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JOURNAL
Real Journalism for a Real Democracy

Friday • July 3, 2020
Vol. 25, Issue 10 • No. 1258

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Embassy Suites Rockford Riverfront Hotel - building, lobby, rooftop

160-Room Hotel, Conference Center Opens in Downtown Rockford

by Charles Herbst

Greatly anticipated, the new Embassy Suites Rockford Riverfront Hotel and Conference Center opened this past Wednesday, July 1 in Downtown Rockford. Located in the former Amerock Building, the \$70 million hotel features 160 guest suites, two restaurants and a Rockford Roasting Company coffee shop on the first floor.

The hotel was originally scheduled to open in April, but it was delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Because of the need to practice social distancing, the hotel is currently open for registered overnight guests only. A gala opening is planned for later in the year.

The 225,000 square foot building consists of the former twelve-story Amerock tower and a newly constructed lobby and conference center immediately to the north of the tower building. Of particular note are the spacious expanses of windows that afford impressive views of the Rock River, Davis Park and the surrounding area. The Top Cocktail Lounge, located on the 12th floor, features a three-level outdoor rooftop deck with views up and down the river, including the falls and many bridges. It is certain to become a favorite place to grab late-afternoon or evening cocktails.

Many of the building's industrial features are preserved along with Rockford memorabilia. Each floor features a different local theme, such as the Rockford Peaches girls' baseball team or the Amerock products that were formerly made in the building.

The hotel has the many features a guest would expect in an upscale, all-suite hotel including a cooked-to-order breakfast buffet, an evening reception and cocktail hour, fitness center and a unique, T-shaped swimming pool. Suites come equipped with kitchenettes and room service is available.

Apart from being the only modern hotel in Downtown Rockford, Embassy Suites Sales Manager Bethany Bohn explained that this is the only hotel in the area with significant conference facilities. Meeting attendees want to be able to stay at the same facility where a conference is being held. This is especially true for large weddings. The hotel boasts several rooms dedicated to helping brides and their wedding parties prepare for the festivities.

Embassy Suites is advertising the ability to host groups of 10-800 people. With the proximity of the BMO Harris Center one block to the north, even larger gatherings can be held. With the closure several years ago of the Clock Tower Inn, Rockford has been lacking such a space. The Rockford area attracts a number of meetings and amateur sports competitions, all of which require a significant number of hotel rooms in addition to the ordinary demand for overnight lodging.

A significant amount of economic development resources was expended on bringing the hotel to Rockford and it is hoped that it will serve as a catalyst to increase business and other commercial activity in Downtown Rockford.



City kicks off another year of Stroll on Buchanan this past Saturday



Last Saturday, Peace and Justice Society march on State Street

OP ED

Most people are probably justifiably weary of hearing bad news. The warnings appear to be never ending. But remember the old admonition that "Forewarned is forearmed". State and local government fiscal crises loom, and we must prepare now. State and local budgets will undergo severe strain, both on the revenue and expenditure side of the ledger.

Let us begin by examining the likely fiscal condition of state governments. First, the revenue side of the ledger. State governments rely heavily on income and sales taxes. The pandemic has crippled both of these sensitive revenue sources. Unemployment exceeds 13% nationally. Unemployment and "lockdowns" have both slashed GDP--more than two-thirds of which consists of consumer spending. Unprecedented levels of unemployment combined with unprecedented declines in consumer spending will continue to impose unprecedented declines in state government revenues. Officials in some states confess that they cannot calculate the damage.

Remember also that as people drove less they generated less revenue from state and national gas taxes. As we will see, these gas tax revenues will not be available for road construction and repair. News sources from *The Economist* to

the *Wall Street Journal* have documented all the above developments with such numbers as are available.

The potentially dire consequences of plummeting revenues can be appreciated only when we examine the expenditure side of state budgets. Why? The brutal answer emerges when we remember that almost all states, including Illinois, have constitutional requirements for balanced budgets. If revenues fall, expenditures must also. The necessity for slashing expenditures has been well documented by the media.

Think of the terrible paradox. States bear primary responsibility for administering unemployment compensation and Medicaid. This would mean that as the virus contracts revenue, it would expand expenditures--or it would if it were not for balanced budget requirements. This paradox can only be resolved for now with significant spending cuts. The periodical, *Governing*, documented mounting public personnel cuts, as well as their unfortunate consequence, especially during the current crisis.

Finally, contracted gas tax revenues mean fewer dollars for roads from state coffers and the federal Highway Trust Fund. It must be said that all of the aforementioned miseries will be visited on few states less prepared for them than Illinois.

If we move to examine the fiscal condition of local governments, the picture that emerges is not markedly more comforting. Local governments rely disproportionately on property taxes. Most business news services, Bloomberg for example, predict problems for real estate markets resulting from business closings, stagnant rents, and mortgage foreclosures. Further, local sales taxes will follow the lead of state sales taxes. Local government revenues will suffer, even if the severity is not yet clear. Expenditures on education, police and fire protection, homelessness, and public health and retirement facilities will be strained, even as demand increases. We must note also that, whatever direction the current controversy over policing takes, reforms that are absolutely necessary will justifiably require increased expenditures.

The picture just painted is sobering, to be sure. But remember that to be forewarned is to be forearmed. We must respond. If taxes are not to be raised, then cuts will be necessary. We should plan, prioritize, and make rational decisions. State balanced budget requirements will necessitate federal assistance. We can meet these challenges through a calm and careful response. Let us do so.

Bob Evans
Rockford University

Convention Fight of 1824 Kept Legalized Slavery Out of Illinois

By Tom Emery

In 1865, Illinois became the first state to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment, banning slavery. Four decades before, the state had taken the slavery issue into its own hands.

