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Army Veteran Remembers D-Day 75 Years After Invasion Of Normandy

Walter Trojan never had an interest in revisiting the Normandy beach where he confronted the chaos and brutality of war 75 years ago on D-Day. But the men who fought by his side in combat became an unforgettable part of his life. "Those are memories you can't erase," he said.

by Katlyn Smith The Daily Herald

Walter Trojan has never been particularly nostalgic for the war.

He had no interest in making the pilgrimage back to Normandy even when his friends in combat returned years later with their families. Memories kept him from going back.

"Nobody wins. That's what he's always said. Nobody wins in a war," his daughter Carole Trojan said.

His recollections of the Allied assault on Nazi-occupied Europe on June 6, 1944, and the beginning of the end of World War II, are fading. Now 97 and living with his daughter in a Bloomingdale town house, Trojan will quietly mark the invasion's 75th anniversary today as the diminishing ranks of survivors reunite at Normandy for what will likely be their last major observance.

What Trojan remembers most are the stories of men he's outlived, and in honoring them, he's sharing a lesson about his generation and what it really means to become a "Band of Brothers."

"Those are memories you can't erase," he said. 'A green city boy'

Trojan's daughter, Carole, preserves his relics from the war, a surreal, foreign collection of



Walter Trojan, right, with fellow soldiers during World War II. (Photo courtesy of Walter Trojan)

French currency, dog tags, a Nazi pennant, a card to his sweetheart signed "Wally" and some old photos.

In one, a young man is looking tough for the camera, dressed in his uniform, cigarette dangling from his mouth.

The 21-year-old was posing outside of his Army barracks in Texas in 1943 as a son of the Great Depression, a Chicago native who never finished high school.

Trojan looks at the photo and scoffs at his younger self.

"You talk about being a green city boy," Trojan said.

He grew up near the corner of Roosevelt and Halsted, raised by a mother who died of pneumonia in her 30s and a Polish father who worked as a machinist.

"During the Depression years, the boys, we played ball is all we did, played 16-inch softball a lot," Trojan said. "And I was a good athlete, swimming and everything."

Trojan joined the Army in September 1942 and reported to Camp Bowie in Texas, a training

ground for other Chicago-area draftees.

"A lot of us were happy to join or go because our country was in trouble," he said. "We didn't have any work. If you had any work, it was cheap pay."

First shock of war

His memory of the battle for Omaha, one of the deadliest of the D-Day landing beaches, is hazy. But Trojan can still recall the chaos and brutality of D-Day, when 156,000 Allied troops launched the largest seaborne invasion in history.

"Those were desperate days. We just had a toehold," Trojan said. "We weren't sure our landing was a success. We were just in France, and Europe was a long way that we had to go."

Trojan said he drove a tank of the 745th Tank Battalion for the Army's storied 1st Infantry Division. The first tank off his barge never made it inland. Trojan suspects it struck a mine.

"But that was the worst I'd seen. For me, war started then," he said. "All five guys blown up."

When Trojan and his daughter watched Steven Spielberg's "Saving Private Ryan," she was horrified by the opening scenes and asked her dad if the film's most violent images were overly dramatized. He told her what happened at Omaha "was worse."

"You know you could be 20 foot from me, and your story would be different than mine," Trojan said. "That's how intermingled we were, and everybody had a different problem."

The war was ingrained in family life even though Trojan never talked about the "dark part," his daughter said. But the history of Trojan's battalion — records provided by the First Division Museum in Wheaton and edited by Lt. Harold D. Howenstine and Tech Sgt. George E. Troll — capture the hellscape at Omaha:

"There was a gigantic and terrible litter of wreckage as far as the eye could see when our first elements landed only a few hours behind the first wave," the authors wrote. "Submerged tanks and overturned boats and burned trucks and shell-shattered jeeps and personal belongings were strewn over those blood-stained sands. Bodies of fallen soldiers sprawled grotesquely in the sand or half-hidden by the high grass beyond the beach."

About two months after D-Day, the blast from a German shell tore off the right arm of Trojan's tank commander, Tom Nayder, a musician who played the guitar. Trojan tried to distract Nayder from his injuries.

"I got out of the tank to go over by him, and I don't think he knew his arm was off. They were putting him on the stretcher already. At that time,



In their Bloomingdale home, Carole Trojan listens to her father's recollections of the D-Day invasion. She visited Normandy as a teen, but her father has never wanted to go back. "He didn't talk about the dark part," she said. (Photo by Bev Horne/Daily Herald)

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Normandy

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the medics followed very close," Trojan said. "And I said something to him. I didn't want him to look at himself.

"I said something to him like, 'Tom, you're going to be all right,' you know? His arm was gone. He was my best friend in combat up till then. That hurt me the most, losing him."

His battalion later advanced across Europe into Czechoslovakia until the surrender of Nazi Germany in 1945. The first person Trojan called when he got back to Chicago? Nayder, who had survived, but never returned to combat.

'We became family'

Trojan responds to recognition of his service with stoicism. When he used to live in a condo, he wished his neighbors wouldn't shove all the cards under his door for Veterans Day, thanking him for his service.

"There's lot of guys that will get no credit for nothing," he said. "They're still laying there."

But he isn't so gruff looking back on the Army brotherhood

Without his right arm, Nayder learned to play the tuba and found Trojan a job as a sheet metal worker. They stood up in each other's wedding, and they were godfathers to each other's children. They went to battalion reunions until there were no longer enough veterans still around.

"We became family, guys I was with," said Trojan, who had three kids with his late wife, Irene.

During the '80s, another one of those guys, Jack Rakowski, would spend Christmas Eve with the Trojan family, bearing gifts. Rakowski died in 2004, and Nayder followed about a year later.

"Remember that, dad?" Carole Trojan asks. "All those years when Jack used to come dressed as Santa Claus? That was many years after the war. He didn't have to do that."

Her father doesn't forget.

"Those of us who had survived together, stayed close together," Trojan said. "We know we depended on each other's life."

At war and at home.

>>> Obituaries >>>

Bader, Jennifer, 40, Belvidere, June 4 Dennin, Patricia, 77, Poplar Grove, June4 Forys, Joanne, 76, Poplar Grove, May 30 Houk, Earl, 81, Belvidere, May 30 Kirschbaum, Max, 100, Cherry Valley, June 1 Lischka, William, 70, Poplar Grove, May 17



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THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

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Each week, the Journal seeks to present a variety of voices. *Letters*. Every attempt will be made to print all letters received with the exception of those that are libelous or obscene. Letters should be signed and include an ID or phone number, so that we can contact the author prior to publication to verify authenticity.

Guest columns. Community leaders are encouraged to submit guest columns consistent with our editorial guidelines for possible inclusion in the Journal.

Opinions. The opinions expressed in the Journal are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Boone County Journal management or ownership.

Village of Poplar Grove Neighbors' Fest

Village of Poplar Grove is hosting Neighbors' Fest on Saturday, June 15 at Lions Park, 229 Summit Street. Neighbors' Fest is the Village's premier community event where family fun, food, music, fireworks and much more are offered to residents to gather, celebrate, and become inspired by their community.

The Village is hosting special events throughout the day starting with a Recycling event from 8 am to Noon, where residents can drop off electronics items, tires, hearing aids, and glasses. Family fun begins at 1 pm with bouncy houses, slides, and a dunk tank. The Touch-a-Truck event runs from 1 pm to 5 pm. with Fireworks beginning at dusk.

