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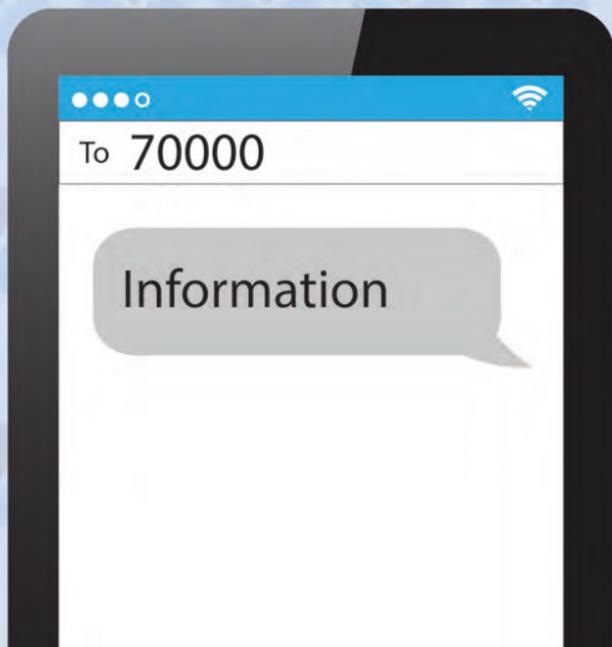
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# Full-service print shop marks 50 years

## Family-owned Emerson Press of Divernon has deadlines to meet

BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

Many things have changed during the 50 years that Emerson Press has been in business. But two things have remained the same – it's still a family-owned and operated business, and there are still deadlines to meet.

Leonard Emerson operates the business that also includes four other family members including his wife, Jane, daughter Stephanie McDannald and sons, Brett and Prentice Emerson. They also consider their regular customers to be family, several of whom have been fulfilling their printing needs at Emerson Press for more than 30 years. There is even one customer who has been with them since day one.

"We have great customers. Some may only order once or twice a year, and some once every two weeks," McDannald said. "But I'm just as happy with that one that orders once a year as the one that orders twice a month, because they keep coming back. I want our customers to say, 'We use Emerson Press and we are happy with them.'"

"We've had some customers long enough that when our designer, Michelle Waite, who has been a member of our team for over 15 years, is doing the artwork, we get to know what kind of design our customers will like," McDannald said. "We know that some people, if you have an 11 by 17 inch sheet of paper they want something on every inch of that paper, while some people will like white space. You get to know the kind of colors and graphics that people like. It's like taste in clothes, you know what they like visually."

Emerson Press is a full-service print shop. They print everything from promotional items to signs and banners and have recently been screen printing on t-shirts. Their hope is that if you have a logo, they can print it for you.

The business, located on the northeast corner of the Divernon town square, occupies a space that was once a 100-year-old tavern, and one of their still-functioning presses is a century old and counting. But there are lots of new digital machines as well, so a walk through Emerson Press is like an eclectic journey through the history of printing.

But it's still difficult to imagine that the shop started in a nearby garage in 1968.

"I started working for a company in Springfield, Marshall Mitchell Printing, and I worked there probably seven years doing art work and sales," said Emerson Press founder and co-owner Leonard Emerson. "After he went out of business, one of the companies that we did work for asked if I might be interested in doing their work. After some thought, I bought a press and started my shop."

"In 1968 when we started, my wife and I did all of the work in our garage," said the 76-year-old Emerson. "She did all of the typesetting and I did the sales and the artwork. I am a graphic artist by trade and then learned to do the press work, camera work and finally the delivery. The two of us did it all."

When the business grew, they expanded the garage. When that was no longer large enough, the Emersons

purchased the downtown building where they are now located. They've since added on twice, and six years ago purchased the building next door. They employ six full-time and several part-time people. Five of the employees are family.

"I never really asked my kids to enter the business," said Emerson with a chuckle. "They all either went to college or entered the services. The thing about it is, had they not come back, I wouldn't be in business."

"I couldn't find anybody that would work like they did, and with the quality I wanted. You just couldn't find that," Emerson said.

His daughter and sons returned at the right time, because they were around for the "big change" in the printing world, the switch to mainly computerized design and digital printing. Emerson likes the new world of printing possibilities that opened up with the digital revolution, but he occasionally longs for the good old days.

"Printing is not what it was 25 years ago. The big press back there that we used to run all of the newsletters on, those are gone," Emerson said. "Newsletters are all emailed now, they don't need a hard copy like they used to have."

"Now it's short-run, high demand where before it was larger quantities and you had to run it through the bindery," Emerson said. "Now it might just be a piece that needs to be folded, no saddle stitching or trimming."

Today's printing customers are also pretty savvy about the process.

"People are so knowledgeable about printing," Emerson said. "They have their own computers, they know what they can do, and it puts more stress on you, the printer, because they think when they give you something, you can do it exactly like that. Well, it might not work that way, but they still have it in their mind that they know a little bit about what we do."

Emerson said there are a number of really good print shops in the area and he's pleased to be friends with many of the owners. What he and the other printers have noticed is that some potential customers are ordering their print work online, and he wants people to realize what that means.

"Shopping local is important. Ask if your online printer will support your summer baseball program, your basketball team or your school dances," Emerson said. "People forget that, and I sympathize with anybody in business because we are all asked to support our community. We are glad to do it, although when you know a person ordered something online and then they come and ask you for a donation, it's just tough."

"You have to be friends with your customers," Emerson said. "They have to know that I'll do my best, I'll go out of the way and I'll take another step, because I want them to be satisfied when they get that package that's got our name on it."

And when his daughter promises to do a job for a customer with a seemingly impossible deadline?

"My dad will look at me and say, 'You promised it when?!'" said McDannald, manager of Emerson Press. "That's what is going to be on his tombstone, 'You want it when?!'"

"She promises them the moon and



Founder and co-owner Leonard Emerson and his daughter and co-owner, Stephanie McDannald.

PHOTO/ BY DAVID BLANCHETTE



Superhero magnets adorn one of the many antique, but still used, printing presses at Emerson Press.

PHOTO/ BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

customers. They do work primarily in central Illinois but ship all over the United States.

McDannald worked at a large St. Louis print shop after college, but after a few years returned home to Divernon to work with her father. Her brothers, Prentice and Brett, served in the U.S. Armed Forces but also came home to work for the family business. All of them do what is needed, regardless of



The more than century-old Kluge press in operation at Emerson Press.

PHOTO/ BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

the stars, but we can usually do it," Emerson said. "Because it's her name too, and when she says, 'I can do it,' we make sure we can do it."

McDannald is her married name, but Stephanie is still an Emerson through and through.

"Our name is out there. It makes a difference that I am an Emerson," McDannald said. "It's a service, we are selling ourselves. I use the word 'anal' about it sometimes, we obsess about things. My brothers are some of the best in the business. They are so particular about it and it has to be just so."

"Our quality is where we set ourselves apart from a quick copy shop. It doesn't just get pushed through and put in a box," McDannald said. "It's not down and dirty. Everything we do is inspected, it's labeled, we take pride in what we do."

That pride comes through in jobs that Emerson Press does for many long-term

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the hour or the day, to get things printed and delivered.

"Dad never asked, I think he wanted us to figure out if we wanted to work here," McDannald said. "I've always had kind of an entrepreneurial drive, both of my brothers are

mechanical, but we are all workaholics. It all has come down to working together and having great customers. We are truly lucky to work together as a family and have such wonderful employees and clients. That is what makes the difference."

For more information, visit [www.emersonpress.net](http://www.emersonpress.net). ♦



Prentice and Leonard Emerson work with the t-shirt printing machine at Emerson Press.

PHOTO/ BY DAVID BLANCHETTE



Emerson Press co-owner Stephanie McDannald and designer Michelle Waite guide a banner as it is being printed.

PHOTO/ BY DAVID BLANCHETTE

David Blanchette is a freelance writer from Jacksonville and is also the co-owner of Studio 131 Photography in Springfield.



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# BLH Computers, leader in electronics recycling

By Karen Ackerman Witter

Brian Dickerson founded Computer Resource Connection in 1998 with his wife, Heather. The business had a simple mission to provide a source for parts and used computers at competitive prices. Twenty years later, Dickerson is president of BLH Computers, which he founded in 2000, and general manager of USMe. His operation, located in a strip mall on Stevenson Drive, is the largest computer recycling facility in the area. They recycle nearly 12,000,000 pounds of material annually from individuals, local businesses and major national companies.

Dickerson was born and raised in Edinburg. Brian, Heather and business partner, Leo Hill, all graduated from Edinburg High School. Together they are the B, L, and H in BLH Computers. From its modest beginnings, BLH has grown into a business that combines service of computers and cellphones, sales of refurbished computers, and electronics recycling. It is this combination of service, sales and recycling that makes BLH unique.

In 2011 USM – formerly Universal Scrap Metals – approached BLH as a means of expanding its electronics recycling division. USM, Inc. is one of the largest wholesalers and processors of scrap metal in North America and one of the largest processors of used beverage cans in the Midwest. BLH was acquired by USM, and for five years Dickerson spent his days working at the plant in Chicago and his weekends back home in Springfield. At the end of five years, Dickerson was able to move the entire electronics recycling operation back to Springfield, having grown the number of employees from seven in 2011 to 23 full-time staff and five temporary workers, with facilities in Springfield, Jacksonville and Taylorville. He is especially proud of bringing these jobs back to central Illinois from Chicago.

Electronics recycling is a sophisticated process, due to the diverse materials and extensive regulations. Electronics are composed of plastics, gold, copper, lead, silver, steel, alloys and other materials. BLH breaks the materials apart and ships components to specialized companies that handle the next phase of the recycling process for reentry into the supply stream. Plastics are ground and baled. TVs are shipped to a company in Ohio, which also handles the hazardous waste components. Circuit boards are sent to a smelter to process and separate out the precious metals.

In March 2018, BLH achieved e-Stewards certification, which is the highest standard in the world for responsible recycling and reuse of electronic equipment. This is a significant achievement and the result of a long, rigorous process. Chain of custody monitoring and rigorous standards for data destruction are critical

aspects of the certification. E-Stewards certification also involves a commitment to social responsibility that forbids use of sweatshops and child labor anywhere in the supply chain. BLH, through USM, is also certified under the International Traffic in Arms Regulation, which bans export of computers.

These certifications, along with access to a broad network to handle diverse materials, make BLH uniquely qualified to handle large-scale electronics recycling for major companies. For example, BLH recycles hundreds of thousands of computers annually for a large national company that services computers. When the computers can no longer be repaired, they are shipped to BLH for processing. BLH currently has a contract with a company installing a new point-of-sale-system for a large retailer with stores nationwide. Stores across the country are shipping their old point-of-sale systems to BLH for recycling.

Dickerson says BLH was happy to recycle 200,000 pounds of material back in 2001, the first year they started tracking their volume. This has grown to 12 million pounds annually. Dickerson loves his job and says, “The Springfield community has been a great place to start, build, and grow a business. Even when merging with another company, I have been fortunate to be able to keep everything in place in the Springfield area that Leo, Heather and I have built over the past 20 years.”

BLH has its roots in central Illinois and is committed to giving back. Through its “give back to the community program,” BLH has donated more than \$100,000 in computers

to local schools, churches and charities. Dickerson is a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise. Rotary is an organization committed to “Service above Self.” Dickerson joined in 1998 and served as club president in 2005 and assistant district governor in 2009. Brian and Heather have two children who frequently accompany Brian to early morning Rotary meetings. ♦

*Karen Ackerman Witter worked in Illinois state government for 35 years and has a personal interest in recycling. She was involved in passage of Illinois’ first Solid Waste Management Act and served as director of the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources, which provided recycling grants to local communities. She and Brian Dickerson are both members of the Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise.*



BLH gets its name from Brian Dickerson, left, Leo Hill and Heather Dickerson.

PHOTO/ BY BRANDON TURLEY

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## • NOMINATION FORM •

Each year in May, Security Bank partners with Springfield Business Journal for a program recognizing local women for their achievements. Women of Influence honors local women for their contributions to the Springfield area community. The recipients are profiled in the May issue of the Business Journal and recognized at a special ceremony and reception.

These women are significant for their valuable contributions in making Springfield a great community. Those who have been selected as Women of Influence have a wide variety of backgrounds, including both the private and public sectors.

Please help us by nominating a woman who you believe deserves this recognition.

**Nominations are due by Wednesday, April 4th, 2018**

Nominations may be made online at [www.springfieldbusinessjournal.com](http://www.springfieldbusinessjournal.com) or [www.securitybk.com](http://www.securitybk.com) For more information or questions, please contact Michelle Ownbey at Springfield Business Journal, 217-726-6600 x139.