That was the convention fight of 1823-24, when Illinois voters shot down a call for a new state constitution that would have included legalized slavery. The bruising eighteen-month battle is one of the defining moments of Illinois history, and forever changed the course of the state.

Edward Coles, the second governor of Illinois, was inaugurated in December 1822, and in his first address, vociferously called for abolition and repeal of the "black codes," a set of laws to govern blacks in the state that were established in 1819. In 2005, one historian called the codes "as odious as any promulgated in the slaveholding South."

Continued on Page 3

Quidnunc



"If" country had been wearing masks like Illinois we likely would be at the beginning of a rapid economic recover. Instead a protracted painful recovery with pandemic uncertainty is likely.

Obituaries

Berry, Raymond, 80, Belvidere, June 24
Covelli, Frank, 82, Cherry Valley, June 25
Carl Reiner 98, Beverly Hills, CA, June 29

real journalism for a real democracy

<p>Publisher/Editor Senior Writer/Editorial Advertising Photography Office</p>	<p>David C. Larson Charles Herbst Bethany Staniec Susan Moran Amanda Nelson</p>
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David Grimm April 1938 - Dec. 2000
Richelle Kingsbury Aug. 1955 - June 2013

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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.
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Coles would have none of it, despite his upbringing. Born to a wealthy slaveholding family in Virginia, he was closely associated with the likes of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, whom Coles served as private secretary from 1809-1815. But Coles abhorred slavery, and realizing that his views were decidedly in the minority in Virginia, came to the old Northwest in the hopes of living in a free society.

A week after Coles' inaugural address, a committee of the Illinois legislature recommended a constitutional convention to decide the issue. The General Assembly was rife with pro-slavery men who were hardly secret in their desire to rewrite the state constitution to include provisions on black servitude. Emboldened, they embarked on whatever means were necessary to control the outcome.

On Feb. 11, 1824, the vote in the Illinois House stood at 23-13 – one short of the necessary two-thirds majority. One of the anti-slavery voters was Nicholas Hansen of Pike County, who was burned in effigy by a hostile group of legislators that evening.

The legislature then worked to remove Hansen from his seat, despite his legal election. They prevailed and replaced him with John Shaw, a pro-slavery advocate, to reach the two-thirds majority and call for a popular vote. That night, a drunken celebration among the pro-slavery men loudly proclaimed their success, just outside Coles' boarding house in the new capital of Vandalia.

With the battle lines clearly drawn, both sides dug in for the fight. In St. Clair County, a "society for the prevention of slavery in the state of Illinois" was founded, followed by similar groups in Monroe, Madison, and Morgan counties. Clergy statewide generally sided with the anti-slavery faction.

Meanwhile, the pro-slavery men adhered to a popular slogan, "the convention or death!" Fistfights among opposing sides were common across the state, and several killings were blamed on the issue. Coles himself was burned in effigy in Vandalia.

Not surprisingly, the four newspapers of the state were equally polarized. Papers in Kaskaskia and Shawneetown became vocal supporters of the convention, while the anti-slavery Illinois Intelligencer of Vandalia had special backing. Coles himself purchased that paper and was a frequent contributor, writing impassioned articles to defeat the convention call.

Coles became the face of the anti-slavery movement, and his remarkable efforts to defeat the convention resonate even today. A man of considerable fortune, he spent nearly \$4,000 of his own money, four times his annual salary as governor and over \$100,000 in today's dollars. Coles also visited each community in Illinois to meet with supporters and deliver speeches.

Using his national connections, Coles enlisted the help of Nicholas Biddle, president of the Bank of the United States, who provided funds as well as pamphlets to argue against the convention. Biddle and Coles both appealed to Eastern abolitionist friends who contributed many anti-slavery tracts, which Coles distributed within Illinois at his own expense.

On Aug. 2, 1824, the people of Illinois, by a tally of 6,640 to 4,972, defeated the convention call, a seminal moment in the history of the state. Had Illinois chosen slavery, the direction of the state – and the nation – would have been irretrievably altered.

Coles suffered the inevitable backlash after his term ended, and eventually left Illinois, an unsung hero in the fight for freedom in his adopted state.

Raoul Asks Federal Judge to Force Recognition of Equal Rights Amendment's Ratification

Federal official refuses to act unless judge orders him to do so

by *Rebecca Anzel Capitol News Illinois*

Illinois' top lawyer wants a U.S. court to compel a federal official to formally acknowledge the Equal Rights Amendment received enough state support to be added to the U.S. Constitution – a largely procedural step that has thus far blocked the amendment from ratification.

Ensuring that happens, however, is not a simple matter.

The case centers on a decision by U.S. National Archivist David Ferriero, who was effectively ordered by the U.S. Department of Justice to deem passage of the Equal Rights Amendment – which would add protections for women as the 28th Amendment to the nation's governing document – unsuccessful because multiple states missed a key congressional deadline.

Ferriero, who was appointed archivist by President Barack Obama in 2009, has since insisted that, unless a judge orders him to acknowledge the amendment's passage, he will not do so.

When Congress introduced and passed the initiative in 1972, it set a seven-year deadline for state ratification, which was later extended to 1982. By then, only 35 states formally approved the language, five of which — South Dakota, Idaho, Kentucky, Nebraska and Tennessee — withdrew their backing in the 1970s.

In the last three years, Nevada, Illinois and Virginia became the last three states to approve the proposal.