Also, at the event, residents are encouraged to bring their electric bills to receive a free quote from DIRECTsolar. DIRECTsolar will donate \$25 for every free solar quote, and \$100 for every solar system installed to Eagle Scout, Tommy Maxey, for his Lions Park Pavilion project. DIRECTsolar will be onsite from 8AM to 6PM

For more information on the Village of Poplar Grove Neighbors' Fest visit, www. VillageOfPoplarGrove.com or our Facebook Page.

For more information please contact Village President Owen Costanza at (815) 765-3201 or by email at president@villageofpoplargrove.com.

Illinois House Closes Out 'Historic' Session

by PETER HANCOCK Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois House closed out what was perhaps the most monumental legislative sessions in recent memory Saturday after passing the final pieces of a budget for the upcoming year and a \$45 billion capital improvements program that will be partially funded by expanded gambling.

Those measures, though, were only the finishing touches on a session that also saw passage of a minimum wage increase, a constitutional amendment to overhaul the state's income tax system, legalization of recreational marijuana and a sweeping expansion of abortion rights.

"This has been an extraordinarily productive session of the General Assembly. Simply historic," House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago, said just before the House adjourned.

Although the Senate still needs to return Sunday to concur with some of the amendments that the House made to the final bills, Saturday's action in the House effectively marked the end of an intense competition between Democratic and Republican leaders that

had threatened to send lawmakers into extended overtime.

The final 48 hours were marked by heated discussions and negotiations intense between Democrats and Republicans and a constant flurry of back-door meetings with House and Senate caucus leaders and Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker.

Although Democrats hold supermajorities in both chambers, Republican votes were needed on some key measures to get them over the finish line, especially after the session stretched Saturday, June into which triggered 1, constitutional that requirement

bills taking immediate effect receive three-fifths majorities in both chambers -71 votes in the House and 36 votes in the Senate.

But Republicans held out because they wanted Democrats to agree to a number of pro-business initiatives that included tax incentives for businesses hiring construction workers for major projects, other incentives for developing high-tech data centers and phasing out the franchise tax, to name a few.

When Democrats finally agreed to those measures, the final pieces of the budget package fell into place with broad bipartisan support.

"You can see here that a lot of strongly held ideas were batted back and forth," House Majority Leader Greg Harris, D-Chicago, told reporters after a committee hearing Saturday. "At the end of the day, we ended up with a very good compromise, because clearly you have all four caucuses and the governor in agreement, and I think it's a good thing."

One of the pieces needed to make the budget work was a revenue bill, Senate Bill 689, which included, among other things, a new tax on Medicaid managed care organizations that will allow the state to draw down additional federal matching funds, freeing up about \$390 million in general revenue funds for other purposes. It passed by a vote of 107-to-9.

Another was what's known as a "budget implementation bill," Senate Bill 1814, that spells out specifically how money appropriated to various agencies is to be spent. That bill includes pay increases for home care providers who deliver home and community-based services to the elderly and disabled. It passed by a vote of 97-17.

The final piece was House Bill 142 authorizing the state to issue \$1.7 billion in bonds, the proceeds of which will be used to pay down the state's backlog of unpaid invoices, a measure that is expected to save the state hundreds of millions of dollars a year in interest costs.

The capital improvements program also consisted of a package of three bills.

House Bill 62 spells out how the \$45 billion will be spent. It calls for \$33.2 billion, or about 74 percent of the total, to be spent on roads and bridges, what lawmakers refer to as "horizontal" infrastructure. Another \$3.5 billion, or 8 percent of the total, would be spent on K-12 and higher education facilities.

The remainder would be divided between state facilities, environmental conservation projects, deployment of broadband internet, and health care and human service facilities.

The other two bills provide the funding for those projects.

Senate Bill 1939 provides funding for the horizontal projects through a combination of a 19-cent per-gallon increase in the state gasoline tax, increases in vehicle registration fees, especially for electric vehicles, plus a variety of other miscellaneous

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--In Our Opinion--

Politics for Grownups

Two Positive Examples

One of the most interesting coincidences took place on the 50th anniversary of the American Revolution, July 4, 1826. Both the second president, John Adams, a Federalist, and the third president, Thomas Jefferson, a Democratic Republican, died on that same day. Both men were signers of the Declaration of Independence and are considered among the founding fathers of the United States. Adams and Jefferson were greatly respected, although they had very different political ideas.

Earlier this year, a similar coincidence took On March 14, former Indiana Senator Birch Bayh, a Democrat, passed away at age 91. Later on April 28, former Indiana Senator Richard Lugar, a Republican, died at age 87. While these two senators both had their differences, both of them were well-respected statesmen, and their passing is a fitting occasion to reflect upon their accomplishments:

Birch Bayh

Birch Bayh is one of only two authors to draft and win passage of multiple Constitutional amendments. The other was James Madison, author of the Bill of Rights.

After President Kennedy was assassinated in the 1960s, Senator Bayh, who was the Senate subcommittee chairman on constitutional amendments, drafted the 25th Amendment, which provides the framework for temporarily or permanently replacing a president or vice president who dies, resigns or is unable to govern. This amendment was put to the test when President Nixon resigned from office. Bayh also drafted the successful 26th Amendment, granting 18-year-olds the right to vote.

Bayh drafted several other amendments, including the Equal Rights Amendment, granting equal rights to both sexes. Thirty-seven of the required 38 states have ratified the amendment to date, most recently Illinois. (Incidentally, Belvidere's representative, Joe Sosnowski, voted against the amendment, as he apparently believes that women should remain subservient to men.)

Birch Bayh was also a firm detractor of the electoral college and nearly succeeded in putting an end to the institution. The Presidential election of 1968 was nearly forced into the House of Representatives because of the third-party candidacy of segregationist and former Alabama Governor George Wallace. This convinced the majority of Congress and President Nixon to support abolishing the Electoral College. Polls at the time showed that eighty percent of the public also favored eliminating the Electoral College as well. But, believing their interests to be better served by the status quo, several Southern states, in a coalition headed by South Carolina Senator

Strom Thurmond, managed to thwart the opinion of the majority.

Bayh was also the author of Title IX, which barred sex discrimination at schools and led to greatly-expanded sports programs for women.

Bayh served in the Senate until 1980, when he was defeated by Dan Quayle.

Richard Lugar

Richard Lugar got his start in Indianapolis politics and drew national attention while mayor for his consolidation of city and county government. He was elected to the Senate and was the longest-serving senator in Indiana history.

Lugar was known for civility and his grasp of pertinent issues. He is best known for his service on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Lugar's foremost achievement came with the collapse of the Soviet Union. At the time, Lugar, along with Democratic Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia, worked hard to promote funding and expertise to secure the nuclear arsenals of Russia and the other Former Soviet Republics. Over 7,500 nuclear missiles were deactivated under this program, which kept these weapons out of the hands of terrorists and other bad actors. Belarus, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan all eliminated nuclear weaponry. The program was later expanded to include other nations as well. For these accomplishments, Lugar was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama.

Richard Lugar's accomplishments also include other arms control treaties and reducing chemical weapons. He was instrumental in establishing harsh economic sanctions on apartheid South Africa and helped bring about the end of the corrupt Marcos regime in the Philippines.