## Who Will Join These Influential Women?

- |                                |                                     |                                  |                             |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Emily Becker (2016)            | Marie A. Giacomelli (2010)          | Jackie L. Newman (2006)          | Rita Monkman-Tarr (2005)    |
| Tara Zook Bennett, M.D. (2006) | Jennifer Gill (2016)                | Sister Katherine O'Conner (2016) | Evelyn Brandt Thomas (2008) |
| Molly Berendt (2017)           | Karen Hanson Pletsch (2010)         | Sampa Das Ostrem (2012)          | Brenda Thompson (2006)      |
| Sarah Beuning (2014)           | Teresa Haley (2012)                 | Carolyn Oxtoby (2004)            | Michelle Tjelmeland (2009)  |
| Carolyn Blackwell (2005)       | Kathryn Harris (2015)               | Karen E. Paisley (2006)          | Helen Tolan (2004)          |
| Theresa M. Boley (2011)        | Nina M. Harris (2007)               | Kim Pate (2015)                  | M.T. Vann (2017)            |
| Carole Britton (2005)          | Lea Hudson (2004)                   | Sarah Delano Pavlik (2007)       | Rita Victor (2004)          |
| Rachel A. Broughton (2012)     | Dr. Victoria Nichols-Johnson (2009) | Janette Peak (2013)              | Tonya Voepel (2014)         |
| Christine Carrels (2014)       | Sonya Jones (2015)                  | Amy Segatto Perrin (2010)        | Susan Wallace (2009)        |
| Julie Cellini (2004)           | Dr. Susan Koch (2017)               | Carlissa Puckett (2008)          | Dr. Charlotte Warren (2009) |
| Beverly Christian (2004)       | Marilyn Kushak (2007)               | Veronica Robison (2008)          | Carol Watts (2006)          |
| G. Virginia Conlee (2012)      | Desiree Logsdon (2009)              | Diane K. Rutledge, Ph.D. (2006)  | Georgie Winson (2016)       |
| Karen Rose Conn (2012)         | Dr. Mary Frisk Loken (2008)         | Paula Ryan (2011)                | Elizabeth Wooley (2007)     |
| Sheryl Daugherty (2012)        | Margaret "Boony" Luparell (2017)    | Rasha Said (2017)                | Brenda Yarnell (2010)       |
| Cindy Davis (2007)             | Naomi Lynn (2005)                   | Dr. Kemia Sarraf (2014)          | Valera Yazell (2013)        |
| Julie Davis (2013)             | Deb Marsaglia (2013)                | Lisa Schad (2005)                | Susan Zappa (2015)          |
| Julie Dirksen (2013)           | Connie M. Matrisch (2011)           | Linda Shanklin (2010)            | Julie Zara (2012)           |
| Joan C. Freitag (2007)         | Pam Molitoris (2013)                | Dr. Tracey Smith (2017)          |                             |
| Lisa Funderburg (2015)         | Maryam Mostoufi (2016)              | Shipra Somani (2014)             |                             |
| Kathy Germeraad (2016)         | Sue Myerscough (2009)               | Judith G. Stephens (2008)        |                             |

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# Enos Park prepares to welcome new YMCA facility

By Scott Faingold

Few would disagree that the 55-year old YMCA building at the corner of Fourth Street and Cook in Springfield has seen better days. Addressing this, a plan was unveiled at a well-attended March 13 meeting of the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association at Third Presbyterian Church to replace the old facility with a new central city YMCA at Fourth and Carpenter, in the heart of the medical district, on land donated by Memorial Medical Center. Memorial has also pledged \$8 million toward the cost of the project. According to the developers, the new facility will be similar to, but larger than, the popular, state of the art Gus and Flora Kerasotes YMCA, which opened in 2011 on the west side of Springfield.

Paul Wheeler, architect with Springfield's FWAI Architects Inc., is in charge of the project and sees it in part as a way to refocus the image of the medical district. "Everybody views hospitals as places you go when you're sick, but the thought here is to promote wellness," he said, stressing that the evening's presentation was in its preliminary stages. "We want an address along Carpenter Street, but that's not necessarily where the front door is going to end up."

To this end, the current plan is to put the parking at the back of the site, with an attractive, modern façade visible to Carpenter Street pass-

ersby both in cars and on foot. "We thought that was something we could really animate on the street," Wheeler said. "Big picture windows so you can see people exercising, lit up at night –

to be utilized by the Y as well as other community members for events.

After members check in at the front, they will follow a hallway through the middle of the

new facility will be approximately 40 percent larger than the west side facility. He anticipates the project will happen very quickly, with construction expected to begin in fall of 2018 and last 15 months. "We think this is a game-changer for the quality of life," said Hurwitz, "not only for the current residents but the future residents of Enos Park."

When asked about the new facility's eco-friendliness, Wheeler explained that current building and energy codes have caught up with the green movement. "We have very stringent energy codes we are going to have to meet," he said. "If we can exceed them and it doesn't take away from services to the community, we absolutely will – but if it affects the size of the courts or pool to put in further green initiatives, we're going to have to make a decision in favor of membership services. We will not be pursuing LEED accreditation."

As for the actual construction work required for the new building, Hurwitz said that the project will be bid locally but that he was unable to promise that every contractor would be from the area. "We're going to take the lowest qualified bid – we will put together a team that will complete this job on time and at budget and we anticipate a significant percentage to be local." He added that the work will be at prevailing wage and therefore likely union. "There are probably no non-union contractors that can handle this size of work on the schedule dictated." He said the final cost of the new Y can be expected to exceed \$20 million. ♦



The proposed new YMCA will present a glass façade to Carpenter Street, so street traffic can view exercise rooms and the pool lit up at night. PHOTO/ COURTESY FWAI ARCHITECTS INC.

it's a real opportunity to do something really nice on that corner."

The initial plan will place the entrance at the back of the building, with a youth center directly off of the parking lot where buses will load and unload and parents can drop off their children in the morning. There will also be a multipurpose room placed right at the front which is intended

building which feeds to all of the ground-level features, including the U.S. short-course qualified swimming pool and two-level fitness center. The facility will offer a sauna and steam room for men and women as well as two racquetball courts.

Joe Hurwitz of Hurwitz Enterprises, developer of the new YMCA project, said that the

complete this job on time and at budget and we anticipate a significant percentage to be local." He added that the work will be at prevailing wage and therefore likely union. "There are probably no non-union contractors that can handle this size of work on the schedule dictated." He said the final cost of the new Y can be expected to exceed \$20 million. ♦

## Professional Women's Calendar of Events

*You play a key role and we thank you for your contributions to our community.*

### Association for Women in Communications (AWC)

The AWC Springfield Chapter offers two awards to recognize outstanding individuals within AWC Springfield and the greater Springfield area community: the Professional Communicator Award and the Chapter Star Award. The Professional Communicator Award is presented annually to any Springfield area communications professional who has made a significant contribution or impact to a non-profit, for-profit or media organization or who has made an impact in the community as a communications leader, innovator and mentor over his/her careers and especially during the past year, and has had outstanding results. The Chapter Star Award is presented annually to an AWC Springfield member for their outstanding involvement and participation in AWC. Submit your nominations by April 15 at [www.awcspringfield.org](http://www.awcspringfield.org).

### Illinois Women in Leadership (IWIL)

IWIL will host "Inspire and Empower: Tradition, Women Mission & Change" on Thursday, April 18 from 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at the Sangamo Club. Cindy Lash, past board president of King's Daughters Organization will share about the 125 year history of the organization and their current community action. Stacy Reed from the Community Foundation from the Land of Lincoln will explain the impact of KDO on the Foundation, which gave away 19 grants totaling \$1,155,000 in 2017 alone. Registration is \$18 per person before April 13; \$23 after that or at the door. Visit [www.iwil.biz](http://www.iwil.biz) for more information or to register.

### Women Entrepreneurs of Central Illinois (WE-CI)

WE-CI will meet on Wednesday, April 11 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Brickhouse Grill and Pub. Bob Barber from Sandler Institute will speak on "Living Life by Design, Not by Default." It's sure to inspire you to set a strategy for yourself, so that you can live the life you desire and deserve! Cost is \$20, register at [www.weicispringfield.org](http://www.weicispringfield.org).



To have your event added to the Women's Calendar of Events, please email your information to [info@springfieldbusinessjournal.com](mailto:info@springfieldbusinessjournal.com)



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For 110 years, the Carrie Post King's Daughters' Home for Women provided housing and care for elderly women in Springfield. When the home closed 12 years ago, there was great concern that the mission would fade with it.

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Assets from the home were used to establish the King's Daughters Organization Fund at the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln, and an annual program was launched to enhance the quality of life of older residents in Sangamon County.

Today, the King's Daughters Organization Fund has cumulatively awarded more than \$1.1 million to local charities.



The legacy of the King's Daughters could have ended with the closure of the home, but instead, it has **taken on a new life** thanks to our partnership with the Community Foundation.

— Cindy Denby, King's Daughters Organization president

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1	<b>Hope</b> 15 East Hazel Dell Lane Springfield, IL 62712	217-585-5104 217-553-2099 hope.us communicatinghope@hope.us	\$21,230,215	\$32,969,744	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	Clint W. Paul, President /CEO	DND	Cultivates change in the most inclusive environments to encourage each person with intellectual or developmental disabilities to fulfill their individual potential through evidence-based treatment, advocacy and community education.	1957
2	<b>Girl Scouts of Central Illinois</b> 3020 Baker Dr. Springfield, IL 62703	217-523-8159 217-523=8321 getyourgirlpower.org	\$19,633,728	\$6,760,502	10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016	Pam Kovacevich, Chief Executive Officer	\$177,256	Builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.	1956
3	<b>St. Joseph's Home of Springfield</b> 3306 S. Sixth St. Road Springfield, IL 62703	217-529-5596 217-529=8590 saintjosephshome.org lhighland@saintjosephshome.org	\$17,961,610	\$7,472,145	7/1/2016- 6/30/2017	Sister M. Lenore Highland, Administrator	\$0	To provide the aging and their families with compassionate and individualized care in a respectful environment that welcomes and supports each resident's religious beliefs and reflects the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.	1903
4	<b>YMCA of Springfield</b> P.O. Box 155 Springfield, IL 62705	217-544-9846 217-544=0004 springfieldymca.org	\$12,384,161	\$6,190,632	1/1/2016- 12/31/2016	Angie Sowle, CEO	\$132,258	To serve the community by reaching out to everyone in a spirit of inclusion and fellowship. YMCA programs focus on four core values-caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. We serve men, women and children of all ages, races, abilities, incomes.	1874
5	<b>Central Counties Health Centers, Inc.</b> 2239 E. Cook St. Springfield, IL 62703	217-788-2300 217-788=2340 centralcounties.org info@centralcounties.org	\$12,042,469	\$7,544,813	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Heather Burton, President and CEO	DND	To provide high quality, affordable health-care (primary medical, dental, behavioral health) to every person who enters our doors, including those most in need.	1999
6	<b>Central Illinois Foodbank</b> 1937 E. Cook Springfield, IL 62703	217-522-4022 217-522=6418 centralillfoodbank.org foodlist@centralillfoodbank.org	\$6,691,032	\$21,276,150	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	Pam Molitoris, Executive Director	\$105,015	Collects donated food and grocery items from growers, manufacturers, processors, wholesalers and retailers for distribution to charitable agencies serving people in need.	1982
7	<b>Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois</b> 610 N. Seventh St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-528-3314 217-528=6084 rmhc-centralillinois.org kthompson@rmhc-centralillinois.org	\$5,885,085	\$1,110,354	1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016	Kelly Thompson, CEO	DND	Provides programs to support the well-being of children and provides a home away from home for families with children receiving medical care.	1986
8	<b>Brother James Court</b> 2508 Saint James Road Springfield, IL 62707	217-747-5901 217-747=5971 brotherjamescourt.com administrator@brotherjamescourt.com	\$3,761,233	\$3,756,231	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Sonia Bartels, Administrator	\$54,640	To serve, regardless of race, ethnic origin, creed, or ability, developmentally disabled men in need of intermediate care.	1975
9	<b>Land of Lincoln Goodwill Industries, Inc.</b> 1220 Outer Park Dr. Springfield, IL 62704	217-789-0400 llgi.org info@llgi.org	\$3,569,643	\$25,593,640	7/1/2016- 6/30/2017	Sharon Durbin, CEO	\$153,452	Providing people the skills and resources to become self-sufficient through the power of work.	1938
10	<b>Abraham Lincoln Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America</b> 5231 Sixth St. Road Springfield, IL 62703	217-529-2727 217-529=5786 alincolnbsa.org askabe@scouting.org	\$3,540,461	\$1,007,004	1/1/2016- 12/31/2016	Daniel A. O'Brien, Scout Executive and CEO	\$132,252	To prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.	1920
11	<b>Midwest Mission Distribution Center</b> 1001 Misson Dr. Pawnee, IL 62558	217-483-7911 midwestmission.org office@midwestmission.org	\$2,550,450	\$730,173	1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016	Pat Wright, Executive Director	\$49,790	To compassionately help God's people in need locally, nationally, and around the world, and to offer a center to fulfill the call for service to our neighbors in Christ's name.	1999
12	<b>Animal Protective League of Springfield and Sangamon County</b> 1001 E. Taintor Road Springfield, IL 62702	217-544-7387 217-525=5896 apl-shelter.org admin@apl-shelter.org	\$2,355,957	\$1,747,629	1/1/2015 - 12/31/2015	Deana Corbin, Executive Director	\$41,952	To care for ill, injured and abused homeless animals and coordinate the adoption of those animals by responsible pet owners and to end pet overpopulation by offering affordable, high-quality spay/neuter services.	1954
13	<b>Senior Services of Central Illinois Inc.</b> 701 W. Mason St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-528-4035 217-528=4537 ssoci.org	\$2,231,859	\$2,776,409	10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016	Carol Harms, Executive Director	\$52,500	Non-medical services to the elderly; assisting them in remaining independent and in their own homes for as long as possible.	1976
14	<b>United Cerebral Palsy of the Land of Lincoln</b> 130 N. 16th St. Springfield, IL 62703	217-525-6522 217-525=9017 ucpll.org ucp@ucpll.org	\$2,154,760	\$5,690,115	7/1/2015- 6/30/2016	Kathy Levelling, President and CEO	\$108,846	Provide innovative strategies to connect people with disabilities to their communities.	1968
15	<b>Jewish Federation of Springfield, Illinois</b> 1045 Outer Park Dr., Suite 320 Springfield, IL 62704	217-787-7223 217-787=7470 shalomspringfield.org sjf@shalomspringfield.org	\$1,600,267	\$411,252	1/1/2015 - 12/31/2015	Nancy Sage, Executive Director	\$55,000	To serve the Jewish people locally, in Israel, and throughout the world through coordinated fundraising, community-wide programming, services and educational activities.	1941
16	<b>Sojourn Shelter &amp; Services, Inc.</b> 1800 Westchester Blvd. Springfield, IL 62704	217-726-5100 217-726=8664 sojournshelter.org sojdirector@gmail.com	\$1,564,158	\$984,988	7/1/2016- 6/30/2017	Angela Bertoni, CEO	\$89,097	A 32-bed emergency shelter, crisis management services, education and court advocacy for adult and child victims of domestic violence.	1975
17	<b>Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County</b> 2744 S. Sixth St. Springfield, IL 62703	217-523-2710 217-523=2790 habitatsangamon.com executivedirector@habitatsangamon.com	\$1,272,371	\$1,863,494	7/1/2016- 6/30/2017	Colleen Stone, Executive Director	\$78,756	A nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action.	1987
18	<b>Contact Ministries</b> 1100 E. Adams Springfield, IL 62703	217-753-3939 217-753=8643 contactministries.com	\$1,187,754	\$753,360	7/1/2016- 6/30/2017	Cindy Drum, Executive Director	\$58,394	To provide service and assistance to the poor and disadvantaged of the community, making a difference for those among us who are less fortunate, to serve people in crisis by providing assistance and/or referral to other community resources.	1979
19	<b>Fifth Street Renaissance</b> P.O. Box 5181 Springfield, IL 62705	217-544-5040 217-544=5045 fsr-sara.org	\$1,158,750	\$1,301,133	7/1/2015- 6/30/2016	Penny Harris, Executive Director	\$71,802	Assists individuals and families in difficult situations by providing transitional housing and opportunities to acquire education, employment and housing.	1979
20	<b>Springfield Urban League, Inc.</b> 100 N. 11th St. Springfield, IL 62703	217-789-0830 217-789=9838 springfieldul.org	\$866,665	\$11,585,871	7/1/2015- 6/30/2016	Nina Harris, President & CEO	\$178,660	The mission of the Springfield Urban League is to empower African-Americans, other emerging ethnic groups and those who struggle to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights.	1926

# HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

	NAME / ADDRESS	PHONE / FAX (=) / WEBSITE / EMAIL	REPORTED NET ASSETS	ANNUAL TOTAL REVENUE	CALENDAR/ TAX YEAR	PRINCIPAL	BASE COMPENSATION OF PRINCIPAL	MISSION	YEAR EST'D
21	<b>Sparc</b> 232 Bruns Lane Springfield, IL 62702	217-793-2100 217-793=2127 spfldsparc.org	\$784,922	\$8,119,093	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Greg O'Connor, CEO	\$115,276	To help individuals with developmental disabilities improve the quality of their lives.	1951
22	<b>Springfield Center for Independent Living Inc.</b> 330 South Grand Ave. West Springfield, IL 62704	217-523-2587 scil.org	\$765,408	\$558,951	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Pete Roberts, Executive Director	\$51,595	Provides independent living services and support to individuals with disabilities, trains and refers personal assistants.	1985
23	<b>Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland, Inc.</b> 3100 Montvale Dr. Springfield, IL 62704	217-787-9234 aginglinc.org	\$662,463	\$3,614,789	10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016	Donna Bileto, Executive Director	\$70,000	Funding for services for the elderly.	1974
24	<b>Helping Hands of Springfield, Inc.</b> 1023 E. Washington St. Springfield, IL 62703	217-522-0048 helpinghandsofspringfield.org	\$637,040	\$816,532	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Erica Smith, Executive Director	DND	To identify problems facing the poor and homeless in Springfield, IL and to implement and coordinate services to help address those problems.	1989
25	<b>Rutledge Youth Foundation, Inc.</b> 151 N. Bruns Lane Springfield, IL 62702	217-525-7757 rutledgeyouthfoundation.com	\$585,382	\$2,982,697	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Martin Michelson, Executive Director	DND	To assist abused and neglected youth in becoming productive, independent members of society.	1953
26	<b>Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery</b> 1011 N. Seventh St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-525-6800 miniobeirne.org	\$582,431	\$460,381	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Jessica Hargan, Executive Director	DND	Prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing emergency respite care free of charge to children and their families involved in a crisis situation.	1988
27	<b>M.E.R.C.Y. Communities, Inc.</b> 1344 N. Fifth St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-753-1358 217-753=1360 mercycommunities.org info@mercycommunities.org	\$540,876	\$582,139	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	Amy Voils, Executive Director	DND	M.E.R.C.Y. (Mentors, Empowerment and Resources for Change in Young families) Communities provides housing and supportive services to foster the independence of homeless and at-risk families.	1999
28	<b>Youth Service Bureau</b> 2901 Normandy Road Springfield, IL 62703	217-529-8300 ysbi.com	\$516,225	\$1,020,697	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Kathleen M. Wright, Executive Director	\$90,000	Provides services to at risk youth who are, or are at risk of becoming, runaway, abused, neglected and/or homeless. Services are also available to their family members.	1977
29	<b>Community Connection Point</b> 901 S. Spring St., Suite B Springfield, IL 62704	217-525-2805 ccpoint.org	\$475,920	\$1,519,981	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Tiffany Simmons, Executive Director	DND	Assisting families in obtaining the community resources and quality, affordable child care to help children reach their greatest potential.	1994
30	<b>The Parent Place</b> 314 South Grand Ave. West Springfield, IL 62704	217-753-8730	\$471,160	\$262,835	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Bridgett Burke, Executive Director	\$53,560	To prevent child abuse and neglect by teaching positive parenting skills and techniques to nurture families in our community.	1979
31	<b>Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Illinois Capital Region, Inc.</b> 928 S. Spring St. Springfield, IL 62704	217-753-1216 bbbscapitalregion.org	\$303,421	\$505,647	1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016	Mia D. Woods, Executive Director	DND	To help children reach their full potential through life-changing, professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships.	1972
32	<b>Phoenix Center</b> 109 E. Lawrence Ave. Springfield IL 62704	217-528-5253 217-528=5260 springfieldpride.org	\$244,684	\$384,353	1/1/2015 - 12/31/2015	Jonna J. Cooley, PhD, Executive Director	DND	To serve as Springfield's LGBTQ Community Center and provide the highest quality of HIV/AIDS prevention and education to the community as a whole.	2001
33	<b>Family Service Center of Sangamon County</b> 730 E. Vine St. Springfield, IL 62703	217-528-8406 service2families.com fsc@service2families.com	\$231,601	\$1,349,991	7/1/2015- 6/30/2016	Christine Lindsey, Executive Director	DND	Family Service Center is committed to improving the lives of families in central Illinois through foster care, adoption and counseling services.	1863
34	<b>Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault</b> 3 West Old State Capitol Plaza, Ste. 206 Springfield, IL 62701	217-744-2560 prairiecasa.org	\$214,249	\$536,959	7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	Shelley Vaughn, Executive Director	\$61,990	To alleviate the suffering of sexual assault victims and to prevent sexual violence against men, women, children and families by providing emergency room response, medical advocacy and trauma counseling.	1978
35	<b>NAMI Illinois, Inc.</b> 218 W. Lawrence Ave. Springfield, IL 62704	217-522-1403 namillinois.org namiil@sbcglobal.net	\$208,185	\$185,285	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	TBA	DND	Dedicated to the eradication of mental illness and improving the lives of persons with mental illness and their families.	1984
36	<b>Inner City Mission, Inc.</b> 714 N. Seventh St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-525-3940 innercitymission.net	\$131,618	\$667,829	1/1/2016- 12/31/2016	Caleb Payne, Executive Director	DND	To help the homeless find their way home.	1984
37	<b>Compass for Kids</b> 501 S. 4th St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-691-8103 compass4kids.org molly@compass4kids.org	\$92,205	\$292,640	6/1/2016- 5/31/2017	Molly Berendt, Executive Director	\$44,000	To provide academic and social-emotional support to empower at-risk children and families. To this end, Compass for Kids has school year and summer programs to support at-risk children in Springfield School District 186.	2016
38	<b>Elizabeth Ann Seton Program</b> 700 N. 7th St., Suite C Springfield, IL 62702	217-757-6025 elizabethannsetonprogram.org info@elizabethannsetonprogram.org	\$40,581	\$101,601	1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016	Dawn Morris, Executive Director	DND	To embrace the sanctity and dignity of life by nurturing pregnant and parenting women. EAS partners with multi-faith congregations and community organizations to provide support, education, and practical assistance to women and their children.	1996
39	<b>Prevent Child Abuse</b> 501 S. 4th Street Springfield, IL 62701	522-1149 522=0655	\$12,424	\$722,268	7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Denise McCaffrey, Executive Director	DND	The mission of Prevent Child Abuse Illinois is to prevent child abuse by providing statewide leadership through education, support for community initiatives and advocacy.	1990

# Springfield, the Land of Associations

How the Illinois Society of Association Executives keeps its members going

BY CINDA ACKERMAN KLINKNA AND KAREN ACKERMAN WITTER

Name just about any type of business or profession, and there is an association representing them – Realtors, beer distributors, teachers, medical providers, coal miners, cosmetologists – the list is endless. There are hundreds of associations in Illinois, and many are headquartered in Springfield.

There are several types of associations. Some represent individuals within a profession, such as teachers, farmers, CPAs, lawyers, architects, rock climbers and physicians. Others represent businesses and organizations, such as hospitals, museums, manufacturers, park districts and insurance companies. Others, such as the Lung Association, are charitable organizations supporting a specific cause. Some call these associations “special interest groups,” but the associations play a vital role in monitoring and sharing information about issues that impact their field, providing professional development for members, and communicating with elected officials on legislation that could help or hurt their members and the industry.

There is even an association of associations, called the Illinois Society of Association Executives (ISAE). The mission of ISAE is to advocate for the association community and be the primary professional development resource for association staff members. Association management is a profession in itself with its own certification, Certified Association

Executive (CAE). Earning the CAE involves an extensive process, passing a test and ongoing continuing education.

According to ISAE Executive Director Amy Cheatham, ISAE has 400 associations as members, “with the majority located in Springfield.” The membership of ISAE is quite varied. Cheatham says, “We have two types of members – 50 percent are those who are in an association and 50 percent are those who are industry partners: hoteliers, decorating companies, AV firms. A huge component of our work is providing networking to members. They want to be paired with colleagues who can help them do their jobs better.”

Since many associations sponsor trade shows, seminars, conferences and meetings, having a strong partnership among those who know the logistics of putting on an event and those who know their members who will be coming to an event helps all around. Association conferences require hotel and meeting rooms, and attendees visit restaurants, shops and local attractions. Cheatham says, “A 2016 economic study showed that associations benefit communities.”

Robert Sabin, general manager of the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, agrees. “There is a huge financial impact to the Springfield community and to our hotel. An association guest spends 30 percent or more above the average guest at our hotel. Most studies show an average guest spends \$100 a day while visiting Springfield, which translates into \$130 spent by an association guest in our local

retail stores and restaurants. Last year, association-related business made up more than half of our group business in the hotel.”

Eric Klinner is president of the ISAE. He works for the American Institute of Architects of Illinois, which represents 4,000 architects and has five staff members located in Springfield. Whether it is looking at one’s own association or the larger ISAE organization, Klinner says, “What is most important is providing a unified voice. Advocacy, networking and education are all provided by the association.”

Although associations are located all over Springfield, many have a building or office within a few blocks of the Capitol, making lobbying for the concerns of the associations easier.

Individually, each association focuses on the needs of its members and advocates for not only the members, but also the issues facing the profession. Most track pending legislation that would impact their industry and the professionals within that industry. Some are large enough to hire lobbyists and have a government relations department as well as other departments such as communications, education, credentialing and member resources. Many provide training to enhance their members’ skills and knowledge.



Of the 15 largest associations listed by membership size that are located in Springfield, the Illinois Education Association at 100 E. Edwards is the largest, representing 133,000 teachers and support staff across the state. The Illinois Federation of Teachers, 700 S. College, is second, with 103,000 members. Both are unions. The other

13 largest associations based in Springfield range in membership from 1,650 to 47,000 members. A full list of the ISAE member associations fills several pages.

An individual association and the combined associations in ISAE work to “make an impact, show support for a profession and make Illinois a better place,” according to Klinner.

Sabin says, “The city of Springfield and its strategic direction – from a convention and visitors perspective – needs to continue to support the natural partnership of associations and state government.” ♦

*Cinda Ackerman Klickna and Karen Ackerman Witter have a special association – they are sisters. Cinda has a long involvement with associations of teachers, and Karen with museum associations.*

## WORK IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

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# MAJOR ASSOCIATIONS

Sources: The Associations.  
Ranked by numbers of members.