In response to Ferriero's insistence he would not officially certify the Equal Rights

Amendment without a judge's order, Illinois Democratic Attorney General Kwame Raoul, joined by his counterparts in Nevada and Virginia, filed a lawsuit in late January.

The archivist later asked a judge to dismiss the case. The attorneys general argued in a document filed Monday that if that request is granted, the "careful balance our founders" established in the constitution between states and the federal government would be "upended."

And "accepting the Archivist's arguments... would do much more than simply allow an unelected Executive official to disregard his ministerial duty," they wrote. "It would tell the women of America that, after 231 years, they must wait even longer for equal treatment under the Constitution. And it would nullify the (three states') sovereign prerogative

to ratify amendments that make our Union more perfect."

The amendment process outlined in the constitution was drafted to "ensure federal power had limits," according to the court document. Congress's only role is to propose changes and choose one of two methods by which it can be ratified, not to ultimately determine whether requirements were met.

Once 38 states, or three-fourths of the union, approve an amendment, it "shall be valid...as part of the Constitution," according to the governing document.

That "arrangement," the attorneys general wrote, "is a critical piece of the constitutional design to which the States agreed when they ratified the constitution and consented to be bound by its terms."

By not approving the Equal Rights Amendment's inclusion in the constitution, Ferriero "improperly interferes" with states' rights, according to the court filing.

The archivist, however, alleges it would be improper to allow the amendment to succeed because three of 38 states formally supported it after the deadline expired. The attorneys general argued Congress's placement of that cutoff is important — it is in the resolution introducing the Equal Rights Amendment for state consideration, not in its actual text. Therefore, they argue, states never received formal notice of the deadline.

The three lawyers also point to the Constitution's 27th Amendment — the last one officially passed — as an example of why the deadline is irrelevant. It specifies that Congress cannot cut or increase its salary during a lawmaker's term in office.

That amendment was introduced by America's first Congress more than 200 years ago. Several states ratified it in the late 1790s before it effectively died, only to be resurrected and officially adopted in 1992.

In that instance, the U.S. archivist at the time certified the initiative should be adopted "a

Continued on Page 5

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Charles Herbst

Attorney At Law

Practice Areas:

- Wills and Trusts
- Tax Strategy
- IRS Representation
- Real Estate
- Wealth Planning
- LLCs and Corporate



Education:

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Experience:

- International Tax Associates, Director of Federal Tax Research
- Ernst and Young LLP, Manager; Writer, Washington National Tax Writing Center
- Private Practice in the local area for over 13 years
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State Representatives Self-Promote on News of Facebook

Press Release

State Representatives Tom Demmer (R-Dixon) and Jeff Keicher (R-Sycamore) issued the following statement today upon the announcement that Facebook will build a new data center that will move into a 907,000-square-foot facility to be constructed just south of the Chicago West Business Center in DeKalb:

“Today Facebook announced the construction of their DeKalb Data Center, bringing a significant investment of \$800 million dollars to the area. This project will support over 1,200 good-paying construction jobs, and once it is completed will permanently employ nearly 100 people whose starting wages will be a minimum of \$38.50 an hour. The data center will boost our local economy and transform DeKalb into a leading telecommunications hub.

“We have both said that creating jobs is one of our top priorities. As part of the bipartisan capital bill approved by the General Assembly last year, we were able to enact pro-business reforms that have laid the groundwork for thousands of new jobs in our region for years to come. Specifically, these reforms included the creation of the Blue Collar Jobs Act to attract large-scale construction; reinstatement of the Manufacturer’s Purchase Credit to encourage further investments in manufacturing in Illinois; elimination of the Franchise Tax, and the Data Center Tax Incentive. Passage of these pro-business reforms made it possible for DeKalb to land Facebook’s new data center, and the capital bill secured the funding necessary to prepare the site for such a large investment.

“We would like to recognize and thank Paul Borek, Executive Director of the DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation, DeKalb City Manager Bill Nicklas and Mayor Jerry Smith for all of their combined efforts and support to showcase DeKalb as the ideal location for the jobs and opportunity that will be brought by Facebook’s decision to invest in our community. We’d also like to thank Governor Pritzker for supporting these critical reforms and the staff at the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for their assistance in securing these investments.”

County Clerk’s Office Sending Applications for Vote by Mail Ballots

Press Release

Due to COVID-19, all 2020 General Election voters are encouraged to cast a ballot prior to Election Day, either by mail or during early voting. Voting by mail is an easy and secure option for voters and you can request a vote by mail ballot online, through the mail, or in person.

The Boone County Clerk’s office will be mailing an application to receive a ballot in the mail to all registered voters who voted in the November 2018 General Election, April 2019 Consolidated Election or this year’s General Primary Election. These will be mailed out

no later than August 1, 2020. Any person who has registered between March 18 and July 31, 2020 will also receive the same application in the mail. You may also request a ballot by mail electronically at <https://il-boone.ballotrequest.net>

Clerk Julie Stapler is encouraging any person who has not registered to vote do so as soon as possible. You can register in person at the Boone County Clerk’s office or online at <https://ova.elections.il.gov>. If you have moved or changed your name, you must notify the Clerk’s office to change your voter registration.

Election Day and Early Voting will still be available for the November General Election. Early Voting will begin September 24, 2020 in the Boone County Clerk’s office. You can contact the Boone County Clerk’s office at (815) 544-3103 or email at elections@boonecountyil.org.

ERA

mere 11 days after receiving official notice” that enough states support it, “without waiting for any action by Congress,” according to the court document.

The attorneys general argued that if Ferriero’s argument is successful in this case, the 27th Amendment should be declared invalid.