All of this, his support for Democratic Supreme Court nominees, and voting to support the economic stimulus package in 2008 was a bit too much for conservative voters in Indiana. In 2010, he was defeated in a Republican Primary Election by Richard Mourdock, a Tea Party candidate. Mourdock campaigned against Lugar, calling him out of touch with Indiana and too concerned with foreign affairs. Mourdock, however, lost in the general election, after he stated that rape was God's will, and that women should be forced to carry such pregnancies to full term.

Lessons Learned

Holding public office is a calling. Character matters. Sociopaths aside, there are probably only two rational reasons to run for public office:

The first is a genuine desire to make the community or the world a better place. Done right, holding political office is generally a hard, thankless job. Doing the public's business is more than just strutting around. To be effective, officeholders have to be prepared to work hard and not always be admired or coddled for their efforts. Senators Bayh and Lugar are good examples. It is NOT about winning the next election above all else. If retaining your office is all that matters to you, there are easier, more rewarding lines of work. Why do a thankless job and bother with a brutal campaign if you lack a higher calling?

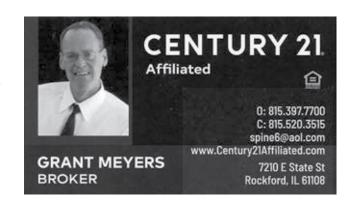
The other rational reason to seek office is to use the position to enhance one's private interests. Chicago Alderman Edward Burke and President Donald Trump come to mind. Mr. Burke is under federal indictment for his shenanigans. We suspect the Burke Law Firm has made a lot of money by extorting from businesses that are required to conform with the City of Chicago's regulations. But we doubt that money will be of much help to Mr. Burke when he dies in prison. Time will tell whether President Trump will pay a price for blatantly ignoring the Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution.

Tribal politics is not what has made this country great. What has "made America great" has been a bundle of compromises and a willingness to work with other elected leaders of all parties for the common good.

When Kentucky Senator Mitch McConnell dies, no one will pay him tribute for his hypocrisy: McConnell refused to hold confirmation hearings for a Democratic-appointed candidate for the Supreme Court, Merrick Garland, in the last year of the Obama Administration. On May 28, Senator McConnell stood smirking before a Chamber of Commerce luncheon in Paducah, telling the audience that he would hold confirmation hearings for a hypothetical, Trumpappointed nominee in the last year of the Trump Administration.

No, it's not just "politics." It's fulfilling one's Constitutional obligations as a United States Senator. Any graduate of a cut-rate law school can master civil procedure for foul purposes. Rather than using his law degree for the public good and thus earn some admiration and respect, McConnell has become the most hated and despised Senator in Washington.

We ask all our elected and appointed leaders, from library trustees to US Congressmen, to ponder the examples of Senators Bayh and Lugar. One a Democrat, the other a Republican. Do your ethics, cooperative spirit and industry measure up to these men? And how will history judge your time in office?





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House OK, Sends to Senate for Progressive Income Tax Rates

by Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

The graduated tax constitutional amendment will be on the November 2020 general election ballot, and the rates that could take effect upon its passage are one procedural step away from the governor's desk.

On Thursday, the Illinois House voted 67-48 to approve a rate structure that would lower the tax rate on any individual or joint-filing couple making less than \$250,000, while raising the rates on those above that threshold.

The passage is another step forward for Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker's marquee agenda item with just one day remaining in the legislative session.

"A fair tax will bring monumental change to this state by protecting working families. 97 percent of taxpayers will pay the same or less, and we will stabilize Illinois' finances," Pritzker said in a statement following the vote. "Opponents should be honest that they offer bad options – either cutting schools and public safety to the bone, or raising taxes on everyone by 20 percent. Instead, I stand firmly on the side of working families and fairness."

The rates have now passed both houses, but a House amendment regarding the distribution of funding to local governments means it will have to go back to the Senate for concurrence. That chamber was scheduled to take up the rates package and two bills establishing a property tax relief fund and task force at a committee meeting Thursday evening.

Upon concurrence in the Senate and the governor's signature, the bill would take effect on Jan. 1, 2021, only if voters approve the graduated tax constitutional amendment in November 2020. That would require 60 percent of those voting on the question or a majority of those voting in the election to become law.

Per the rate structure approved Thursday, single filers would pay the maximum rate of 7.99 percent on all income once their taxable income tops \$750,000. For joint filers, that rate takes effect when income tops \$1 million.

For the rest of the brackets, each varying tax rate would apply to only one specific margin of income.

The rates are 4.75 percent on taxable income from \$0 to \$10,000; 4.9 percent from \$10,001 to \$100,000; 4.95 percent from \$100,001 to \$250,000; 7.75 percent from \$250,001 to \$500,000; and 7.85 percent from \$500,001 to \$1 million.

For single filers, tax rates are the same as joint filers up to \$250,000; but the 7.75 percent rate applies from \$250,001 only to \$350,000, while the 7.85 percent rate applies from \$350,001 to \$750,000.

The bill also includes an increase in the property tax credit from 5 percent to 6 percent, and up to a \$100 per-child tax credit for couples earning less than \$100,000 and single persons earning less than \$80,000.

The corporate tax rate would go from 7 to 7.99 percent, not including an existing corporate property replacement tax of 1.5 to 2.5 percent that is not changed by the bill.

In a floor debate preceding passage, members of the two parties sparred over which had the better idea for fiscal stability in the state, what the tax rates would do to businesses and how the state's long-term problems should be addressed.

Rep. Robert Martwick, a Chicago Democrat who carried the constitutional amendment earlier this week, said the \$3.5 billion in added revenue expected to result from the graduated tax is needed to balance the state's structural budget deficit. He said Republicans, who were unanimously opposed to the measure, were not interested in balancing the budget.

"You're no longer the party of balanced budgets, you're just the party of no," he said. "Fiscal responsibility does not mean saying no. It means balancing your budgets."

But House Republican Leader Jim Durkin, of

Western Springs, said he was proud to be the "party of no" on some of the state's previously passed unbalanced budgets. He said "history will not look kindly" on the General Assembly for the changes to the tax code and the "anti-business agenda" he said Democrats were pushing in the past four months.

"There's nothing here to help taxpayers," he said, noting that high pension costs have gone unaddressed.

Others from Durkin's party said higher business taxes will drive job creators out of the state when combined with measures such as the minimum wage.

But Democrats said the majority of small businesses are structured as pass-through entities that are taxed at the same rate as individuals, which means any company with less than \$250,000 in revenue would see lower rates.

Rep. Mike Zalewski, a Riverside Democrat and the rate bill's sponsor, said a stable state government will be beneficial to business investment in the state.

"We need to get out of the habit of always being in crisis mode," he said.

Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer, a Jacksonville Republican, said dividing taxpayers in brackets would make it easier for future General Assemblies to raise taxes on smaller portions of voters.

But Zalewski said there is no plan to raise tax rates in the foreseeable future once the graduated rate is set.

Graduated Tax Rates, Property Tax Relief Package Head To Gov.

Senate adopts measures with little discussion

by Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Conditional graduated tax rates and a pair of bills aimed at addressing Illinois' high property tax costs passed the General Assembly on Friday and will head to the governor.

The graduated tax rate structure will take effect in January 2021 only if voters approve a constitutional amendment on the November 2020 general election ballot. The Senate's vote Friday was a procedural concurrence with a minor House amendment.

The property tax bills became part of the conversation this session at the request of several "swing" votes on the constitutional amendment, and were backed by Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker.

One bill, Senate Bill 39, will establish a "property tax relief fund," which would be used to pay refunds to Illinois property taxpayers, but it would be subject to the appropriations of future General Assemblies and would not take effect until January 2021.