	NAME / ADDRESS	PHONE / FAX (=) WEBSITE	MEMBERSHIP	PRESIDENT	MISSION	YEAR EST'D
1	<b>Illinois Education Association</b> 100 E. Edwards Springfield, IL 62704	217-544-0706 217-544=7383 ieanea.org	135,000	Kathi Griffin	Committed to advancing the cause of public education.	1853
2	<b>Illinois Federation of Teachers</b> 700 S. College Springfield, IL 62704	217-544-8562 217-544=1729 ift-aft.org	103,000	Daniel J. Montgomery	Improve public education and public services for Illinois students and citizens.	1936
3	<b>Illinois REALTORS®</b> 522 S. Fifth St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-529-2600 217-529=3904 illinoisrealtor.org	47,000	Matt Difanis	As "The Voice for Real Estate in Illinois," we are the leading private property advocate in the state, promoting legislation that safeguards and advances the interests of real property ownership; and advocate for a healthy business environment and a professional resource for our member REALTORS®.	1916
4	<b>Illinois State Bar Association</b> 424 S. Second St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-525-1760 217-525=0712 isba.org	32,000	Russell W. Hartigan	Promote the interests of the legal profession and improve the administration of justice, the quality of members' professional lives, and their relations with the public.	1877
5	<b>Illinois CPA Society</b> 524 S. Second St., Suite 504 Springfield, IL 62701	217-789-7914 217-789=7924 icpas.org	25,000	Todd Shapiro	To enhance the value of the CPA profession.	1903
6	<b>Illinois State Medical Society</b> 600 S. Second St., Suite 200 Springfield, IL 62704	217-528-5609 217-525=3923 isms.org	12,000	Nestor Ramirez, MD Kathryn Tynus, MD (effective April 22, 2018)	Represents and unifies its physician members; represents the interests of member physicians; advocates for patients; promotes the doctor/patient relationship; the ethical practice of medicine; the betterment of the public health.	1840
7	<b>Illinois State Dental Society</b> 1010 S. Second St., P.O. Box 376 Springfield, IL 62704/62705	217-525-1406 217-525=8872 isds.org	6,600	Dr. Barbara Mousel, DMD	To represent the members of the Society and the public we serve through communication, education and legislation.	1865
8	<b>Illinois Principals Association</b> 2940 Baker Drive Springfield, IL 62703	217-525-1383 217-525=7264 ilprincipals.org	5,200	Hattie Llewellyn	"The mission of the Illinois Principals Association is to develop, support, and advocate for innovative educational leaders."	1971
9	<b>AIA Illinois</b> 201 East Adams Street, Suite 1A Springfield, IL 62701-1323	217-522-2309 aiail.org	4,000	Kimberly Kurtenbach, AIA	Empowering our members to create more vibrant and equitable communities through architecture.	1946
9	<b>Illinois Manufacturers' Association</b> 220 E. Adams St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-522-1240 ima-net.org	4,000	Gregory W. Baise	Strengthen the economic, social, environmental and governmental conditions for manufacturing and allied enterprises in Illinois.	1893
10	<b>Mid-West Truckers Association</b> 2727 N. Dirksen Parkway Springfield, IL 62702	217-525-0310 217-525=0342 midwesttruckers.com	3,892	Don Schaefer, Exec. VP	Provides a wide range of services to trucking companies and businesses that use trucks in their operation. Represent truck operators before federal, state and local governments and regulatory agencies. MTA seeks to promote the economic and safe operation of trucks and provides safety training, drug & alcohol testing, insurance, licensing and permit services.	1961
11	<b>Illinois Nurses Association</b> 911 S. Second St. Springfield, IL 62704	217-523-0783 217-523=0838 illinoisnurses.com	3,600	Terence Yee, RN	The mission of the INA is to work for the improvement of health standards and availability of health care services for all people in Illinois, foster high standards for nurses, stimulate and promote professional development of nurses, and advance their economic and general welfare.	1901
12	<b>Illinois Chamber of Commerce</b> 215 E. Adams St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-522-5512 217-522=5518 ilchamber.org	3,200	Todd Maisch	The unifying leaders of policies that support growth in Illinois' dynamic and diverse economy.	1919
13	<b>Illinois Society of Professional Engineers</b> 100 E. Washington St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-544-7424 217-528=6545 illinoisengineer.com	2,000	Jeff Large, SE	Advance and promote the public welfare in connection with construction, environment, licensing, public health and transportation.	1886
13	<b>Illinois Trial Lawyers Association</b> 401 W. Edwards St. Springfield, IL 62704	217-789-0755 217-789=0810 iltla.com	2,000	John P. Scanlon	Achieve high standards of professional ethics; uphold laws; secure and protect the rights of those injured in their persons or civil rights.	1952
14	<b>Home Builders Association of Illinois</b> 112 W. Edwards St. Springfield, IL 62704	217-753-3963 217-670=1719 hbai.org	1,650	Patrick Franz	The voice for home building in Illinois.	1956

# Illinois Realtors make their mark on history

By Rachel Johnson

Fifty years ago on April 11, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Fair Housing Act, making it illegal to discriminate in renting or selling property based on race, color, religion or national origin. Illinois and Chicago, in particular, were key areas struggling for equality at the time. With the swell of immigrants at the turn of the century and the increasing diversity of the United States, there was pressure to keep ethnic and religious groups together in their own neighborhoods. In more than one case, the Supreme Court had declared these practices to be illegal, but with the Civil Rights movement in full swing and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. on April 4, Johnson deemed it time to make a statement.

However, discrimination in lending and real estate didn't end overnight at the stroke of a pen. Recognizing this, the Illinois Realtors have decided to erect a six-foot-tall, granite monument commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. "It's a reminder that it wasn't always easy or available, and there's still a lot of work to be done," Illinois Realtors CEO Gary Clayton said.

Realtors must learn about the Fair Housing Act as part of their training now. "If you go back to 90-91, continuing education was passed for Realtors and a statutory requirement was Fair Housing training," Clayton said.

According to Clayton, there have been plenty of battles fought in housing over the years. The headquarters for Illinois Realtors is located on Fifth Street, directly across from the Illinois Governor's Mansion with a fine view of the Capitol and the Y-Block, where presu-



On the site of Bicentennial Plaza, a REALTOR® Community Partnership: Gary Clayton, Illinois REALTORS® CEO, Sue Massie, president of Massie Massie & Associates, landscape architect of the plaza, and City of Springfield Ward 2 Alderman Herman Senor. PHOTO/ BY TERRY FARMER PHOTOGRAPHY, INC.

ably a park will be added in the future. Right now, there is construction visible from every window. The Executive Mansion is being ren-

ovated and will be open to the public on July 14. As part of Illinois' year-long bicentennial celebration, Illinois Realtors are finally moving

on a project they've been urged to consider since construction of their headquarters in 2007. "We acquired the bank building lot first



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and then two parking lots, and once we had acquired that property, I was frequently visited by members of the community about Jackson Street," Clayton said.

Springfield is working toward creating its own Freedom Trail of sorts, providing walkways and signage for tourists to move between the Lincoln sites and the Capitol and Executive Mansion without having to get in their cars and negotiate one-way streets. Originally asked to create a pedestrian walkway along Jackson Street, Illinois Realtors decided to take it one step further. "With the bicentennial, it gave us the opportunity to be a little larger thinking," Clayton said.

Jackson Street is a natural corridor between the Capitol and Lincoln sites. Crossing Fifth Street on the east side of the Executive Mansion puts you into what was recently a parking lot, but is effectively Jackson Street. "Since it was never platted, we own it," Clayton said.

Keeping their portion of Jackson Street for pedestrians only, Illinois Realtors will be creating a legacy project, turning it into Bicentennial Plaza using a combination of private funds, donations and \$1 million in TIF money from the city. This space will feature 16 20-foot-tall towers, each telling a story relating to Abraham Lincoln's vision of America as a home for everyone, regardless of race or religion.

Historical figures with ties to Springfield will include well-known figures such as abolitionist Frederick Douglass and others less well-known, such as Frances D. Gage, who fought for equal rights for women. The Fair Housing Act and the Springfield Race Riot of 1908 will also have markers.

Illinois Realtors has worked closely with the Department of Natural Resources and local historians to not only select individuals and their stories, but to ensure accuracy of the information. Each panel will include photos and information about the person or event. As

part of this walkway's dedication on Aug. 2, Illinois Realtors will host a panel discussion open to the public.

"The interpretive signage and design of the Bicentennial Plaza will help provide a southern link for what the SDAT report called 'The Springfield Way,' an easily-understood pedestrian walk linking many of our historic treasures. We need to continue to make more visual connections like this throughout the downtown area. A walkable experience is not only more enjoyable but actually has been proven to increase window shopping and, ultimately, purchases, which is important for the sustainability of our business district," Downtown Springfield, Inc. executive director Lisa Clemmons Stott said.

Coming up soon is Lobby Day on Tuesday, April 10, so Illinois Realtors will be dedicating their granite monument to Fair Housing on Monday, April 9. The monument states simply, "50 years of the Fair Housing Act – Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act, the Fair Housing Act, prohibits housing discrimination. It was signed into law on April 11, 1968." They have invited members, several elected officials, and the regional administrator of Housing and Urban Development from Chicago to come to the third-floor event room in their headquarters to enjoy the festivities. ♦

Historical signs like this one will line the pedestrian walkway, relating through historical figures with ties to Springfield Abraham Lincoln's vision of America as a home for everyone.

## EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

### Fair Housing for All

On April 11, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Title VIII made it illegal to discriminate in renting or selling property based on race, color, religion, or national origin.

In the years since its signing, The Fair Housing Act has added protections based on sex, disability and familial status.

The Act was an important step in a long process of creating equal access to housing, but it came after decades of efforts to keep immigrants and minorities out of neighborhoods. In the early 1900s, some cities prohibited African Americans from living in certain areas. In 1917, these ordinances were struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court as violations of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.



"Now, with this bill, the voice of justice speaks again. It proclaims that fair housing for all—all human beings who live in this country—is now a part of the American way of life."

— President Lyndon B. Johnson

While the Supreme Court's decision was important, the ruling failed to address the ability of property owners to discriminate against those who wanted to buy or rent homes.

As the numbers of African Americans and immigrants from eastern and southern European nations arriving in cities swelled in the early 1900s, efforts to prevent people from living in certain neighborhoods resulted in the use of restrictive contracts. Included

in the deed to a property, these legal clauses prevented an owner from selling to a member of specified groups. These usually included African Americans, and members of non-Christian faiths or certain nationalities.

Such restrictions were embraced by early real estate organizations, and had broad governmental support. In 1935, a federal agency supported property owners' rights to determine who they could sell or rent

to, fearing that "infiltration of inharmonious racial or nationality groups" into neighborhoods could lower property values.

In 1948 the Supreme Court ruled these deed restrictions to be unenforceable. Discrimination continued in lending and other areas, ultimately leading to the passage of the Fair Housing Act.

A century after the death of Abraham Lincoln, his vision of an America that would "lift artificial weights from all shoulders" and "afford all, an unfettered start, and a fair chance" moved closer to reality.



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# INDEPENDENT PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Sources: Sangamon County School Directory; the individual schools.  
Ranked by current enrollment - Spring 2018.

	NAME / ADDRESS	PHONE / FAX (=)	WEBSITE / EMAIL	CURRENT ENROLLMENT	PRINCIPAL / DIRECTOR	GRADES	AFFILIATION	YEAR EST'D
1	<b>Sacred Heart-Griffin High School</b> 1200 W. Washington St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-787-1595 217-787-9856	shg.org	637	Sr. Katherine O'Connor, O.P., President, Kara Rapacz, Principal	9-12	Catholic	1895
2	<b>Blessed Sacrament Elementary</b> 748 W. Laurel Ave. Springfield, IL 62704	217-522-7534 217-522-7542	bssbruins.org	541	Kathy Wear	Preschool-8	Catholic	1925
3	<b>Springfield Christian School</b> 2850 Cider Mill Lane Springfield, IL 62702	217-698-1933 217-698-1931 217-787-7673 (Preschool)	springfieldchristianschool.org scs@scs.school	450	Sheri Hall, Principal; Adrienne Jacobson, Preschool Director	Preschool-8	Christian	1951
4	<b>Christ the King Elementary</b> 1920 Barberry Dr. Springfield, IL 62704	217-546-3527 217-546-2159	ctkcougars.com	372	Pam Fahey	Preschool-8	Catholic	1957
5	<b>Our Saviour School</b> 455 E. State St. Jacksonville, IL 62650	217-243-8621 217-245-9981	oursaviourshamrocks.com	320	Stephanie VanDeVelde	Preschool-8	Catholic	1860
6	<b>Calvary Academy</b> 1730 W. Jefferson St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-546-5987 217-321-1063	caspringfield.org	310	Dr. Jay Hinckley, Principal; Donna Squires, Education Director	Preschool-12	Christian Non-Denominational	1977
7	<b>St. Agnes Elementary</b> 251 N. Amos Ave. Springfield, IL 62702	217-793-1370 217-793-1238	stagnescatholicsschool.org	308	Sister Joan Sorge, O.P.	Preschool-8	Catholic	1897
8	<b>Our Savior's Lutheran School</b> 2645 Old Jacksonville Road Springfield, IL 62704	217-546-4531	oursaviors-school.org	240	Jill Gerberding	Preschool-8	Lutheran	1962

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<b>9</b>	<b>Trinity Lutheran School &amp; Preschool</b> 515 S. MacArthur Blvd. Springfield, IL 62704	217-787-2323 217-787=1145	trinity-lutheran.com	210	Zachary Klug	Preschool-8	Lutheran	1860
<b>10</b>	<b>Little Flower Catholic School</b> 900 Stevenson Dr. Springfield, IL 62703	217-529-4511 217-529=0405	little-flower.org	180	Dr. Wm. Moredock	Preschool-8	Catholic	1948
<b>11</b>	<b>Lutheran High School</b> 3500 W. Washington St. Springfield, IL 62711	217-546-6363 217-546=6489	spiluhi.org	160	Glenn Rollins	9-12	Lutheran	1979
<b>12</b>	<b>St. Aloysius Elementary</b> 2125 N. 21st St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-544-4553 217-544=1680	saintalloysius.org	154	Tom Weir	Preschool-8	Catholic	1928
<b>13</b>	<b>Routt Catholic High School</b> 500 E. College Ave. Jacksonville, IL 62650	217-243-8563 217-243=3138	routtcatholic.com	127	Nick Roscetti	9-12	Catholic	1902
<b>14</b>	<b>Montessori Children's House</b> 4147 Sand Hill Road Springfield, IL 62702	217-544-7702 217-544=5502	montessorispringfield.org	70	Sue Harris	Preschool-6	Nonsectarian	1977
<b>15</b>	<b>St. Patrick Catholic School</b> 1800 South Grand Ave. E. Springfield, IL 62703	217-523-7670 217-523=0760	st-patrick.org	55	Lori Loveless	Preschool-4	Catholic	1910
<b>16</b>	<b>Concordia Lutheran School</b> 2300 Wilshire Road Springfield, IL 62703	217-529-3309 217-529=3096	concordiacares.org school@concordiaspfld.org	41	Janet Burmeister	Preschool-8	Lutheran Church Missouri Synod	1931



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# Community engagement key to campus future

By Catherine O'Connor

The future of the 25-acre Benedictine University campus, which sprawls along the 1500 block of North Fifth and Sixth streets, from Eastman to Black Avenue, is still unclear. Janet Kirby, Ph.D., Benedictine's campus director, is charged with carrying out the current strategy to sell the whole campus. "Beginning a couple of years ago, we were notified that sale of the campus and relocation of classes was the master plan," Kirby said. Around that time, the Ursuline Academy classrooms ceased being used and Benedictine's former Eighth Street Gym and ball fields were sold to a private buyer who renovated the property for use by volleyball and softball leagues.