“Federal courts must be available to restrain a federal official from overstepping his authority in such a blatantly unconstitutional manner,” they added. “...The American people have already made the determination that sex equality should be enshrined in the constitution, and [Nevada, Illinois and Virginia] (along with 35 others) have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment that Congress proposed to do so.”

In the court document, the state’s lawyers also asked a judge to allow oral arguments to address Ferriero’s motion to dismiss their lawsuit.

The attorneys general’s request to force the archivist to act is “extraordinary,” they wrote, “but so is the archivist’s unprecedented intrusion on the constitutional authority explicitly granted to the states.”

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Continued from page 3

Mendoza:

New Fiscal Year will be Even More Challenging than Height of Budget Impasse

State borrowed heavily to get through year that ended June 30

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The state of Illinois, like most states, began a new fiscal year on July 1 and the person in charge of managing the state’s bank accounts said she fears it could be one of the most difficult years in modern memory.

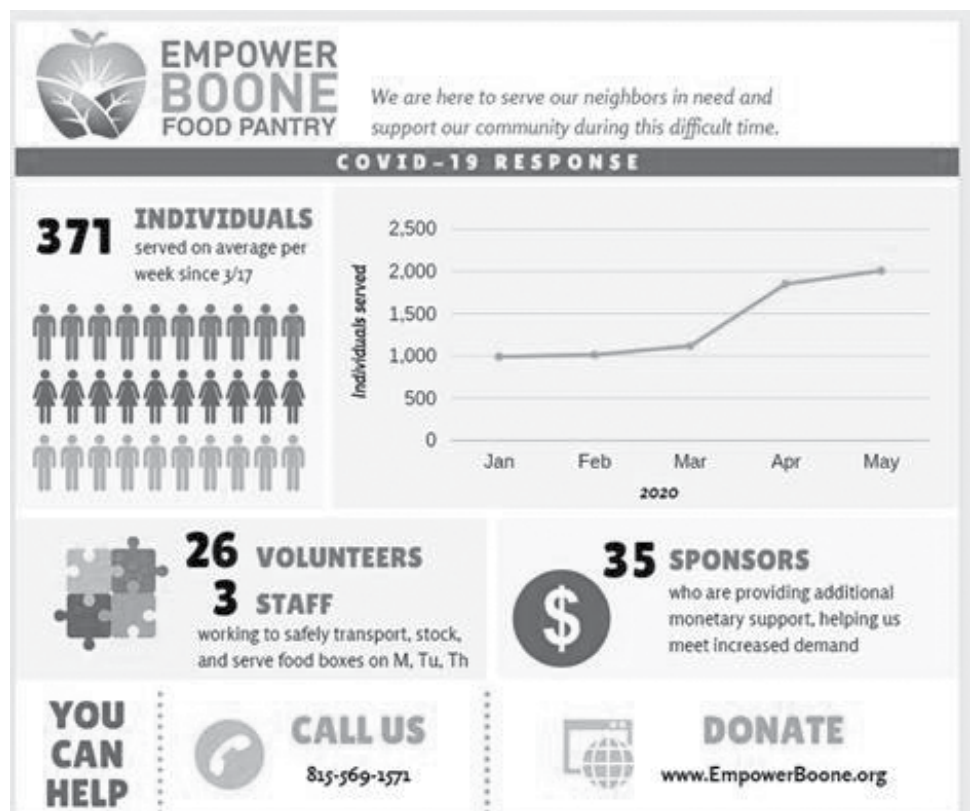
“This is going to be, I think, by far perhaps the most challenging year that I’ve had to manage as comptroller,” state Comptroller Susana Mendoza said in an interview Wednesday. “And that’s saying something because, you know, I had to navigate the state through what was, when I took office, the worst fiscal crisis that our state had ever experienced, that two-year budget impasse.”

The difference between then and now, she said, was that during the budget impasse, the state still had revenues flowing in, just no legal authority to spend it. But in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the near shutdown of the state’s economy that it forced, Illinois now isn’t seeing anything close to the revenues it will need to fund the new budget.

“You can pass whatever budget you want,” she said. “If the revenues don’t come in the way you’d like them to, then there’s not enough money to go around for all of the priorities that are represented by that budget. So, at the end of the day, we’ll have to see month-to-month what our revenues look like. It’s so completely up in the air.”

The financial impact of the pandemic started to appear in state revenues in April and May. Before

Continued on Page 7



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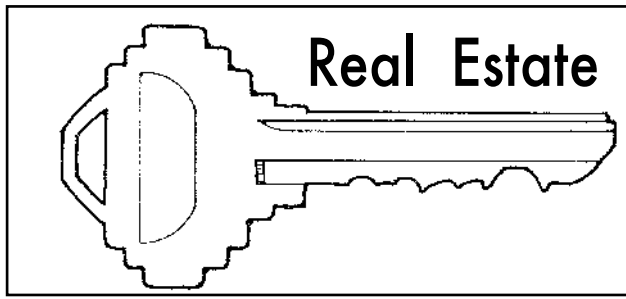


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If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property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

For information, The sales clerk, SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301, Bannockburn, IL, 60015 (847) 291-1717 For information call between the hours of 1pm - 3pm.. Please refer to file number 19-091801.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

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

SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301
Bannockburn IL, 60015
847-291-1717

E-Mail: ILNotices@logs.com
Attorney File No. 19-091801
Case Number: 19 CH 134
TJSC#: 40-1818

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 in *The Boone County Journal* June 19, 26, July 3

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

MIDFIRST BANK Plaintiff,
-v.- 19 CH 93
MICHAEL J. STOESSER Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 10, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on July 15, 2020, 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 528 RIVER DRIVE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-26-455-011

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$106,501.94.

