of-a-kind sound and show bound for the stars and stratosphere. Add in Josie and her completely killer band and it’s a really rockin’ time that you should really not miss. Visit the Boondocks website for all the skinny.

For more rockin’ from locals coming back around, Joey Tenuto brings his blues rock show to central Illinois this week with gigs at Pop’s Place in Decatur on Sunday and The Alamo on Monday, plus a Wednesday visit to Trails End in Curran. Joey plays all the time down in Florida and has several more Midwest stops on his Facebook calendar post. Bring it on, Joey!

To finish out our rock run, how about visiting Weebles on Sunday when Mark Bott hosts his Senior Dogs Rock benefit from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and features music by Mandy Rose, Father Hank & the Hammerheads and Brandy Kristin Band. Old dogs rock, too, so come hang for this event and help out the Helping Paw Project in caring for senior canines.

Rock on and on and into next week. □



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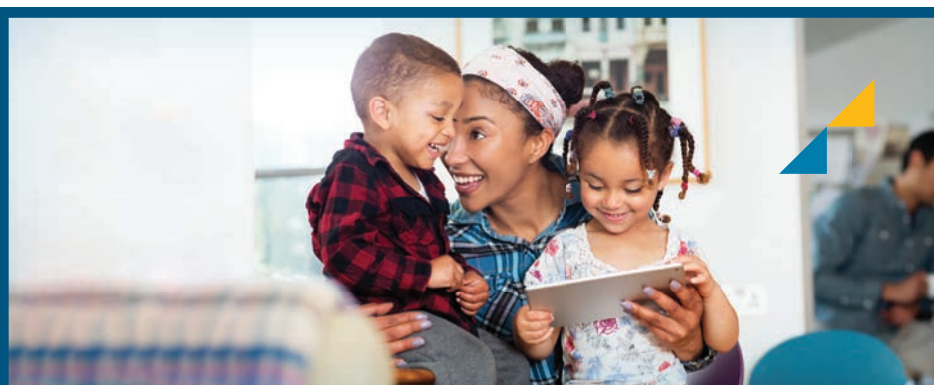


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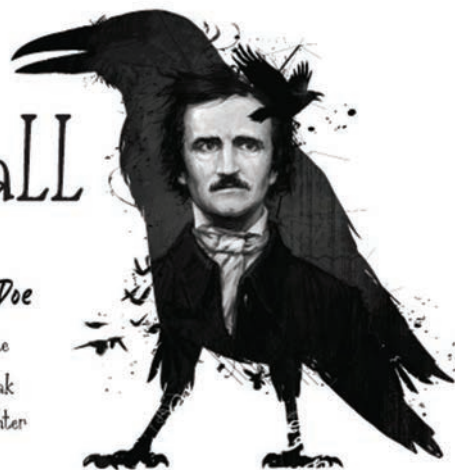
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MUSIC

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

Thursday Oct 12

Sam and Kortney open mic
The Blue Grouch Pub, 7-11pm

Willie Christmon and friends
Columbian Grand Hall Knights of Columbus 364, 5-8pm

Lemon and Sweet Pickles
Curve Inn, 6-9pm

Jackpot Karaoke with Debbie Cakes
Curve Inn, 7-11pm

J.C.B. Entertainment Karaoke
La Fiesta Chatham, 6-10pm

The Art of Jazz - The UIS Jazz Ensemble
The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 7-9pm

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

Friday Oct 13

Chris Canterbury
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton, 7pm

J.C.B. Entertainment Karaoke
Bald Buddha Brewing, 7-11pm

Friday Night Jazz - Dan Rivero Trio
Boone's, 5:30-7:30pm

Johnnie Owens
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm

Brandy Kristin Band
Curve Inn, 6-9pm

Devotional: The Depeche Mode Experience, Technique
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin,

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

Hospital Job, Attic Salt, Emily How and the Whys, Acid Frog
Dumb Records, 7pm

John Drake
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur, 7-10pm

Summer of George
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

After School Special
Long Bridge Golf Course, 6:30pm

U Betcha Boys
Main Gate Bar & Grill, 8pm-12am

Mandy Rose
Pease's at BUNN Gourmet, 5-7pm

it Checker'd Past
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 6pm

Dave Littrell
Sangamo Brewing Co., Chatham, 6-9pm

Sushi Roll
The Blue Grouch, 7-10pm

Fair Weather Friends
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

The Tangents
Walby's Place, Ashland, 7-10pm

Saturday Oct 14

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

Frank Parker
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm

Silver Lake
Curve Inn, 6-10pm

Dancing Queen: An ABBA Salute
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 8pm

it Grounded, Chris Sorenson Project
Goodfellas Pub, 7-11pm

Billy Galt
Harvest Market Farmhouse Brews, 6-9pm

Wood 'n' Nickel Society
Kuhl Tyme Korner, Jacksonville, 8pm-12am

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

Mattison Avenue, UNCHAINED, Lick Creek
Robin Roberts Stadium, 12-5pm

Decade of Decadence
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar & Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 8pm

Tom Irwin and The Raouligans with Tom Beverly
Sangamo Brewing Co., Chatham, 6-9pm

Johnnie Owens
Sheedy Shores WineGarden, Loami, 4-7pm

The Tangents
Small Town Dreamers Farmer's Market, Farmersville, 12-3pm

Springfield Uketopians
Stella Coffee & Tea, 12-2pm

Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

Sunday Oct 15

Fantastical Folk Jam
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 4-6pm

R&B Live Ladies Edition
Curve Inn, 6-9pm

Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors
Danenberger Family Vineyards, New Berlin, 2-5pm

Lacey & Kirsten
Harvest Market Coffee Bar, 10am-1pm

Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford, 2-5pm

Rhodes & Battles Trio
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

The Joey Tenuto Band
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3pm

Beige Desperados
Sangamo Brewing Co., Chatham, 4-6pm

Gabe and Dakota
Sheedy Shores WineGarden, Loami, 2-5pm

John Drake
Slauterhouse Brewing Co., Auburn, 1-4pm

The Tangents
The Stadium Bar & Grill, 2-5pm

Mandy Rose, Father Hank & The Hammerheads, Brandy Kristin Band
Weebles Bar & Grill, 12-5:30pm

Joel Honey
Whiskey Ridge Saloon, Breckenridge, 2pm

Monday Oct 16

it The Joey Tenuto Band
The Alamo, 7pm

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

Tuesday Oct 17

Karaoke with Debbie Cakes
The Blue Grouch Pub, 7-11pm

Open jam with Silas Tockey
George Rank's, 7-10pm

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

Open Mic with Jim Ackerman
Silver Sevens Gaming Pub & Parlor, 6:30-9:30pm.