It passed the House 98-16 Thursday night with one voting present, and it passed the Senate 56-0 with one present vote Friday.

"This bill will create a mechanism that will allow the General Assembly to provide direct property tax relief to every single homeowner in the state of Illinois," Rep. Daniel Didech, a Buffalo Grove Democrat and the bill's House sponsor, said.

Didech said a property tax task force will meet this summer in an effort to identify revenues for the fund and find other ways to provide property tax relief, and the General Assembly will decide on revenues in the future.

Some House Republicans on Thursday called the fund "smoke and mirrors" and "window dressing." They questioned whether it would ever receive the funding to actually provide tax relief and said it would not actually address the factors driving high property taxes.

"This is fake property tax reduction," Rep. David McSweeney, a Barrington Hills Republican, said.

The legislation creating the task force passed both chambers Friday after heated debate Thursday night which led to a late amendment being pulled from the House record.

Republican Minority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, pointed out the late amendment removed the authority of Republican lawmakers to appoint members to the task force.

"This is the first time in my time down here that the rights of the minority party have been completely trampled on an issue that you claim is important," Durkin said. "But you're saying in here that Republicans don't matter. We have no voice in this committee. Shame on you."

The sponsor of the bill, Democratic Rep. Jonathan Carroll of Northbrook, said the language was provided by the governor and he eventually pulled it from the record after initially refusing.

By Friday, Carroll added a fourth amendment to Senate Bill 1932 including the minority leaders in the task force appointment process once again.

The task force is to meet over the summer to look for solutions to address rising property tax costs and address the way local governing bodies levy taxes.

"We're putting them on notice," Carroll said.

Both chambers passed the task force bill unanimously Friday with little discussion other than Republicans expressing skepticism about the ability of the task force to create change.

Gambling Bill Highlights

- Six new casinos authorized in Illinois, in Waukegan, Danville, Rockford, South Suburbs, Williamson County and Chicago.
- New casinos can be land-based; existing riverboat casinos allowed to change to landbased.
- Chicago casino to be privately-owned; city can appeal to the Illinois Gaming Board if private ownership is not feasible.
- Supplier diversity requirements and minority participation goals established for new casinos.
- Slots allowed at O'Hare and Midway airports.
- Horse race tracks allowed to install slot machines and table games.
- Casino gambling position limit bumped from 1,200 to 2,000 (4,000 in a Chicago casino), each new position costing \$17,500 (\$30,000 for Chicago positions).
- Tax increase on video gambling machines from 30 percent to 34 percent within two years.
- Video gambling machine limit bumped up from five to six at each location (10 for truck stops that sell more than 50,000 gallons of fuel a year).
- Increased maximum bets (from \$2 to \$4) at video gambling terminals; progressive jackpots allowed.
- State dollars for problem gambling initiatives increased to \$6.8 million from \$800,000.
- Sports betting licenses available for casinos, race tracks and sports facilities that seat more than 17,000 people.
- Sports betting licenses range from \$3.2 million







to \$10 million for casinos and race tracks; \$10 million for sports facilities; \$20 million for online sports better operators such as FanDuel and DraftKings.

- Online sports betting operators allowed to partner with a brick-and-mortar facility under the brand name of the facility.
- After 18 months, online operators allowed to purchase completely online license (not connected to brick-and-mortar location).
- 15 percent tax rate on sports betting.
- Official professional sports leagues data can be used, but no royalties will go to the leagues.
- All betting on Illinois college sports teams banned.
 Pilot program created to test sports betting through Illinois Lottery at authorized lottery locations.
- -All revenues from bill would go toward funding the vertical components of a long-term capital infrastructure plan, such as building renovations at state universities and prisons.

House

from page 2

fees. It passed the House, 83-29.

And House Bill 690 provides funding for the "vertical" infrastructure projects. It includes legalized sports betting and expansion of casino gambling, a \$1 per-pack increase in cigarette taxes, new taxes on parking fees, and extending the state sales tax to purchases made remotely, including online purchases from out-of-state retailers that do not have a brick-and-mortar nexus in Illinois. It passed the House, 87-27.

Garage Sale

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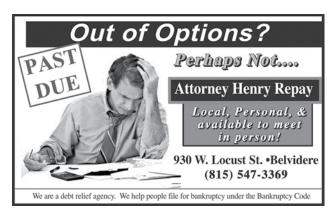
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Pritzker Signs Budget, Revenue & Capital Bills

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed a new, \$40.1 billion state budget bill into law Wednesday, along with bills to fund a long-range capital improvements plan and a bill that would establish a new, multi-bracket income tax structure in Illinois, provided voters approve a constitutional amendment allowing it in the 2020 elections.

He also signed a bill that would establish a system of graduated income tax rates to take effect in 2021, provided that Illinois voters approve a constitutional amendment in November 2020 to allow such a tax system.

The budget bill, Senate Bill 262, adds about \$1.14 billion in new spending during the fiscal year that begins July 1. It passed the General Assembly over the weekend with broad bipartisan support, but it came about only after weeks of contentious negotiations between legislative Democrats and Republicans.

"Just a few years ago, simply passing a budget was considered nearly impossible. And for years before that, the budget included gimmicks and tricks, and was balanced in name only," Pritzker said during a bill-signing ceremony at the Thompson Center in Chicago. "Those days are over. That this budget is balanced and bipartisan demonstrates just how far we have come."

Some of the highlights of the budget, according to the governor's office, include an \$80 million increase in funding for the troubled Department of Children and Family Services to hire additional staff and to increase reimbursement rates paid to social service providers who work on contract with the agency.

It also includes \$107 million in additional funding for the Department of Human Services to increase reimbursement rates for people and agencies that provide home and community based services for the elderly and disabled.

K-12 and higher education will also see funding increases next year, with more than \$378 million in new funding going to public schools and another \$66.7 million in additional base funding for public universities and community colleges.

The budget plan also includes a full payment into the state's pension systems. And it adds \$410 million to the current fiscal year's budget to cover costs associated with unpaid union contract obligations dating back to fiscal year 2016.

That new spending was made possible by passage of a revenue bill, Senate Bill 689, that levies a new tax on the private insurance companies that administer the state's Medicaid program. Money from that assessment will be used to draw down additional federal matching funds, thus freeing up about \$530 million in state general revenues to be used for other purposes.

The revenue bill also calls for bringing in additional corporate income tax revenue by "decoupling" a

portion of the state tax code from federal tax law. That provision deals specifically with multinational corporations that repatriate assets and cash from offshore accounts back to the United States.

The capital improvements bill, meanwhile, calls for spending an additional \$45 billion over the next several years repairing and enhancing the state's roads, bridges and public transit systems as well as K-12 and higher education campuses, public health clinics and a number of other public facilities.

At the bill signing ceremony, Pritzker was surrounded by a number of Democratic leaders in the General Assembly who were key to pushing the package through the House and Senate.

But House Republican

Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, issued a statement saying he believes the additional graduated income tax proposal is unnecessary.

"For two years in a row, Republicans and Democrats have proven that we can balance the state's budget with no new taxes on Illinois families," Durkin said in a statement released Wednesday afternoon. "However, the graduated tax rates signed into law today are simply the next step to giving Illinois Democrats a blank check for uncontrolled spending for years to come. Illinois families should remain very wary on the rates that are being 'promised' today – as Democrats will continue to come back, year after year, and pickpocket more money from Illinois families and businesses."