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 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 by the court.

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.

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 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 sales.

For information, The sales clerk, SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301, Bannockburn, IL, 60015 (847) 291-1717 For information call between the hours of 1pm - 3pm.. Please refer to file number 19-091398.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

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

SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301
Bannockburn IL, 60015
847-291-1717

E-Mail: ILNotices@logs.com
Attorney File No. 19-091398
Case Number: 19 CH 93
TJSC#: 40-1802

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 in *The Boone County Journal* June 19, 26, July 3

LEGAL NOTICES

Foreclosures

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

MIDFIRST BANK Plaintiff,
-v.- 19 CH 134
ANTHONY B. ENOS Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 10, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on July 17, 2020, 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:

COMMENCING AT A POINT ON RANGE LINE, 410 LINKS NORTH OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 24, IN TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH, RANGE 3, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN; RUNNING THENCE NORTH, 90 LINKS; THENCE WEST, 250 LINKS; THENCE SOUTH, 90 LINKS; THENCE EAST 250 LINKS TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, ALL BEING IN SAID SECTION 24, IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS. SITUATED IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 201 SOUTH STATE STREET, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065

Property Index No. 03-24-282-008

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$88,737.55.

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 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 by the court.

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.

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 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 sales.

For information, The sales clerk, SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301, Bannockburn, IL, 60015 (847) 291-1717 For information call between the hours of 1pm - 3pm.. Please refer to file number 19-091801.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

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

SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301
Bannockburn IL, 60015
847-291-1717

E-Mail: ILNotices@logs.com
Attorney File No. 19-091801
Case Number: 19 CH 134
TJSC#: 40-1818

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 in *The Boone County Journal* June 19, 26, July 3

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

MIDFIRST BANK Plaintiff,
-v.- 19 CH 93
MICHAEL J. STOESSER Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of

Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 10, 2019, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on July 15, 2020, 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:

LOT TWELVE (12) IN BLOCK TWO (2) OF RIVERVIEW, AS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, IN BOOK TWO (2) OF PLATS AT PAGE 29; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 528 RIVER DRIVE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-26-455-011

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$106,501.94.

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 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 by the court.

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.

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.

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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 sales.

For information, The sales clerk, SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301, Bannockburn, IL, 60015 (847) 291-1717 For information call between the hours of 1pm - 3pm.. Please refer to file number 19-091398.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

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

SHAPIRO KREISMAN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301
Bannockburn IL, 60015
847-291-1717

E-Mail: ILNotices@logs.com
Attorney File No. 19-091398
Case Number: 19 CH 93
TJSC#: 40-1802

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 in *The Boone County Journal* June 19, 26, July 3

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Case No. 2017TX2, Clearleaf Short Alternative Fund LP.

To: Mary E. Nepermann; Occupants of; Washington Mutual Bank; Integrity Investment Fund, LLC; Boone County Clerk; and all other persons/entities UNKNOWN having or claiming any right, interest or title in the following described real estate:

25-44-4 PT SW SW-BEG 165' N & 264' E SW COR E 70.45' N 164.71' W 69.83' S TO POB PER 9311745, Boone County, Illinois.

Permanent Index No. 06-25-300-026

On June 4, 2020, Clearleaf Short Alternative Fund LP filed a Petition for Order of Tax Deed. The object of the plaintiff's petition is to foreclose on the Tax Sale Certificate No. 2016-00227 for the delinquent taxes on real estate described above which was issued by the Boone County Treasurer on October 26, 2017. The taxes due under the certificate are for the 2016 tax year. The petition asks the court to direct the county clerk to issue a tax deed if the property is not redeemed from the sale on or before October 26, 2020, and that Petitioner, as grantee of tax deed be put in possession of said parcel of real estate. The Petition for Order of Tax Deed will be brought before the Boone County Circuit Court on November 19, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. in Courtroom 4. If you fail to redeem, the court may enter a judgment for the relief demanded in the petition.

Clearleaf Short Alternative Fund LP, Petitioner

Stuart E. Morgenstern, #6275553

Attorney for Petitioner

1 W. Laurel Street

Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274

(618)357-5315

Published in the Boone County Journal June 19, 26, July 3

To: David Luna Luna, Juan Tapia, Silva Sanchez, Daniel Boisvert, Kenia Sanchez, Juan Luna, Marica Sanchez, Itzel Garcia, Kenya Garcia, Damaris Garcia-Sanchez, Brandon Peterson, Theresa Balk as RA for Candlewick Lake Association, Inc, Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, Unknown Occupants of 106 Staffordshire Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065, Unknown Owners and Parties Interested, Generally of 106 Staffordshire Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

TAX DEED NO.: 17TX1 (P5)

FILED: 6/21/2020

TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone

Date Premises Sold: 10/26/2017

Certificate No. 2016-00052

Sold for General Taxes of: 2016

Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality): N/A And Special Assessment Number: N/A Warrant No. N/A INST. NUMBER: N/A

THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT

TAXES

Property located at: 106 Staffordshire Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Legal Description or Property Index No.: 03-22-404-031

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 10/23/2020.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 10/23/2020.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County, 601 N. Main Street, Courtroom 4, Belvidere, Illinois, 61008 at 10:00 A.M. on 11/3/2020.

You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY.

Redemption can be made at any time on or before 10/23/2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

For further information contact the County Clerk.

