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# The end of an era

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# Limited capacity in juvenile detention centers statewide

Sangamon County Juvenile Detention Center remains closed nearly six months after incident

JUVENILE CRIME | Dean Olsen

The temporary closure of the Sangamon County Juvenile Detention Center almost six months ago and a shortage of staffed beds in detention facilities statewide could affect public safety, Springfield's police chief says.

"It's stuff like this that contributes to the increase in crime stats," Chief Kenneth Scarlette told *Illinois Times*.

The Springfield Police Department highlighted two issues in a Feb. 21 news release about its inability to arrange for the detention of four juvenile suspects after a Feb. 19 armed robbery allegedly arranged on Facebook Marketplace.

One issue was a potential shortage of detention services for juveniles before their cases go through the court system in Illinois.

The other was the lingering impact of a Sept. 30 incident in which a Springfield police officer shot and killed a 17-year-old male, Camren Darden of Springfield, who was being detained at the center on South Dirksen Parkway.

Police said the teen fired shots from a handgun and tried to leave the facility with a 16-year-old female as a hostage before being shot by the officer.

*The State Journal-Register* quoted Sangamon County State's Attorney John Milhiser as saying that his predecessor, Dan Wright, determined Office Brian Riebeling's action was "a justified use of force based on the law and the facts of this case."

Riebeling won't face any criminal charges in the case, Milhiser said, and neither will Chance Taylor, an officer in training who was with Riebeling when they responded to

the detention center's 911 call.

Scarlette told *Illinois Times* that neither man will face internal disciplinary action, either. Scarlette said he knows an investigation of the incident is being conducted by Illinois State Police.

There's no timeline for the reopening of the center while the investigation continues and ISP looks into how Darden obtained a gun and other aspects of the case.

"I'm hopeful that a decision will be made to open this facility in the near future," Scarlette said. He said the center, which is owned by the county, funded mostly by the state and operated by the 7th Judicial Circuit Court of Illinois, is "a valuable resource that we desperately need in our community, especially when it comes to holding violent juveniles."

The February news release said the four male juveniles were arrested after Springfield police officers said they learned Feb. 19 that the robbery victim had gone to a Springfield home after arranging the transaction on Facebook Marketplace.

When the victim arrived, the news release said: "The male subjects robbed him at gunpoint, taking the computer. The victim was able to provide police information that led them to a specific residence. Four male juveniles located at the residence were detained and positively identified."

The boys, between the ages of 14 and 16, were arrested, screened through the Juvenile Detention Center and "met the criteria for confinement," according to the news release.

But police said the boys were released to family members after a supervisor at the

center told police "there were no juvenile detention centers within the state that had the capacity for the juveniles at that time."

In addition to the Sangamon County facility not currently holding youth, a detention center in Franklin County recently closed. That facility was closed by a judge who said staffing shortages made it difficult to meet new state standards governing the treatment of youth in custody, according to a Jan. 4 story by *ProPublica* and *Capitol News Illinois*. There are 14 other remaining facilities statewide to request assistance, Sangamon County Administrator Brian McFadden said.

"While it is not accurate that all such facilities are at capacity, the reality is that each facility must consider its own capacity, current population staffing challenges and a host of other operational needs for their facility when determining whether or not to accept out-of-county youth for detainment," McFadden said in a statement.

Juvenile detention centers, which provide temporary detention services to juveniles before their cases are adjudicated, are managed by local courts. They are technically owned and operated by county governments and funded with state and county dollars through county budgets.

The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, through the Illinois Supreme Court's budget, reimburses counties for the salaries of approved detention center staff members, Supreme Court spokesperson Christopher Bonjean said.

Bonjean added in a statement, "The respective county provides the remaining funding for fringe benefits and other employer costs – computers, etc. – along with the cost of the physical building."

Bonjean didn't respond when asked whether there's a shortage of staffed beds at juvenile detention centers in the state.

But Kent Holsopple, director of Sangamon County court services, said in a statement, "Difficulty with staffing at facilities around the state has been a consistent problem over the past few years, which affects each facility's ability and willingness to detain out-of-county youth."

Holsopple added, "The recent incident in which detention space was not able to be secured for four youth who were arrested was an isolated one."

Scarlette said Springfield police in the past six months have been driving juveniles

from Sangamon County to Madison County, Peoria County and Galesburg. In addition to the four juveniles allegedly involved in the robbery, police had to release another two juveniles arrested on gun charges to their parents.

It's difficult to independently gauge or evaluate capacity issues in the state's temporary juvenile detention system, according to Stephanie Kollmann, policy director for the Children and Family Justice Center at Northwestern University's Pritzker School of Law.

That's because administrative data for probation and juvenile detention centers in counties have been judged to be exempt from the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, she said.

In Sangamon County, the detention center is allowed to have 24 beds, but "operational capacity is set at 16," Holsopple said.

"Although youth may be ordered to serve time in juvenile detention as part of a sentence, most youth held are in their court process for alleged offenses and have not yet been adjudicated," he said. "There are a range of sentencing options for juveniles, which could include probation or a commitment to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice."

Holsopple said the facility has 22 staff positions that are part of its \$2.7 million annual budget, but the center has been less than 50% staffed while the center has been closed. No one has been laid off, but vacant positions haven't been filled, Sangamon County government spokesperson Jeff Wilhite said.

The Sangamon County Detention Center currently has 22,000 square feet, a reduction from when the center first opened in the 1990s. Part of the original center footprint has been walled off and renovated for use by Helping Hands of Springfield's recently opened shelter and social services at the site for homeless people.

The state's juvenile detention population has been declining over the past 10 years or more as part of a trend to move away from the often-traumatic and counterproductive detention system in favor of other alternatives, Kollmann said. □

*Dean Olsen is a senior staff writer at Illinois Times. He can be reached at 217-679-7810, [dolsen@illinoistimes.com](mailto:dolsen@illinoistimes.com) or [twitter.com/DeanOlsenIT](https://twitter.com/DeanOlsenIT).*

## Editor's note

A group that has organized 103 annual banquets can be expected to know how to manage conflict with understanding and forgiveness. At its event Sunday, the Springfield branch of the NAACP kept its program moving while its usually vocal local director, Teresa Haley, sat quietly at a front table. Nobody said anything about her having been suspended last December from her position as statewide NAACP director until the guest speaker, Dwayne Bryant, projected on the screen a photo of an elephant in a room. Then he explained how Haley had been recorded secretly, probably illegally, making ugly comments about immigrants to a meeting of Illinois NAACP leaders, comments later leaked to news media. "I hate what she said," he told the several hundred attendees, "but I understand the context." Then he recounted to this biblically knowledgeable audience the New Testament story of the woman caught in adultery. To the men about to stone her, Jesus said, "Let anyone who is without sin cast the first stone." After they all left, Jesus told the woman he didn't condemn her, but "go, and sin no more." Looking toward Haley, Bryant said this group doesn't condemn her, "but don't be calling people savages no more." — *Fletcher Farrar, editor*

# Local food measures, student teacher pay advance at Statehouse

Another measure would prohibit single-use plastic bottles at hotels

STATEHOUSE | Peter Hancock and Jerry Nowicki, Capitol News Illinois

Although Illinois is one of the nation's leading agricultural states, it can still be a challenge for consumers here to shop for food that comes from local farms, dairies and ranches.

The Senate Agriculture Committee heard testimony March 7 on two bills that seek to make Illinois-grown food more accessible to the state's consumers.

Senate Bill 3077, by Sen. Dave Koehler, D-Peoria, would establish a \$2 million per-year grant program within the Illinois Department of Agriculture to help fund projects to enhance local food processing, aggregation and distribution within the state. Those could include projects such as food hubs, canneries, mills, livestock processing and other kinds of infrastructure that help move food from a farm to communities.

"And this is important because while we have some of the best farmland in the world, we don't actually have the infrastructure in place to feed ourselves," said Molly Pickering, deputy director of the Illinois Stewardship Alliance. "Ninety-five percent of the food that we eat here in Illinois is imported from out of state. That means every dollar that anyone spends on food is not going into our local communities. It's being exported."

Senate Bill 3219, by Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, would establish another kind of grant program through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to help fund equipment upgrades at farmer-owned grocery stores.

## Stipends for student teachers

A pair of competing bills in the House would, for the first time in Illinois, offer state-funded stipends for student teachers.

Supporters of the idea say it's needed to ease some of the financial burden on teachers-in-training, which some argue is one source of the state's teacher shortage.

Student teaching typically involves a full semester of on-the-job training in a classroom under the supervision of a licensed cooperating teacher. But while student teachers work similar hours as a full-time



Jenny Sauer-Schmidgall testifies before the Senate Agriculture Committee in favor a bill that would create a grant program to help farmer-owned grocery stores like the one she and her husband operate on their farm in western Illinois. CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS PHOTO BY PETER HANCOCK

professional teacher, they are not paid for their labor and, in fact, have to pay full tuition and fees at their college or university to get credit for the experience.

Some districts discourage student teachers from working outside jobs, although many say that's the only way they can make ends meet.

Both bills call for paying stipends of \$10,000 for a semester, the rough equivalent of \$15 per-hour for 40 hours per week – even though most student teachers say they work much more than that. Assuming an average of 5,400 student teachers per year, that would work out to \$54 million in state funding needed to support the program.

The major difference between the two bills is how the program would work in

years when lawmakers don't fully fund the program.

House Bill 4652, by Rep. Barbara Hernandez, D-Aurora, does not account for underfunding the program. An initiative of the Illinois Education Association, the state's largest teachers union, it assumes lawmakers would fully fund the stipends each year.

"You all have constituent groups. Our constituency group is our aspiring educators, and they have said they want everyone to be paid for student teaching," IEA lobbyist Unique Mickens told a House committee Wednesday.

House Bill 5414, an initiative of the advocacy group Advance Illinois, calls for paying the same \$10,000 stipend to student teachers, plus another \$1,500 to cooperating

teachers, raising its total price tag to an estimated \$67 million per year. But in years of underfunding, it would prioritize recipients on the basis of financial need, then focus on hard-to-fill subjects and areas of the state with the highest teacher vacancy rates.

Both bills are pending in the House Higher Education Committee.

## Reducing plastic

People who travel frequently and stay in hotels may have noticed that the small bottles of shampoo, conditioner and body wash have become less common and are being replaced by larger, refillable containers attached to the shower wall.

So far, that's been a trend that the hotel industry has been adopting voluntarily, but it soon could become mandatory in Illinois.

Senate Bill 2960, by Sen. Laura Fine, D-Glenview, would create the "Small Single-Use Plastic Bottle Act" and phase out the use of those items in Illinois hotels. Large hotels with 50 or more rooms would have until July 1, 2025, to comply with the law while smaller hotels would be given one additional year.

Keenan Irish, who lobbies for the Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association, said the industry believes sustainability initiatives like the elimination of single-use plastic are important in demonstrating a commitment to the environment.

"The hotel industry recognizes its responsibility to lead the way in adopting environmentally friendly practices," he told the Senate Environment and Conservation Committee Thursday. "Transitioning away from these bottles is a pivotal stride towards mitigating the environmental harm they cause."

Some on the committee, however, questioned why a law was necessary if the industry was adopting the practice voluntarily.

"Part of the industry is doing it but not all of the industry is doing it," Fine said. "And this will encourage others who are not to hop on board and join us."

The bill advanced out of committee and could be taken up soon by the full Senate. □

# Springfield man charged with operating six “houses of prostitution”

HUMAN TRAFFICKING | Dean Olsen

A Springfield man owned or rented six “houses of prostitution” in Springfield in which Asian women – some traveling from other countries – provided sexual services in exchange for free food, lodging and incomes of up to \$30,000 per month.

Those were some of the allegations aimed at Gregory L. Fraase, 60, in legal documents made public March 6 by federal Magistrate Judge Karen McNaught after a federal grand jury indicted him and Jia Liu, a Chinese female, on federal conspiracy charges.

Fraase is quoted in a court transcript of a recorded call with a confidential witness Aug. 23, 2023, that the potential of earning \$30,000 in one month, mostly in tips, made young women from impoverished backgrounds “all wanna work” in his establishments.

“They’re making a lifetime’s worth of money in a month,” Fraase was quoted as saying.

Fraase, who was released on his own recognizance after his arrest Feb. 8, has pleaded not guilty and has declined comment through one of his attorneys, Daniel Fultz.

Liu, whose age, address and whereabouts were unavailable, allegedly operated the prostitution sites in cooperation with Fraase. She hasn’t yet appeared in court.

Fraase and Liu could face maximum prison terms of five years on the single conspiracy count against each of them. Fraase could face an additional five years for one count of marriage fraud.

The indictment says Fraase married Weiwei Hu of China, and was paid at least \$20,000 to do so, as Fraase evaded U.S. immigration laws to help her gain American citizenship. The woman now lives in New York, according to court documents.

After his arrest, Fraase told law enforcement officials that he is “supposed to be paid another \$20,000” once Weiwei Hu receives her green card from American immigration authorities.