Open mic with Thomas J Beverly
Wings Etc, 6:30-8:30pm.

Wednesday Oct 18

Open mic
Boone's, 7-10pm

Karaoke
Clique, 9pm-1am

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

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

Open mic with Joey Tenuto
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 7-10pm

Karaoke with Debbie Cakes
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-11pm

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THE CALENDAR



Boo Bark Party and more
Sat., Oct. 14, 11am-2pm
Stuart Park, 1800 Winch Lane
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apl-shelter.org

FUNDRAISERS AND SHOWS | “Howling good” times set this weekend for dogs, owners

it Humankind’s best friend takes center stage this weekend at three events happening in the capital city. Springfield’s “only Halloween Party” for dogs once again takes place at Stuart Park, where dogs and their humans can take part in various activities including a dog costume contest, games, paw painting on canvas and more. The event, which benefits the Animal Protective League, includes a kids’ fun zone, pumpkin painting and vendors. Admission is \$3 for one dog or \$5 for two. The APL says the event will be a “howling good time.” Meanwhile, the annual, three-day Prairie River all-breed dog show starts Friday at the Expo Building at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. Watch the judging of dogs in each breed as the canines compete for best of breed honors and best of show. Admission is free for the event, which runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day through Sunday. On Sunday, dog lovers can attend a benefit at Weebles Bar & Grill in support of The Helping Paw Project, which finds homes and medical care for older dogs. Three bands will take the stage from noon to 6 p.m.

THE CALENDAR

Send us your events! Deadline: 5pm Fri.
Submit online at:
www.illinoisistimes.com.
Email: calendar@illinoisistimes.com
Dates, times and locations are subject to last-minute changes, so we suggest calling before attending events.

■ Special Music Events

Culver Stockton College Choir
Thu., Oct. 12, 7-8:30pm. Enjoy a concert featuring a variety musical selections. Free. First Christian Church Springfield, 700 S. Sixth St., 217-528-3407.

FEEL

Sat., Oct. 14, 7pm. FEEL is a four-piece, independent rock band whose sound pays homage to the classic rock era. boondockspub.com. \$10-\$15. Boondocks, 2909 N. Dirksen Pkwy., 217-679-0145.

■ Books & Authors

Bite Into a Good Book

Wed., Oct. 18, 12-1pm. Book club for adults. This month’s book is *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure. Contact library for more information. Free. Chatham Area Public Library, Chatham, 600 E. Spruce St., 217-483-2713.

Book signing with Ken Keffer

Sat., Oct. 14, 10am-1pm. Award-winning nature educator Ken Keffer will sign three of his most popular books on the outdoors. This is also the 30th anniversary celebration of the store. Includes refreshments, door prizes. springfieldil.wbu.com. Free. Wild Birds Unlimited, 1930 S. MacArthur Blvd., 217-789-6468.

■ Theater & Comedy

Belly Laffs Comedy

Sat., Oct. 14, 8pm. Join Richard Bailey, Kathy Brennan, Lance Cain, Jaime Guzman

and Ethan Conley-Keck for a night of stand-up comedy. bellylaffscomedy.com. \$10. Laguna Brava Mexican Restaurant, 2466 Wabash Ave., (217) 669-3785.

Civil War Journeys

Oct. 13-14, 7:30pm and Sun., Oct. 15, 2pm. A heartfelt journey through the hardships, sacrifices and triumphs of three couples during the Civil War. Written by John Woodruff and presented by the Springfield Theatre Centre. hcfta.org. \$20. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

A Disney Sing-Along

Fri., Oct. 13, 6pm., and Sat., and Sun., Oct. 14-15, 2pm. Sing along with your favorite Disney songs while Disney characters come to life on stage. Interactive, family-friendly show. Audience members urged to dress as their favorite characters. Includes costume contest, photo ops before and after the show with cast. hcfta.org. \$20. Hoogland Center for

the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

HallowTeen

Sat., Oct. 14, 7pm. A hilarious teen improv troupe show that’s family friendly. Be sure to join in the costume contest. Presented by Capital City Improv. hcfta.org. \$15. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Nightfall with Edgar Allan Poe

Thu. and Fri., Oct. 12-13, 8pm and Sat., Oct. 14, 3pm and 8pm. A highly theatrical adaptation of four tales Poe himself considered his best. Check your heartbeat at the door, or it may beat on with a muffled sound. Presented by the Spencer Theatre Company. hcfta.org. \$18-\$20. Hoogland Center for the Arts Peggy Ryder Theatre, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

Ride the Cyclone

Oct. 13-15 and Oct. 18-22. In this new musical, six members of a high school choir board a roller coaster, and their

lives take tragic, comedic and enchanting twists. atthelegacy.com. \$35. Other pricing for advance tickets for all ages. The Legacy Theatre, 101 E. Lawrence, 217-528-9760.

Theresa Caputo Live: The Experience

Sun., Oct. 15, 2-4pm. The star of the hit TLC show *The Long Island Medium* delivers healing messages to audience members, comforting them with the revelation that deceased loved ones are still with us - just in a different way. uispac.com. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

Tom Arnold

Oct. 14, 7:30, 9:30pm. Tom Arnold, a versatile actor-comedian, will bring his brand of humor to the capital city. donniebs.com. \$49-\$53. Knights of Columbus Casey’s Pub, 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 217-891-4858.