Illinois House Sends Marijuana Legalization To Gov. Pritzker

Legal retail sales could begin Jan. 1, 2020

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois House on Friday passed a bill legalizing adult recreational marijuana in the state.

The 66-to-47 vote sends House Bill 1438 to Gov. J.B. Pritzker who campaigned in 2018 on a platform that included legalizing marijuana. The Senate approved the bill on Wednesday, 38-17.

"The state of Illinois just made history, legalizing adult-use cannabis with the most equity-centric approach in the nation," Pritzker said in a statement released after the vote. "This will have a transformational impact on our state, creating opportunity in the communities that need it most and giving so many a second chance. In the interest of equity and criminal justice reform, I look forward to signing this monumental legislation."

Friday's vote, however, came after a marathon debate that lasted nearly four hours, leaving lawmakers with less than 10 hours to complete the rest of their business for the session. That forced leaders to announce the House would continue meeting Saturday and Sunday.

With passage of the marijuana bill, Illinois is poised to become the 10th state in the nation to legalize its use by adults for recreational purposes. But it would be the first to do so by a comprehensive statute enacted by the legislature rather than through a ballot initiative.

Vermont legalized marijuana through legislation in 2018, but that law covered only personal use and cultivation. It did not include retail sales.

The Illinois bill would provide for licensing and regulation of marijuana cultivators, processors, transporters and sellers. It also allows Illinois residents over age 21 to possess up to 30 grams, or roughly one ounce, of marijuana for personal use,

Continued on Page 8

Received a notice from the IRS? Haven't filed for several years? Can't afford to pay your taxes?



You have a serious legal problem. You must take action. The IRS is not going to go away.

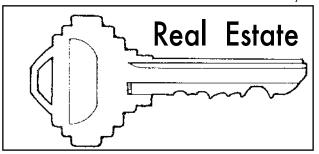
There are deadlines. Miss those deadlines and you'll lose your rights to appeal, have your case heard, and pay more interest and penalties.

I can help. As a tax attorney, I am trained to analyze the law, minimize your tax bill, and protect your legal rights. Wouldn't you rather speak with someone locally that you can trust?

You can overcome your tax problems. I use a variety of approaches, often more than one, to solve a tax problem. Each client's situation is different.

Let's work through your IRS matter and get you back to enjoying The Good Life.





IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE

COMPANY Plaintiff, -v.- 2019 CH 19

JOYCE M. SPOHN, et al Defendant NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 14, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on June 25, 2019, at the NLT Title L.L.C, 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 119 CENTRALIA PL NE, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065

Property Index No. 03-22-428-001.
The real estate is improved with a residence.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgag-ee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation

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

Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to

redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admon-

ished to check the court file to verify all information.

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

mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure

For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-19-00846.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE, II. 60527

(630) 794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-19-00846 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002

Case Number: 2019 CH 19 TJSC#: 39-3172

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Published by *The Boone County Journal* May 24, 31; Jun 7, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES Foreclosures

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY

NORTHWEST BANK OF ROCKFORD, Plaintiff,

VS. CASE NO. 2018 CH 113 VALENTIN DE LA TORRE, UNKNOWN OTHERS, NONRECORD CLAIMAINTS AND UNKNOWN TENANTS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE THE REQUISITE Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to Valentin De La Torre, the Defendant in the above-entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of the 17th Judicial Circuit, Boone County, Illinois, against you

praying for a foreclosure of a mortgage upon the following property: Lot Eleven (11) in Block Four (4) as designated upon the Plat of Highland, being a Subdivision of part of the Southwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 36, Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Boone County, Illinois, according to the plat thereof recorded on December 19, 1891, in Book One of Plats on Page Two; situated in the City of Belvidere in the County of Boone, State of Illinois.

Commonly known as: 1432 Garfield Avenue Belvidere, Illinois

P.I. N. 05-36-305-006

And for other relief, that the action was filed on or about November

26, 2018 That Summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law, and that the said suit is still pending. The record titleholder of the real estate is Valentin De La Torre. An identification of the mortgage sought to be foreclosed is as follows:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER

JEFFREY D. CARLSON A/K/A JEFFREY CARLSON; SUSAN CARLSON A/K/A MARY SUSAN CARLSON; CITIMORTGAGE, INC.; CORPORATE AMERICA FAMILY CREDIT UNION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS DEFENDANTS

19 CH 33 PUBLICATION NOTICE

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you Jeffrey D. Carlson a/k/a Jeffrey Carlson; Susan Carlson a/k/a Mary Susan Carlson; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants; Unknown Occupants. Defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Boone County, by the said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 14 IN DAWNGATE SUBDIVISION PLAT NO. 1 BEING PART OF THE SOUTHEAST

QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD

PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JUNE 5, 1992, AS DOCUMENT NO. 92-4159 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 1400 Dawngate Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008

Permanent Index No.: 05-36-428-001

and which said Mortgage was made by Jeffrey D. Carlson and Susan Carlson a/k/a Mary Susan Carlson Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for Citibank, N.A. as Mortgagee, and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, Document No. 2012R09581.

And for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of the said Court against you as provided by law, and that the suit is now pending. Now therefore, unless you, the said above named defendants, e-file your

Complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, on or before the 30th day after the first publication of this notice which is July 1, 2019. Default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing ser-

vice provider. Visit https://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/serviceproviders. htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/ gethelp.asp, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. Clerk

Shapiro Kreisman & Associates, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 2121 Waukegan Road, Suite 301 Bannockburn, IL 60015 (847) 291-1717 ILNOTICES@logs.com

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANK-RUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION. I3121992

Published in The Boone County Journal May 31; Jun 7, 14, 2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE COMPANY Plaintiff,

-v.- 2019 CH 19 JOYCE M. SPOHN, et al Defendant NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 14, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on June 25, 2019, at the NLT Title L.L.C, 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE, STATE OF ILLINOIS, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 162 IN CANDLEWICK LAKE UNIT NO. 3 ACCORD ING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AS DOC. #72-123 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 119 CENTRALIA PL NE, POPLAR GROVE, IL

Property Index No. 03-22-428-001.

The real estate is improved with a residence.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale.

The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation

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

Where a sale of real estate is made to satisfy a lien prior to that of the United States, the United States shall have one year from the date of sale within which to redeem, except that with respect to a lien arising under the internal revenue laws the period shall be 120 days or the period allowable for redemption under State law, whichever is longer, and in any case in which, under the provisions of section 505 of the Housing Act of 1950, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701k), and subsection (d) of section 3720 of title 38 of the United States Code, the right to

redeem does not arise, there shall be no right of redemption.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgaged shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

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

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure

For information, examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODI-LIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876 Please refer to file number 14-

19-00846

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100

BURR RIDGE, IL 60527

G(30) 794-5300
E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com
Attorney File No. 14-19-00846
Attorney ARDC No. 00468002
Case Number: 2019 CH 19
TJSC#: 39-3172

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Published by The Boone County Journal May 24, 31; Jun 7, 2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, PLAINTIFF

2019CH67

Vs. 2019CH67
Heidi Holthusen; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Jeffery S. Holthusen Sr;
Jeffery Holthusen, Jr.; Kathryn Holthusen; Dana Barclay; Jason Holthusen;
Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants, DEFENDANTS
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

Helmour Heirs and Legatees of Leffery S. Holthusen Sr.

Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Jeffery S. Holthusen Sr Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

931 Nettie St

Belvidere, IL 61008

and which said Mortgage was made by: Jeffery S. Holthusen Sr

the Mortgagor(s), to Bank of America, N.A., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2012R01233; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now

pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,

Linda J Anderson Clerk of the Circuit Court

601 North Main Street Belvidere, IL 61008

on or before July 8, 2019, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COM-

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100 Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (630) 794-5300 DuPage # 15170 Winnebago # 531 Our File No. 14-19-04388 NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BOONE COUNTY, 601 NORTH MAIN STREET, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS ESTATE OF Elizabeth Hagan, DECEASED.

Notice is given to creditors of the death of the above named decedent. Letters of office were issued to Sharon Hagan, 209 Taylor Ridge, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is John Bielski II, Bielski Law Offices, Ltd., 123 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2300, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act III. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed with the clerk or with the representative, or both, on or before December 1, 2019, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited ex-

emptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.

asp. John Bielski II Bielski Law Offices, Ltd., (6242527) 123 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2300 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 583-9430

13122041 Published in The Boone County Journal May 31; Jun 7, 14, 2019

> STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY

Case No. 2019-D-60 Marina Marquez Plaintiff Luis Miguel Reygadas Martinez Defendant NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, Luis Reygadas Martinez, Defendant that this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for Dissolution of marriage Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause

in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Boone County, Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, Illinois, 61008 on or before the 26th day of June, 2019, a Judgment or other relief as prayed for by the Plaintiff may be granted. Dated: 05/22/19

Linda J. Anderson Clerk of the Circuit Court 17th Judicial Circuit Boone County, Illinois

Published in the Boone County Journal 05/24,31 06/07

Notice of Lien Sale

The following amount must be paid no later than 5 p.m. June 22, 2019. FULL payment of CASH or MONEY ORDER ONLY, accepted at : Danndi Storage

13537 IL Rte. 76

Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Or the contents of the below listed units, located at 13511 Harvest Way, Poplar Grove, IL.,

will be sold at auction or otherwise disposed of on or any day after June 23, 2019.

Matt Kleckner - Unit #16 - Amount due \$641.25 plus advertising Published in The Boone County Journal June 7, 14, 2019

TO: Tamara L. Moore, Spouse of Tamara L. Moore, Occupant, Lex Financial, LLC, Tamara L. Moore, Spouse of Tamara L. Moore
Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown

owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (12)

The Property is located at: 1727 14th Ave., Belvidere, IL

Property Index Number: 05-35-352-011 Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00171

TO: Rogelio Hernandez-Flores, Lisa Hernandez, Occupant, PNC Bank, N.A., Mirella Castillhidaldo, PNC Bank, N.A.

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown

owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (13)

The Property is located at:

1006 Washington St., Belvidere, IL

Property Index Number: 05-36-256-001

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/
or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00109

TO: Midland States Bank TR 1015, Midland States Bank, Occupant, Midland States Bank, Filter Systems, Inc.

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (3)
The Property is located at:
424 Fairview St., Belvidere, IL

Property Index Number: 05-25-127-023
Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Ideal Enterprises, Inc., Petitioner Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00162

TO: David Edge, Susan Edge, David Edge, Susan Edge, David Edge, Susan Edge, PNC Bank, National Association, Warner Auto, United States Attorney General, United States Attorney, Internal Revenue Service, Internal Revenue Service, David Edge, Spouse of Susan Edge, Spouse of Susan Edge, Spouse of Susan Edge, Spouse of Susan Edge, PNC Bank, National Association

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (4)

The Property is located at:

SW Comer of Logan Ave. & Caswell St., Belvidere, IL Property Index Number: 05-36-129-006

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/

or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed. Ideal Enterprises, Inc., Petitioner

Published in The Boone County Journal June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00166

TO: Manuel Ortega, Yolanda Ortega, Spouse of Manuel Ortega, Spouse of Yolanda Ortega, Occupant, Manuel Ortega, Spouse of Manuel Ortega, Yolanda Ortega, Spouse of Yolanda Ortega

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (5) The Property is located at: 123 W. 6th St., Belvidere, IL

Property Index Number: 05-36-156-009 Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/

or Special Assessments for the year 2015. The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an

Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed. Ideal Enterprises, Inc., Petitioner Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00110

TO: Belvidere National Bank & Trust TR 1015, Boone County Trustee, Filter

owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the

Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (10)

The Property is located at: 1005 North Ave., Belvidere, IL

Property Index Number: 05-25-128-001

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner

Published in The Boone County Journal June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00011

TO: Johnny E. Bowen, Spouse of Johnny E. Bowen, Occupant, Candlewick Lake Association, Inc., Toyota Motor Credit Corp., Deborah Thompson

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots. A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (8)

The Property is located at: 107 Centralia Pl. NE, Poplar Grove, IL

Property Index Number: 03-22-428-007

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an

Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00021

TO: Mohamad M. Badran, Spouse of Mohamad M. Badran, Candlewick Lake

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown

owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (6)

The Property is located at:

200 Lamplighter Loop SE, Poplar Grove, IL

Property Index Number: 03-26-105-001

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/
or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Published in The Boone County Journal June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00046

TO: Mark Waldron, Kim Waldron, Occupant, Candlewick Lake Association, Inc.
Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown

owners or parties interested in said land or lots. A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (7)

The Property is located at:

105 Squire Ln., SE Poplar Grove, IL Property Index Number: 03-27-230-021

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2015.
The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am

the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed. Midtax, Inc., Petitioner

Published in The Boone County Journal June 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE

CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00143

Debra A. Hughes, Occupant, Spouse of Deba A. Hughes, Deann F. Hopkins, Spouse of Deann F. Hopkins, Dawn E. Garza, Spouse of Dawn E. Garza, Carrie R. Hopkins, Spouse of Carrie R. Hopkins, Daniel H. Hopkins, Spouse of Daniel H. Hopkins, Debra A. Hughes, Spouse of Debra A. Hughes, Deann F. Hopkins, Spouse of Deann F. Hopkins, Dawn E. Garza, Spouse of Dawn E. Garza, Carrie R. Hopkins, Spouse of Carrie R. Hopkins, Daniel H. Hopkins, Spouse of Daniel H. Hopkins, Deann F. Hopkins, Spouse of Deann F. Hopkins, Dawn E. Garza, Spouse of Dawn E. Garza, Carrie R. Hopkins, Spouse of Carrie R. Hopkins, Daniel H. Hopkins, Spouse of Daniel H. Hopkins, Waterfall

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown

owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26(11)

The Property is located at: 141 S. Appleton Rd., Belvidere, IL

Property Index Number: 05-34-200-023 Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/ or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner

Published in *The Boone County Journal June* 7, 14, 21, 2019

TAKE NOTICE CERTIFICATE NO. 2015-00098

TO: Michael D. Coil, Spouse of Michael D. Coil, Occupant, DWW Inc. d/b/a Tractor Town, Michael D. Coil, Spouse of Michael D. Coil, Kari L. Stevens, Spouse of Kari L. Stevens, First National Bank of Omaha, Kari L. Stevens, Spouse of Kari L. Stevens, Tri Star Enterprises, United States Attorney, Internal Revenue Service, Internal Revenue Service, Michael D. Coil, Spouse of Michael D. Coil, Illinois Attorney General, Illinois Department of Revenue, First National Bank of Omaha, Tri-Star Landscape, Maureen Koteles

Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2016TX26 (9)

The Property is located at:

10426 McKinley Ave., Poplar Grove, IL Property Index Number: 05-11-400-004

Said Property was sold on 10/27/2016 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/

or Special Assessments for the year 2015.