“He further acknowledged that she did not live with him but claimed that he loved her,” the criminal complaint stated.

An initial pretrial conference in the case was scheduled June 20 in Springfield’s U.S. District Court, with a tentative trial date set for July 2.

Officials from the office of Gregory Harris, U.S. attorney for the Central District of Illinois, didn’t respond to a request for comment.

The alleged scheme generated more than \$800,000 for Fraase between July 2020 and



A confidential informant was offered a “hand job for \$60 or sex for \$260” at Healthy Spa, 613 N. Seventh St. Right, Warm Spa, 116 North Grand Ave. E., was another one of six alleged houses of prostitution named in federal court documents. PHOTOS BY DEAN OLSEN

February 2024, according to the grand jury indictment filed March 7 and an initial criminal complaint filed Feb. 9.

Fraase, the brother of Republican Sangamon County Board member Harry “Tom” Fraase Jr., was arrested Feb. 8 by U.S. marshals while he was driving to work at the Sangamon County Water Reclamation District.

Gregory Fraase has worked for the district 22 years and currently earns \$98,134 per year as a pretreatment coordinator.

Fraase continues to be employed by the district, according to Executive Director Gregg Humphrey, who told *IT*, “There’s no indication any wrongdoing was done on district time or with district equipment.”

Humphrey said the FBI hasn’t questioned anyone at the district in connection with the Fraase case. And when asked whether Fraase has talked on the job about any of the alleged illegal activities, Humphrey responded, “not that I know of.”

It’s unclear whether other people will be charged as part of the investigation.

FBI Special Agent William S. Henry V, who participated in the investigation, said in an affidavit filed in court that he is part of a joint federal and local task force investigating

violations of federal law committed by public officials in central Illinois.

His statement doesn’t mention or refer to any specific public officials. He said FBI agents in August 2022 “began an investigation into Fraase based on allegations that Fraase and unknown others were operating houses of prostitution fronting as Asian massage parlors in the Central District of Illinois.”

Henry quoted a confidential witness as saying Fraase “operated multiple massage parlors and was able to get through the ‘red tape’ of opening the establishments because of his business partners.”

The affidavit said that as of Feb. 6, Ameren records indicated Fraase was paying utilities at six Springfield locations under GLF Group LLC, for which Illinois Secretary of State records list him as a manager.

All of them are labeled as alleged prostitution sites: Cozy Cabin Spa, 1144 E. Sangamon Ave.; Jade Spa, 1560 Wabash Ave.; Capital Spa, 3915 N. Dirksen Parkway; Warm Spa, 116 North Grand Ave. E.; A-1 Spa, 509 N. Dawson St.; and Healthy Spa, 613 N. Seventh St.

Another business that Fraase is associated with, Seven Carpenters LLC, owns parcels upon which three of the massage parlors sit.

A confidential source working with the Springfield Police department visited four of the sites on Jan. 3 requesting legal massages but was offered sexual services at three, according to the affidavit.

The source was offered “a hand job for \$40 and oral sex for \$100 at Cozy Cabin Spa,” a “hand job for \$60 and sex for \$260 at Cozy Cabin Spa” and a “hand job for \$60 and oral sex for \$60 at Jade Spa,” according to the document.

The source wasn’t offered sexual services at Capital Spa. But during an FBI raid of the establishment Feb. 8, agents found condoms, more than \$1,700 in cash and Mandarin instructions on how to communicate sexual services to customers, the document said.

When FBI agents raided all six sites that day, they found “large amounts of U.S. currency secreted throughout the locations, women who were dressed in lingerie or were otherwise scantily clad, large amounts (of) condoms, both used and unused, and other indicia of sexual services taking place at the locations.” □

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## OPINION

### LETTERS

We welcome letters. Please include your full name, address and telephone number. We edit all letters. Send them to [editor@illinoistimes.com](mailto:editor@illinoistimes.com).

#### DISTRICT 186 WAS SOLD A STORY

I highly recommend everybody listen to "Sold a Story," the podcast mentioned in the cover story ("When kids can't read," Feb. 29). I couldn't believe schools were still using this thoroughly-debunked method and leaving some otherwise ahead-of-track children completely unable to read several years into elementary school. I had no idea it was being used in schools that my toddlers will attend in a few years.

Sounds like District 186 was yet another sucker of a greedy educational publishing company selling a product they absolutely know does not work. And our kids and community will suffer as a result.

*Matt Allen*

*Via Facebook/illinoistimes.com*

#### KIDS LOST OUT

Closing schools for no reason (during the pandemic) didn't help, or spending a fortune on computers that disappeared and depending on parents to educate children. District 186 graduated seniors that can't read and moved children to the next grade level that lost out on their education.

*Pamela Meyer*

*Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

#### IMPACT OF COVID-19

I am an elementary teacher in Waukegan and can appreciate what is happening in Springfield schools.

First off, this is happening nationwide – it's not one school district or even one state. Secondly, current fourth-graders were in second-grade remote learning. Teaching phonics remotely was not the best way to do it.

This year, for the first time, we have adopted a phonics program designed for third, fourth and fifth grades along with our K-2 phonics program. We also are making sure the students at all levels are doing phonemic awareness (identifying sounds by sound – not using print), then adding phonics, which is associating sounds to print.

This is a battle we will be facing in school for years to come. COVID-19 impacted schools and learning in more ways than anyone was prepared for.

*Shirley Snyder, reading specialist  
Waukegan*

#### HELP THE TEACHERS

Hopefully people will read this and see



A controversial reading curriculum that emphasizes learning words through context rather than by sounding out words is on the way out in District 186. Three out of four fourth-graders are not reading and writing proficiently, according to the most recent data from the Illinois State Board of Education.

this as an opportunity to join hands with teachers and help the children in our community. Every school could use more volunteers to help struggling readers or just provide support and encouragement in general. Educating our youth is hard, hard work. I'm thankful for the staff, parents, volunteers and community members in our

school district.

*Natalie Grosboll Mitchell*

*Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

#### DON'T BLAME TEACHERS

It's a community effort, and it begins at home. Teachers are overworked, underpaid and underappreciated. There's only one of them, and usually 20 or more kids.

I get there are a few bad apples in the bunch, but communication with your child's teacher is imperative, and it's up to the parent or guardian to instill basic reading concepts and comprehension at home. The blame cannot be based solely on teachers.

*Lindsay Anne Spoonmore*

*Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

#### TEACH KIDS AT HOME

I was a stay-at-home dad for a few years. I read hundreds of books to my kids a week. We had library day every Friday. We read chapter books aloud – I finished the entire *Little House on the Prairie* series with my 5-year-old and 3-year-old listening to every word. I taught my 5-year-old phonics and he learned how to read in six months. He's turning 6 and he's at a second or third-grade reading level at this point.

Ditch the iPad and the TV. Read to your kids. Homeschool your kids.

*Kirk Donley*

*Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

*Found in a 1954 letter from my mother at my first daughter's birth: Mom used to sing it to us when we too were babes – I recall it.*

"I love small uncivilized things,  
Babies, and rabbits, and birds  
that carry around in their eyes  
strange little thoughts without words"

I also recall her singing this French lullaby:

*Fais dodo, mon p'tit frère,  
Fais dodo, t'auras du lolo  
Maman est en haut, Qui fait du gâteau  
Papa est en bas, Qui fait du chocolat  
Fais dodo, mon p'tit frère,  
Fais dodo, t'auras du lolo*

English: *Go to sleep, my little brother  
Go to sleep, tomorrow you'll have milk  
Mama is upstairs making a cake  
Papa is downstairs making chocolate  
Go to sleep, my little brother  
Go to sleep, tomorrow you'll have milk*

*2024 Jacqueline Jackson*

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# The end of an era

Armbruster, the tent company, is closing after 149 years

**BUSINESS HISTORY** | David Blanchette

A 149-year-old family manufacturing business in Chatham is closing its doors in early June and an unrelated, but well-known, national franchise business will move into its space along Interstate 55.

Armbruster Manufacturing Company will close and its 33,000-square-foot facility will be the new home of the central Illinois Roto-Rooter franchise. The sale of the legacy business and its property had not been contemplated until recently, when owner Hellar Armbruster received an offer that was too good to pass up.

"We weren't listing it for sale or anything," said Armbruster, the fourth-generation family owner of the business. "They just approached us and we said yes."

Armbruster's ongoing tent contracts are being passed on to other tent companies in the Midwest, including Traube Tent Company from Columbia, Illinois, which will service the Illinois State Fair starting this year.

Many of Armbruster's approximately 50 employees will retire while the rest will seek work elsewhere, Armbruster said. The Roto-Rooter operation will employ 40 people and house 25 vehicles on-site.

Armbruster said the timing of the sale offer was fortuitous because he was faced with an aging, skilled workforce that was going to be hard to replace in the next few years.

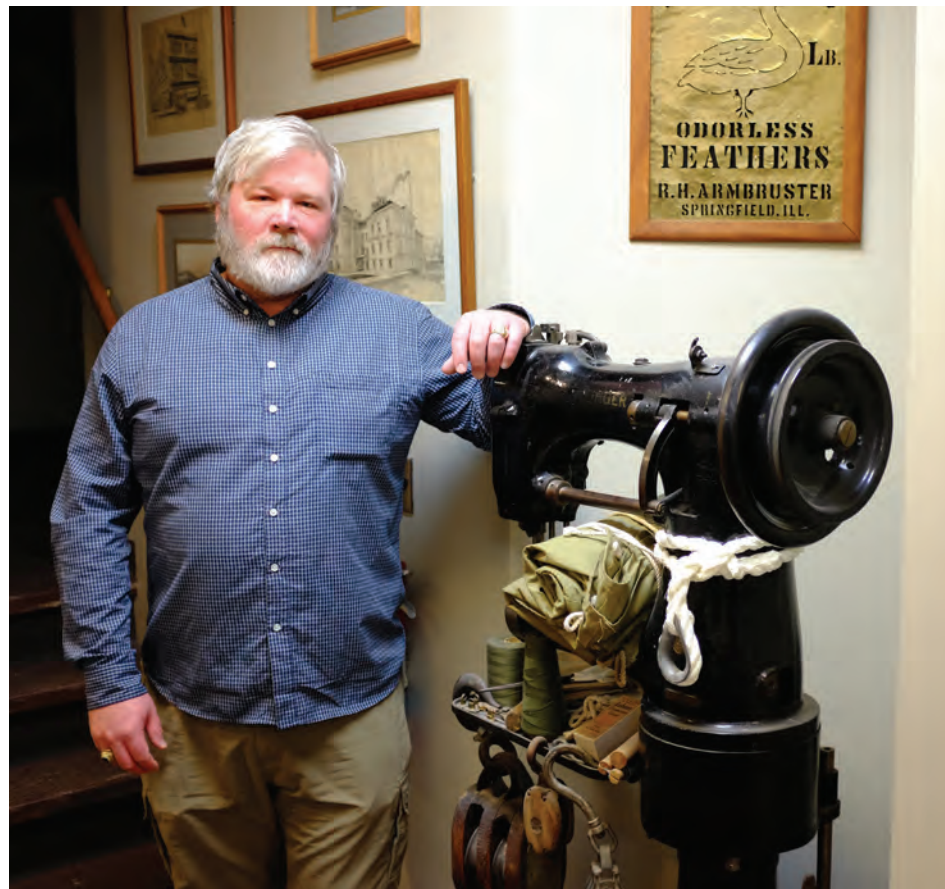
"We've had some people who have been here their whole working lives," Armbruster said. "We had an aging workforce that was wanting to retire, but they hung on because it is hard to replace that experienced workforce with younger workers who were willing to come into the business."

John Howard is the owner of Chistopian Services, doing business as Roto-Rooter, and is based in Chatham.

"I had reached out to Hellar about a year and a half ago regarding something that was completely unrelated," Howard said. "He made mention in passing, joking really, that he was worried about his aging workforce and may have to think about selling the business at some point."

After that conversation, Howard began working with the Roto-Rooter company and quickly realized that the local franchise needed a lot more space to accommodate its growing workforce.

"I recalled the conversation I had with Hellar and followed up with him," Howard said. "I told him I had an opportunity, my business needed a much larger footprint than what we currently have, and I asked if he might



Hellar Armbruster, the fourth-generation owner of Armbruster Manufacturing Company since 2005, stands by an original tent sewing machine from the 1800s. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

be looking to step out of the business, and if so what the timeline might be."

Armbruster and Howard began the sale process in August 2023.

"We will use that space as our launching pad to continue to grow within the area," Howard said. "Every time you drive up and down I-55, it's going to be my goal that you see a Roto-Rooter sign. It gives us easy access to the areas we serve."

Howard's Roto-Rooter franchise serves an area roughly bordered by Lincoln, Decatur, Litchfield and Petersburg. The firm performs drain and sewer line cleaning, residential and commercial plumbing, flood and fire restoration, sewer excavation and lining, and basement waterproofing.

"It's a little bittersweet for us because we hate to see a longstanding business like that go out of business," Howard said. "But we are also happy to be able to fill the building with employees and equipment so it will be put to good use."