ADDRESS: 1212 Logan Ave, Suite 101
Belvidere, IL 61008

TELEPHONE: (815) 544-3103

AUCTION Z-1, INC

Purchaser or Assignee

Dated: June 18, 2020

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 26, July 3, 10

To: Unknown Heirs and Devises of Dante Ventura, Unknown Heirs and Devises of Iva V. Ventura, Gina Ventura, Deno Ventura, Cherie Bartelt, Unknown Heirs and Devises of Tina L. Ventura, Theresa Balk as RA for Candlewick Lake Association, Inc, Illinois Corporation Service C as RA for Aqua Illinois, Inc, The Belvidere National Bank & Trust Company, Midland States Bank as Successor in interest to The Belvidere National Bank & Trust Company, Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, Unknown Occupants of 626 Candlewick Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065, Unknown Owners and Parties Interested, Generally of 626 Candlewick Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

TAX DEED NO.: 17TX1 (P4)

FILED: 6/17/2020

TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone

Date Premises Sold: 10/26/2017

Certificate No. 2016-00091

Sold for General Taxes of: 2016

Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality): N/A

And Special Assessment Number:

N/A

Warrant No. N/A INST. NUMBER: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

Property located at: 626 Candlewick Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Legal Description or Property Index No.: 03-27-226-004

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 10/23/2020.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 10/23/2020.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County, 601 N. Main Street, Courtroom 4, Belvidere, Illinois, 61008 at 10:00 A.M. on 11/3/2020.

You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY.

Redemption can be made at any time on or before 10/23/2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

For further information contact the County Clerk.

ADDRESS: 1212 Logan Ave, Suite 103
Belvidere, IL 61008

TELEPHONE: (815) 544-3103

AUCTION Z-1, INC

Purchaser or Assignee

Dated: June 18, 2020

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 26, July 3, 10

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE
LAUREN A. ENGLE, a/k/a LAUREN A. PULLAN, a/k/a DAWN PULLAN, Plaintiff,
vs. Case No. 2009-D-170
STEVEN ENGLE, Defendant.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, LAUREN A. ENGLE, a/k/a LAUREN A. PULLAN, a/k/a DAWN PULLAN, that this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for Revival of 3 Judgments and other relief.

Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this case with the Circuit Clerk of Boone County, Belvidere, IL 61008 on or before the 29th day of July, 2020, at 9:00 A.M., a Revival of 3 Judgments may be granted as prayed for by the Guardian ad Litem.

Circuit Clerk of Boone County, Ray Mitchell

DEBORAH S. LOOS, P.C.

Attorney at Law

130 South State Street, Suite 210

Belvidere, IL 61008

Phone: (815) 544-5418

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 26, July 3, 10

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE - IN PROBATE
In the Matter of the Estate of MIKEL J. OTXOA, SR., Deceased.
No. 2020-P-42

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION-WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Mikel J. Otxoa, Sr, who died November 14, 2011. Letters of Office were issued on June 3, 2020, to Mikel J. Otxoa, Jr. and Maurice Z. Otxoa, who are the legal representatives of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Charles G. Popp, P.C., 215 South State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before December 31, 2020, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk--Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office--Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to his/her attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Published in *The Boone County Journal* July 3, 10, 17

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that at 6:00 P.M. July 27th 2020, 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* 7-3, 10, 17, 24

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of JON J. KEISTER, Deceased.
2020-P-44

PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO CREDITORS and CLAIMANTS

Notice is given of the death of JON J. KEISTER, who died on February 24, 2020, a resident of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on June 24, 2020, and the Representative for the estate is AMANDA K. LOVELL, 3234 Grand Cape Court, Rockford, IL 61109. The attorney for the estate is Amanda J. Martinez, 5732 E. Riverside Blvd., #201, Loves Park, IL 61111.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before December 4, 2020, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of the first publication. Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the Representative, or both. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless an interested party terminates independent supervision administration by filing a petition to terminate under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4).

Attorney Amanda J. Martinez ARDC#: 6287970

The Law Office of Amanda Adams Martinez LLC

5732 E. Riverside Blvd., #201, Loves Park, IL 61111

815-491-8065

amartinez@adamsmartinezlaw.com

Published in *The Boone County Journal* 7-3, 10, 17, 24

New Fiscal Year *Continued from page 5*

then, Mendoza noted, Illinois was in relatively good shape with a nominally balanced budget in place and revenues coming in greater than expected. The state was even making progress on paying down its backlog of past-due bills.

But that all changed in April after Gov. JB Pritzker extended the tax filing deadline to July 15, which took a big bite out of revenues the state normally would have seen that month. Meanwhile, the state's unemployment rate shot up to an unprecedented 17.2 percent in April as employers throughout Illinois were forced to shut down or scale back operations due to the novel coronavirus.

As of Wednesday, according to the comptroller's website, the bill backlog stood at \$5.4 billion. But Mendoza said that figure doesn't tell the whole story because in order to keep the state running, it borrowed roughly \$2.7 billion.

That included \$1.2 billion from the Federal Reserve, just part of the \$5 billion in Fed borrowing that state lawmakers authorized during their special session in May. It also included another \$1.5 billion in interfund borrowing and borrowing from idle funds in the state treasurer's office.

"So that did help me to pay down some really important bills that needed to be paid of that bill backlog, but it's important to remember that, okay, the bill backlog says it's \$5.4 billion, but in actuality, we're still on the hook for paying back that \$2.7 billion, so we're really looking at, you know, 5.4 plus 2.7," or \$8.1 billion, she said.

Among the high-priority bills the state paid, she said, were invoices from Medicaid providers, including hospitals, which were already reeling from revenue losses that resulted when they were forced to call off nonemergency surgeries and procedures in order to free up resources for COVID-19 patients.