Wheel of Fortune

Sat., Oct. 14, 6:30-8:30pm. Live stage show adapted from the TV game show gives fans access and more chances to win. Guests randomly selected to go on stage to spin a full-size replica wheel. Prizes include trips to Paris and Hawaii and up to \$10,000. uispac.com. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

■ Dance

Snow White by Grand Kyiv Ballet

Tue., Oct. 17, 7-9pm. Based on a fairy tale by The Brothers Grimm, this ballet takes the vibrant style of a Disney animated movie and sets it to the musical motifs of Polish composer Bogdan Pavlovsky. Presented by Grand Kyiv Ballet. uispac.com. \$35-\$89. UIS Performing Arts Center, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

■ Art & Architecture

it ROASTED: Hot Pots + Picnic

Sat., Oct. 14, 3-9pm. This is a ceramic raku event. Glaze a pot and fire it in an outdoor kiln, and it is ready to take home that night. Come watch the fire, enjoy dinner or drinks, and listen to live music from Square of the

Roots and Bluesmattic Blues Band. Springfieldart.org. Admission \$25; plus pot \$45. Children 12 and younger \$20. Additional pot \$15. Admission increases day of event. Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-544-2787.

■ Film & Television

Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour movie

Oct. 13-15, 7:30pm. On Screen 1. Children younger than 12, seniors over 60, first responders and military qualify for lower price. route66-drivein.com. \$13.13-\$19.89. Route 66 Twin Drive-In, 1700 Recreation Dr., 217-698-0066.

■ History

Is it bad luck or just the 19th century?

Wed., Oct. 18, 5:30-6:30pm. Learn about the harms that seemed to befall those close to the Benjamin Edwards family of the Enos Park neighborhood, from maiming, to illness, to dying in a fire. While gruesome, the events also shed a light on medicine, regulation, and other factors of the 19th century. Part of History Happy Hour. presidentlincoln.illinois.gov. Free. Anvil and Forge Brewing and Distilling Company, 619 E. Washington St., 217-679-1195.

Sangamon County Historical Society Program

Tue., Oct. 17, 5:30-7pm. Learn about the lives and legacies of 19th century architect E.E. Meyers and builder Ernest F. Gelhmann and their client, Wellington Huffaker. Allicent Smith, a descendant of Huffaker, will talk about the construction of his New Berlin mansion, Fancy Point, during the mid-1800s. sangamonhistory.org. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-525-1961.

The Unfinished Business of the Civil War

Thu., Oct. 12, 6:30-7:30pm. Jeremi Suri will examine the struggles for freedom, justice and unity in the aftermath of Lincoln’s death. Part of the For the People Speaker Series. presidentlincolnillinois.org.

gov. Free. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

■ Faith & Philosophy

Asbury United Methodist Church celebrations

Sat., Oct. 14, 11am-2pm. The public is invited as the church celebrates its 100th anniversary and the 40th anniversary of the Children’s Supper Hour program. Includes music and children’s activities as well as hot dogs, popcorn and drinks. Attend worship celebration at 9am Sunday. Call for more info. Free. Asbury United Methodist Church, 1229 S. Grand Ave., East, 217-381-2044.

■ Holiday Happenings

Boo Crew Haunted House

Open every Friday and Saturday night through October. Boo victims should be at least age 10. Matinee hours are available for youngsters. Concessions available. Box office opens at 6:30pm. Haunting begins around 7pm, rain or shine. boocrew.com. \$25-\$40, matinee hours \$15 and \$7 for children. Boo Crew Haunted House, Mechanicsburg, 11083 Buckhart Road, 217-551-6969.

it Carve for the Carillon

Oct. 14-15, 11am-4pm. Scooped pumpkins will be ready for your creative carving. Bring your carving tools, family and friends. The carved pumpkins will be displayed at the following week’s Jack O’Lantern Spectacular. Rain or shine and while supplies last. carillon-rees.org. Free. Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon, 1740 W. Fayette Ave., 217-546-4116.

Fear 101 haunted house

Fridays, 6:30-11pm. Through Oct. 27. Multiple, themed rooms filled with ghosts, ghouls and other scary sights await those brave enough to enter. Sponsored by the LLCC Police Department and created by faculty, staff and students. Recommended for age 13 and older. Special “lights-on” version planned for 4 to 6pm Oct. 28. llcc.edu. \$5, \$2 for LLCC students. Sangamon Hall South, Lincoln Land Community College, 5250 Shepherd Road, 217-786-2219.

FRIGHT'S Action Park
Fridays, Saturdays, 6pm. Through Oct. 28. Let the frights begin this month at Knight's Action Park. www.knightsactionpark.com. \$13 opening night, \$20 after that. Knight's Action Park, 1700 Knights Recreation Dr., 217-546-8881.

State Farm Trunk or Treat
Fri., Oct. 13, 6-8pm. Damon Priddy State Farm is hosting a free community Halloween event with decorated trunks of treats, a bounce house, face-painting, vendors and a food truck. Plus, 99.7 The Mix will be keeping the party going with a live radio remote. Damon Priddy State Farm, 2951 Montvale Dr., 217-787-5400.

Terror on the Square
Fridays and Saturdays throughout October. A terrifying haunted tour with mystifying illusions. Do you dare to step into the 1930s funeral home knowing that terror awaits? Every Friday and Saturday through Oct. 31. terroronthesquare.com. \$23. Terror on the Square, Petersburg, 119 S. Seventh St., 217-632-2731.

Trunk or Treat at The Cruise
Fri., Oct. 13, 5-8pm. Cruisers are excited to welcome all area children for Halloween Trunk or Treating at the last Cruise of the season. Taylorville Square, Taylorville, Washington St.

■ Fairs & Festivals

Shoetoberfest
Sat., Oct. 14, 12-5pm. An Oktoberfest-style festival with a variety of beers from local brewers on hand to try. Tasting experience from noon to 3 pm. Three bands will play. Food truck will be on hand. shoesbaseball.com. \$35. Robin Roberts Stadium, 1415 N. Grand Ave. E., 217-679-3511.

■ Fundraisers and Galas

Arts and Crafts Fair
Sat., Oct. 14, 8:30am-3pm. Do that holiday shopping at this annual event featuring fine art and craft items. Includes food and drink items, children's activities and more. Proceeds from fair benefit Ball-Chatham School Titan Fuel Program and St. Joe's TEAM while proceeds from food and drink sales help St. Joseph the Worker Pre-School. www.stjoschatham.org. St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Chatham, 700 E. Spruce St., 217-415-0750.

Great Futures Gala
Thu., Oct. 12, 5:30pm. "The Places You'll Go." Music, food, drinks, silent auction, live auction and fun. Proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls

Clubs of Central Illinois. bgccil.org. \$50. LRS Hangar, 820 S. Capital Airport Dr., 217-523-8159.