Armbruster has manufactured tents for clients around the world, from state fairs to movie sets. The company came a long way since it was founded in Springfield in 1875 by Rudolph Herman Armbruster, a German immigrant who built canvas covers for the Conestoga wagons used by the westward pioneers.

Armbruster has made circus tents since 1890 and about 15 years ago began to produce tents for the motion picture industry. Many of the firm's long-term employees still use vintage machines to help join the heavy pieces needed to create tents.

Armbruster is currently the oldest tent-making company in America, a distinction that will soon go to another firm.

"I cannot say enough about the dedication and skill of our employees and the support we have received for 149 years from the Springfield community," Armbruster said. "It has been an honor to be a part of this community for so long." □



Rudolph "R.H." Armbruster founded a company in 1875 that became known as Armbruster Manufacturing. PHOTO COURTESY ARMBRUSTER MANUFACTURING

## A history of the Armbruster Manufacturing Company

*Compiled from Sangamonlink.org*

Rudolph Herman "R.H." Armbruster was born in 1852 in Baden, Germany. He emigrated with his parents to the United States before the Civil War and the family settled in Springfield in 1855.

In 1875, R.H. Armbruster broke away from his family's prominent Springfield jewelry business to open an awning and upholstery store. His first shop was at Sixth and Capitol, but he moved several times around downtown Springfield until a huge 1901 fire destroyed the firm's location at 307 S. Sixth Street. Armbruster then moved his office and workshop to the 400 block of South Fourth Street around 1908 and stayed at that location for more than 60 years.

During the 1880s R.H. Armbruster became acquainted with the Florida-based "canvas man" of the Ringling Bros. Circus. Armbruster Manufacturing was born from that encounter, and the company began its 149-year run of designing, fabricating and renting circus tents. Armbruster also produced sheltering canvas for covered wagons, tote bags and coverings. Portuguese sailors were the primary fabric makers in Springfield, and they trained the Armbruster staff how to sew the large canvas tents required for circus tent use.

R.H. Armbruster diversified his business in the 1890s to include baby carriages and household furniture. When the Illinois State Fair moved to Springfield in 1894, the Armbruster company began to supply tents for the fair and that contract has been with



Armbruster's ever since. Armbruster Manufacturing obtained its first large-scale federal contract to supply Red Cross tents during World War I.

R.H. Armbruster married Mary A. Ramstetter in June 1881 in Springfield and the couple had eight children. After the death of R.H. in 1922, his son, Walter, took over the business. Walter married Helen Mengel, the grandchild of German immigrants from Ohio.

Helen Armbruster took on a major role in the company during World War II, when the military called on Armbruster to make pup tents, wall tents, hospital tents and enormous aircraft enclosures. The *Illinois State Register* reported in August 1940 that the company had been awarded a \$27,350 contract for 2,500 pyramid tents.

U.S. Army Lt. John Stelle Jr., the son of John H. Stelle, Illinois governor from 1940 to 1941, was one of the U.S. soldiers sheltered by an Armbruster tent.

"It really gave me a spark of happiness," Stelle wrote from North Africa in April 1943, the *Illinois State Register* reported. "I tell all the fellows in my tent, 'Don't worry, Armbruster tents cover the world.'"

Helen Armbruster died in 1965.

Helen and Walter's youngest son, Bernard "Bernie" Armbruster, took over Armbruster manufacturing after his father suffered a stroke in 1970.

Armbruster developed several specialized products under Bernie's leadership, including TensionTents and the twin-poled EuroTent. Armbruster built a new plant and office in 1978 along the Interstate 55 frontage road near Chatham and the business has been located there ever since.

Bernie's sons Tadd, Hellar and Gunther each worked for the company over the years. Hellar became the company's president in 2005, the fourth generation to run the business.

In recent years Armbruster manufactured vintage-style tents used by reenactors and the film industry, and the firm worked directly with first responders to shelter people during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hellar announced in February 2024 that he was selling Armbruster Manufacturing Company to the central Illinois Roto-Rooter franchise and would cease all operations by early June. □

**Story is continued on p. 10**



During World War II, Armbruster had three shifts of workers at multiple locations building tents, for a total of 920 workers. PHOTO COURTESY ARMBRUSTER MANUFACTURING



Armbruster received large government contracts during World War II to produce wall tents, bomber winter maintenance shelters, general assembly tents and more. PHOTO COURTESY ARMBRUSTER MANUFACTURING



World War I production included the first large government contract, for the Red Cross, as well as contracts for the YMCA and Salvation Army.

PHOTO COURTESY ARMBRUSTER MANUFACTURING



In 2008, taking inspiration from the company's founding designs, Armbruster developed a line of World War I and World War II canvas tents used for historic reenactments. PHOTO COURTESY ARMBRUSTER MANUFACTURING

# “There’s a magic about this place.”

Armbruster employees reflect on their decades of working for the company

**BUSINESS HISTORY | David Blanchette**



Bill Jett, a 24-year Armbruster employee. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE



Morris Grawey, a 48-year Armbruster employee. PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

Several Armbruster Manufacturing Company employees have worked for the 149-year-old firm for approximately one-third of its history. What keeps the employees coming to work at the same place for decades?

“It’s been a fun job. I’ve been to England four times and to Norway,” said Jim Wiggins, who has worked for 51 years at Armbruster. “I went to Casablanca and put up tents for the King of Morocco on a contract through the U.S. Embassy. We supplied all the tents for the king’s birthday one year and they sent me over there to supervise. We couldn’t believe we got that job. We figured they could make tents over there.”

Wiggins worked the summers of 1973 and 1974 at Armbruster making \$1.50 an hour while he attended Springfield College in Illinois. He was offered a full-time job in 1975 and he has held numerous positions at the factory since then, including rental manager, production manager and a stint as vice president.

Wiggins went to part-time status several years ago when he turned 64 and now cuts tent pieces on the factory floor.

“The biggest change during my time here has been computerization, plus the switch from canvas tents with steel center posts and ropes to much more safe, all-vinyl tents with aluminum poles and ratchets,” Wiggins said. “When we moved out to our current location in 1978 we bought all of these heat sealers to make vinyl tents.”

Wiggins remembered busy times at Armbruster, including one season when he and his fellow employees had to set up tents at the Virginia, Texas, Illinois and Du Quoin State Fairs, the Miami and Michigan Air Shows, and the Big Sky Fair in Montana. Wiggins once had to erect tents over the opening of a Kentucky coal mine to keep mud and rain from entering the mine shaft.

Wiggins was shocked when he learned that Armbruster would be closing.

“We were always busy, we just got done shipping tents for the new *Frankenstein* movie,” Wiggins said. “At my age I was getting ready to retire anyway, but these younger people who have been here 15 years or so, it was going to be their future just like it was mine.”

Morris Grawey has been with Armbruster for 48 years and the news of the firm’s closing didn’t surprise him.

“It’s a lost art. I knew it was coming

because we don’t have the people coming in to learn the trade,” Grawey said. “Being a small company, I couldn’t see it lasting much longer because nobody was coming in to take our places.”

Grawey has performed “nearly all” of the jobs at Armbruster during his employment there and has enjoyed traveling to places like England and the Bahamas to put up tents.

“I went to Mississippi to build a containment area for a milling machine that put the holes in commercial space rockets. The tent was about 50 feet high and 100 feet long,” Grawey said. “I knew where every post and electrical outlet and every other feature was located. It was quite an experience to see where they built those rockets and to meet the people that were doing the work.”

Bill Jett is a 24-year Armbruster employee who has traveled to Florida, Kansas City, Connecticut, North Carolina and the 2017 Super Bowl to put up the company’s products.

“I have done just about all of the jobs here,” Jett said. “I started sewing, then I moved to heat sealing, then the cutting table, then shipping and receiving, cutting pipe and the tent installation crew.”

Jett was “shocked, I wasn’t expecting it,” when he heard about the Armbruster closure, but he understands the primary reason behind the decision.

“People don’t want to work anymore, and that’s why they had me doing so many jobs here,” Jett said. “I was born to work. This job meant a lot, I enjoyed working here.”

Paul Johnson worked at Armbruster for a few years, went to another company, and has been back with Armbruster for eight years.

“There’s a magic about this place,” Johnson said. “It’s kind of a little jewel that a lot of people don’t seem to know about that’s tucked away here in Springfield.”

Like all the other employees, Johnson cherishes the memories of places he’s seen while installing Armbruster products.

“We had the pleasure of going to the Bahamas to put up a tent. It was an honor to be able to go and do that,” Johnson said. “We ship products all over the world and as a manufacturing guy, that’s what it’s all about.”

Seventeen-year employee Allen Schroll takes care of tent, awning and structure installations for Armbruster, including most of the awnings in downtown Springfield. He has also seen the world as part of his job, including a trip to Newfoundland, Canada, to



**Allen Schroll, a 17-year Armbruster employee.**  
PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

set up a tension tent for a farmers market.

“We set up for the 2017 Super Bowl in Houston,” Schroll said. “We went back down there when the Super Bowl was going on, but we had to stay a half hour out of town because the hotels were so expensive.”

News of the closing “tore me up. I anticipated working here for a long time,” Schroll said. “Everybody here is pretty much like family. That’s the biggest thing here, the

people.”

Mark Green, the company accountant, was just 23 years old when he started working for Armbruster. He has been there for 41 years.

“Last year (owner) Hellar Armbruster turned away a lot of business simply because we did not have the manpower to produce the product or to rent the product out,” Green said. “I feel sad, but as time went on and I reflected on it, I saw the way things were going and it was the right decision.”

Green said the challenge of finding, and keeping, a labor force is ultimately what led to the decision to close.

“We would give you the skill set, we just wanted a willingness to work. It’s hard recruiting the people to work,” Green said. “Once you recruit them you must compete with the state of Illinois or places like the Rivian factory in Bloomington because they were paying \$25 per hour plus full benefits. We can’t compete with that.”

Green said that Armbruster is going out of business with its pride and heritage intact, and he feels grateful for the chance to work there for more than four decades.

“I always wanted to go out on top. I didn’t want to go out in disgrace where we were bankrupt and couldn’t meet payroll. The last three or four years have been very strong and I’m proud of that,” Green said. “Look at what we sell, how often do you go out and buy a tent? I’m really proud of what we have done. We’ve held our head up high, we’ve survived and that’s amazing.” □



**Paul Johnson worked for Armbruster for several years, went to work for another company, and returned to Armbruster eight years ago.** PHOTO BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

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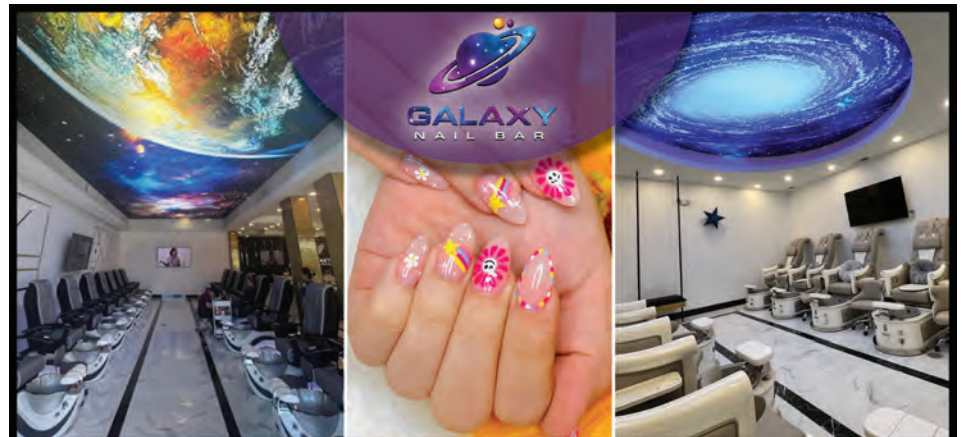
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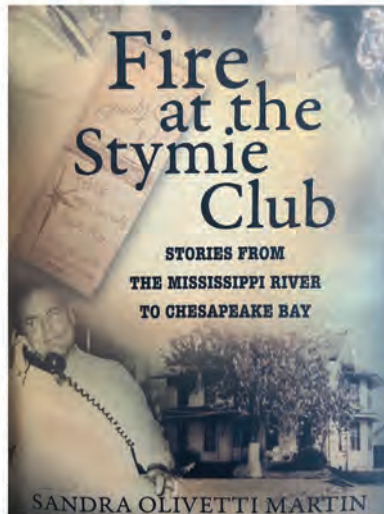
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## THEATER



Brianna Gude-Price, Chrissy Mauck, Jasmine French, Lexi Tyus and Regina Ivy as the Shirelles in *Beautiful - The Carole King Musical*. Right, Anna Maisenbacher as Carole King. PHOTOS BY GUS GORDON

# The Carole King musical is beautiful. And fun.

MUSICAL THEATER | Phil Funkenbusch

Music brings people together.