The period of redemption will expire on 9/30/2019. On 12/10/19 at 10:00 am the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Realtax Developers, Ltd, Petitioner

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 7, 14, 21, 2019

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF BOONE

ROCKY TEMPLE and DENISE TEMPLE, Plaintiff,

19 LM 35 JODECI COOPER, Defendant.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Forcible Entry and Detainer case was filed on May 2, 2019 and is pending against you.

UNLESS YOU FILE YOUR APPEARANCE in this case or otherwise appear on June 13, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Boone County Courthouse located at 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, Illinois, AN EVICTION ORDER MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU.

Linda J. Anderson, Clerk of Court Attorney Nathan J. Noble

504 North State Street Belvidere, IL 61008

815.547.7700 Published in The Boone County Journal May 24, 31, June 7, 2019

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BELVIDERE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION Notice is hereby given that the City of Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 5:30pm in the Sips and Sprinkles lobby, 221 W. Locust Street, Belvidere, IL 61008 upon the following: the application of Marion Thornberry on behalf of St John's United Church of Christ (St. Johannes Evangelische Kirche), 401 North Main Street, Belvidere for the local landmark designation of 401 North Main Street according to the requirements of Chapter 58 of the Belvidere Municipal Code. The proposed landmark meets the following criteria of Section 58-61: it has character and interest as part of the development of the City of Belvidere; it is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of Belvidere and Boone County and it is

suitable for preservation. The subject property is legally described as:

Lots Number Five (5) and Eight (8) in Block Number Thirty-Four (34) in the Original Town, now City, of Belyidere, situated in the County of Boone and State of Illinois. ALSO, the Southerly One-Half (1/2) of Lots Number Six (6) and Seven (7) in Block Number Thirty-Four (34) in the Original Town, now City, of Belvidere, situated in the County of Boone and State of Illinois.

Part of Lot Four in Block Thirty-Four of the Original Town of Belvidere, as platted and recorded in the Recorder's Office of Boone County, Illinois, described as follows: Commencing at the Southwesterly Corner of said Lot Four on the Northerly line of Madison Street; thence Northwesterly on the line dividing Lots Five and Four

in said Block, One Hundred and Six feet; thence Easterly parallel with the Northerly line of Madison Street Three rods and Eight feet; thence Southerly parallel with the Westerly line of Webster Street One Hundred and Six feet to the Northerly line of Madison Street; thence Westerly on

the Northerly line of Madison Street Three rods and Eight feet to the place of beginning.

All that part of Lot One and all that part of Lot Four in Block Thirty-Four in the Original Town of Belvidere, described as follows: Commencing on the Northerly line of Madison Street Three rods and Eight feet Northeasterly from the Southwesterly corner of Lot Four in the aforesaid Block; running thence Northwesterly parallel with the Easterly line of said Lot Four, One Hundred and Six feet; thence Northeasterly parallel with the Northerly line of Madison Street in aforesaid City of Belvidere to the Easterly line of said Lot One, being the Westerly line of Webster Street; thence Southeasterly One Hundred and Six feet along the Easterly side of said Lot One to the Southeasterly corner of said Lot One; thence in a Southwesterly direction along the Northerly line of said Madison Street to the place of beginning.

Beginning at a point in the Westerly line of Webster Street Seventyfive feet Southeasterly from the most Northerly corner of Block Thirty-Four in the Original Town, now City, of Belvidere; thence at right angles to Webster Street Southwesterly and parallel with Perry Street Eight rods to the center line of said Block Thirty-Four; thence Southeasterly along said center line Eighty-three feet; thence at right angles Northeasterly Eight rods to the Westerly line of Webster Street; thence Northwesterly along said line of Webster Street Eighty-three feet to the place of beginning. Being part of Lots 1,2,3 and 4 in said Block Thirty-four. Situated in the City of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois.

PIN: 05-26-383-010

Lisa Kummerow, Chairman,

All persons interested in the petitions may attend and be heard at the stated time and place.

Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission Published in The Boone County Journal June 7, 2019 PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that at 8:00 P.M. June 27, 2019 Public Hearing will be held at 18760 Harnish Road for the purposes of considering the proposed budget, levy and appropriation ordinances of

The Manchester Rural Fire Protection District #5. The proposed budget and ordinances will be on file and conveniently available to public

inspection at said hearing.

Joel Nussbaum Secretary of Manchester Rural

Fire Protection District

Number Five. Published in the Boone County Journal 06/07/19.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that at 6:45 P.M., July 15, 2019, Public Hearing will be held at Boone County Fire Protection District No. 2, 1777 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere, Illinois, for the purpose of considering the proposed budget and appropriation ordinance of the District. Any party interested in viewing a copy of the proposed budget and ordinance may do so during business hours (8:00 A.M. to 5 P.M.) at the Station at 1777 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere, Illinois

Published in the Boone County Journal 06/07,14,21,28 08/05,12

<u> Assumed Names</u>

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

State of Illinois County of Boone) ss This is to certify that the undersigned intend...to conduct and transact a Construction business in said County and State under the name of A's Carpentry and Framing at the following addresses: 2225 Sunrise Dr., Belvidere IL, 61008 and that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with the respective residence address of each, are as follows: NAME AND ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE: Antonio Aguilar 2225 Sunrise Dr., Belvidere IL, 61008 Signed: Antonio Aguilar 05/28/2019

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 28th day of

May, 2019.
Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk, by Giselle Lenover, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal 05/31, 06/07,14

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION State of Illinois County of Boone) ss This is to certify that the undersigned intend...to conduct and transact a Remodeling business undersigned intend...to conduct and transact a Remodeling business in said County and State under the name of Argoss at the following addresses: 2109 Candlewick Dr. SE, Poplar Grove IL, 61065 and that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with the respective residence address of each, are as follows: NAME AND ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE: Gustavo Vilchis 2109 Candlewick Dr. SE, Poplar Grove IL, 61065 Signed: Gustavo Vilchis 05/28/2019

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 28th day of May,

Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk, by Christine Gardner, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal 05/31, 06/07,14 ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

State of Illinois County of Boone) ss This is to certify that the undersigned intend...to conduct and transact a Buying Small Properties business in said County and State under the name of Vilchis Enterprise at the following addresses: 2109 Candlewick Dr. SE, Poplar Grove IL, 61065 and that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with the respective residence address of each, are as follows: NAME AND ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE: Gustavo Vilchis 2109 Candlewick Dr. SE, Poplar Grove IL, 61065 Signed:

Gustavo Vilchis 05/28/2019. Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 28th day of May,

Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk, by Christine Gardner, Deputy Published in the Boone County Journal 05/31, 06/07,14

CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OFBUSINESS Public Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2019, a certificate was filed on the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as Unique Boutique, located at 521 S. State St., Belvidere, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: Withdrawal of Owner Katharine L. Groom. Dated this 29th day of May, 2019.

Julie A. Stapler Boone County Clerk

By Sherry Blauert, Deputy Published in the Boone County Journal 05/31, 06/07,14

ROOM FOR RENT: Belvidere: Nice

furnished room w/ fridge, near downtown, bus stop, Aldi, Drug & Dollar Stores. No Sec. Deposit. \$102/wk. or \$430/mo.

