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Several new businesses open

Claire Grant

Springfield State Journal- Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

SPRINGFIELD – August was a month jam-packed with updates to Springfield’s business scene breathing in new life around town with a myriad of openings.

Major headlines ran over a federal court case revolving around the Wyndham at City Centre, from a Aug. 25 case filing by Affiliated FM Insurance.

The insurance company, presented as the defendant in court against Tower Capital Group LLC, the current owner of the Wyndham, after an internal investigation, insurance payout was denied

because owner Al Rajabi had allegedly willfully caused the water damage.

The Wyndham was boarded up short after the next week in September.

Here’s a look at other business and restaurant news from August.

What places announced to or opened?

● Downtown Springfield will soon be home to a new exotic pet shop. Around the corner from Itty Bitty Fashion Trunk and taking the spot of Creative Reuse Marketplace at 122 S. Fourth St., Happy Scalez is setting up to be a one-stop for

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The exterior of a new pet shop, Happy Scalez, in downtown Springfield at 122 S. Fourth St. on Aug. 6. CLAIRE GRANT/THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER



Sierra Senor-Moore, right, was sworn in as the first Black woman judge for the Seventh Judicial Circuit by Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lisa Holder White in a ceremony at the Sangamon County Complex on Sept. 4. Accompanying Senor-Moore was her husband, Patrick Moore. THOMAS J. TURNEY/THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

A ‘daughter of Springfield’

Senor-Moor makes history as circuit’s new associate judge

Steven Spearie

Springfield State Journal- Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

SPRINGFIELD - As Sierra Senor-Moore was making history by being sworn in as the first Black woman judge for the Seventh Judicial Circuit, she only had to look a few feet away at another woman of history, Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lisa Holder White, who was administering the oath.

“She blazed the trail (as the first Black female on the state’s high court),” acknowledged Senor-Moore of Holder White, in prepared remarks at the investiture ceremony on Sept. 4.

The “daughter of Springfield” packed the Sangamon County Complex’s new courtroom with friends and family, including her parents, former Ward 2 Ald. Herman Senor and Valeria Hickman Senor; husband, Patrick, and their three children; aunt and former Sangamon County Circuit Clerk Candice Trees and brother, Herman Senor II and his wife, Malina. Senor-Moore’s sister,

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Retired Seventh Judicial Circuit Associate Judge Dwayne Gab watches the investiture ceremony of Sierra Senor-Moore at the Sangamon County Complex on Sept. 4.

STEVEN SPEARIE/THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Local bars sold alcohol to minors

Claire Grant

Springfield State Journal-Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

SPRINGFIELD - Four Sangamon County bars, including one of downtown’s trendiest late night drinking spots, were found in a September investigation cold alcohol to underage people.

On Sept. 3, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission in accordance with Springfield Police Department conducted 24 compliance checks across bars in Springfield. Of the 24 checked, 20 passed including Crows Mill Bar & Grill for the first time in over four testing cycles.

The compliance checks, conducted by the Illinois Liquor Control Commission, enlisted high school and college students under the Illinois drinking age of 21 to visit bars and establishments across the country and order drinks to confirm if the location was in compliance with state law against selling alcohol to underage people.

What is Illinois Liquor Law?

The Liquor Control Act prohibits the sale of alcohol to anyone under 21 with businesses in violation charged with Class A misdemeanor and can be fined \$500 suspension, or revocation of their liquor license.

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Suspect apprehended in Kirk’s death

“Ladies and gentlemen, we got him,” Utah Gov. Spencer Cox said at a press conference the morning of Sept. 12.

By “him,” he meant the person suspected of killing conservative activist Charlie Kirk at a college speaking event Sept. 10.

The suspect was identified as Tyler Robinson, Cox said. A family member contacted a family friend, who told au-

thorities Robinson “confessed to them or implied that he committed the incident.”

The suspect was taken into custody at 10 p.m. local time Sept. 11, FBI Director Kash Patel said.

President Donald Trump said earlier Sept. 12 on “Fox and Friends” that the family friend was “a person of faith, a minister.”

According to court records obtained by USA TODAY, the suspect was charged with three felonies: aggravated murder, felony discharge of a firearm and obstruction of justice. He was being held without bail at Utah County Jail, according to an order from Judge Shawn R. Howell. Court documents confirm

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Utah Gov. Spencer Cox, with FBI Director Kash Patel, speaks at a news conference Sept. 12, announcing details on the suspect in the shooting of conservative activist Charlie Kirk. CHENEY ORR/REUTERS

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