The university is now working with global real estate brokerage firm JLL (<http://www.us.jll.com/united-states/en-us>) which is currently updating the appraisal, and will soon have the Benedictine property listing on their website, according to Kirby. "We are now getting requests to see the property from interested parties. President Michael Brophy has said that it is rare for a multi-building, institutional site like this to become available for sale," she said. A one-time student housing building with nine units east of the campus, Dockson Hall, has recently been sold to Fifth Street Renaissance to house homeless veterans, utilizing a federal economic development grant in coordination with the City of Springfield.

Kirby is in the process of notifying students and arranging for relocation of classes to sites in the area where Benedictine has been building partnerships. In the meantime, maintenance and security staff will continue to see to the safety of buildings and grounds.

Buildings on Benedictine's campus span the eras from the 1860s, when the Brinkerhoff House

was built and the Ursuline order of cloistered nuns established an academy and horticulture operation on the property – to the 1980s, when the Becker Library was completed. An important tool for marketing institutional settings like the Benedictine campus has been financial incentives that make it possible to adapt, reuse, renovate and rehabilitate the 11 buildings which represent a wide array of styles, structural con-



Benedictine University's Becker Library, flanked on the left by the restored Brinkerhoff Home.

PHOTO/ BY CATHERINE O'CONNOR

figurations and conditions.

According to Frank Butterfield, Landmarks Illinois' Springfield office director, the Brinkerhoff Home is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The chapel, Ursuline Academy Building and Ursula Hall are also considered historically significant and were included on Landmarks Illinois Ten Most Endangered Historic Places in 2008.

"Landmarks Illinois is committed to working with Benedictine, Ursuline alumni, city officials and the larger community in finding preservation solutions for these historic buildings. We can provide technical expertise including building

conditions assessments and facilitating the use of preservation tax incentives, for a developer or potential new owner," Butterfield said.

According to Abby Powell, business projects manager with the City of Springfield, the campus is within the newly established Peoria Road TIF district. However, funds that could be used for redevelopment will not be available until after overhead costs are paid and increased tax reve-

of the property, including Ursuline Alumni Foundation, Landmarks Illinois, and the City of Springfield. Stremsterfer acknowledges the historic and aesthetic value of the campus. "You could not re-produce the quality of materials, workmanship and beauty of the structures. If they went away it would have an impact on the atmosphere of the entire neighborhood," he said.

Andrew Proctor, Ward 5 Alderman, echoes sentiments of others who believe that public engagement will be key in coming up with a plan for the property. "When I spoke to the president of Benedictine University, I expressed that the community needs to be involved in the planning." According to Proctor, "President Brophy completely agreed and is very open to a community engagement process to flush out directions that may include repurposing buildings and adaptive reuse of the site."

Proctor said, "I look forward to working with the community and interested parties who may have ideas about how we can move forward. There are so many that have an emotional connection. We want a productive use that will serve the community and surrounding neighborhoods."

Butterfield noted that, "Historic school buildings have been reused for many purposes throughout Illinois. Many examples include new uses for housing and office space. Rockford also recently converted a school building into a neighborhood police station." (<http://www.landmarks.org/preservation-programs/richard-h-driehaus-foundation-preservation-awards/2017-award-winners-presidents-award-adaptive-use/>) ♦

*Catherine O'Connor is the former manager of Local Government Services at the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and an editorial board member for the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.*



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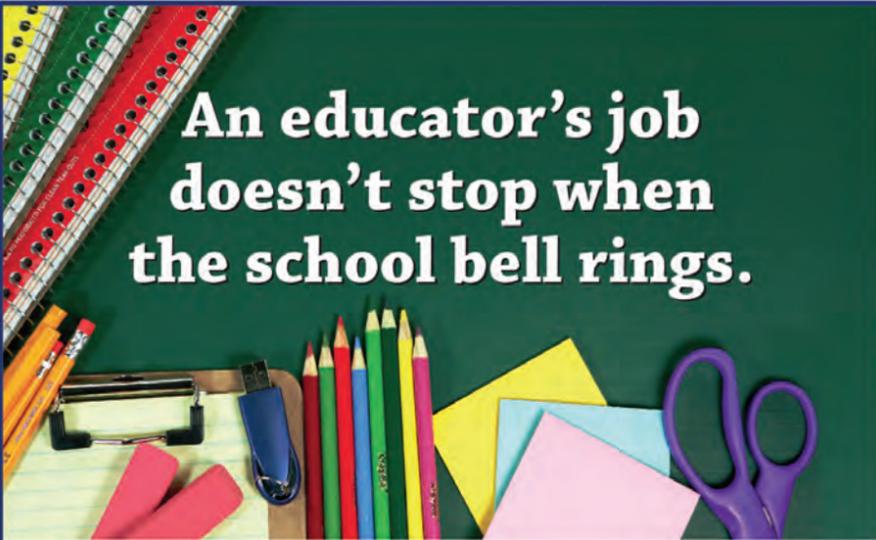
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# COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Sources: The individual colleges / universities. 1 - Robert Morris University operates on an accelerated timetable of 5 quarters per year vs. Spring/Summer/Fall semesters. Ranked by 2018 enrollment.

	NAME / ADDRESS	PHONE / FAX (=)	WEBSITE / EMAIL	TYPE OF INSTITUTION	CURRENT ENROLLMENT	TUITION	PRESIDENT / CHANCELLOR	YEAR EST'D
1	<b>Lincoln Land Community College</b> 5250 Shepherd Road, P.O. Box 19256 Springfield, IL 62794-9256	217-786-2200 217-786-2829	llcc.edu info@llcc.edu	Community college	6,979	\$121/credit hr. (in-district residents)	Charlotte J. Warren, Ph.D., President	1967
2	<b>University of Illinois Springfield</b> One University Plaza Springfield, IL 62703	217-206-6600 217-206-6511	uis.edu admissions@uis.edu	Bachelor's and Master's degrees, one Doctoral degree	4,956	\$9,405 per year/full-time - undergraduate, \$329 per credit hour - graduate	Susan J. Koch, Ed.D., Chancellor	1970
3	<b>Lincoln College</b> 300 Keokuk St. Lincoln, IL 62656	217-732-3155 217-732-8859	lincolncollege.edu	Private, Liberal Arts college, Associate's and Bachelor's degrees (Lincoln campus) as well as accelerated Bachelor's degree program for working adults (Normal, Oglesby, Peoria, Lincoln campus)	1,123	\$17,100 per year \$27,000 with room and board	David Gerlach, Ph.D.	1865
4	<b>Illinois College</b> 1101 W. College Ave. Jacksonville, IL 62650	217-245-3030 217-245-3034	ic.edu admissions@ic.edu	Four-year private, Liberal Arts	958	Tuition is \$31,590 and includes books. Room, board and fees, \$9,190	Barbara A. Farley, Ph.D.	1829
5	<b>Lincoln Christian University</b> 100 Campus View Drive Lincoln, IL 62656	217-732-3168 217-732-5718	lincolnchristian.edu info@lincolnchristian.edu	Four-year and post- graduate, private, offers Associate, Bachelor's, Master's degrees and Doctor of Ministry	778	\$13,200 per year/full-time, \$20,764 with room and board - Undergraduate; \$440 per credit hour - graduate and seminary	Don Green, D.Min.	1944



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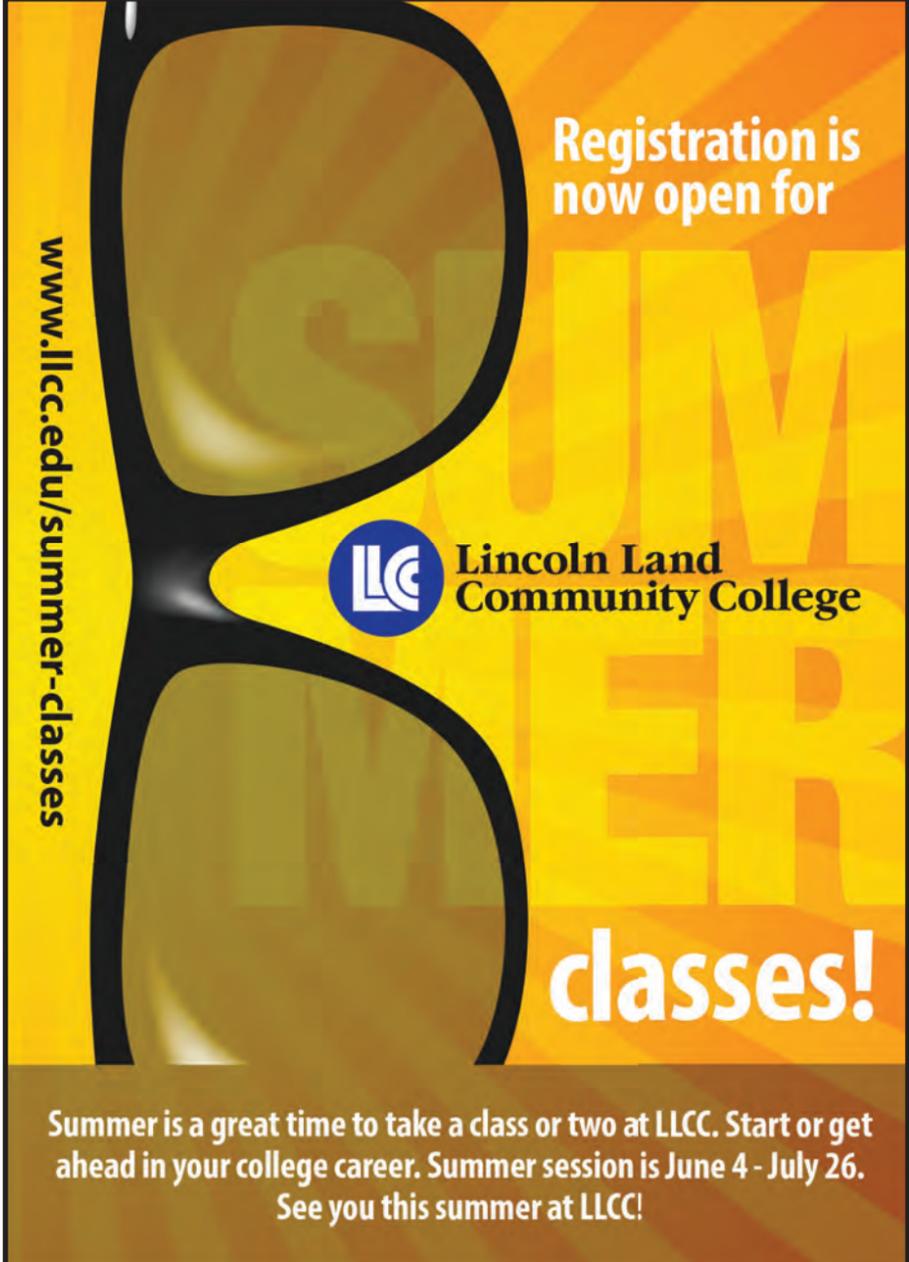
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6	<b>Blackburn College</b> 700 College Ave. Carlinville, IL 62626	217-854-3231 217-854=5522	blackburn.edu admissions@blackburn.edu	Four-year, private, Liberal Arts work college, Presbyterian affiliated	550	\$24,930 per year (with work credit), including fees, \$29,930 per year with room and board	President/Chancellor: John L. Comerford, Ph.D., President; John McClusky, Ph.D., Provost	1837
6	<b>MacMurray College</b> 447 E. College Ave. Jacksonville, IL 62650	217-479-7056 217-291=0702	mac.edu admissions@mac.edu	Four-year, private, baccalaureate college, United Methodist	550	\$27,710 per year	Mark Tierro, Ph.D., president	1846
7	<b>SIU School of Medicine</b> 801 N. Rutledge (main bldg.) Springfield, IL 62702	217-545-8000 217-545=5538	siumed.edu admissions@siumed.edu	Public education for medical students, graduate students, medical residents	285	\$15,316 per semester tuition (no out of state)	Jerry Kruse M.D., MSPH Dean/Provost	1970
8	<b>St. John's College</b> 729 E. Carpenter St. Springfield, IL 62702	217 525-5628 217 757=6870	sjcs.edu information@sjcs.edu	Private, not-for-profit, Upper Division, 2 year program of Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Graduate MSN Program	114	\$11,130 / semester - BS Nursing - 2 yr. program / Second Degree Accelerated Prelicensure; \$417 / hour - Online RN to BSN program. \$916 cr hr- MSN	Dr. Charlene Aaron, Ph.D., R.N.	1886
9	<b>Robert Morris University<sup>1</sup></b> 3101 Montvale Drive Springfield, IL 62704	217-793-2500 217-793=4210	robertmorris.edu	Private, not-for-profit, offers Bachelor's, Associate's and Master's degrees	98	\$9,350 per quarter/undergrad, \$3,000 per course/grad	Mablene Krueger, President Michael P. Violtt, Chancellor	1913



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### APRIL

- **7<sup>th</sup> The Rail Masters Tournament** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **21<sup>st</sup> Two Person Best Ball** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537

### MAY

- **5<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> The Rail Shoot Out** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **12<sup>th</sup> Bergner's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Jude Golf Outing** Edgewood Golf Course 12 p.m. Shotgun Start, *Crystal* (217) 494-1529 or *Mel* (217) 725-6100
- **12<sup>th</sup> Long Bridge Golf Course's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gold Outing** Long Bridge Golf Course, nine hole shotgun (217) 744-8311
- **14<sup>th</sup> Community Bankers Golf Outing** Jacksonville Country Club (217) 245-2134
- **17<sup>th</sup> WSEC Golf Outing** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **19<sup>th</sup> Red, White and Blue Tournament** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537