The \$1.2 billion in federal borrowing came through a program called the Municipal Liquidity Facility, which the Federal Reserve Board authorized in March to help states and large municipalities deal with the dramatic falloff in revenue they were seeing. Illinois is paying 3.8 percent interest on the loan, which is due to be paid back by June 30, 2021.

However, the plan for paying back that money, and any more the state may need to borrow this

Assumed Names

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 hauling service business in said County and State under the name of A&A Trucking at the following addresses 1538 Maryland Ct. 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 Ramos 1538 Maryland Ct. Belvidere, IL 61008 phone 779-300-4967. Signed: Antonio Ramos 6/16/2020 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of June 2020.

Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk,

By Giselle R Lenover, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal 06/19, 26 July 3

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 and remodeling business in said County and State under the name of MC Construction and Remodeling 1218 Julien St. 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: Matthew Petty 954 E Lincoln Ave. Belvidere, IL 61008 phone 779-208-0604. Signed: Matthew Petty 6/22/2020 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 22th day of June 2020.

Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk,

By Giselle R Lenover, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal June 26, July 3, 10

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 residential/commercial building maintenance & inspection business in said County and State under the name of Fair Trades Home Maintenance & Inspection PLLC 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: Virginia L Chorney, Brad A. Chorney 316 White Oak Dr. Poplar Grove, IL 61065 Signed: Virginia L Chorney, Brad A. Chorney 7/1/2020 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 1st day of July 2020.

Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk,

By Giselle R Lenover, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal July 3, 10, 17

fiscal year, hinges on the idea that Congress will pass another economic relief package that will include significant relief for states — something it has not done yet and is still the subject of partisan wrangling on Capitol Hill.

Mendoza said there is no way for Illinois to make it through this new fiscal year without making draconian budget cuts if Congress doesn't come through with that aid.

"Because Illinois is not the only one who's looking at this type of financial disaster situation, but every single state in the country is going to require federal government sending financial aid," Mendoza said. "And when I say financial aid, I don't mean loans. I mean specifically grants — money that does not have a million strings attached to it that would go specifically to help make up for lost revenues due to COVID-19."

Republicans in Congress, however, have been reluctant to accept what they see as a "bailout" of state governments, many of which, including Illinois, had significant financial challenges before the pandemic.

In April, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, suggested that some states would be better off filing for bankruptcy. Amid significant backlash, McConnell walked that idea back a few days later and suggested a direct aid package — but only if it included civil immunity from COVID-19-related lawsuits for employers, which Democrats have not been willing to accept.

Mendoza called the idea that Illinois and other states were asking for bailouts "laughable," while noting that Illinois receives less in federal benefits from Washington than it pays into it. McConnell's home state of Kentucky, meanwhile, receives more than \$2 in benefits for every dollar it sends to Washington.

"Mitch McConnell must forget that it's states like Illinois and Connecticut and California and New York that bail out his state of Kentucky every single year," Mendoza said. "He's used to living off of the state of Illinois and the state of California and the state of New York and the state of Connecticut and every other donor state, which by the way, most of which happened to be blue states."

Mendoza said that when it comes to paying bills on a month-to-month basis, her office will prioritize making scheduled debt payments, paying out retirement benefits and making payments to public schools. Beyond that, she said, everything else in state government will be at risk without federal aid.

"We are far from done with this pandemic, so if anybody believes that we're even remotely out of the woods yet, they're imagining things," she said. "We really have yet to see what the month to month reduction in revenues is going to be. We can try to predict them, but this is uncharted territory."

Rock Valley College Spring 2020 President's and Dean's Lists

The following students have earned recognition on Rock Valley College's Spring 2020 President's and Dean's Lists.

Students must have taken at least 12 credit hours during the semester to qualify for the President's or Dean's lists.

President's List

Students named to the President's List achieved a 4.0 semester grade point average.

Belvidere: Ramses Baez Tejada, Nathan Beck, Caitlin Bradford, Alyssa Cerna, Tatiana Cervantes, Kristy Chorostecki, Victoria Ciesielka, Reefal Elamin, Karina Garcia, John Lloyd Guillermo, Cecelia Haase, Caitlin Hendrickson, Luke Hendrickson, Mariann Hernandez, Sarah Hulstedt, Arber Ibraimi, Ellie Kirane, Michael Kurtenbach, Giovanna Lazzarini, Tiffany Lombardi, Precious Lopez, Aston Martin, Sandra Mendoza, Hallee Mewes, Mkahla Miner, Alexander Mitchell, Juan Morales, Ana Ocelotl, Jacob Pearson, Kyle Perkins, Sydney Porter, Madeline Rathbun, Erika Rodriguez, Margarita Sanchez, Alyssa Schiro, Abbey Shale, Kamille Tomada, Arthur Vinke, Hunter Vinke, Hayden Zaluckyj, Steve Zavala, Wendy Zavala Mendez

Caledonia: Noah Anderson, Tate Bauman, Grace Gordon, Gianna Sagona, Collin Truitt

Capron: Jesse Montemayor, Michaela Munger, Dylan Rapp

Cherry Valley: Muna Alshoja, Edward Bormett, Madeline Dahl

Marengo: Hope Kowalski

Poplar Grove: Baylee Allen, Aubrey Alvarez, Marian Anderson, Zachary Baden, Karmyn Dawkins, Karyssa Endecott, Jessica Fagerstrom, Kaylee Ford, Renata Hernandez, Kayla Hesano, Jake Johnson, Paige Lambright, Mackenzie Larsen, Gabriel Lord, Zachary Michelin, Nicole Miziniak, Lyra Monaghan, Shannon Osadjan, Savannah Pellant, Skylar Roberts, Meghan Schobinger, Crystal Schuring, Kayla Seeber, Bailey Smith, Matthew Stark, Michael Trommater, Kenzie Venters Bowlby, Emma Zimmerman, William Zonzo

Dean's List

Students named to the Dean's List achieved at least a 3.25 semester grade point average.