I was in high school when Carole King's *Tapestry* was released in 1971, and my chorus teacher, Pam Perry, took a group of us to see King in concert at the Arie Crowne Theater in Chicago. Almost 50 years later, Patricia Freeman and I saw King and James Taylor in concert in St. Louis. Springfield's local production is a very fun, very moving and highly innovative *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. The show opened last week, and it could very well be sold out by the time you read this. An extra performance for Thursday, March 14, was added last week.

Thanks to Gus Gordon and the Hoogland for securing the rights to the show, making it one of the few granted to community theaters in the area.

Taking a composer's music output and creating a show around the songs has become a regular thing in recent years. This is one of the best of the long string of "jukebox musicals." King wrote many hits and her songs are beloved by many, but her personal story is not well known. I wouldn't even call this a jukebox musical; even though King and company's catalogue is all here, the personal story is what the show is about. The musical opens with King at Carnegie Hall and flashes back to her high school years in Brooklyn, already writing songs as a teenager.

King is played by Anna Maisenbacher, a local performer who has grown up on Springfield stages (*The Secret Garden* as a child; she was in *Rent* and played both Wendy and the title role in separate productions of *Peter Pan*). She brings a grounded realism to the role, as

well as an infectious joy through the two-act show. Her voice and piano playing bring back the memories of Carole King so many of us have. It's as though she's channeling King, quite an achievement. The audience responds and Maisenbacher has a way of making the show an intimate conversation between her and the audience.

Diane Dietz coached Maisenbacher on piano, and she, along with Sue Hamilton are the vocal directors. Doug Hahn's energetic conducting leads a magnificent orchestra.

### About the show

*Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* runs March 14 through Sunday, March 17. Remaining tickets can be found by through the box office (217-523-2787) or the Hoogland Center for the Arts website: [www.hcfta.org](http://www.hcfta.org).

In the show, King meets Gerry Goffin and they began writing songs together, and also become a couple. Goffin is played by Ryle Frey, who shows us a man wrestling with his own demons. The songwriting team of Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil are played by Jakob Hankins and Allyssa Shultz. Carrie Levin is King's mother, Genie Klein. Gus Gordon is record producer Don Kirshner, who guides them all in their rise to fame.

Leigh Steiner has directed the musical with love and respect as she guides her large cast through many years and a lot of great music. She never lets them forget about the heart, and brings out the drama within each character, which makes this show not only fun

and surprising, but a tremendously moving "play with songs." There is a fusion of quality singing and truth-in-acting. *Beautiful* never stops moving, choreographed by Brittney McLaughlin and assisted by Brianna Gude-Price — even the scenic and lighting design seem choreographed. The costumes and hair are excellent, including the best wigs I've seen onstage in a while.

The show features stars who sang King's early songs: The Shirelles, The Chiffons, The Drifters, Righteous Brothers, Neil Sedaka, etc., played by an ensemble who all give show-stopping performances. Chrissy Mauck as Little Eva owns the stage in *Locomotion*; the smooth voices of the local Napier brothers play The Drifters and they could easily perform their own show, that's how good they are. DJ Shultz and Jeff Prince are standouts as The Righteous Brothers, as is Elijah Sadler as Neil Sedaka. Jasmine French, Chrissy Mauck, Brianna Gude-Price, Lexi Tyus and Regina Ivy all play singers who make up The Shirelles and The Chiffons, with beautiful harmonies throughout.

Once Anna won the role to play Carole King at auditions, she worked on the piano playing with Diane Dietz for several months. "Anna has the very human, vulnerable side of Carole King," says Dietz, "and she was very dedicated to learn the mechanics and theory of playing the piano as King did. It was all about the music."

Music can bring people together. That was the case opening night. □

*Phil Funkenbusch of Havana will direct The Trip to Bountiful for Quincy Community Theatre in September. Reach him at [funkenbuschp@gmail.com](mailto:funkenbuschp@gmail.com).*



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# Portraits of Peace

Artist brings powerful story to Springfield

**FINE ARTS | Mary Young**

In partnership with the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum, Westminster Presbyterian Church presents “Portraits of Peace,” a program featuring both music and drama celebrating the lives of civil rights leaders Rosa Parks and the Rev. Dr. C. T. Vivian. Dr. Sharon J. Willis of Atlanta, Georgia, a composer, playwright and actress, will perform the one-woman show, *Portraits of Rosa Parks*, which highlight Parks’ activism and courage beginning with her arrest in 1955. Willis will be joined by organist Linda Andrews; tenor Alfonso Cooper, Jr.; and pianist Gayle Cooper. “Portraits of Peace” premiered in Macomb last fall and now comes to Springfield.

Many know the name Rosa Parks, but Vivian is lesser-known. He grew up in Macomb and attended Western Illinois University, where he is memorialized for his pioneering leadership. On Feb. 5, 1965, Vivian led a group of Black citizens to the courthouse in Selma, Alabama, to register them to vote. His brutal treatment by Sherriff Jim Clark became part of the news coverage from Selma that day. Over the years, Vivian organized freedom rides and sit-ins across the country. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. referred to Vivian as the “greatest preacher to ever live.”

A brief interview with Willis about her work:

**When and how were you first motivated to tell this story?**

*I grew up in Atlanta, the mecca of the modern civil rights movement, and I had the distinct privilege of visiting Dr. Vivian in his home. Sitting with him and his wife in his library of more than 2,000 books was astounding. The Dr. C. T. Vivian Foundation organized two birthday affairs for the civil rights icon, his 94<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> birthdays. Americolor Opera, an organization that I founded in 1999, was invited to perform both times. When organist Linda Andrews contacted me looking for organ*



**Dr. Sharon Willis portrays Rosa Parks in the one-woman show, *Portraits of Rosa Parks*.**

PHOTO BY BOB GLICKSMITH

*repertoire that included a tenor, I offered to compose a piece. As we conversed, we began talking about Macomb being the hometown of Dr. Vivian. That sparked a whole new idea for me. Dr. Vivian was such a peaceful warrior. He never sought the spotlight or recognition for his sacrifices toward the cause of freedom. I greatly admired him and often wished that others knew more about his work and life.*

**What have been some of the biggest challenges and rewards?**

*As a composer, I am deeply moved by stories that are uplifting or challenging. Oftentimes, when America is forced to face its past, she rejects it as troublesome, even unimportant. But we cannot move forward in the spirit of “We the People” without facing that past, acknowledging all of America’s citizens, and working together to achieve a common goal of freedom and justice for all. The greatest*

*satisfaction for me is bringing light to others about our culture, history, diversities and commonalities through the gift of music.*

**Are the performance at the church and the presentation at the museum different?**

*At the museum, I shall present an overview of my book, *Spiritual Story*. In that presentation, I will speak about the use of the African American spiritual during plantation life and slavery. The audience will be invited to ask questions. Sunday’s performance is twofold: a presentation of compositions by African American composers performed by organist Linda Andrews and tenor Al Cooper, and *Portraits of Rosa Parks*, a historical reenactment of Rosa Parks written and performed by me.*

**What do you hope audience members will take away from the experience?**

*I want people to realize Dr. Vivian’s contribution to challenging and changing segregation laws. Segregation was not just in the South where it was bold and vicious, it was also in the North where it was subtle but understood as such. Vivian challenged the citizens of this country to face humanity. Humanity and hatred and racism cannot exist in the same place and time – you either embrace the whole of humanity or you don’t! □*

**“Portraits of Peace”** will take place Sunday, March 17, at 4 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St. There is no admission charge. Following the program, there will be a meet-and-greet reception in Westminster’s West Narthex.

While in Springfield, Willis will also give a presentation entitled “The African American Spiritual” on Saturday, March 16, at 2 p.m. at the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum.

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# Indian food recipes adapted for Instant Pot

Author Anupy Singla plans demonstration March 23 at Harvest Market

FOOD | Peter Glatz

Every morning when I wake up, the first thing I do is check the weather app on my phone, and then I scan my emails. I had to do a double-take recently when I opened an email newsletter from Anupy Singla, one of my favorite cookbook authors. Her post began: “This week, I launched my dream project. My own version of ghar ka khana (Indian home cooking) at a mainstream grocery store – Harvest Market in Springfield, Illinois.” I reached for my glasses to make sure I read this right. What? Here in Springfield?

Back when I was a dentist, a dear Indian-American patient who knew how much I loved Indian food would sometimes come to her appointments with a Tupperware container of her ghar ka khana, which was always far superior to anything I’ve had at an Indian restaurant. Being able to buy ghar ka khana from a local grocery store was very exciting news, yet I couldn’t help but wonder: “Why did Singla choose Springfield?”

I subscribe to several food blogs and Singla’s Indian As Apple Pie has been one of my longtime favorites. I’ve been following her since 2013. Singla is considered one of America’s foremost authorities on Indian home cooking and has authored four bestselling cookbooks on the subject. Singla believes that Indian cuisine could achieve the same popularity in the U.S. as Mexican or Chinese cooking if two key factors could be addressed: understandability and accessibility. The mission of her cookbooks is to provide readers with recipes that demystify authentic Indian cooking for non-Indian home cooks. Because Indian food can’t be made successfully without the right ingredients and not everybody has access to an Indian grocery store, Singla founded Indian as Apple Pie, a company that creates and sells custom spice blends, seasoning sauces and other essential Indian cooking ingredients.

Singla wasn’t always a food writer. She began her professional life as an on-air TV reporter and anchor for CLTV News, the cable arm of Tribune Media and sister station to Chicago’s WGN TV, and for Bloomberg TV. Her pivot to authoring cookbooks grew from her experience of balancing her roles as a broadcast journalist and a mother of two young daughters. Her husband is a consultant who travels Mondays through Fridays, so she gave up reporting to be home with her children. A common theme that runs through her four books and her entrepreneurial



Anupy Singla, author of *Instant Pot Indian*. PHOTO BY ANDREW MILLER, ANDREW MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

endeavors is to empower people to provide flavorful and nutritional family meals that offer cultural authenticity and ease of preparation, without compromising taste and quality. Unlike typical Indian restaurant dishes, Singla’s recipes are low in cream and oils.

Singla’s latest book is *Instant Pot Indian*. She has adapted 70 classic recipes for the Instant Pot, which is a countertop electric pressure cooker. Conventional stovetop pressure cookers have been a staple in Indian homes since the 1950s. The combination of high temperature and pressure cooks lentils, rice and tough cuts of meat in a fraction of the time it would take with traditional methods. Safety concerns have kept pressure cookers from gaining widespread acceptance in the U.S. On a few occasions, lids have exploded off, causing serious burns. The electric version with several built-in safety mechanisms makes cooking these dishes safer and more convenient, streamlining the process and often eliminating the need for several different pots and pans.

*Instant Pot Indian* offers recipes in a chart format, which gives ingredients lists and cooking times for three sizes of Instant Pot – three, six and eight quarts. This is a


helpful feature, especially when you want to successfully scale a recipe up or down. While other books focus on recipes for smaller quantities, *Instant Pot Indian* provides recipes that max out the Instant Pot size. For example, two cups of beans can be successfully made in a three-quart Instant Pot. This helps the user to make the best use of their appliance no matter the size. The recipes in *Instant Pot Indian* are incredibly flavorful. Singla tweaked some recipes for over a year, remaking them to ensure the flavor was the same as what you get from cooking on a stovetop or slow cooker. Overall, *Instant Pot Indian* is a well-written and informative cookbook that is perfect for anyone who loves Indian food and wants to use their Instant Pot to make it.

Singla has always wanted to share her passion for healthy Indian cooking with a wider audience, and she hopes her collaboration with Springfield’s Harvest Market will help to introduce more people to the joys of ghar ka khana, Indian home cooking. She chose Harvest Market because it already carried Indian As Apple Pie’s product line and had a large “made from scratch” deli program that was capable of executing her

recipes. Over the past months, Singla has worked closely with the deli department, training the staff to prepare her dishes properly without shortcuts or compromises. Harvest Market will offer a variety of her most popular dishes, including chaat masala chicken kebabs, chana masala, butter chicken and basmati rice. IT also hopes to also offer rajmah, dal makhani and moong dal. The meals will be available in the deli section in ready-to-eat formats. Also available are her retail products: spices, spice blends, starter sauces and chutneys. I especially love Indian As Apple Pie’s Tamarind Chutney.


Singla will be in Springfield on Saturday, March 23, for a meet-and-greet and cooking demonstration of recipes from her new cookbook, *Instant Pot Indian*. The free public event will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Harvest Market’s demonstration kitchen located on the mezzanine level at 3001 Veterans Parkway. She will showcase some tips for the Instant Pot for Indian food from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Singla is a charismatic speaker with a wealth of knowledge. I’m looking forward to seeing her in person and I’ve already compiled a list of cooking questions I want to ask. □





For more information  
and recordings visit  
[mywacci.org](http://mywacci.org)

**The Shifting Tides of Influence in the South Pacific**  
**Speaker: Dr. Gordon Peake,**  
 Wednesday, March 20 • Illini Country Club  
 Reception 5:30 pm • Dinner 6:15 pm • Program 7:00 pm  
 Dr. Peake, Senior Advisor for the Pacific Islands



This part of the world may, justifiably, feel as though the world has let them drift away with the tides. But with competition for influence heating up between China and the United States in the South Pacific, these island nations are kicking their way back to the surface of policy priorities. Several of the island nations rose to significance during World War II as allied forces used them as bases to battle the Japanese. After the war, weapons testing has left another kind of legacy. Mostly the region has been overlooked – until China began to discuss the possibility of a military base in the region. Now, strategic considerations, trade routes, and the value of a terrific vacation in paradise have brought the South Pacific nations back to center stage.

