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THE STATE



Journal Register

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PRINT-ONLY SUBSCRIBER-EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL EDITION INSIDE

2026 NFL season preview: Rams look unstoppable

Springfield veterans group gets new home

Steven Spearie

Springfield State Journal-Register | USA TODAY NETWORK

Dr. Karl Kerstein spent 43 years practicing dentistry in Springfield, all at an office at 2824 S. MacArthur Blvd., before retiring a little over a year ago.

Now that office building is about to get new life.

After fallout from a tumultuous back-and-forth with the Illinois Department of Agriculture over the ownership of a building on the fairgrounds, the Combined Veterans Association of Illinois (CVA) has been donated

the 2,700-square-foot space on MacArthur.

A deal was finalized Aug. 14.

Kerstein, 70, spent two years at the U.S. Naval Academy and he and his wife, Lynda, who also was the longtime office manager in his practice, have donated to several veterans causes through the years.

“It’s overwhelming,” said CVA Commander Gene Beler, standing in the organization’s new headquarters. “It’s kind of hard to put it all into words because

See HOME, Page 2A



Dr. Karl Kerstein and his wife, Lynda, who served as office manager, donated the building formerly used as a dental practice for 43 years to the Combined Veterans Association of Illinois (CVA).

STEVEN SPEARIE/THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER



A house for sale at 3221 S. Yonkers Street is listed for \$249,999 on June 13, 2023. RICH JANZARUK/HERALD-TIMES

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Students to be in class on Election Day

Steven Spearie

Springfield State Journal-Register | USA TODAY NETWORK

SPRINGFIELD – A recent unanimous vote by the Springfield District 186 Board of Education added a day on to the winter holiday break.

But the Springfield Education Association President said the district’s calendar still doesn’t align with other districts in the area.

That’s because of a later start date by Springfield Public Schools, the subject of a separate vote last winter.

The winter holiday break for District 186 students, teachers and staff now begins when school lets out Dec. 22.

See CALENDAR, Page 3A

A look at the road ahead

Major housing bill may have more nuanced impacts on Midwest states

Thomas B. Langhorne

Evansville Courier & Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

The political appeal of the idea — slap restrictions on institutional investors who buy up single-family homes to make more housing stock for regular folk who want to actually live in them — is plain to see. Both houses of Congress endorsed it by overwhelming margins.

But while the complex, 139-page 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act may make a big splash in coastal states with high costs and housing shortages — New York, California and a few others — its effect in Mid-western housing markets likely will be more nuanced.

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“Overall, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Wisconsin, and metropolitan regions of Michigan may experience the strongest impacts because they combine growing housing demand with aging housing inventories and some regulatory constraints.”

Roberto Quercia
Professor of housing and community development at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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