Belvidere: William Addoh-Kondi, Monica Alvarez, Alexander Anguiano, Leah Anliker, Dianne Avila, Taylor Blahunka, Preston Boardman, Justin Bragg, Garret Brown, Lucio Chaidez, Alaina Coen, Natalie Cortez, Kaylee Crosby, Adem Dalipi, Mark Dixon, Bernardo Dominguez I, Jennifer Elizondo, Noah Erickson, Anahi Estrada, Kassandra Flewellin, Alexis Garcia, Darling Garcia, Veronica Garcia, Cruz Garza, Daniel Golonka, Kellie Griffin, Victoria Gutierrez, Zoe Hasty, Paola Hernandez, Rodrigo Hernandez, Alex Hissong, Susan Islas, Kirk Johnston, Gwenda King, Allison Laga, Nury Leguizamo, Luis Leon, Matthew List, Mark Magallanes, Kendra Marquez, Leslie Martinez, Makayla Medina, Yesenia Morales, Maria Moscato, Meghan Murphy, Muskan Musabji, Kashef Mustansar, Michele Ocello, Kayla Polo, Ivan Ramos, Adam Rasp, Guadalupe Rivera, Horacio Rivera, Sydny Rivotto, Crystal Robles, Lizbeth Rodriguez, Diego Ruiz, Giselle Sanchez, Ashley Sandberg, Jacob Schwenk, Luke Schwenk, Nicholas Schwenk, Sebastian Sepulveda, Christina Simon, Maxwell Snyder, Faith Stiles, Savannah Theurer, Alexandria Tintleemann, Kaci Tomman, Monica Trevino, Ansonny Valle, Jack Walbaum, Ayanna Wallace, Aliyah White, William Wiebe, Sophia Zuniga

Caledonia: Alyssa Ciaccio, Ashlyn Giardono, Adam Hill, Lauryn Johnson, Rylie Johnson, Verania Del Sol Ortiz, Kaitlin Udelhofen

Capron: Morgan Chafin, Gerardo Esparza, Marisol Morales, Michelle Niedermeier, Michael White

Garden Prairie: Konnor Mogenis

Marengo: Peter Skok

Poplar Grove: Estelle Brady, Alex Brodnicki, Isaiah Burk, Matthew Cotton, Kyin Edwards, Reese Foytik, Angelica Gaj, Linnea Goymerac, Benjamin Hooker, Matthew Hutchinson, Samantha Kassal, Morgan Kloster, Amanda Lawson, Grace Lenick, Alana Levine, Kaitlynn Lopez, Matthew McGovern, Natali Monaghan, Evan Nash, Alyssa Petersen, Felicity Rivera, Rebecca Sabel, Mason Svedin, Maria Tinajero, Adelina Vasakova Sadiku, Yesenia Vizguerra, Cassandra Walleck, Cody Weiland, Makenzie Woods

Community News

Alcoholics Anonymous 12-step groups have moved their meetings to Zoom - Although there are in-person meetings that continue in the area and they are following the guidelines provided by the Winnebago County Department of Public Health, many of the members of A.A. are choosing to practice safe social distancing by attending meetings online.

A list of Zoom meetings can be found on our websites and members of the community who are struggling with a substance abuse or drinking problem can find help 24/7 by visiting: www.rockfordaa.org and www.district70aa.org or by calling 815-968-0333. Sober members of AA are available to take calls and provide guidance around the clock.

Burpee Museum offers FREE Virtual Reality Field Trips - Thanks to generous community support and donations from foundations and individuals, we are pleased to offer a limited number of virtual field trips at NO COST to school groups this spring! Using the teacher's choice of a simple web browser, students will enter the "museum" through their home devices. Clicking on the floor, students can "walk" the 360-degree virtual reality environment and click on "hot spots" for additional activities, videos, and more. Burpee will have a live stream with the class to complete a 30-45-minute field trip. Please contact nicole.hayes@burpee.org for more to reserve your spot while supplies last. For more information see Burpee.org or email Burpee@burpee.org

History's Mysteries- Mini Camps Beginning Tuesday, July 7th. This year as an alternative to the week-long History's Mysteries Camp, Midway Village Museum is offering a program in 2020 specifically geared towards grade-school children. Your child will engage in structured fun and learning in a two-hour experience on Tuesday mornings July and August. Your child will learn history concepts geared to their age, while also gaining new friends, developing social skills in a new environment, and take home projects to talk about with you to reinforce the concepts learned during the morning. Ages requirement: Kindergarten through Fifth grade Registration and payment online at <https://tinyurl.com/minidaycamp>.

State's Blood Supply "Critically Low"; Blood Centers In Dire Need For Organizations To Host Blood Drives-Officials from the Illinois Coalition of Community Blood Centers (ICCBC) gathered today to make the public aware of Illinois' dwindling blood supply and the dire need for organizations to step up and continue to host blood drives in their communities, especially as Illinois advances to Phase 4 of Restore Illinois. Following the national trend, Illinois Blood Centers are currently running on 2 day or less supply of blood, putting them at a "critically low" level. To donate blood, please go to www.americasblood.org to find a donor center near you to schedule a donation time. Donor requirements include being at least 17 years old (16 with parental permission), in good health and weigh at least 110 lbs. The donation process takes about an hour, consisting of a health screening, donating time and snack. Individuals can donate whole blood once every 56 days.

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