Reservations are required for dinner. Cost of dinner is \$40/person. Prepayment is required. Contact Lynn McMenamin 217-502-6956 or lcm1300@aol.com  
**The Presentation is FREE and open to the public**



# Spring Guide

## Coming next week

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The Emerald Underground joins in the parade of Celtic music this weekend with shows at Lime Street Cafe on Saturday night and Danenberger Family Vineyards on Sunday afternoon.

## St. Pat's party up

NOW PLAYING | Tom Irwin

Welcome to that most wonderful time of the year when the true “March Madness” occurs. And, yes, I’m talking about St. Patrick’s Day happenings in Springfield, Illinois. Granted, St. Patty’s Day partying happens all over the U.S. – and other parts of the world for that matter – but around our town we’ve always shown a special appreciation for enjoying Celtic craic with a genuine Irish hooley.

The continuation of the tradition rests mainly with a local organization that began decades ago involving area families interested in paying respects to their Irish heritage. This marks the 40th year of the group hosting a downtown parade that focuses on fun, marching bands, floats and a love for Irish ancestry. But we’re here in this space to discuss mostly music, so just think of how the Celtic world has influenced our national music throughout the ages. From Irish folk tunes becoming the basis of popular songs for hundreds of years all the way up through contemporary artists such as Van Morrison, U2, Thin Lizzy, Sinead O’Connor, the Pogues and many more musical acts, the reach of Celtic-influenced music is pervasive and permanent.

We definitely have a few local combos doing music based on the Celtic sounds in a variety of ways, though it’s generally just once a year (much like the popping up of gaudily decorated lawn leprechauns) that they appear. With the dozens of other music groups playing who are obviously in support of the partying atmosphere supplied by the St. Patrick’s Day connotations, if not in performing the Irish music itself, this weekend looks to be a party-filled blast of green-fueled fun.

Since we have three main Irish-y acts in town and they each play more than once this weekend, let’s just list who and where for each to avoid any Celtic concentric confusion. The Emerald Underground – the granddaddy of

all our groups – plays what they call Celtic Fusion, a combination of rock and shamrocks, shall we say, featuring songs by the likes of Gaelic Storm, Young Dubliners, the Coors and many more. The quintet lands at Lime Street Cafe this Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Danenberger Family Vineyards on Sunday (2 p.m.). Plus, if you’re in New Harmony, Indiana, on Friday night, experience them at the Rapp-Owen Granary.

Skibbereen, named after a famous place in Ireland (and a traditional song as well) describe themselves as an “Irish traditional and Celtic rock band” and cover a superb variety of just such music. The Skibs will be at Boone’s on Friday (5:30-7:30 p.m.) for the green version of Friday Night Jazz & Blues, sponsored by the Springfield Area Arts Council, and downtown on Saturday at Whiskey Jacks in the heart and guts of the parade festivities at 1 p.m. Then they head off to Peoria on Sunday evening for a show at Kenny’s Westside Pub (5:45-7:45 p.m.) for Kenny’s 11th anniversary party.

McKinney & Hennessey, which is the duo of Rick Dunham and Tom Irwin (me!) named after our great-grandfathers, plays pub-style, acoustic-based Celtic folk music, mostly covering the Clancy Brothers classic drinking songs and standards from the St. Pat’s Day songbook. On Saturday, we will be at George Rank’s after the parade (1:30-4:30 p.m.), then gallivanting over to Harvest Market upstairs (6-9 p.m.) for a nitecap. On Sunday (3-6 p.m.), catch us at It’s All About Wine for our St. Pat’s day proper show.

Other Celtic-style groups playing Thursday in ticketed events include Broken Brogue (from Decatur) at the Hoogland Club Room and Rebels-Devils (from Oklahoma) at Twisted Tree Music Hall in Jacksonville.

Now go have some fun and don’t forget to get your green on. □

# MUSIC

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

Attention bands, bars and musicians: submit your shows and photos online at [www.illinoistimes.com](http://www.illinoistimes.com) or by email [calendar@illinoistimes.com](mailto:calendar@illinoistimes.com).

## Thursday Mar 14

**it Manny Lee**  
Casa Real Cantina and Grill,  
6-9pm

**Ole Stogie**  
Crows Mill Pub, 7-10pm

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

**Open mic with Bob Besser**  
Decatur Brew Works, Decatur,  
6pm

**Jade Horton**  
Docs Just Off 66, Girard, 6-8pm

**Surfaced, Out4Blood, Blistered Spirit, Subversion, Javelin**  
Dumb Records, 7pm

**Solista Mariachi Gabriel**  
El Arriero Mexican Restaurant,  
6-8pm

**Karaoke**  
Goodfellas Pub, 8pm.

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

**The Art of Jazz with Jose Gobbo, Tom Byrne**  
The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 7-9pm

**Open mic**  
The Railyard, 4-6pm

**Thursday Night Live**  
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar &

Grill, Museum & Entertainment Complex, 6-9pm

**Open mic with Silas Tockey**  
Spirited Republic/Limerick Brewing Company, Lincoln,  
7-10pm

**Scattered Hamlet, Dysfunctional Family, Owen and Dooley Present**  
The Blue Grouch, 7pm

**Rebels-Devis**  
Twisted Tree Music Hall,  
Jacksonville, 7pm

## Friday Mar 15

**Hollerhead and Lenox Creek**  
The Backroom Lounge, Riverton,  
7pm

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

**it Friday Night Jazz - Skibbereen**  
Boone's, 5:30pm

**David Berchtold**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co., 7-10pm

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

**3's Company**  
Curve Inn, 6:30-9:30pm

**Brushville**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards,  
New Berlin, 7:30pm

**Jim Hollis**  
Decatur Brew Works, Decatur,  
7-9pm

**The Back Porch Trio**  
Door 4 Brewing Co., Decatur,  
7-9pm

**Not Petty**  
Firefighters-Postal Lake Club,  
7-9pm

**Kerry Lee**  
Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur,  
7-10pm

**Jeff Young and the Bad Grandpas**  
Goodfellas Pub, 8-11pm

**Joel Honey**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse  
Brews, 6-9pm

**Silas Tockey**  
Hy-Vee Wahlbürgers, 5:30-7pm

**Ricarda Rosalina**  
La Fiesta Grande, 6-9pm

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

**Karaoke with Jamie Lynn**  
Main Gate Bar & Grill,  
8pm-12am

**Avery Kern**  
The Range Bourbon & Brew,  
Chatham, 6-9pm

**White Lightnin'**  
VFW Post #755, 7-10pm

**Broken Stone**  
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7pm

## Saturday Mar 16

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

**The Remedy**  
AMVETS Post 100, Jacksonville,  
8pm

**Rod Grant**  
Curve Inn, 7-10pm

**Not Quite Brothers**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards,  
New Berlin, 8-11pm

**Prevention, Gnaw, Security Footage, War and Rumor, Bruxism**  
Dumb Records, 7pm

**McKinney & Hennessey**  
George Rank's, 1:30-4:30pm.

**Suns of Circumstance**  
George Rank's, 7-11pm

**Tom Beverly and Geoff Ryan**  
Hand of Fate Brewing Company,  
Petersburg, 7-10pm

**Captain Geech and the Shrimp Shack Shooters**  
The Hangout Bar & Grill,  
Jacksonville, 5pm

**3's Company**  
Harry's Adult Day Care, 2-5pm

**McKinney & Hennessey**  
Harvest Market Farmhouse  
Brews, 6-9pm

**Silver Lake**  
JB's Hideout, Blue Mound,  
8-11pm

**Whiskey Revolution**  
Kuhl Tyme Korner, Jacksonville,  
8pm-12am

**The Emerald Underground**  
Lime Street Cafe, 7pm

**Broken Brogue**  
Lincoln Square Theatre, Decatur,  
7pm

**Grounded**  
Mowie's Cue, 8-11pm

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

**Lick Creek**  
Route 66 MotorHeads Bar &  
Grill, Museum & Entertainment  
Complex, 8pm

**Blue Iris**  
The Rusty Rail Pub, Lincoln,  
8-11pm

**Rich Van Dorn**  
Stella Coffee & Tea, 10am-12:30pm

**Next Thing Smokin'**  
VFW Post 99, Decatur, 7:30-10:30pm

**UNCHAINED, Crash Planet**  
Weebles Bar & Grill, 7-11pm

**Skibbereen**  
Whiskey Jack's Sports Bar, 1pm

## Sunday Mar 17

**JackAsh**  
AJ's Corner, Chatham, 1:30-4:30pm

**Michael Burnett**  
Brookhills Golf Club, 2-5pm

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

**The Emerald Underground**  
Danenberger Family Vineyards,  
New Berlin, 2-5pm

**Devin Clemons**  
East Side Inc., Virginia, 3-6pm

**Kortney Leatherwood**  
Goodfellas Pub, 2-5pm

**Black Velvet**  
Harvest Market Coffee Bar,  
10am-1pm

**Hipbone and The Joints**  
Hill Prairie Winery, Oakford,  
2-5pm

**McKinney & Hennessey**  
It's All About Wine, 3-6pm

**Celtic Whistle**  
Pop's Place, Decatur, 3-6pm

**Kruisin' Marrs**  
Trails End Saloon, Curran, 3-6pm

## Monday Mar 18

**Tom Holland**  
The Alamo, 7pm

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

## Tuesday Mar 19

**Karaoke by J.C.B. Entertainment**  
Crows Mill Pub, 8pm-1am

**After School Special**  
El Arriero Mexican Restaurant,  
6pm

**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 Tom Beverly**  
Wings Etc, 6:30-8:30pm

## Wednesday Mar 20

**Open mic with Joel Honey and Silas Tockey**  
Boone's, 7-10pm

**Open mic with ZAK**  
Buzz Bomb Brewing Co.,  
7-9:30pm

**Karaoke**  
Clique, 9pm-1am

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

**Open mic**  
Crows Mill Pub, 7-10pm

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

**Open mic**  
Trails End Saloon, Curran,  
7-10pm

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## THE CALENDAR



### Nightmare at the Hot Mess Salon

March 15-17 and 22-24, Fridays-Saturdays 7:30pm, Sundays 2pm  
The Hoogland Center for the Arts,  
Peggy Ryder Theatre  
420 S. Sixth St.  
217-523-2787  
hcfta.org.

### THEATER | Murder mystery a witty, nostalgic romp through 2003

**it** Springfield writer and director Courtney Wick's hilarious murder mystery, *Nightmare at the Hot Mess Salon*, which debuts Friday, is a sequel to her successful previous effort during the 2021-2022 Springfield Theatre Centre season. And like its predecessor, *Nightmare at the Sweet Dreams Inn*, which was set in 1997, the new play (set in 2003) promises to not only be full of laughs but also numerous references to the year. Even the characters represent a variety of the early 2000s tropes and stereotypes, according to Wick. The brand-new story revisits the main character from the first show, now renamed Paris Gilton and in witness protection, as Gilton operates a hair salon in the fictional town of Wanamingo, Minnesota. A snowstorm traps Gilton – played by Cory Blissett – and a cast of zany characters in the building. Hilarity and homicides ensue. “I think people will really enjoy this one,” said Wick, who added that she learned a lot from the first show. And she’s done her homework, too. The show will have more than 150 references to 2003 as well as period costumes and snippets of music. Visit [hcfta.org](http://hcfta.org) for more details and ticket information.

### Special Music Events

#### Broken Brogue

Thu., March 14, 7pm. Enjoy a variety of Celtic music rooted in the time-honored artistic traditions of Ireland and Scotland. Noted for their relaxed and warmhearted style, their performances are informed by the member’s diverse musical backgrounds. [hcfta.org](http://hcfta.org). \$20. Hoogland Center for the Arts Club Room, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

#### Date Night with Fingerstyle Guitar

Fri., March 15, 6:30-8pm. Adam Maletich is a singer-songwriter/fingerstyle guitar player who studied music at Millikin University. In 2022, he won the UK’s Fingerstyle Collective Guitar Festival Live Competition. [uispac.com](http://uispac.com). \$15. UIS Studio Theatre, One University Plaza, 217-206-6160.

#### Organist Linda Andrews

Wed., March 20, 12:15-12:45pm. Part of the Brown Bag Concert Series. Bag lunches available for \$5 or bring your own lunch to

enjoy. [lincolnschurch.org](http://lincolnschurch.org). Free. First Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Seventh St., 217-528-4311.

#### Portraits of Peace

Sun., March 17, 4-5:30pm. Music and drama celebrating the lives of Civil Rights Movement pioneers Rosa Parks and the Rev. Dr. C.T. Vivian, by Linda Andrews and Dr. Sharon J. Willis. [wpcspi.org](http://wpcspi.org). Free. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 533 S. Walnut St., 217-522-4415.