### JUNE

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Havana Optimists Golf Outing** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **8<sup>th</sup> Camp Coco Children's Cancer Fund at SIU School of Medicine Golf Outing** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **9<sup>th</sup> Mason County Democrats Outing** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **9<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> The Mike Steele Memorial** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Crusader Aiders** (benefitting Lutheran High School) The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **10<sup>th</sup> Audi Quattro Cup presented by Green Audi** Panther Creek Country Club (217)-546-4431
- **11<sup>th</sup> Cigars for the Troops Golf Outing** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **13<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> Frank Coffey Memorial Jr Tournament** Pasfield Golf Course, 8:00 a.m. (217) 698-6049
- **16<sup>th</sup> Henning Memorial Golf Outing** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **18<sup>th</sup> American Lung Association's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Springfield Golf Classic** Illini Country Club, Corporate Cup 7 a.m. Shotgun Start or the Golf Classic Scramble 7 a.m. or 1 p.m. Shotgun Start *Contact Monica at* (217) 718-6670 or *Monica.Guerrant@Lung.org*
- **18<sup>th</sup> Representative C. D. Davidsmeyer Golf Outing** Jacksonville Country Club (217) 245-2134
- **18<sup>th</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald McDonald House Golf Classic** Panther Creek Country Club (217) 546-4431
- **23<sup>rd</sup> Shootout** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537
- **25<sup>th</sup> Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing** Jacksonville Country Club (217) 245-2134
- **28<sup>th</sup>– July 1<sup>st</sup> web.com Tour Lincoln Land Championship** Panther Creek Country Club (217) 546-4431



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## JULY

- **1<sup>st</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> Country Hills 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **4<sup>th</sup> Flag Tournament** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537
- **6<sup>th</sup> Williamsville Sports Booster** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Over 50/Under50 two person scramble** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Drysdale Junior Golf Tournament** 8 a.m., ages 8-13 Bergen Golf Course, age 14-17 Bunn Golf Course, age 18-22 Lincoln Greens (217) 522-2633
- **12<sup>th</sup> The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Corporate Cup Challenge Golf Outing** Piper Glen Golf Club, morning Shotgun Start at 7:30 a.m., afternoon at 12:45 p.m. (217) 525-1173
- **14<sup>th</sup> Daisy's Angels in the Fairway Golf Outing** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **14<sup>th</sup> Springfield Women's City Golf Tournament** Bunn Golf Course, 9 a.m. Jim (217) 786-4111
- **14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> Player's Cup** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537
- **15<sup>th</sup> Springfield Women's City Golf Tournament** Lincoln Green Golf Course, 9 a.m. Jim (217) 786-4111
- **16<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup> Menard Youth Golf Classic** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **18<sup>th</sup> Drive, Chip & Putt Local Qualifier** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **28<sup>th</sup> Springfield Men's City Golf Tournament** Bunn Park Golf Course, 7 a.m. Lance Flury (217) 698-6049
- **29<sup>th</sup> Springfield Men's City Golf Tournament** Lincoln Green Golf Course, 7 a.m. Lance Flury (217) 698-6049

## AUGUST

- **4<sup>th</sup> Springfield Men's City Golf Tournament** Lincoln Greens and The Rail Golf Course, 7 a.m. Lance Flury (217) 698-6049
- **4<sup>th</sup> Greenview Firemen Outing** Country Hills Golf Club (217) 632-7242
- **5<sup>th</sup> Springfield Men's City Golf Tournament** Bunn Park Golf course and Panther Creek, 7 a.m. Lance Flury (217) 698-6049
- **13<sup>th</sup> Horace Mann Golf Outing** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365
- **18<sup>th</sup> Triad Tournament** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537
- **25<sup>th</sup> Frontiers International Golf Outing** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365

## SEPTEMBER

- **7<sup>th</sup> Friend-In-Deed Golf Outing** Piper Glen Golf Club, 12:30 Shotgun Start (217) 747-5503
- **8<sup>th</sup> Around the Town Tournament** Lincoln Greens Golf Course, 7 a.m.
- **9<sup>th</sup> Around the Town Tournament** Bergen and Pasfield Golf Courses, 7 a.m.

- **13<sup>th</sup> Chatham Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Outing**, Piper Glen Golf Club, 11 a.m. registration and lunch, noon Shotgun Start, 5 p.m. dinner (217)483-6537 or email [coordinator@chatham-il-chamber.com](mailto:coordinator@chatham-il-chamber.com)
- **15<sup>th</sup> Around the Town Tournament** Bergen and Pasfield Golf Courses, 7:00 a.m.
- **16<sup>th</sup> Around the Town Tournament** Bunn Golf Course, 7 a.m.
- **18<sup>th</sup> Ladies Fall Fling** The Rail Golf Club (217) 525-0365

## OCTOBER

- **20<sup>th</sup> Two Person Stableford Event** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537

## NOVEMBER

- **10<sup>th</sup> Hard Course Day** Piper Glen Golf Club (217) 483-6537

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# APRIL



# NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH



## Hope for children with autism

### An effective program seeks long-term state support

By Zachary Roth

There may not be another medical condition in the world that evokes as much anxiety as autism. With as much misinformation as there is about autism, it can be difficult to get one's bearings if a child shows signs of the condition.

Fortunately for those living in Springfield and throughout Illinois, there is a group willing to help those on the autism spectrum live productive and normal lives. Since beginning in 2003 as a group of small training centers, The Autism Program of Illinois (TAP) has aimed to aid autistic people through medical treatment, support and advocacy.

The group has 14 partners at 16 sites throughout Illinois, but its base is in Springfield, led by Clint Paul, the CEO and president of the Hope Institute for Children and Families, a nonprofit organization that is the convening partner of the group.

"We do screening, we do diagnostics, we do therapy, (which is) intensive ABA (applied behavior analysis) therapy for individual chil-

dren with autism at those sites," Paul said. "If the children qualify under the screenings, then we can actually do full-fledged diagnostics. Then we can also offer therapy. There are different types of therapy at each location, whether it's ABA or some other type of speech-language therapy."

Funding for the program and its partners comes from the state of Illinois, begun with an initial grant in 2003. The group faced a significant setback when funding was cut in 2016 during the state's budget crisis.

"It's been...very difficult times, especially with the state's budget crisis that we've gone through," Paul said. "Because we are a grant funded out of the state's general revenue fund, which is subject to cuts, when there's not enough money in the state coffers, all funding can be eliminated."

Fortunately for TAP, the funding was eventually restored in 2017 and services have resumed, for the foreseeable future.

"We are encouraged that we were in the governor's introduced budget for fiscal year 2019," Paul said. "That's a good starting point

(because) we had not been in his introduced budget the last three years. We're hopeful that he sees the importance of this program, to start us out on a strong footing and get our contract money earlier."

A lack of funding isn't the only quibble that Paul, The Autism Program and the Hope Institute have towards Illinois' policymakers. ABA, which is the only treatment for autism considered necessary by medical professionals, is not covered on the state's Medicaid plan, which means that many families may have to pay out of pocket for the treatment.

"These services are geared to children who are underinsured or uninsured, as in children on Medicaid," Paul said. "TAP is so important, because we do provide thousands of hours of ABA therapy across all our service centers every year for children who would otherwise not be able to afford it."

Twenty-one other states have ABA therapy in their Medicaid plans. Paul and his partners have strived to advocate for the inclusion of ABA therapy in future state Medicaid plans.

"It's been proven, it's been studied since

the 1970s," Paul said. "We'll push that because it's what's good, and it's what's right and it's what's proven to work with autism."

Paul has worked with Hope, and by extension TAP, for eight years now. With the funding cuts now in the past, he has reason to believe more progress is on the way.

"It's changed a lot, especially in the last three years," Paul said. "We're going to continue to forge forward as if nothing's going to change, like we've been in the budget for 12 years before 2015. We're going to continue to move forward, advocating for the program because it's a necessity. The services that we provide are not funded elsewhere in the state budget or are not available through other fiscal means."

With Autism Awareness Month being observed in April, Paul remains steadfast about the value of the program to people across Illinois.

"We've touched so many families," Paul said. "Families that are being served now in our center here in Springfield will tell you the changes they see in their child right away once they get them in the therapy is amazing."

"The stories they'll tell you, where they had no hope, their child would never talk, or could never do X, Y and Z. Now, all of a sudden, they see improvement. It means a lot for the families." ♦

Zach Roth is a freelance journalist from Springfield.



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# COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Sources: The individual Service Organizations. + - Junior League of Springfield's meeting location varies month to month, address listed is for their office. \* - Location of Altrusa's first Tuesday dinner/speaker meetings vary. Ranked by numbers of members.

	NAME / MEETING ADDRESS	PHONE / FAX (=) / WEBSITE / EMAIL	MEETING TIME(S)	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	CONTACT	DUES	MISSION STATEMENT	YEAR EST'D
1	<b>King's Daughters Organization</b> 205 S. Fifth St., Suite 930 Springfield, IL 62701	217-789-4431 kdospringfield.org	Once a month	357	Cindy Denby	Varies by circle	To aid the elderly in our community through both direct volunteering and financial support b way of our grant program.	1893
2	<b>American Business Club of Springfield</b> Wyndham City Centre 700 E. Adams St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-414-7467 abcspringfield.com admin@abcmembers.org	First & Third Thursdays, Noon	220	Matt Waldhoff	\$180/annually	Creating opportunities for independence for people with disabilities. Help disabled individuals and children achieve greatness.	1925
3	<b>Junior League of Springfield</b> Varies + 2800 Montvale Dr. Springfield, IL 62704 (Main office)	217-544-5557 jlsil.org admin@jlsil.org	Second Tuesday of the Month, Sept. - May	123	Lindsay Bentivegna	\$135/annually for Active, \$100/annually for Sustainers	An organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.	1939
4	<b>Rotary Club of Springfield</b> Maldaner's Restaurant (2nd Floor) 222 S. Sixth St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-415-5449 springfieldrotary.org ryf@sbcglobal.com	Mondays, 5:30 pm	67	Marty Michelson	\$360/annually	Service Above Self - Projects that promote literacy and combat hunger in our community; working with Rutledge Youth and sponsoring student participation in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program; and providing grants to numerous nonprofits; and international projects	1913
5	<b>Springfield Jaycees</b> P. O. Box 662 Springfield, IL 62705	217-638-8563 springfieldJaycees.net spfldjaycees@gmail.com	Third Wed., 6:30 pm Bernie's & Betty's Private Room	50	Jessi Neighbors	\$68/annually	A young leadership organization ideally for individuals between the ages of 18 and 41, that empower young active citizens to create positive change focusing on five different areas of opportunity including: individual development, community development, business development, international development and management development.	1939
6	<b>Springfield Noon Lions Club</b> Golden Corral 1038 Le June Dr. Springfield, IL 62703	springfieldnoonlionsclub.com spfnoonlionsclub@gmail.com	Tuesdays, Noon	48	Craig Drone	\$100/annually, plus meals	Mary Bryant Home, Vision Clinic, Club Lions, Heartland Lions Eye Bank, St. Clare's Health Clinic, Camp Lions for Blind and Deaf Youth	1919
7	<b>Rotary Club of Springfield - South</b> Engrained Brewing Co. 1120 W. Lincolnshire Blvd. Springfield, IL 62711	217-370-4677 rotarysouth-spi.org dop.ehrhardt@gmail.com	Thursdays, Noon	36	Brian Schutz	\$140/annually, plus meals	Service above self. Youth Literacy and Health	1966
8	<b>Sertoma Club of Springfield</b> Hibachi Grill Town & Country Shopping Center Springfield, IL 62704	217-546-2782 www.sertoma.org album1@aol.com	First and Third Mondays, Noon	33	Cheryl Pence	\$160/annually plus meals	SERTOMA = SERVICE TO MANKIND. Areas of service: Projects to benefit hearing impaired in the Springfield including annual "Celebrate Sound" walk for hearing health; Boys & Girls Club; national heritage projects, Golden Laurel Awards.	1954
9	<b>Rotary Club of Springfield - Sunrise</b> Hoogland Center for the Arts 420 S. Sixth St. Springfield, IL 62701	217-652-0708 springfieldrotarysunrise.org kawitter@sbcglobal.net	Wednesdays, 7 am	30	Karen Witter	\$70/quarterly plus meals	Service above self. Grants to local non-profits that serve youth. Literacy projects at Graham School. This I Believe essay contest for high school youth in collaboration with WUIS - NPR IL. Rotary Youth Exchange. Support for Rotary Foundation efforts to eradicate polio and fund other international projects that change lives.	1987
9	<b>Springfield Frontiers International</b> Chesapeake Seafood House 3045 E. Clearlake Ave. Springfield, IL 62702	217-899-0800 springfieldfrontiers.org asrandolphjr@att.net	Fridays, Noon	30	Austin Randolph, Jr.	\$165/annually, plus meals	"Advancement through Service" by harnessing the cooperative influence and energy of the members and directing that influence and energy towards solutions to major issues which are civic, social, educational and racial in nature.	1953
9	<b>Rotary Club of Springfield - Midtown</b> Inn at 835 835 S. Second St. Springfield, IL 62704	217-523-4466 midtownspringfield.rotary-clubs.org pmomalley@gmail.com	Tuesdays, Noon	30	Patrick O'Malley	\$140/annually plus meals	Service Above Self – Youth, literacy and diversity focused club, partner with Washington Middle School.	2003
10	<b>Kiwanis Club of Springfield - Downtown</b> Red Roof State House Inn 101 E. Adams St. Springfield, IL 62701	217- 553-4710 kiwanis.org provest@aol.com	Wednesdays, Noon	25	Ron Provart	\$140/annually, plus meals	Playground for All Kids at Southwind Park, Key Clubs in High Schools, Builders Clubs in Middle Schools, Kiwanis Kids in Elementary Schools	1922
10	<b>Altrusa International Club of Springfield</b> Laurel United Methodist Church 631 South Grand Ave. W. Springfield, IL 62704	217-622-5597 altrusa.org nancydogs3@yahoo.com	First and third Tuesday, 6pm*	25	Nancy Easum	\$90/annually	Provides community service, develops leadership, fosters international understanding and encourages fellowship by an international network of executives and professionals in diverse career classifications	1948
11	<b>The Zonta Club of Springfield</b> Illini Country Club 1601 S. Illini Rd. Springfield, IL 62704	217-787-8680 zonta.org borecky@earthlink.net facebook.com/zontaclub-springfield	Second Wednesday, 5:30 pm, August-June	20	Carol Borecky	\$130/annually, plus meals	Works to improve the lives of women and girls worldwide through service and advocacy: local projects reflect that mission.	1939
12	<b>Springfield Breakfast Optimist Club</b> Peace Lutheran Church 2800 W. Jefferson St. Springfield, IL 62702	217-546-5021 dmc1444@gmail.com	Fridays, 7 am	16	Dick McLane	\$30/semi- annually	Friend of Youth. By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids.	1960
13	<b>Rotary Club of Springfield - Westside</b> Brickhouse Grill & Pub 3136 Iles Ave. Springfield, IL 62704	217-321-3171 springfield-rotary.org facebook.com/Springfield- WestsideRotary bselinger@troxellins.com	Wednesdays, Noon	15	Bridget Selinger	\$155/quarterly, plus meals	Service above self - focusing on children and literacy.	2008
14	<b>Springfield Luncheon Optimist Club</b> MCL Restaurant 2151 W. Wabash Ave. Springfield, IL 62704	217-415-2424 springfieldoptimistclub@ yahoo.com	11:45 am.on the 2nd Monday & 6 p.m. on the third Monday	9	Dan Greer	\$120/year	Friend of Youth. By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids.	1956

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# Financial planning is right at any age

BY CINDA ACKERMAN KLIKNA

It is never too late to invest. So say financial planners, brokers and current investors. The earlier you start investing, the more money you will have later.