■ Children's Corner

Solar Eclipse Program
Sat., Oct. 14, 10-11am. Kid-friendly, beginner-level program on solar eclipses. The program will finish with a viewing of the eclipse (weather permitting) at 10:33am. If there is demand, a second presentation on the solar eclipse will occur after the viewing period has ended. Those attending will be given solar eclipse viewing glasses. pspld.com. Free. Prairie Skies Public Library Pleasant Plains, Pleasant Plains, 555 Buckeye Road, 217-476-3417.

■ Nature, Science & Environment

Bird Hike
Saturdays, 8-9:30am. Through Oct. 14. Join local birder Kevin Veara for seasonal migratory bird hikes. Hikes begin at Nature Center. Program open to all skill levels. No registration required. lincolnmemorialgarden.org. Free. Lincoln Memorial Garden, 2301 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-529-1111.

Oak Ridge Tree Tour
Sat., Oct. 14, 1-4pm. Some of the trees in the cemetery can be traced back to Lincoln's time and before, while others have been propagated from historic and rare trees from around the temperate world. Walk a designated route, stopping to talk with guides will identify trees and their stories. Includes kids activities. Free. Oak Ridge Cemetery, 1441 Monument Ave., 217-789-2340.

Solar Eclipse Program
Thu., Oct. 12, 7-9pm. Retired UIS Astronomy Professor Charles Schweighauser will present a lecture geared toward adults about solar eclipses and how they occur. Patrons attending the program will be given solar eclipse viewing glasses. pspld.com. Free. Prairie Skies Public Library Pleasant Plains, Pleasant Plains, 555 Buckeye Road, 217-476-3417.

■ Bulletin Board

Annual Great Giveaway
Sat., Oct. 14, 8-11am. Clothing and household items free of charge. Call for more information. Free. Lakeside Church of Christ, 65 Rita Road, 217-585-1803.

Chili and beef vegetable soup supper
Taking pre-orders now for chili and/or beef vegetable soup to be served on Thu., Oct. 19, and Fri., Oct. 20, 10am-6pm. Drive up only.

Call for more info. 217-529-1614. Mary Bryant Home for the Blind, 2960 Stanton St.

Disability Resource Fair
Mon., Oct. 16, 5-7pm. A resource fair for individuals with disabilities who are interested in employment. Most of the vendors will be organizations that assist in finding employment. Employers will also be in attendance. If accommodations are needed to participate, send an email to RSDisabilityRights@gmail.com. Free, donations welcome. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900.

Freedom in Holiness Mission clothing giveaway
Sat., Oct. 21, 10am-1pm. Coats, blankets, hooded sweatshirts and more to be given away. Event volunteers must phone one week in advance. 217-522-2527. Freedom in Holiness Mission, 1430 Loveland Ave.

Mid America Mane Event Horse Show
Thu., Oct. 12, Fri., Oct. 13 and Sat., Oct. 14. 20th anniversary Mane Event Horse Show at the fairgrounds. The schedule provides a full array of performance, pleasure, equitation, hackney and road horse classes. Coliseum, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 E. Sangamon Ave., 815-347-4395.

Prairie River dog show
Oct. 13-15, 8am-5pm. Hundreds of dogs of all breeds from regional kennel clubs compete for the title of best in show. Includes vendors selling food, drinks and pet products. Call for more information. Free. Illinois State Fairgrounds Exposition Building, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-725-3647.

RISE Professional Clothing Drive distribution
Sat., Oct. 14, 10am-4pm. Need to update your professional wardrobe? Stop by and let event organizer RISE Springfield help. Prospective volunteers should email bailey.woolsey@lrs.com. gsc.org/riase/. Free. LLCC Trutter Center, 5250 Shepherd Road, 217-786-2200.

■ Health & Fitness

Springfield Out of the Darkness Walk
Sat., Oct. 14, 12:30pm. A walk to promote mental health awareness and prevent suicide. Turn hope into action to save lives. supporting.afsp.org. Free, donations accepted. UIS Student Union, One William Maxwell Lane, 217-971-2658.



ART & CRAFT FAIR
Sat. October 14th, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church
700 East Spruce St. Chatham, IL.

Net proceeds from the Art & Craft Fair benefit the Ball-Chatham School Titan Fuel Program & St. Joe's TEAM.

KIDS KORNER: with free crafts & coloring pages Come do your holiday shopping, with many fine art and craft items to choose from.

Hope to see you there!

For more information, please contact
Nichole Poss at: nlkuchar@gmail.com

Visit Church Website at:
www.stjoschatham.org
(under service-art & craft fair)

Complimentary Coffee!
Food & Drink items will be available for purchase. Sale of Food & Drink will benefit the St. Joseph the Worker Pre-School.



Springfield Theatre Centre
at The Hoogland Center for the Arts

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A
Disney Sing-Along

October 13-15
Friday 6:30 pm
Saturday & Sunday 2:00 pm

For tickets visit hcfta.org/tickets
or call (217)523-ARTS




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Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

—SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE;
JASON L. REYNOLDS A/K/A JAYSON LEE REYNOLDS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF GARY D. REYNOLDS; KEVIN MCDERMOTT AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GARY D. REYNOLDS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendant(s).

CASE NO. 2022FC000242
Property Address: 2028 South Renfro Street Springfield, IL 62703
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on September 13, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on November 7, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: Commonly known as: 2028 South Renfro Street, Springfield, IL 62703
P.I.N.: 22-03.0-281-036
1ST Lien Position; SINGLE Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$28,245.23
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND

COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.

Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

—SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff,
vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF PAUL D. OGAN; BRIAN OGAN; BRIAN OGAN AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF PAUL D. OGAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendant(s).
CASE NO. 2023FC000004
Property Address: 2206 S. 12th Street Springfield, IL 62703
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on July 19, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on November 7, 2023, commencing

at 9:00AM, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: Commonly known as: 2206 S. 12th Street, Springfield, IL 62703
P.I.N.: 22-03-408-003

First Lien Position; Single Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$53,215.65
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT.

Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com



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7:15 – 8:15 pm
Basic East Coast Swing (Single-step)
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IL COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT SEEKS PUBLIC POLICY COORDINATOR

New position reporting to General Counsel. Provides public policy outreach, research, tools, assistance, education, and coordination. Bachelor's degree & three years of relevant work in public policy, lobbying, government relations, law, or political organizing required. Additional relevant experience may be considered in lieu of degree. Must be eligible to register as a lobbyist in Illinois.