### Theater & Comedy

#### Nightmare at the Hot Mess Hair Salon

March 15-16, 7:30pm and Sun., March 17, 2pm. Take a nostalgic jaunt through the early 2000s pop culture with a murder mystery to die for. [hcfta.org](http://hcfta.org). \$22. Hoogland Center for the Arts, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

#### Beautiful - The Carole King Musical

Through March 16, 7:30pm and Sun., March 17, 2pm. The inspiring story about the spunky,

young songwriter from Brooklyn with a unique voice. [hcfta.org](http://hcfta.org). \$22. Hoogland Center for the Arts LRS Theatre 1, 420 S. Sixth St., 217-523-2787.

#### Lilacs and Letters

Tue., March 19, 1:15pm. This one-act play features a single actor portraying Walt Whitman, one of America’s most influential poets, as Whitman processes the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and tends to wounded Civil War soldiers. Free with admission. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

#### Peter Hefty

Fri., March 15, 8pm and Sat., March 16, 7:30pm. Peter Hefty, America’s hippest comedian ventriloquist, brings his show to the capital city. \$24.50-\$26.50. Casey’s Pub, 2200 S. Meadowbrook Road, 217-241-7101.

### Art & Architecture

#### “Water, Sky, Stone, Clay”

Fridays, Saturdays, 12-6pm. Through April 27. Enjoy the works of more than 20 gallery members. On the first Friday of each month gallery is open until 8pm. [pharmacygallery.com](http://pharmacygallery.com). Free. The Pharmacy Gallery and Art Space, 623 E. Adams St., 217 622 7903.

#### Art History Happy Hour

Thu., March 14, 5:30-7pm. John Muchow, an art educator and photographer, will share the story of Margaret Bourke-White, one of the best photojournalists of the 20th century. Bourke-White had a knack for being in the right place at the right time. Includes a look at some of her famous and not-so-famous photos. [springfieldart.org](http://springfieldart.org). Free. Edwards Place, Springfield Art Association, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

#### Art Tour: Behind the Ropes

Sundays, 3-4:15pm. Through March 17. Go behind the ropes and get up close to learn about the artists and the art that were handpicked by Illinois first lady MK Pritzker, the Illinois State

Museum and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library. Reserve a spot at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com). Free. Illinois Governor’s Mansion, 410 E. Jackson St., 217-782-6450.

#### Emerging Artists Pop-Up Reception

Fri., March 15, 5:30-7:30pm. See the works of digital artist Jeremiah Angulo and painter Alex Demeroukas, who recently joined the SAA Collective’s emerging artist program. The works will be displayed at The Underground, the Collective’s newest exhibition space. See the Facebook page or call for more info. Free. SAA Collective Gallery, 105 N. Fifth St., 217-544-2787.

#### Illinois Prairie Pastel Society Exhibit Reception

Fri., March 15, 5:30-7:30pm. Over 70 works by members of the society will be on display in their annual judged membership exhibition. Visiting judge is Aline Ordman. [springfieldart.org](http://springfieldart.org). Free. M.G. Nelson Family Gallery, 700 N. Fourth St., 217-523-2631.

#### Inaugural Stella Coffee & Tea Artist of the Year

Submission of any medium accepted April 1-30. No entry fee. Call for details. Free. Stella Coffee & Tea, 1135 W. Governor St., 262-622-3151.

#### Marion Mahony and the Creation of a Capital

Sat., March 16, 1-2, 3-4pm. Mahoney, who was Frank Lloyd Wright’s first employee, was considered to be the first woman professional architect, and was involved in many projects including the planning of Australia’s capital city. See [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) for more info. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

#### Q.U.I.L.T.S. Biennial Quilt Show 2024

Fri., March 15, 10am-6pm and Sat., March 16, 10am-4pm. Over 400 quilts and quilted items. Raffle, Quilts of Valor presentations, bed turnings, demonstrations, quilt appraisal (by appointment), door prizes, vendors and a kid’s scavenger hunt. Food available. Some wheelchairs available, accessible and free parking. [springfieldquilts.com](http://springfieldquilts.com). \$10 or \$15 for both days. Orr Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-652-9839.

### History

**The African American Spiritual**  
Sat., March 16, 2-4pm. Dr. Sharon Willis will discuss the origin and history of spirituals and also

relate stories about the Rev. Dr. C.T. Vivian, a civil rights icon and lieutenant of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This event will serve as an introduction to the concert to be held the following day at Westminster Presbyterian Church to honor Vivian, Rosa Parks and other civil rights figures. Free. African American History Museum Springfield, 1440 Monument Ave., 877-757-2246.

#### History Happy Hour

Wed., March 20, 5:30-6:30pm. “Divas, Drag Kings, Damsels and Dames: Celebrating Women and Gender in the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Collection.” Includes Gwendolyn Brooks, Mahalia Jackson, Albert Cashier, Tiny Davis and Ruby Lucas, The Radium Girls of Ottawa, and more. Must be 21 or older. Free. Anvil and Forge Brewing and Distilling Company, 619 E. Washington St., 217-971-9585.

#### Illinois Daughters Who Changed History

Sun., March 17, 1:30-2:30, 3-4pm. Get to know amazing Illinois women of the past as you examine rarely displayed documents and artifacts that tell their stories. All ages welcome, but it may be of most interest to ages 12 and older. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

#### it Lunch and Learn: Petticoat Politics

Fri., March 15, 12-1pm. Even before women could earn the right to vote, they had to earn the right to speak. The women of the revolution and early republic paved the way for their daughters and granddaughters. Guests are welcome to bring a lunch. Free. Lincoln-Herndon Law Office, 112 N. Sixth St.

#### Mark Flotow presentation

Sat., March 16, 2-3:30pm. Author Mark Flotow will present “Early Civil War at Camp Butler and William Tecumseh Sherman: Separating Fact from Fiction.”. Free. Illinois State Military Museum, 1301 N. MacArthur Blvd., 217-761-3910.

#### Sangamon County Historical Society

Tue., March 19, 5:30-7pm. In the 1850s, Edward W. Morse, a Springfield store clerk recorded the daily weather, his everyday activities, as well as details about family members. Curtis Mann, retired head of the Lincoln Library’s Sangamon Valley Collection, a former city historian and past president of the local historical society, will lead the

discussion. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-525-1961.

**Women's History Evening Tours**  
Fri., March 15, 5-6, 6-7pm. Enjoy a guided tour of the Dana House focusing on Mary Agnes Lawrence and Susan Lawrence Dana. Learn how this mother and daughter worked with others across the nation, and what made their Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home an ideal platform on education, democracy and equal rights. dana-thomas.org. Free. Dana-Thomas House, 301 E. Lawrence Ave., 217-782-6776.

**Let's Be Frank - Perfectly Frank**  
Sat., Apr., 13, 6-9pm. Storyteller Timothy Totten will weave a tale of love, loss and the emperor of Japan as he recounts the triumphs and tragedies of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Event includes three-course meal, wine and program. Reservations requested by April 1. Hosted by Dana-Thomas House Foundation. Dana-thomas.org. \$100. The Inn at 835, 835 S. Second St., 217-788-9452.

## ■ Faith & Philosophy

**Lenten Worship Concert**  
Fri., March 15, 5:30pm. Eighty musicians of the Symphonic Band and Golden Voice Choir of Valley Lutheran High School of Saginaw, Michigan, will present the concert, the theme of which is "Thy will be done." Freewill donations welcome. trinity-lutheran.com. Free. Trinity Lutheran Church Parish Hall, 515 S. MacArthur Blvd., 217-787-2323.

**Sound, Alchemy and Your Divine Blueprint**  
Tue., March 19, 6:30-8pm. A special healing music event with Joshua Inacio, a gifted channel from England, who devotes his life and body to be an instrument for God's love and will. Join in this deeply soothing and profound experience of sound and vibration. unityofspringfieldil.org. Unity of Springfield, 417 Cordelia, 217-523-5897.

**Weekday Lenten Services**  
Mondays-Fridays, 12:15-12:45pm. Through March 29. Weekly services through Good Friday. Services will offer a 25-minute period of reflection, Bible readings and hymns exploring the season of Lent. trinity-lutheran.com. Free. Trinity Lutheran Church, 220 S. Second St., 217-787-2323.

## ■ Holiday Happenings

**Auburn Easter Egg Hunt**  
Sat., March 16, 11am. Easter egg hunt for children 10 and under, weather permitting. Bring a basket. Free. Auburn United Methodist Church, Auburn, 14100 State Route 4, 438-3126.

**Easter Bunny at Skateland**  
Sat., March 16, 10-11:30am. Photo op with the Easter bunny, dancing and roller skating. Tickets must be purchased in advance. \$15. Skateland South, 1500 Recreation Dr., 546-4543.

**Photo with the Easter Bunny**  
Sat., March 16, 9:30-11am. Bring your own camera, props provided for a free photo op with the Easter bunny. Free. HSHS Medical Group Family Health in Chatham, Chatham, 125 E. Plummer Blvd.

**St. Patrick's Day Parade**  
Sat., March 16, 12pm. This year's Grand Marshal is Barry Friedman, owner of the Alamo. Proceeds of the event will benefit the Rutledge Youth Foundation. This year's theme is "Irish Fairytales and Folklore." Fhéile Pádraig Sona Daoibh! stpatsdayparade.com. Downtown Springfield, Downtown.

**St. Patrick's Day Green Garb Contest**  
Fri., March 15, 11:30am-12:30pm. Join the Luck of the Irish's 5th Annual Green Garb Contest. Enjoy Shamrock punch, Irish tunes, and dress in your favorite green garb for a chance to win. Senior Services of Central Illinois, 701 W. Mason St., 217-528-4035.

**The Pointe Easter Egg Hunt**  
Sat., March 16, 1pm. Easter egg hunt with games and Easter bunny photo-op. Free. The Pointe at Jacksonville, Jacksonville, 20 Jacksonville Place, 217-602-0930.

## ■ Fundraisers and Galas

**Blarney Bash**  
Fri., March 15, 5:30-8pm. View Dick Levi's car collection and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and libations, a live and silent auction and music by Micah Walk and Dave Littrell. Benefits St. Patrick Catholic School. \$30 per person or \$60 per couple. LRS Hangar, 820 S. Capital Airport Dr., 523-7670.

## ■ Children's Corner

**All American Circus**  
Sat., March 16, 7pm and Sun., March 17, 4pm. An all new show

that is perfect for the whole family. allamericancircus.com. Adults \$15, kids 3-12 \$8, age 2 and under are free. Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave., 217-782-6661.

**Kids Dollar Day**  
Sat., March 16, 9am-5pm. "The Questioners: Read. Question. Think. PLAY!" introduces a scientist, an engineer, an architect, a future prez and an illustrator. Each character highlights problem-solving, determination, risk-taking, bravery and the role of caring adults. Join Mad Science of St. Louis's interactive activities 11am-2pm. Kids age 5-12 are \$1. Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth St., 217-558-8844.

**Make a paper quilt**  
Sat., March 16, 1:30-2:30pm. A craft activity for children. Make a colorful quilt with paper for National Quilt Day and also learn about ways to show kindness to others. lincolnlbrary.info. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900 ext. 5612.

**Preschool Storytime**  
Thursdays, 10:30-11am. Through April 25. Children ages 3-5 will explore stories and activities to encourage lifelong love of reading and learning. The programs are designed to promote language and listening skills, expand children's imaginations and arouse their curiosity about the world. Must be accompanied by an adult. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900 ext. 5612.

**Storytime - Toddler Time**  
Mondays, 10:15-11am. Through April 22. Designed for children ages 18-36 months, this program is full of books, songs and fun activities designed to help develop a child's language skills. Children must be accompanied by an adult. lincolnlbrary.info. Free. Lincoln Library, 326 S. Seventh St., 217-753-4900 ext. 5612.

**Zoo Tots - Cryptozoology**  
Wed., March 20, 10-11am. Seek out the legendary animals and cryptids worldwide (and the extraordinary animals on which they're based). Get out your sleuthing hat and prepare to crack some of the greatest mysteries the world has ever known. Ages 4-6. springfieldparks.org. \$60R/\$80NR. Additional child \$24. Henson Robinson Zoo, 1100 E. Lake Shore Dr., 217-585-1821 x 1706.

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St. Patrick's Day

Special Beat the rush starting Friday, March 15 • 11am-9pm

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Each year, the Children's Dyslexia Center of Springfield offers FREE training in dyslexia remediation. Training starts in June and lasts one full year; certified trainees are eligible to apply for a paid tutoring position at the center.

Scan the QR code or call (217)793-7735 for more info!