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Rep. Jeff Keicher Releases End of Session Statement

"Over a year ago, I began my first-ever campaign for public office with a very simple and straightforward platform. My goals included protecting taxpayers, creating jobs and economic development, establishing a world-class education and workforce development system, restoring fiscal stability and balancing the budget, and rebuilding Illinois' infrastructure.

"I am very pleased that after my first legislative session, we have started down a path to make these goals a reality.

"Illinois passed its first balanced budget in years without increasing income or sales taxes. This year's budget paid down one billion dollars in old bills while increasing funding for education by \$375 million and investing in need-based MAP grants for college students.

"We enacted a major jobs program for the first time in more than a decade to help rebuild our roads and bridges, transit, airports and rail, high speed broadband in rural areas, and state facilities. I am very proud that I helped secure \$78 million for Northern Illinois University that will now be able to move forward with a Health IT Building. We are making major investments in roads throughout the 70th district.

"The General Assembly actually cut taxes on 300,000 small businesses by phasing out the corporate franchise tax. We reinstated the MPC sales tax exemption and extended the Research & Development tax credit for our innovative manufacturing sector that is the state's largest economic engine. Importantly, the legislature created an incentive for data centers that I hope will spark a new \$1.2 billion project in DeKalb County.

"Over the course of the five-month session, more than 6,000 bills were introduced by lawmakers of both parties. While we achieved several victories, there were many bills passed by the legislature that I opposed because they did not represent the values of the families and businesses in our district.

"I strongly opposed the \$3.5 billion income tax hike that will significantly raise tax rates on our residents. This plan had no meaningful property tax relief and was also opposed by groups like the Farm Bureau and Chamber of Commerce. Constituents told me very clearly that they do not trust politicians with more of their hard-earned tax dollars and I heeded their wishes.

"Likewise, I voted against an 82 percent increase in the minimum wage. While every employee deserves to earn a living, this proposal did not adjust for geography and allowed Chicago and Cook County businesses to phase it in over ten years, while employers in our district have to do so in five years. Overwhelmingly, the small businesses in my district opposed this government mandate and I listened.

"I also opposed legislation expanding Illinois abortion law. This is a very personal issue for families but I could not support the use of tax dollars to pay for these procedures, elimination of parental notification requirements, or allowing for very late term or born alive abortions.

"Working with the Farm Bureau, Corn Growers Association, and other agriculture groups, we were able to stop legislation that would have added significant labor and regulatory costs for ethanol plants and livestock facilities. I proudly joined every member of the House Republican Caucus in the final days of session to stand with our farm community and stop these anti-business measures.

"Governing is not a game of absolutes. Votes are not easy and I do my best to represent the interests of communities and residents in the 70th district. In my first year in office, I was pleased to see lawmakers from both political parties attempt to set aside differences and work together for the betterment of Illinois."

Belvidere Student and DACA Recipient Interns for Durbin

Belvidere, Illinois, native Victor Garcia-Estrada spent this spring interning for U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), working behind the scenes in the Senator's Capitol Hill office as an intern. Each year, close to 50 interns work in Durbin's Washington, D.C. office.

"I started my career on Capitol Hill as a college intern for Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois," Durbin said. "I will never forget that day in February of 1966 when he agreed to hire me as an intern to work in his office. As a student from East St. Louis, Illinois, going to work in the office of a U.S. Senator was one of the most exciting things I had ever done. I know what a valuable experience it can be and we strive to make sure all of our students get a

glimpse into the workings of the United States Senate."

At the age of two, Victor migrated to the United States from Mexico, and was later granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status. Victor's interest in politics stems from his senior year of high school, where he was co-captain of the varsity debate team. Victor is a sophomore at Rock Valley College in Rockford, Illinois. Upon the completion of his Associate's Degree, he plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. Prior to joining Durbin's Washington, D.C. office, Victor interned for Congresswoman Cheri Bustos in both her Washington, D.C. and Rockford offices.

"Senator Durbin's office has given me a sense of appreciation and admiration for public officials who constantly stand up for those attacked under this current political climate," Garcia-Estrada said. "As someone who is a DACA recipient, being here has given me the ability to stay focused on my future and knowing there will be a tomorrow. Senator Durbin has been a role model since the day he introduced the Dream Act. I am grateful and appreciative of having the privilege to intern in his office."

The intern responsibilities include assisting full-time staff in responding to constituent related topics, assisting with information inquiries, attending committee and agency hearings and briefings, researching legislative issues and policy questions, and observing floor proceedings. During that time, the students gain firsthand knowledge of the legislative process, learn about the inner-workings of the federal government, and develop valuable research skills.

In March, Durbin introduced the bipartisan Dream Act of 2019, which would allow immigrant students who were brought here as children and grew up in the United States to earn lawful permanent residence and eventually American citizenship. These young people, known as Dreamers, have lived in America since they were children, built their lives here, and are American in every way except for their immigration status. However, under current law there is no chance for them to ever become citizens and fulfill their potential.

President Obama created DACA in 2012 in order to protect Dreamers from deportation and give them an opportunity to receive a two-year renewable work permit. In 2018, President Trump repealed DACA, but three federal courts have issued orders blocking the repeal, so Dreamers that have DACA can continue to apply to renew their status for now.

Marijuana

from page 5

and it allows people certified to use marijuana for medical purposes to grow up to five plants in their own homes.

Sales and possession would become legal under state law on Jan. 1, 2020, although marijuana is still illegal under federal law.

The bill also sets out a schedule of licensing fees and excise taxes that Rep. Kelly Cassidy, D-Chicago, said is expected to generate \$58 million in the upcoming fiscal year, and as much as \$500 million a year when the industry is fully mature.

"This is the beginning of the end of the war on drugs," Cassidy said on the House floor just before the final vote.

Indeed, many supporters of legalization said their primary goal was to correct the inequities and social harms they say the war on drugs has had on black and Latino communities, who they argued have been disproportionately targeted for enforcement and incarceration for drug violations.

The bill would provide a mechanism under which hundreds of thousands of Illinois residents could have criminal records for minor marijuana-related offenses expunged.

It also would direct a significant share of the revenues generated into community reinvestment programs for communities that have been disproportionately impacted by drug enforcement policies.

"We have been able to craft a policy that reinvests money in communities that have been divested in for the last 80 years," said Rep. Jenhan Gordon-Booth, D-Peoria. The bill also does nothing to change the state's medical marijuana program. In fact, people who hold licenses to operate medical marijuana dispensaries will have the first opportunity to obtain a second license for a recreational dispensary so retail sales can begin Jan 1.

Chris Stone, CEO of Ascend Wellness/HCI Alternatives, which operates medical dispensaries in Springfield and Collinsville, issued a statement after the vote saying that company would continue operating those outlets, adding: "We are excited for the future and look forward to serving even more people in the years to come."

Critics of the bill, however, warned about the public health and criminal justice effects that they said legalization would have.

Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, cited a number of scientific studies that showed a correlation between marijuana use and violent behavior, including studies that showed an increase in violent crime in states that have recently legalized marijuana.

"Correlation does not prove causation," he said. "However, there is sufficient evidence for us to show that there is a connection between the use, particularly heavy use of marijuana and the increase in violence."

And Rep. Anthony DeLuca, D-Chicago Heights, re-enacted a 1980s-era anti-drug advertisement by holding up an egg, saying, "This is your brain," then breaking it into a frying pay and saying, "This is your brain on drugs."

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