Starting salary: \$52,500-\$62,500. Position based in Springfield with limited travel. Send cover letter & resume to icasa@icasa.org or C. Ward, ICASA, 100 N. 16th St, Springfield, IL 62703. Applications accepted until position is filled. EOE.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MARY A. ALBERS, Deceased
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
NO. 2023-PR-354

Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of MARY A. ALBERS, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on October 14, 2023, to JAMES E. ALBERS, 3024 Greenbriar Drive Springfield, IL 62704, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr & Rabin, 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 April 15, 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 04th day of October, 2023. Alex B. Rabin
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP
1119 S. Sixth Street
Springfield, IL 62703
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION

ESTATE OF
Julianna Ladage,
Deceased
Case No. 2023 PR 295
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Julianna Ladage on July 22, 2023. Letters of Office were issued on October 4, 2023 to J JESSICA HARTMAN, whose post office address is 1408 Woodbine Road #2, Bloomington, IL 61704, as INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR, and whose attorney is David Patrick Hall, Attorney at Law, 611 E. Monroe Street, Suite 200, Springfield, IL 62701.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative of the estate, or both, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated October 12, 2023
David Patrick Hall
Attorney for Administrator
611 E. Monroe Street, Suite 200
Springfield, Illinois 62701
217-210-7200
davehall@motion.net
Registration No. 6225105

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF DAVID LEE HAMRICK,
Deceased.
No. 2023PR000351
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of David Lee Hamrick, a resident of Springfield,

Sangamon County, Illinois, who died in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, on June 3, 2023. STIFEL TRUST COMPANY, N.A., whose post office address is 501 North Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri 63102, was appointed executor of his estate on October 3, 2023. The attorneys for the executor are Hart, Southworth & Witsman, One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication, or 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery, of this notice, whichever is later. Any claim not filed before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 3rd day of October, 2023. Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)
Hart, Southworth & Witsman
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: (217) 753-0055
trigby@hsw.net.com
aprillaman@hsw.net.com
8051-936517

CLAIM NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
NICHOLAS SANTOS HERNANDEZ RENFRO,
Deceased
No. 2023-PR-317
Notice is given of the death of the above. Decedent departed this life on July 9, 2023
Date letters were issued on September 26, 2023
Independent Personal Representative:
Tiffany Renfro
Attorney for the Estate:
Thomas H. Wilson
HeplerBroom, LLC
4340 Acer Grove Drive
Springfield, IL 62711
T: (217) 528-3674
F: (217) 528-3964
thw@heplerbroom.com
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Probate Division, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Personal Representative or both, on or before Monday, March 25, 2024 and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of the claim filed with the Circuit Court Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the Attorney of Record, if any, within 10 days after it has been filed and the claimant shall file with the Court proof of any required mailing. Tiffany Renfro, Independent Personal Representative of the Estate of Nicholas Santos Hernandez Renfro, Deceased

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF:
RICHARD W. ALCORN,
Deceased.
NO. 2023-PR-352
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Richard

W. Alcorn of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on October 2, 2023, to William Alcorn, 1005 Community Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62703, 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 April 9, 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 2nd day of October, 2023. Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP
P.O. Box 79
Springfield, IL 62705
(217) 544-4868
bssegatto@barberlaw.com

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
JOSEPH MILLS,
DECEASED
No. 2023 PR 341
CLAIMS NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Joseph Mills. Notice is given to all heirs and creditors that Letters of Administration were issued on October 2, 2023, to Kevin N. McDermott, 109 South 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 as Administrator of the Estate. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704, or with the Executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 2nd day of October, 2023. Kevin N. McDermott
Attorney for the Estate of Joseph Mills
109 South Seventh Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701
(217) 753-4070
Ill. Reg. No. 6196497
Kevin@KevinNMcDermott.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Estate of:
FRANCIS J. OWENS,
Deceased.
NO. 2023-PR-350
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Francis J. Owens of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 28, 2023, to James M. Owens, 3017 Sandgate Road, Springfield, Illinois 62702, 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 April 4, 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 28th day of September, 2023. 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
BARBARA ANN MURRAY, Deceased
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE
NO. 2023-PR-344
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of Barbara Ann Murray, Deceased. Letters of Office were issued on September 27, 2023, to Lisa Fleigle, 3430 Pinyon Drive, Springfield, IL 62711, as Independent Executor, 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 8th day of April, 2024, or three months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 27th day of September, 2023. 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
In the matter of the estate of:
Dorothy M. Bahre, Deceased
Case No. 23-PR-333
Claim Notice
Notice is given of the death of Dorothy M. Bahre. Letters of Office were issued on Sept. 18, 2023 to Nancy Bahre as Executor, 833 S. Lincoln Ave., Springfield IL 62704. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the Executor, on or before, April 5, 2024. 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. Paul Palazzolo
Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the Matter of the Estate of:
Helen B. Whitlock
Deceased.
No. 2023-PR-327
NOTICE TO HEIRS AND
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF CLAIM DATE
Notice is given of the death of Helen B. Whitlock, of Springfield, Illinois. Letters Testamentary were issued on September 13, 2023 to David S. Whitlock, 423 N. Old Covered Bridge, Springfield, Illinois, 62711, as Independent Executor, 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 Helen B. Whitlock of the entry of the Order as set forth above and of the entry of an Order declaring David Beal and Patsy Bourdounis as the only heirs of