The average American has an insufficient amount of money in a 401k. According to Fidelity Investment Company, in the second quarter of 2017, the average 401k balance reached \$97,700, and the average IRA, \$100,200.

This may sound like a lot of money but some simple math will show otherwise. Divide your current salary into \$100,000; it will be easy to see that \$100,000 won't last long in one's retirement.

People often say they can't afford to invest, but you really can't afford not to. A small monthly contribution can add up to a nice savings later.

Even if you have a pension through the state or your company, don't rely on it fully. In most plans, retirement benefits in the first few years of retirement are lower than one's final salary. Having investments to access will be important. And, for teachers who do not get Social Security payments and who must forfeit a spouse's Social Security survivor benefits, investments will be essential.

Investing can pose questions that may seem overwhelming. What fund? Which financial planner? Unfortunately, many people put off investing and find themselves in a bind later.

That is where a financial adviser comes in. James Gibbs, a financial professional with AXA Advisors and who serves as vice president of the company's central region, says, "It's been proven that people who work with an adviser are more successful and save more for their re-

tirement than those who don't use an adviser."

There are things to consider no matter your age, whether you're already retired or close to it, or even if you already have a financial planner.

Choose an adviser who gets to know you and with whom you feel comfortable. Be willing to answer questions about your current assets and your future goals. Do you want to build money for travel? Help your children or grandchildren? An adviser takes many factors into account to help you determine the best types of investments for your needs and wants. These include tax implications for any investment you decide to make.

Brian Barstead, a financial planner with Ameriprise, says, "Asset management changes over time. It is really about managing money, not just seeing how much you have saved."

A good financial planner will keep in touch with you, ask if there are new things in your life that should be considered and advise the best route going forward.

Once you pick a firm to help you, find out what services the company offers. Does the company have an adviser located in your area to meet with you and develop a relationship? Some companies charge a fee to have a face-to-face consultation and may only conduct business over the phone to a headquarters office.

There are well-known companies that do not offer true financial advisers, so look at credentials.

A financial planner can help you understand the tax implications of particular investments, something the average person may not know. Having a pre-tax vs. a future-tax investment is dependent on the goals and needs you have

established with your financial adviser.

Barstead recommends that couples review plans and goals together with their agent. In an unfortunate death of a spouse, having knowledge of the assets will be helpful.

At age 70½, the Internal Revenue Service

As people advance in their careers, they make higher earnings, providing an opportunity to increase yearly contributions into investments. Consider opening an investment for a child's college fund. Or consider opening an investment for a grown child to help them get



PHOTO/ PEXELS

requires a yearly minimum distribution. This can be taken in cash or reinvested. Again, the financial planner can help determine the best route to take.

Gibbs says, "There are ways to use money and people should talk with their adviser before they hit 70½ so that a plan will already be in place."

Barstead offers that "the required minimum distribution can be directly transferred to a charity." For some, this is a good choice, not only to help a cause, but also to maximize tax advantages.

on the investment track, or a grandchild to help them in the future. Gibbs says, "Whether investing for kids or grandkids, or thinking of your legacy and estate planning, an adviser can help you maximize plans for your needs."

There are many reasons to have a financial planner. When asked why, Barstead says, "Would you go to a web MD if you're having a heart attack?" ♦

*Cinda Ackerman Klickna thanks her father, who helped her invest early in her career, and her son, who is now her financial adviser.*

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# Can you deduct 20 percent of your income?

## Under the new tax law, maybe so, maybe not

BY SARAH DELANO PAVLIK

If you own a service business in the fields of health, financial and brokerage services, athletics, accounting, law, performing arts, consulting or “any business where the principal asset is the reputation or skill of one or more of its employees” (except for engineering and architecture), the answer is generally “no,” you cannot deduct 20 percent of your income. If you own any other type of business, the answer is “maybe.”

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 tweaked some areas of the tax law and completely changed others. One provision that is completely new is the 20 percent income deduction for owners of pass-through entities. Pass-through entities are businesses where the income is taxed directly to the owners.

Businesses can be operated in many forms. These include a sole proprietorship, general partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company and corporation. The type of entity does not necessarily determine the type of taxation.

Sole proprietorships and single-member limited liability companies are taxed directly to the owner, and are generally reported on Schedule C of the owner's income tax return (Form 1040).

Corporations can be taxed in two ways. By default, a corporation is taxed as a C corporation under the Internal Revenue Code. The owner of a C corporation can pay himself a salary like any other employee. In that case, the company must withhold income tax and payroll tax and pay its own share of payroll taxes. Alternatively, the owner can leave income in the corporation.

In that case, the company will pay income tax on the undistributed income. The corporate tax rate was 35 percent, but the new act lowered the rate

to 21 percent. If the owner wants cash from the corporation, the corporation can pay the owner a dividend. Assuming the dividend is a qualified dividend, the owner will generally be taxed at 15 percent on the dividend, for a total tax rate of 36 percent.



PHOTO/ PEXELS

Before the new tax act, total taxation on corporate income paid as dividends would generally

be 50 percent – a 35 percent corporate tax and a 15 percent personal tax on dividends. As shown above, the new total tax rate will generally be 36

percent. Certain corporations can elect to be taxed as an S corporation. An S corporation has restrictions on who can own its shares. It cannot have more than 100 shareholders, and shareholders must be individuals or certain trusts or estates. Shareholders cannot be partnerships or corporations, and shareholders must be U.S. citizens

or residents. In addition, an S corporation can only have one class of stock, e.g., it cannot have common stock and preferred stock.

If the corporation meets the qualifications and files an S corporation election with the IRS, it will be taxed as a “pass-through” entity. This

means that all of the income will be taxed to the owners at their personal tax rates without paying the corporate tax.

Partnerships, both general and limited, are taxed as pass-through entities. At formation, a limited liability company can elect to be taxed as a corporation or as a partnership (a pass-through entity).

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Once an entity chooses its form of taxation, i.e., C corporation, S corporation or partnership, it cannot change its form without approval of the IRS.

If an individual is in the 25 percent bracket, as the owner of the S corporation, he will generally pay 40 percent federal tax on the first \$128,400 of income – 25 percent in income taxes and 15 percent in payroll taxes. Owners of S corporations can, however, pay themselves a salary, which incurs employment taxes, and dividends, which don't. S corporations are required to pay wages to any shareholder who is also an officer and provides "significant services" to the corporation. The wages must be "reasonable," meaning that an officer cannot pay himself \$1 in an effort to eliminate payroll taxes.

So, before the act, a taxpayer might pay 50 percent on C corporation income versus 40 percent on S corporation income. After the act, the owner of the C corporation might pay 36 percent while the owner of the S corporation would still pay 40 percent.

In order to give the owners of pass-through entities a benefit similar to the reduced corporate income tax rate, the act creates a deduction for individuals of 20 percent of qualified business income from pass-through entities. For example, if a taxpayer owns a convenience store that is taxed as a partnership and her share of the income is \$50,000, she can now deduct 20 percent of that income, or \$10,000. This deduction is not an itemized deduction, so it is still available to taxpayers who take the standard deduction.

Of course the deduction is not as simple as a straight 20 percent deduction. First, it only applies to "qualified business income." Qualified business income does not include capital gains, interest income or dividend income. It also does not include W-2 income. If the owner of an S corporation pays himself W-2 wages of \$50,000 and is allocated another \$25,000 of corporate income, only the \$25,000 counts as qualified business income.

The deduction is limited to the greater of: 50 percent of W-2 wages, or 25 percent of W-2 wages plus 2.5 percent of the unadjusted basis of the entity's assets. For example, assume a taxpayer owns 50 percent of a partnership, the partnership has \$500,000 of net income, the partnership pays W-2 wages to its employees of \$300,000, and the partnership has assets of \$1,000,000.

How does the taxpayer calculate his deduction? The first step is easy. The taxpayer's share of the income is \$250,000, and 20 percent of that amount is \$50,000. Now, for the limitation. The deduction is limited to the greater of:

- 50 percent of taxpayer's share of W-2 wages, or 50 percent of \$150,000 = \$75,000; and
- 25 percent of W-2 wages (\$37,500) plus 2.5 percent of \$500,000 (\$12,500) = \$50,000.

Therefore, the taxpayer's \$50,000 is not reduced by the limitation rules.

Taxpayers whose taxable income is less than \$157,500 (\$315,000 for married filing jointly) don't have to take the limitations into account and can deduct the 20 percent without further calculations. This benefit is phased out for taxable income between \$157,500 and \$207,500 (\$315,000 and \$415,000 for married filing jointly).

The new 20 percent deduction can be a great benefit to certain business owners. However, the deduction is complicated, and may be made more so by regulations or IRS guidance. The information provided here is general and oversimplified, by necessity. Business owners will need to consult with a tax professional to determine exactly how the deduction will apply to them.

*Sarah Delano Pavlik is an attorney with Delano Law Offices, LLC.*

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Recon Techs Springfield at 820 E. Black Ave.

PHOTO/ BY STACIE LEWIS

## Recon Techs knows the details

BY STACIE LEWIS

A professional automotive detailing and reconditioning service has opened at 820 E. Black Ave. Recon Techs Springfield's services include paint revitalization and protection, windshield repair, headlight lens restoration, oxidation removal and odor removal for autos, RVs, watercraft and aircraft. The technicians at Recon Techs are certified and the business is fully licensed and insured. They are open 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. through 5 p.m. Friday. Derek Roberts is the owner and he can be reached at 670-1132, or visit the website at recontechspringfield.com.

### Needham Chiropractic

Dr. Cody Needham is the proprietor of Needham Chiropractic located at 205 North Grand Ave. West. Needham, a Springfield native, earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Southern Illinois University and a Doctor of Chiropractic Degree from Logan University. Needham Chiropractic offers services for acute and chronic pain, sports injuries, wellness and injury prevention, and motor vehicle accident injuries. The office hours are 7 a.m. through 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and Saturday by appointment. You can phone the office at 525-2035 or visit the website at needhamchiro.com.

### New business registrations

- Miss Whynot's Closet**, 4461 Curran Rd., New Berlin. 486-3839. Jane T. Krone.
- D88**, 1225 W. Jefferson, Auburn. 520-989-1912. Dustin L. Molohon.
- Hammer Down Construction**, 1928 E. Watch. 801-6878. Jeffery Allen.
- Once in a Blue Moon International Gift Gallery**, 1535 Wabash. 793-8508. Janet Barkmeier.
- Phrygian Frog**, 1100 Jefferson, Pawnee. 433-2094. Jason Waddell.
- BP Automotive**, dba Car Direct Sales, 2829 Old Rochester Rd., Suite A. 528-2929. Ola Atkinson.
- Five Star College Planning Consultants**, 1820 Windcrest Dr. 725-6244. Michael Johannes and Heather Johannes.
- Mia Myaire**, 1613 East Knox. 761-9095. Channel Davis.
- Prints Charming**, 2121 Renwick Dr. 247-3132. Amanda Lynch and Sean Lynch.
- Light Bars Etc.**, 407 S. Main, Chatham. 494-0661. Denzell Drew.
- Rick Pennington Lawn Care**, 17 Timbercrest Dr., Sherman. 638-3495. Richard Pennington.