Children's Dyslexia Center

# MARKETPLACE

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## 51ST ANNUAL LAKE FORK COMMUNITY AUCTION

Saturday, March 30th  
\$5 Consignment Fee  
9:30am at Lake Fork Community Center (208 Logan Street, Lake Fork, IL). Farm machinery, antiques, animals and much more! Breakfast served at 7am-2pm. Meat for sale on March 20th. Proceeds benefit the communities of Lake Fork Community Center. For information, call 217-792-5793 or 217-871-5793 (anytime) or 217-792-5662 (week of sale only).



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## Real Estate Foreclosure

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 7TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC PLAINTIFF,

-vs- Unknown Heirs and/or Legatees of Russell W. Killen, Deceased; Jason Killen; Michael Killen; Rosemary Schnepf, as Special Representative of Russell W. Killen, Deceased; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS DEFENDANTS NO. 22 FC 249 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment entered in the above entitled matter on December 20, 2023; Jack L Campbell, Sheriff, #1 Sheriff's Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701, will on April 9, 2024 at 9:00 AM, at Sangamon County Building, Sangamon County Board Room, 2nd Floor, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, sell to the highest bidder for ten percent (10%) at the time of sale and the balance within twenty-four (24) hours, the following described premises situated in Sangamon County, Illinois.

Said sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and any prior liens or 1st Mortgages. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title or recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. Upon the sale being held and the purchaser tendering said bid in certified funds, a receipt of Sale will be issued and/or a Certificate of Sale as required, which will entitle the purchaser to a deed upon confirmation of said sale by the Court.

Commonly known as 516 East Ridgely Avenue, Springfield, IL 62702  
Permanent Index No.: 14-22.0-326-006  
Improvements: Single Family Residential

The property will NOT be open for inspection prior to the sale and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. The judgment amount was \$63,109.87. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file and title records to verify this information. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For Bid Amount contact:  
Sole Clerk  
LOGS Legal Group LLP  
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301  
Bannockburn, IL 60015  
ILNOTICES@logs.com  
(847) 291-1717  
Nationstar Mortgage LLC  
One of Plaintiff's Attorneys  
LOGS Legal Group LLP  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301  
Bannockburn, IL 60015  
(847) 291-1717  
ILNOTICES@logs.com Randal S. Berg  
(6277119)

Michael N. Burke (6291435)  
Christopher A. Cieniawa (6187452)  
Laura J. Anderson (6224385)  
Mallory Snyderman (6306039)  
Thomas Belczak (6193705)  
Debra Miller (6205477)  
Amy Aronson (6206512)

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO

FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF MEB LOAN TRUST II, PLAINTIFF,

VS. MELINDA R JORDAN A/K/A MELINDA JORDAN; MIDLAND FUNDING LLC; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS. NO. 2022FC000182 2400 SOUTH 6TH STREET SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE UNDER ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE ACT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered by the Court in the above entitled cause on January 10, 2024, Sheriff of Sangamon County will on April 23, 2024, in the Sangamon South Auditorium #1 Copley Plaza (Old SJR Building) 1st Floor, Springfield, IL 62701, at 9:00 AM, sell at public auction and sale to the highest bidder for cash, all and singular, the following described real estate mentioned in said Judgment, situated in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment: TAX NO. 22-03.0-356-001 COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2400 South 6th Street Springfield, IL 62703

Description of Improvements: The property is a single family home. The Judgment amount was \$18,195.77. Sale Terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "CASH". The successful bidder must deposit 10% down by certified funds; balance, by certified funds, within 24 hours. NO REFUNDS.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, water bills, etc., and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the bid amount, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For Information: Visit our website at http://iforeclosuresales.mrpilc.com.

Between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only - McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, Plaintiff's Attorneys, 1 N. Dearborn St., Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel. No. (312) 346-9088. Please refer to file# 21-079571L PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR

ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Plaintiff's attorney is not required to provide additional information other than that set forth in this notice of sale. I3237087

## NOTICE OF SALE

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF SANGAMON SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS HEARTLAND BANK AND TRUST, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO TOWN & COUNTRY BANC MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC., Plaintiff,

vs. MARY JANE V. LOGAN AND PERSONAL FINANCE COMPANY, LLC, Defendants.

CASE NO. 23-FC-166 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 803 N OSBURN AVE SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702 PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of the above Court entered in the above entitled cause on December 6, 2023, the following described real estate, to-wit: Permanent Index Number: 14-28.0-177-026 fka 14-28-177-026 Commonly known as: 803 N Osburn Ave, Springfield, IL 62702

will be offered for sale and sold at public vendue on April 2, 2024, at 9:00 AM, in the Auditorium on the 2nd Floor, 300 South 9th St, Springfield, Illinois. The Judgment amount is \$39,789.17. The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Sheriff of Sangamon County. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount

paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the mortgaged real estate arose prior to the sale. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate, and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to the Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The Sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information. For information contact Plaintiff's Attorney: Heavner, Beyers & Mihalr, LLC, 601 East William Street, Decatur, IL 62523, (217) 422-1719

The purchaser of a condominium unit at a judicial foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, who takes possession of a condominium unit pursuant to a court order or a purchaser who acquires title from a mortgagee shall have the duty to pay the proportionate share, if any, of the common expenses for the unit which would have become due in the absence of any assessment acceleration during the 6 months immediately preceding institution of an action to enforce the collection of assessments, and

## Distribution Systems Engineer

Adams Electric Cooperative is seeking a highly talented and motivated individual for a Distribution Systems Engineer. Engineering Degree in electrical power related discipline with a minimum of two years of experience in a related field preferred. Ability to obtain a professional engineering license preferred. Responsibilities include experience in electric distribution engineering, SCADA, AMI, and the ability to perform analysis and planning studies (work plans). Must have excellent technical, interpersonal, and communication skills, and be able to work effectively as a team member. The position offers a competitive salary and full benefits package. Applications are accepted through April 1, 2024. Send resume, three references and recent salary history to Joyce Bockhold, Human Resource/Benefits Administrator, jbockhold@adamselectric.coop, Adams Electric Cooperative, PO Box 247, Camp Point, IL 62320.



with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Dated this 4th day of March, 2024.  
BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP  
Harvey B. Stephens  
Registration No. 2724170  
Brandon R. Clark  
Registration No. 6329553  
205 S. Fifth Street, Suite 1000  
P.O. Box 2459  
Springfield, IL 62705-2459  
(217) 544-8491  
hbstephens@bhsllaw.com  
bclark@bhsllaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
MORTON COMMUNITY BANK,  
Plaintiff,  
Vs.  
RYAN CARLS, et. al.  
Defendants.  
Re: Estate of Janet M. Hanselman,  
Deceased.  
No. 2024-FC-0003  
NOTICE

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JANET M. HANSELMAN:  
Notice is given of the death of Janet M. Hanselman. The Court has appointed Dan E. Way as Special Representative for Janet M. Hanselman, deceased, in the above-entitled cause seeking a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale on property located at 2322 S. 9th St., Springfield, IL 62702. The address of the Special Representative is Way Law Offices, LLC, 1100 S. Fifth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. You may direct any questions you have to him, or you may retain counsel of your own choosing, or represent yourself, or do nothing. 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 [efile.illinoiscourts.gov/](http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/) service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit [www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp).  
/s/ Dan E. Way, Special Representative for Janet M. Hanselman, deceased  
Dan E. Way, #6204735  
WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC  
1100 S. Fifth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
Tel. 217-525-7003  
Fax. 217-525-7012  
dan@danwaylaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
JOANN SCHMIDT, Deceased  
NO. 2024PR000081  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of JoAnn Schmidt, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on February 27, 2024 to Eric H. Schmidt, 130 S. Douglas, Springfield, IL 62704, and Andrea Reiff, 5909 S. Cantrall Creek Road, Cantrall, IL 62625, as Co-Executors, 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 6th day of September, 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 29th day of February, 2024.  
Gregory P. Sgro  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703

(217) 789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
ROBERT JOSEPH HOGAN,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2024-PR-92  
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Robert Joseph Hogan of Sangamon County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on February 28, 2024, to Kristi J. Hillier, 92 Island Bay Lane, 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 September 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 29th day of February, 2024.  
Matthew J. Cate - 06272040  
Barber, Segatto, Hoffee, Wilke & Cate, LLP  
P.O. Box 79  
Springfield, IL 62705  
(217) 544-4868  
matthewcate@barberlaw.com  
350795

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN re the Estate of  
EUNICE M. DAVIDSON  
Deceased.  
Case No. 2024-PR-74  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Eunice M. Davidson. Letters of office have been issued to Sally K. Craven, 504 W. Wisconsin Ave., Grantsburg, WI 54840, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is R. Phillip Reed, Attorney at Law, 2616 Hazelnut Drive, Springfield, IL 62702. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk, Room 405, 200 S. Ninth St., Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Executor, or both, on or before September 9, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Executor 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 <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.  
R. PHILLIP REED  
Attorney at Law  
2616 Hazelnut Drive  
Springfield, IL 62702  
(217) 528-7333  
reedlaw@sbcglobal.net  
ARDC No. 2300478

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ILLINOIS  
SANGAMON COUNTY, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
IN PROBATE  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
MICHAEL L. BRANDON,  
Deceased.  
No. 2023PR455  
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION – CLAIMS  
Notice is given of the death of MICHAEL L. BRANDON of Springfield, Illinois. LETTERS OF OFFICE were issued on the 27th day of February 2024, to DIRK RICHARDSON, 4440 Morgan Territory Rd., C7, Clayton, CA 94517, whose attorney of record is Angelica W. Wawrzynek, Constant, Wawrzynek & Grove LLC, 1400 Charleston Ave., Ste. 200, P.O.

Box 1425, Mattoon, Illinois 61938.

The Estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (75 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 Court at the Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. 9th St., Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before the 9th day of September 2024, or if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by Section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.  
DATED this 7th day of March 2024.  
DIRK RICHARDSON,  
Independent Administrator,  
By: /s/ Angelica W. Wawrzynek  
Angelica W. Wawrzynek ARDC #6299647  
Constant, Wawrzynek & Grove LLC  
1400 Charleston Ave., Suite 200  
PO Box 1425  
Mattoon, Illinois 61938  
T: 217-234-7123  
F: 217-234-7124  
E: angel@mattoonlawyers.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
WILLIAM E. VOGT, DECEASED  
Case #2024-PR-93  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of WILLIAM E. VOGT. Letters of Office have been issued to MARY L. STAKE, 31225 N. 118th Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85383, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Sheehan & Sheehan, Lawyers, P.C., 1215 South 4th Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Room 405, Sangamon County Complex, 200 South 9th Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Independent Administrator, or both, on or before September 13, 2024, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Circuit Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Independent Administrator and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. Dated this 28th day of February, 2024.  
William P. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217)544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
MARY ANN LAUB, Deceased  
NO. 2024-PR-090  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of DEBORAH A. JONES, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on February 28, 2024, to Amanda Hauer, 2125 E. Grandview Ave., Springfield, IL 62712, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before August 29, 2024 or six (6) months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 28th day of February, 2024.

Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
MARTHA JANE LINK, Deceased  
NO. 2024-PR-085  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of MARTHA JANE LINK, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on February 28, 2024, to Ashley N. Elder, 261 McNeil St, Carterville, IL 62918, and John W. Elder, 411 N. Adams St., West Frankfort, IL 62896, as Independent Co-Administrators, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before August 29, 2024, or six (6) months from the date the Representative mailed or delivered a Notice to Creditor, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Dated this 28th day of February, 2024.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
RICHARD W. HANSELMAN, DECEASED  
Case #2024-PR-75  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of RICHARD W. HANSELMAN. Letters of Office have been issued to CHRISTA L. HANSELMAN as Independent Executor, whose attorney is David R. Reid, P.O. Box 9680, Springfield, IL 62791. 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 August 31, 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 29th day of February, 2024.  
David R. Reid  
Reid Law Office, LLC  
P.O. Box 9681  
Springfield, IL 62791  
(217) 415-4310

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF  
MARY E. WEDGE,  
Deceased.  
Case No. 2024 PR 72  
CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE DEATH OF MARY E. WEDGE. Letters of Office were issued on February 27, 2024, to KIMBERLY JEWELL CRAGGS, c/o her attorney, JAMES R. ENLOW, of Gates Wise Schlosser & Goebel 1231 S. 8th St. Springfield, Illinois 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 South 9th St. Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to

the representative and to the Attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.  
DATED this 27th day of February 2024.  
James R. Enlow (#6199891)  
GATES WISE SCHLOSSER & GOEBEL  
Attorneys at Law  
1231 South Eighth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
Telephone: (217) 522-9010  
Facsimile: (217) 522-9020  
Email: jim@gwpsc.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the matter of the estate of:  
Mary F. Freeman, Deceased  
Case No. 2023-PR-467  
Claim Notice  
Notice is given of the death of Mary F. Freeman. Letters of Office were issued on Feb. 20, 2024 to Deborah Freeman as Executor, 3312 S. Park 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, Sept. 7, 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 Representative within 10 days after it has been filed.  
Joseph B. Roesch  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
R. P. ARMSTRONG, Deceased.  
IN PROBATE  
NO. 2024PR000057  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of R. P. ARMSTRONG, deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on February 21, 2024, to FRANCES A. ARMSTRONG, Administrator, 1725 Lamont St N.W. Washington, D.C. 20010-2601, whose attorney is ROBERT A. STUART, JR., Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP, 205 S. 5th Street, Ste. 1000, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before September 5, 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.  
Dated this 22nd day of February, 2024.  
Robert A. Stuart, Jr.  
Registration No. 2761122  
Brown, Hay & Stephens, LLP  
205 S. 5th Street, Ste. 1000  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 544-8491  
rstuart@bhsllaw.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
JOSEPH DANIEL MYERS, DECEASED  
Case #2024-PR-84  
DEATH & CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of JOSEPH DANIEL MYERS. Letters of Office have been issued to PEGGY MYERS, 1512 Dubois, Lawrenceville, IL 62439, 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 September 5, 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 22nd day of February, 2024.  
William P. Sheehan  
SHEEHAN & SHEEHAN, LAWYERS, P.C.  
1215 South 4th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 544-0701