Helen B. Whitlock.
The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under 28-4 of the Probate Act, 755 ILCS 5/28-4, any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County, 200 S. 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months of the first day that this Notice is published, and any claim not so filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Joseph B. Roesch
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Sarah Delano Pavlik - 6269250
DELANO LAW OFFICES, LLC
Attorneys for Executor
One Southeast Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Telephone: 217-544-2703
Fax: 217-544-4664
sdpavlik@delanolaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
JUANITA HARRIS, DECEASED
Case #2023-PR-339
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of JUANITA HARRIS. Letters of Office have been issued to JUANETT ELIZABETH BROWNLOW, 1717 Windycrest Drive, Springfield, IL 62704, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before March 27, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 20th day of September, 2023. William P. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
JOANN ROWLEY, DECEASED
Case #2023-PR-340
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of JOANN ROWLEY. Letters of Office have been issued to PAMELA JO KINK, 716 Old Tipton School Rd., Sherman, IL 62684, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Executor, or both, on or before March 27, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has

been filed.
Dated this 20th day of September, 2023. William P. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MELGE O. MEIER, DECEASED
Case #2023-PR-336
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of MELGE O. MEIER. Letters of Office have been issued to CARLA LOUISE MEIER, 4880 Worth Ave., Titusville, FL 32780 and JEFFREY ALAN MEIER, 5205 Deerwood Lake, Springfield, IL 62703, as Independent Co-Executors, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Co-Executors, or both, on or before March 26, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Co-Executors and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 19th day of September, 2023. Patrick J. Sheehan
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.
1215 South 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Estate of:
DIANA K. GRIFFITTS,
Deceased.
NO. 2023-PR-332
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Diana K. Griffiths of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 19, 2023, to Steve H. Griffiths, 16 Cottage Grove, Springfield, Illinois 62712, 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 March 26, 2023, 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 19th day of September 2023. Bernard G. Segatto, III - 06190753
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP
P.O. Box 79
Springfield, IL 62705
(217) 544-4868
bssegatto@barberlaw.com
347136

COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF
SAMUEL NUDO,
DECEASED
No. 2023 PR 323
CLAIMS NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of Samuel Nudo. Notice is given to all heirs and

creditors that Letters Testamentary were issued on September 11, 2023, to Kevin N. McDermott, 109 South 7th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701 as Executor of the Estate. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704, or with the Executor, or both, within 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 17th day of September, 2023. Kevin N. McDermott Attorney for the Estate of Samuel Nudo 109 South Seventh Street Springfield, Illinois 62701 (217) 753-4070 Ill. Reg. No. 6196497 Kevin@KevinNMcDermott.com

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of Nicole Payge Coats, Petitioner And David Michael Coats, Respondent Case No. 2023 DN 000127
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, David Michael Coats, 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 12th day of November, 2023, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joe B. Roesch Circuit Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY
Re: the marriage of Bartel R. Oliea, Petitioner And Sharon Velasquez Oliea, Respondent Case No. 2023 DN 000198
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Sharon Velasquez Oliea, 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 5th day of November, 2023, 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 June A. Cooper, Petitioner And Patrick A. Cooper, Respondent Case No. 2023-DN-000168
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Patrick A. Cooper, 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 28th day of October, 2023, 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 Feven C. Mulu, Petitioner And Endene Kassa, Respondent Case No. 2023-DN-000267
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Notice is given you, Endene Kassa, 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 28th day of October, 2023, a judgment of dissolution of marriage and other relief may be granted as prayed for in the Petition. Joe Roesch Circuit Clerk

ADOPTION NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF SANGAMON
CIRCUIT COURT OF SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN RE THE ADOPTION OF: AMELIA STARR BENTLEY, a minor, Case #2023-AD-78
TO: ALL UNKNOWN FATHERS AND ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, Respondent TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed in the Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, for the adoption of Amelia Starr Bentley, a minor. Now, therefore, unless you, ALL UNKNOWN FATHERS AND ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, file your Answer to the Petition in this action or otherwise file your appearance therein, in the said Circuit Court of Sangamon County, Illinois, Family Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, on or before October 30, 2023, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment may be entered in accordance with the prayer of said Petition, including a judgment terminating your residual parental rights. 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: September 20, 2023 /s/ Joseph B. Roesch, Sangamon County Circuit Clerk William P. Sheehan SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C. Attorneys for Petitioners 1215 South 4th Street, Suite A Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of Victoria Jean Smith For change of name to Victoria Jean Harms Case No. 2023-MR-000339

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Nov. 28, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Victoria Jean Smith to Victoria Jean Harms pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Oct. 5, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of Josephine Marie Ralph For change of name to Josephine Marie Webster Case No. 2023-MR-000334
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Nov. 14, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Josephine Marie Ralph to Josephine Marie Webster pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Oct. 5, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of Jessica Ralph For change of name to Jessica Webster Case No. 2023-MR-000333
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Nov. 14, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Jessica Ralph to Jessica Webster pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Oct. 5, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
In the matter of the Petition of Conner Zachary Tibbs-Sampson For change of name to Conner Zachary Sampson Case No. 2023-MR-000324
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Nov. 14, 2023 I will petition in said Court praying for the change of name from Conner Zachary Tibbs-Sampson to Conner Zachary Sampson pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided. Dated: Sept. 28, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
--SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; JASON L. REYNOLDS A/K/A JAYSON LEE REYNOLDS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF GARY D. REYNOLDS; KEVIN MCDERMOTT AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GARY D. REYNOLDS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2022FC000242
Property Address: 2028 South Renfro Street Springfield, IL 62703
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on September 13, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on November 7, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: LOTS THIRTEEN (13), FOURTEEN (14)

AND FIFTEEN (15) OF SPAULDING'S CAPITAL CITY ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD. EXCEPT FOR 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. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Commonly known as: 2028 South Renfro Street, Springfield, IL 62703 P.I.N.: 22-03.0-281-036
1ST Lien Position; SINGLE Family Residence; Judgment Amount \$28,245.23
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT. Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com 8051-936377

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
--SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF PAUL D. OGAN; BRIAN OGAN; BRIAN OGAN AS INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATOR OF PAUL D. OGAN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendant(s). CASE NO. 2023FC000004
Property Address: 2206 S. 12th Street Springfield, IL 62703
NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE
Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a judgment of said Court entered in the above-entitled cause on July 19, 2023, I, Sheriff Jack Campbell of Sangamon County, Illinois, will hold a sale on November 7, 2023, commencing at 9:00AM, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701 ROOM TBA, to sell to the highest bidder or bidders the following described real estate, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said decree, to wit: LOT 262 AND THE SOUTH 2 FEET OF LOT 263 OF LENOX SUBDIVISION. EXCEPT ANY INTEREST IN THE COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS UNDERLYING THE LAND WHICH HAVE BEEN HERETOFORE CONVEYED OR RESERVED IN PRIOR CONVEYANCES, AND ALL RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE ESTATE OF SAID COAL, OIL, GAS AND OTHER MINERALS, IF ANY. SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS Commonly known as: 2206 S. 12th Street, Springfield, IL 62703 P.I.N.: 22-03-408-003
First Lien Position; Single Family Resi-