- Sullivan Landscapes**, 13 Covered Bridge Acres, Glenarm. 801-2513. Timothy Sullivan and Brook Sullivan.
- A Cut Above Lawn Care**, 623 Kenyon Dr. 717-5242. Jasmin Woolfolk.
- AJ's Resale**, 601 N. Grand Ave. East. 836-4355. Andrew Huffman.
- Cakeworld Boutique**, 1426 Taylor Ave. 773-372-1708. Patience Cheneyon.
- Blue Coat Arms Company**, 1310 S. Lowell Ave. 416-5962. Kevin Cline.
- Recon Techs Springfield**, 820 E. Black Ave. 670-1132. Derek Roberts.
- Rightway Home Improvements**, 409 W. Locust, Chatham. 415-4143. David Shaw, Jr.
- BigBrownDog Designs**, 168 Lebeau, New Berlin. 381-7955. Robyn Bowen.
- C&H Properties**, 1010 Clocktower Dr. 787-9380. Kevin Handy and James Cosgriff.
- Verde**, 391 Walnut Glen Dr. 341-1912. Dana Weatherby.
- tinydogboutique**, 695 S. Tower Road, Dawson. 341-1431. Dawn Nudo.
- Archer HomeCare Solutions**, 920 S. Spring. 331-6433. Patience Archer.
- Hardy Realty Consulting Solutions**, 145 Springcreek Dr. 638-7642. Ynohtan Nicolas Hardy.
- Nana's Makery**, 46 Rosaria Rd. 415-3803. Rebecca Crask.
- The Mane Place**, 420 Feldkamp Ave. 787-1280. Susan Hutcheson.
- True Hands Massage Therapy**, 1039 Wabash, Suite 206. 726-6662. Taylor Beck.
- Lovemighty**, 505 W. Spruce St., Chatham. 951-233-5369. Michelle McCaskell.
- Petrilli Apiary**, 1751 Young Road, Mechanicsburg. 638-7891. Stephen Petrilli and Sharon Petrilli.
- To the Moon Tattoo Studio 1543**, 2700 W. Lawrence. 777-1543. April Weller.
- W. E. Recycle**, 1409 S. Lowell. 416-2836. Emily Eades and Jessica Ware.
- Fragrance Bar 23 Travel**, 208 W. Laurel St. 550-7058. Goddess Akadile.
- Pawnee Shotokan**, 402 6<sup>th</sup> St., Pawnee. 414-6275. Mark Selhime and Kelly Selhime.
- Sunny Bright Cleaning**, 524 N. Wesley St. 341-4889. Amanda Kline.
- Harlow's Way**, 620 Black Ave. 971-5021. Lyn Harlow.
- Impact Products**, 236 Springcreek Dr. 816-0619. Andrea Jones.
- The Kingdom of God**, 915 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St. 553-3496. Tamika Weems.





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The team (IAMM/HOPE) and volunteers.

PHOTO/ BY PATRICK KELLY

## A Springfield health care connection How a little boy brought two worlds together

By Janet Seitz

Sometimes a call in the distance is very near. That call has taken people from Springfield to make a global impact.

For one Springfield medical couple, now a retired x-ray technician and a retired radiologist, the call came more than two decades ago from a 7-year-old boy from the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Through him, contrasting worlds were connected and eventually brought hope to a health care-deprived population. Willie Ramirez, from the small village of El Viejo in Nicaragua, suffered severe injuries in a car accident and was brought to Springfield through a "Healing the Children" program with SIU School of Medicine in 1994.

"Willie's story about his coming to America is the stuff that makes good movies," said Sandy Brewer, retired nurse practitioner and board member of International Assist Medical Mission. IAMM is a locally formed group, which includes her husband, Dr. Michael Brewer, and about a dozen volunteers from various professions, which provides medical care to those in need in other countries, including Nicaragua.

Springfield physicians had found that young Willie's injuries were more extensive than expected. The anticipated four to six weeks recovery from surgery and broken bones evolved into eight months. Because of Willie's need for an extended stay, Lynda and Dr. John Snodsmith welcomed him to their home and saw that he was cared for and attended school. After Willie returned to his village in Nicaragua, the Snodsmith family visited him and his family. He continued to come back to Springfield for medical checks for the next two years.

Eventually the family approached the mother about adopting the boy to ensure his health and well-being and ease the mother's financial woes. None of them ever forgot the birth mother and family. The Snodsmiths saw that the siblings remaining in Nicaragua received funds for education. They went on to become a physician, attorney, and a CPA.

Now 29 and a medical student, Willie knows the importance of giving back to those in need. He has volunteered on many medical mission trips to his hometown and in 2014 he and his parents co-founded HOPE (Helping Other People Excel).

HOPE, Lynda Snodsmith explained, aims to establish quality health care and good education for women and young girls in and around the village of El Viejo, Chinandega, Nicaragua. "Women are the core of family life, and alleviating disease and teaching preventative care will improve the well-being of the entire community. Also, the maternal/infant death rate is very high in Nicaragua as women struggle with cultural stigmas, lack of technology, food, medicine and often superstitions. The maternal death rate is 170 in every 10,000 births."

HOPE has partnered with IAMM since 2014, serving as host family for IAMM's efforts in Nicaragua and assisting with the impact

in the surrounding villages of El Viejo with mobile clinics. HOPE founders are grateful for the partnership to bring better access to medical care in Nicaragua.

IAMM knows full well the sometimes staggering health obstacles. The Brewers and their team have trekked to Haiti, Nigeria and Nicaragua literally carrying suitcases full of medicine to attend to thousands of people with the basics of health care. "The people where we work have very little money or resources. The doctor we work with in Haiti makes \$1,000 per month. In Nicaragua the doctor makes \$500 per month," said Sandy Brewer.

One of those doctors is Ivan Blandon, an OB/GYN in Chinandega, Nicaragua, who hopes to be on staff once HOPE secures funding to establish a permanent clinic structure in El Viejo. "Our health care system is very poor and not compared with your health care in Springfield," he said.

Dr. Carlos Avila, HOPE board member practicing in Morton, Illinois, added, "Physicians and patients of Nicaragua need the support due to the lack of involvement from local governments. Most of these countries provide social medicine and are limited for access to medications, basic health care and preventive medicine."

Avila has joined HOPE and the medical mission three times. "I am a native doctor from El Salvador practicing medicine in the U.S. It was concerning to me to observe in Nicaragua how still there are multiple cases of physical, psychological and financial abuse against women. These women are working hard performing the role of father and mother and fighting to raise their kids so they can have a worthy future. All this social dysfunction carries on through multiple medical conditions, acute and chronic, which need to be taken care of. There are so many ways to help, and to prevent this, to cut the vicious circle."

Both HOPE and IAMM are nonprofit organizations that raise private funds to pay for the medical care. Both rely on volunteers who pay their own way, as do the leaders and families of both organizations.

"I feel blessed to be part of international health care," said Sandy Brewer. "But IAMM is more than health care. Our motto is IAMM Creating Friendship Around the World. Going to other countries, getting to know the people and be part of their lives – for me, that breaks down the barriers that separate us. If we take away the cultural differences, look beyond the color and religious differences, we see that we are all the same – all striving to be happy and keep those whom we love safe and well."

Avila reiterated the thoughts of everyone involved in HOPE and IAMM. "I think there are several people involved in the community in searching for opportunities to serve others, to enhance women's role in the world society, to find a motivation to serve. At Springfield there is a multicultural population due to the medical school and residencies programs at SIU, for example, and this brings different perspectives among Americans to understand what is the world reality beyond the borders." ♦

## MEDICAL NEWS

# Central Illinois med students meet their match

Twenty-two senior medical students from central Illinois received results from the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) on Friday, March 16, at the same time other U.S. medical students learned their matches to postgraduate training programs. Sixty-eight Southern Illinois University School of Medicine seniors have secured residency positions.

Thirteen students (19 percent) will specialize in family medicine, and thirteen (19 percent) will specialize in emergency medicine. Seven students (10 percent) will begin residencies in internal medicine, six (9 percent) will go on to general surgery residencies, and six (9 percent) will specialize in pediatrics. Anesthesiology and radiology each attracted 4 students, and dermatology, obstetrics-gynecology and psychiatry each attracted 2 students. Three students (4 percent) will specialize in ENT/otolaryngology. Child neurology, medicine-psychiatry, orthopedic surgery, plastic surgery, transitional medicine and urology each attracted one student.

Fifteen (22 percent) of the 68 senior medical students will begin their residency training in SIU-affiliated programs.

"I'm so proud of every one of our medical students as they enter the next phase of their career, post-graduate training in residency and fellowship programs," said Jerry Kruse, MD, MSPH, SIU Medicine dean and provost. "Today's Match Day ceremony for the Class of 2018, their teachers, colleagues, family and friends, was



Surrounded by his family, Michael Romanelli, center, opens his residency letter on Match Day. Romanelli will begin as a plastic surgery resident at SIU School of Medicine in July.

PHOTO/ COURTESY SIU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PHOTOGRAPHY

brimming with vigor and optimism. Our students matched into many excellent training programs across the United States. We're looking forward to following their careers as clinicians, teachers, researchers and leaders."

The Class of 2018 at SIU School of Medicine will graduate on Saturday, May 19. New physicians begin their residency training in July.

Match results also were announced Friday for SIU's residency programs in Springfield, based at the school's two affiliated hospitals –

Memorial Medical Center and HSHS St. John's Hospital. Seventy-seven starting positions in Springfield were filled. The first-year residents will join more than 200 senior residents and fellows already in training at SIU programs in Springfield.

Thirty-six first-year positions were filled in general internal medicine (14), family medicine (10), general pediatrics (7) and obstetrics/gynecology (5). Twenty-three positions were filled in the eight surgical programs – emergency medi-

cine (8), general surgery (4), neurological surgery (1), orthopaedic surgery (3), otolaryngology (2), plastic surgery (2), urology (2) and vascular surgery (1). Eighteen total positions were filled in other specialties – preliminary medicine (2), psychiatry (6), radiology (3), dermatology (2), medicine-psychiatry combined (2) and neurology (3).

"Annually SIU School of Medicine and our partner hospitals in central and southern Illinois continue to match with a robust, accomplished and eclectic group of residents," said Karen Broquet, MD, associate dean for graduate medical education. "SIU residents are an intrinsic element in the clinical learning environment and interdisciplinary health care teams that provide quality and patient-centered care to patients."

SIU also has affiliated family medicine residency programs in Carbondale, Decatur and Quincy, each three years in length. Seventeen first-year positions have been filled for next year through the NRMP match and a similar program held last month for osteopathic physicians. These residents will join 35 senior family medicine residents and fellows at SIU's affiliated hospitals – Memorial Hospital in Carbondale, Decatur Memorial Hospital in Decatur and Blessing Hospital in Quincy. ♦

## Regular PSA Screenings catch prostate cancer

"I can't have cancer. That's somebody else," thought Richard Dennis when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Dennis, a retired Petersburg resident, had been active his entire life, walking two to three miles a day and working in his yard.

"I'd never had a symptom, I hadn't had health issues, and I didn't take medication," said Dennis.

But a slowly elevating prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood level suggested otherwise. PSA is a protein produced by cells of the prostate gland. A PSA test uses a blood sample to measure the level of PSA in a man's blood. The PSA blood level is often elevated in men with prostate cancer. Dennis actively recorded his prostate-specific antigen (PSA) after regular health exams and saw the levels slowly rise.

A biopsy showed that Dennis had low-grade prostate cancer. His first urologist gave him three options: watch it, treat it or remove it. Dennis and his wife decided to watch it using an approach called active surveillance.

However, concerns from Dennis' primary care physician, also a cancer survivor, changed the couple's decision. Dennis' neighbor, a former



Richard Dennis with his wife, Janet.

PHOTO/ COURTESY SIU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PHOTOGRAPHY

SCI patient, referred him to Kevin McVary, MD, professor of surgery in the urology department at SIU Medicine.

"I called Dr. McVary's office, and they asked me if I could come in the next day for an appointment. That had never happened to me before – an appointment the next day," said Dennis.

McVary did an MRI which showed a large

## Cedarhurst breaks ground on \$14 million project

Cedarhurst of Springfield Assisted Living and Memory Care broke ground last month at 3520 Old Jacksonville Road, adjacent to Memorial Health System's Koke Mill Medical Center and the Orthopedic Center of Central Illinois. The \$14 million senior living community is scheduled to open in early 2019.

Cedarhurst of Springfield will feature 52 assisted living apartments along with 27 private, dedicated memory care suites. There will be a variety of room sizes and price ranges, along with multiple levels of care. The community will feature restaurant-style dining, a movie theater, salon, outdoor courtyards with walking paths and gardens, a four-seasons lounge, a pond with a fishing dock, exercise room and a full-service therapy center. Cedarhurst residents will also have transportation to medical appointments, as well as social and recreational events.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to serve even more seniors and their families in central Illinois," said Joshua Jennings, CEO of Dover Development, the developer of the project. "Our company is focused on providing comfortable, safe environments for seniors to call home. Springfield is a natural fit for our next senior community," he said.

Cedarhurst Senior Living is based out of St. Louis, Missouri, and has multiple locations throughout the Midwest. The nearest location to Springfield is Cedarhurst of Jacksonville, which opened in 2016.

Cedarhurst of Springfield is being developed by Dover Development, a company based in Clayton, Missouri, that focuses on senior housing and health care developments. Brahms Construction, a full-service construction management firm, also based in Clayton, Missouri, is the construction manager. ♦

lesion in the front of the prostate that couldn't have been found with biopsies. Like the previous biopsy, the lesion revealed a low-grade cancer. Armed with this new information and treatment options, the couple decided to have the cancerous prostate removed.

A robotic-assisted surgery allowed McVary to remove the prostate using a series of small incisions in the lower abdomen. Thanks to the minimally invasive surgery, Dennis was able to

return home the following morning.

Today, Dennis stresses the importance of regular checkups and testing – especially to his two sons who have a 40 percent chance of also having prostate cancer.

"I was lucky because the cancer was all contained in the prostate," Dennis said. For Dennis, that meant no radiation and no chemotherapy. A follow-up PSA confirmed the cancer had not spread. "It was a miracle," said Dennis. ♦



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MAKE YOUR MARKETING ROAR LIKE A LION  
...on an itty-mouse budget

# Small Business Marketing Workshop

- Know what to do **NOW** for most impact
- Find your **POSITION** in the market
- Learn to **TELL YOUR STORY** so people listen
- Learn **HOW** local brands are winning
- Make **ONLINE** and **MASS MEDIA** work together

APRIL 26 - 8AM  
RSVP: 629-7077





  
**girl scouts**  
 of central illinois

Girl Scouts of Central Illinois serves over **17,000 girls** annually in **38 counties** throughout central Illinois who believe in the power of every **G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)<sup>TM</sup>** to change the world.

GSCI operates four camps: **Camp Kiwanis** in Mahomet, **Camp Tastic** in Decatur, **Camp Tapawingo** in Metamora, and **Camp Widjiwagan** in Springfield. Our camps are also available for rent to outside groups and businesses.

**Thank you UCB for being a great community supporter and financial partner!**

For more information visit [GetYourGirlPower.org](http://GetYourGirlPower.org) or call **888-623-1237**.

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