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN RE THE ESTATE OF:  
TERRY W. CAMPBELL, No. 2024-PR-76  
Deceased.  
CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of Terry W. Campbell. Letters Testamentary were issued on February 22, 2024, to Edward D. Bass of 3520 N. Catalina Way, Tucson, AZ 85749, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Dan E. Way, WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC, 1100 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court, Sangamon County Courthouse, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or with the representative, or both, on or before September 4, 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 22nd day of February 2024  
Dan E. Way, #6204735  
WAY LAW OFFICES, LLC  
1100 S. Fifth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 525-7003

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
SHIRLEY M. FIFER, Deceased  
DEATH AND CLAIM NOTICE  
Case No. 2024-PR-073  
Notice is given to claimants of the Estate of SHIRLEY M. FIFER, Deceased.  
Letters of Office were issued on February 21, 2024, to Dawn Fifer, 1612 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, IL 62704, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Alex B. Rabin, Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin & Reinbold, LLP, 1119 S. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62703. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sangamon County Complex, 200 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62701, or with the Representative, or both, on or before August 22, 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 21st day of February, 2024.  
Alex B. Rabin  
Sgro, Hanrahan, Durr, Rabin, & Reinbold, LLP  
1119 S. Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703  
217-789-1200

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Estate of:  
LESLIE A. HUGHES,  
Deceased.  
NO. 2024-PR-82  
CLAIM NOTICE







E. Monroe Room 107 Springfield, IL 62701 or by email to [Julia.cave@springfield.il.us](mailto:Julia.cave@springfield.il.us). All comments received by April 12th, 2024, will be considered by the City of Springfield.

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
SS SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF SANGAMON  
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF WALTER LEE  
HARBAUER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS  
AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF  
WALTER LEE HARBAUER, DECEASED, UNKNOWN  
CLAIMANTS AND LIENHOLDERS AGAINST THE  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF WALTER LEE  
HARBAUER, DECEASED, JO DEAN WHITNALL AKA  
JODEAN M TRONE AND THEODORE HARVATIN,  
AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF WALTER LEE  
HARBAUER, DECEASED,  
Defendants.  
CASE NO. 23-FC-195  
PROPERTY ADDRESS:  
39 WINDSOR RD  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62702  
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a  
Judgment of the above Court entered in the above  
entitled cause on March 6, 2024, the following  
described real estate, to-wit:  
LOT 21 OF MORNINGSIDE PLACE, SPRINGFIELD,  
ILLINOIS, SITUATED IN SANGAMON COUNTY.  
Permanent Index Number: 14-29-0-105-013 aka  
14-29-0-105-013  
Commonly known as: 39 Windsor Rd, Springfield,  
IL 62702

will be offered for sale and sold at public venue on  
April 16, 2024, at 9:00 AM, in the Auditorium on the  
2nd Floor, 300 South 9th St, Springfield, Illinois.  
The Judgment amount is \$71,393.66.

The real estate is improved with a single family  
residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by  
certified funds at the close of the sale payable to  
The Sheriff of Sangamon County. No third party  
checks will be accepted. The balance, including  
the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential  
Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calcu-  
lated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for  
each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid  
by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified  
funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four  
(24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee  
acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to  
its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee,  
judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the  
residential real estate whose rights in and to the  
mortgaged real estate arose prior to the sale. The  
subject property is subject to general real estate  
taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied  
against said real estate, and is offered for sale  
without any representation as to quality or quantity  
of title and without recourse to the Plaintiff and in  
"AS IS" condition. The Sale is further subject to  
confirmation by the Court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the pur-  
chaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will  
entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate  
after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection.  
Prospective bidders are admonished to check the  
Court file to verify all information.

For information contact Plaintiff's Attorney: Heavner,  
Beyers & Mihlar, LLC, 601 East William Street,  
Decatur, IL 62523, (217) 422-1719

The purchaser of a condominium unit at a judicial  
foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, who  
takes possession of a condominium unit pursuant  
to a court order or a purchaser who acquires  
title from a mortgagee shall have the duty to pay  
the proportionate share, if any, of the common  
expenses for the unit which would have become  
due in the absence of any assessment acceleration  
during the 6 months immediately preceding  
institution of an action to enforce the collection of  
assessments, and which remain unpaid by the  
owner during whose possession the assessments are paid

at any time during any action to enforce the collec-  
tion of assessments, the purchaser shall have no  
obligation to pay any assessments which accrued  
before he or she acquired title. If this property is  
a condominium unit which is part of a common  
interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the  
foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay  
the assessments required by the Condominium  
Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5 (g-1).

If the sale is not confirmed for any reason, the Pur-  
chaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return  
of the purchase price paid. The Purchaser shall  
have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the  
Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU  
HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR  
30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSES-  
SION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (c)  
OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

Note: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices  
Act you are advised that the Law Firm of Heavner,  
Beyers & Mihlar, LLC, is deemed to be a debt  
collector attempting to collect a debt, and any  
information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,  
Plaintiff,

Dated By  
Ryan M. Beavers (#6335549), its Attorney  
Of Heavner, Beyers & Mihlar, LLC  
Ryan M. Beavers (#6335549)  
HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC  
Attorneys at Law  
P.O. Box 740  
Decatur, IL 62525  
Send Notice/Pleadings to:  
Veronika J. Miles (#6313161)  
Email: [Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com](mailto:Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com)  
Telephone: (217) 422-1719  
Facsimile: (217) 422-1754  
8051-940512

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT  
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF WILSON GREGORY PARK,  
Deceased.

No. 2024PR106  
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Wilson Gregory Park,  
who died on December 23, 2023. Kathleen Marie  
Park, whose address is 200 East Main Street,  
Rochester, Illinois 62563, was appointed Executor  
of his estate on March 7, 2024. 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 9th Street, Springfield,  
Illinois 62701, or with the executor, or both, within  
6 months from the date of 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 8th day of March, 2024.  
Timothy J. Rigby (ARDC #6225930)  
Alexander S. Prillaman (ARDC #6339535)  
Hart, Southworth & Witsman  
One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 501  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217) 753-0055  
[trigby@hswnet.com](mailto:trigby@hswnet.com)  
[aprilaman@hswnet.com](mailto:aprilaman@hswnet.com)  
8051-940482

**Legal Notice**

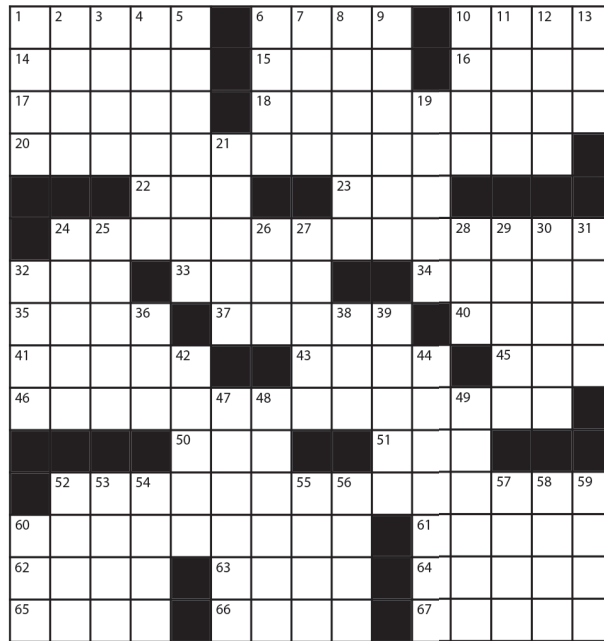
The Bank of Springfield Center is requesting  
proposals to purchase surplus blue theater  
curtains. Sealed bids must be submitted to  
the Administration Office of the BOS Center, 1  
Convention Center Plz, Springfield, IL, 62701  
by 10:00 am CST March 18, 2024.

**Pictures**

Edited by J. Reynolds - No. 832

**Across**

1. To the rear of
6. It's built for a trial
10. Catch sight of
14. Heap of literature
15. Big burden
16. Gin flavoring
17. Hitchhiker
18. Jacket features
20. 1999 best
22. UN workers' group
23. Romanian currency
24. 1987 best
32. Batman and Robin, e.g.
33. Recipe direction
34. Accustom
35. List ender
37. Boot add-ons
40. "Oh, bother!"
41. Practices
43. Borrow's opposite
45. Stopped fasting
46. 1980 best
50. Time of one's life
51. Id's counterpart
52. 1993 best
60. Machine that reproduces an experience
61. Skin problem
62. Straford's stream
63. Caesarean wrap
64. Fall flower
65. A-Rod, for one
66. Long narrative poem



67. Geneva's river
12. Saccharide prefix
13. "That's a go"
19. Brownish gray
21. Brushed-on layers
24. One-on-one instructor
25. Stash away
26. Tentative taste
27. "I kid you not!"
28. Put a stop to
29. From the country
30. Speak formally
31. Neural network
32. Floor model
36. Island garland
38. Sales pro
39. Look of disgust
42. Slower kind of mail
44. Part of Canis Major
47. Paternal relative
48. Colorful grass
49. Knock (off) trinity
52. Part of the Hindu trinity
53. "Let's go!"
54. He-man
55. Letterhead design
56. History chapters
57. A big fan of
58. Witnessed
59. Scale button
60. Utter aloud

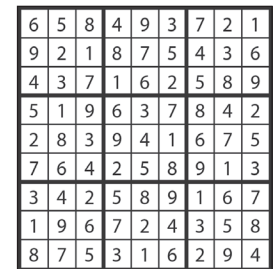
**Down**

1. Mystical emanation
2. Hat edge
3. Campaign worker
4. "The \_\_\_\_\_ Queen"
5. Excites
6. Cola's beginning
7. Soon, to poets
8. Subject to legal action
9. Respect
10. Jacob's twin
11. Thin opening

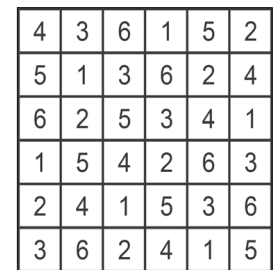
**Puzzle answers from this week will appear here next week**



Crossword answers from #831



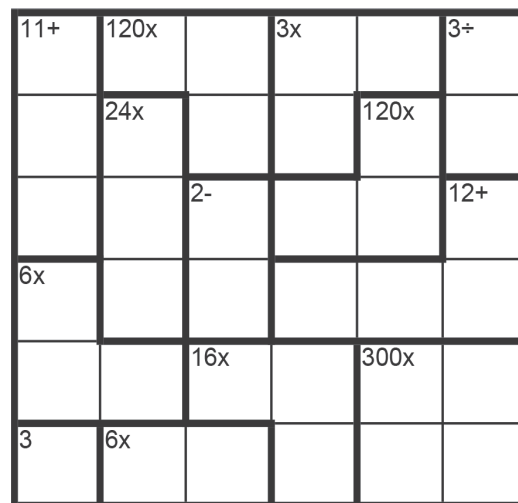
Sudoku answers from #831



JoshJosh answers from #831

**JoshJosh by J. Reynolds - No. 832**

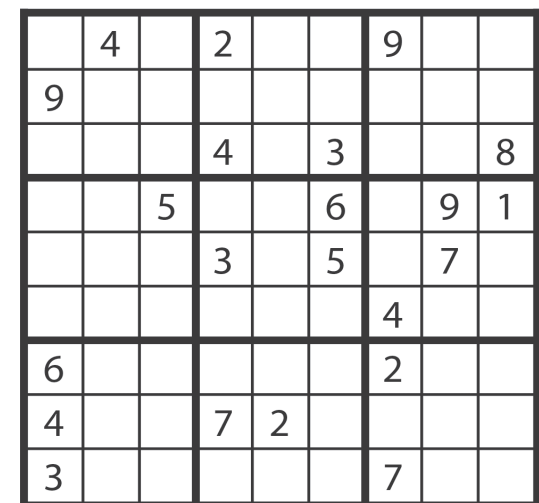
Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a digit in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined box will produce the target number shown, by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, as indicated in the box. A 6x6 grid will use 1-6.



Difficulty medium

**Sudoku No. 832**

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



Difficulty medium

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