dence; Judgment Amount \$53,215.65
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 735 ILCS 5/15-1507(c)(1)(H-1) AND (H-2), 765 ILCS 605/9(G)(5), AND 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE PURCHASER OF THE PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MORTGAGEE, SHALL PAY THE ASSESSMENTS AND LEGAL FEES REQUIRED BY SUBSECTIONS (g)(1) AND (g)(4) OF SECTION 9 AND THE ASSESSMENTS AND COURT COSTS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (g-1) OF SECTION 18.5 OF THE ILLINOIS CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY ACT. Terms of Sale: CASH – 10% down at the time of sale and the balance due within 24 hours of the sale. All payments for the amount bid shall be in certified funds payable to the Sheriff of Sangamon County. The person to contact for information regarding this property is: Sales Department at Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC, 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120, Naperville, IL 60563, (630) 453-6960. For bidding instructions, visit www.dallegal.com 24 hours prior to sale. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC 1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120 Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 453-6960 midwestpleadings@dallegal.com 8051-936250

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF Ariel Fayne No. 2023-GR-66
To: Jason Barbour and unknown fathers at address unknown: Please be notified that Denise Robinson has filed a Petition for Guardianship of Ariel Fayne, minor child. You are required to answer said Petition By December 4 2023 or be defaulted by the Court thereafter.

Date of Sale: October 25, 2023 @ 1:00 P.M. Location: Westside Storage, 3142 South Douglas Avenue, Springfield, IL 62704. BLD KK #9 5x12 Kurt Curry 16 Concord Square #2 Boston MA 02118 BLD KK #3 5x12 Devin Hughes 1020 N Wesley St Springfield IL 62702 BLD C #42 10x10 Patrick Martin 3320 S Douglas Ave Apt 1 Springfield IL 62704 BLD B #62 5x10 Reid Moody 2727 S Glenwood Ave Springfield IL 62704 BLD H #35 10x15 Alex Tafoya 402 N Chestnut Versailles IL 62378

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

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: KAREN V. BILLBRUCK, Deceased. No. 2023-PR-347
CLAIM NOTICE AND NOTICE TO HEIRS
Notice is given of the death of Karen V. Bilbruck that Letters of Office were issued on September 28, 2023, to William B. Bilbruck, 5711 Watret Rd., New Berlin, IL 62670 as Executor, whose attorney is Dan E. Way, WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC, 1100 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703. Additional notice given to heir Kimberly L. Warren heir in the above proceeding to probate a Will and whose address is not stated in the petition to admit the Will to probate, that an order was entered by the Court on September 28, 2023, 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 of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/6-21). You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act of 1975 (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. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court, Sangamon County Court Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702, or with the representative, or both, on or before April 9, 2024, which is not less than six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or three months from the date the representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or contact your local Circuit Clerk's office. Dated this 28th day of September 2023 Dan E. Way #6204735 WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC 1100 S. Fifth St. Springfield, IL 62703 (217) 525-7003

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS Plaintiff, vs. 2000 CHEVROLET IMPALA VIN# 2G1WH5K1Y9221966 Lapria Haley No. 23-MX-765 23-AF-061
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the People of the State of Illinois, ex rel. Daniel K. Wright, State's Attorney for Sangamon County, filed the above-captioned matter on July 5th, 2023. UNLESS YOU file a verified answer with the State's Attorney of Sangamon County, Illinois at the Sangamon County Complex, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 402, Springfield, Illinois, 62701, within 45 days of this publication, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT OR DECREE MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR FORFEITURE OF THE ABOVE ASSETS PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS FORFEITURE LAW. Joe Roesch Clerk of Court

J.W. Pierceall
Assistant State's Attorney
200 S. 9th Street, Room 402
Springfield, Illinois 62701
(217) 753-6690
Sangamoncounty.SAO.civil@sangamonil.gov

ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE Wishing to avail themselves of the provisions under the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, the below storage facilities gives notice of the sale under said act; Monday the 23rd day of October, 2023 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 Nichole Tennison 190. Destiny Shaw 512. Coady Vanmeter P9. Kerri Moreland 809. Tracy Bixler 117. Eva Hook 235. Wilesha Parker 67. Kelly Hill 138. Frederick Epting 358/427. Phantayesia King 842. Coady Vanmeter 816. Consuela Briggity 378. Cody Mitchell 61/74. Daniel Slimick 272. Cassi Ruyle 102. Crystal Titsworth 432. Coady Vanmeter P17. Tara Jordan 232. Tara Jordan 215. Nate Clemmer P76. Bradley Schroeder 772. Phillip Campbell 63. Robert Sauter 151. Joshua Myers 169. Michael Smith 467. Bradley Schroeder 773. Margaret Mcglothlin 877. Zachary Huocher 59/76. Mark Hale 485. Veronica Whittington 230; 10 Federal Self Storage, 3500 South 6th Street, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 387-3951 Kianna Pickett A50. Tristen Conner A113. Shamerial Sawyer A11. Frank Sigretto B200/B201. Deadgria Washington A47. Luis Popoca B120. Kiana Goldson A8. Justin Liss B141. Tamia Byrd A98; 10 Federal Self Storage, 900 E Straight St, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 286-1550 Lea Beach 189. Contrell Winston 228. Dan peak F413/F414. Kristen Stanley 191. Dan peak F409/F418. Rachel Rowden 220. christopher townsend 107. William Liddell 13/58. Dave Lott 15. Cassandra Henderson 10/61. Sue Beach 122. Andy Lafayette F382. Lea Beach 24. Sue Beach 124. Lashondra Davis F368/F469. Jeff Kunz E354/265. Christopher Casper 229; 10 Federal Self Storage, 500 W Browning Rd, Springfield, IL, 62703 (217) 339-3865 Jamal Hatchett 239E. Stacy Ring 189D. Stacy Ring 237E. Dani Cantrell 190D. Kaylee Mcguire 249E. Bambi Shadwell 161C. Jordan Roberts 159C. Korey Taylor 85B. Michael Watkins 119C. Shaun Sorenson 120C. Makisha Johnson 2A. Melissa Toth 117C. Lydia Cavins 79B

To enforce Self Storage Lien in default of payment of rent a private auction will be held on Saturday October 14, 2023, at 9:00a.m. Northend Storage is located at 1907 North Grand East, Springfield, IL. 62702 This is a private auction. In order to attend you must call 217-544-4521 a week prior to the auction date. Please leave your name, telephone number and an email address. Cash is the only form of payment accepted for the auction. Any individual wanting to retain their unit will need to pay their entire balance on or before October 9, 2023. No personal checks will be accepted for storage units that are in lien.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STORAGE UNIT AUCTION
Charon James Unit #2-38
Carla Trader Unit #9-23
Jessica Spencer Unit #10-14
Charon James Unit #C-8
Rebecca Ishmael Unit #C-23
Trear Reese Unit #J-1
Terry Broida Unit #3-13

Brandon Thomas Unit #7-21
Terry Broida Unit #9-37
Dewey Morris Unit #10-31
Timothy Nyari Unit #11-24

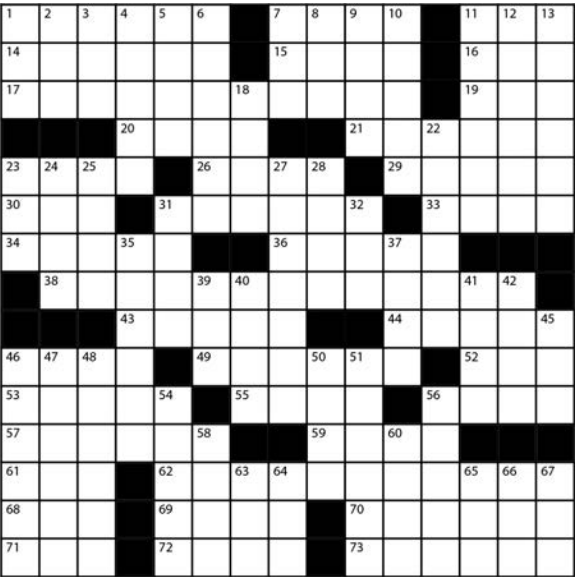
LEGAL NOTICE
SANGAMON COUNTY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Notice is hereby given that the County of Sangamon will receive sealed competitive proposals from vendors for:
RFP# 2023 Sangamon County On-Site/ Near-Site Healthcare Clinic
Proposals will be accepted at the offices of Troxell Insurance, Attention: Shannon Wilmarth, 214 S Grand Avenue W, Springfield, IL, 62704, until:
Friday, October 20, 2023 at 2:00 P.M.
No proposals will be accepted subsequent to the preceding time and date. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.
Proposal documents can be requested starting on September 28, 2023 by sending an email with the requester's name, address, telephone number and email address to swilmarth@troxellins.com.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF PHILIP CORNELL, II & AMBER CORNELL, Petitioners,
TO ADOPT
JOURNEE EVE MARIE CORNELL
A Minor.
v.
KRISTEN FERNANDEZ, Respondent.
Case No. 2023-AD-62
ADOPTION NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, KRISTEN FERNANDEZ, UNKNOWN PARENTS, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS, and to ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on the 6th day of July, 2023, a Petition in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Sangamon County, Illinois was filed for the adoption of JOURNEE EVE MARIE CORNELL, a minor child, and that said Petition is still pending.
NOW, unless you, KRISTEN FERNANDEZ, UNKNOWN PARENTS, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS, and to ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, file your answer or otherwise make your appearance in said cause, Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Building, 200 South Ninth Street, Room 405, Springfield, Illinois, 62701 on or before October 31, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT at any time thereafter and an order awarding the adoption entered in accordance with the prayer of said Petition.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Sangamon County, Illinois
Attorney's Address
MICHELLE COADY CARTER
Registration No.: 6279022
Coady Law, PC
40 Adloff Lane, Suite 5
Springfield, Illinois 62703
Telephone: (217) 713-2344
E-Mail: michelle@coady-law.com
8051-936155

I think...

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 811

Across
1. Tibetans or Thais
7. Racer
11. 1972 treaty subj.
14. Two-seated carriage
15. "Not guilty," e.g.
16. Stephen of "The Crying Game"
17. Question after the fact
19. Mouse catcher
20. Billiards relative
21. Group of 100 in Washington
23. Sean Connery, for one
26. Gun's recoil
29. With regrets
30. Sounds of doubt
31. Open to everyone
33. Gets the picture
34. Chip dip
36. Assumed name
38. Ballpark figure
43. Closes in on
44. Glows
46. Auditors
49. Brought up
52. Be mistaken
53. Broadcaster
55. Noted initials in 70's-80's comedy
56. Change for a twenty
57. Violent, perhaps
59. Lascivious look
61. On the _____ (fleeing)
62. Exhibiting good judgement
68. Here, in France
69. Aroma
70. No longer pale



71. Albany is its cap.
72. Refusals
73. Certain home improvers

Down
1. Capp and Capone
2. Freelancer's enc.
3. Co. name ender
4. Take in
5. Prefix meaning "one-billionth"
6. Numbers game
7. PC's brain
8. A pint, maybe
9. More or _____
10. Lets up
11. Skee-Ball site
12. Fab Four member
13. Buccaneer's buddies
18. Smooth-talking
22. Long Island county
23. French possessive
24. Bum a bit
25. Capital on a fjord
27. Enduring literary work
28. Bagpiper's wear
31. Use a beeper
32. LI doubled
35. Cliched movie ending
37. In _____ rush
39. Laugh sound
40. Extended periods
41. Arborist's concern
42. Make, as money
45. Promgoers: Abbr.
46. Comic who quipped "No comment" is a comment
47. Illegal copying
48. Dumas duelist
50. Normandy battle site
51. Occasions
54. Scout's mission
56. The way things are going
58. Birdbrain
60. Actor Morales
63. One of the Three Stooges
64. "____ Doubtfire"
65. Direction opposite SSW
66. To be, in Barcelona
67. Mag. staff

JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 811

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.

6+		18x		4	3-
2+			1-		
	11+	4-	1-	3-	
5-				5+	
	12+	30x			6
		2-		5-	

Difficulty medium

Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week

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

Crossword answers from #810

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

Sudoku answers from #810

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

JoshJosh answers from #810

Sudoku No. 811

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

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

Difficulty hard

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