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The Farmers Bank 23 Years of Success in a Rapidly Changing World

By David Larson

The Farmers Bank opened for business in Belvidere on February 3, 1908. By 1932, the depression had crippled the bank and it was folded into a successor bank. In 1913, when this picture was taken, it had the 2nd highest amount of deposits in Belvidere. The Farmers Bank was a common name for a banking intuition at the turn of the century. In the 1850s, another Farmers Bank operated in Belvidere on South State Street, according to advertisements in the *Belvidere Standard* newspaper. That business seemed to represent a New York Exchange Bank and acted as an affiliate with limited services rather than wholly owned local bank, as were all of the banks in Belvidere at the time of this photo. For instance, if John Plane's Hardware Store made a purchase for a shipment of stoves from Chicago, the bank through its affiliation with a New York bank would act as an escrow agent for payment of the shipment. The Farmers Bank would receive a fee for the service. Once the railroad came to Belvidere in the 1850s, this type of business became common.

The 1850s Farmers Bank had long since disappeared when this picture was taken. In

Continued on Page 2

Belvidere Sells Manley Lot at Cost

By David Larson

The City of Belvidere has reached an agreement with the Community Building Complex on the sale of land on First Street in Belvidere, generally known as the former Manley lot. The City purchased the lot for \$375,000 to facilitate the relocation of Manley Motors to the former Wolf Chevrolet property.

Wolf Chevrolet was closed as a result of dealership restructuring by GM when the financial fallout of investment bank shenanigans infected the world economy. It was reported in an October City Council meeting that the city had additional expenses in the deal with Manley, which brought the total cost for the city for the relocation to approximately \$398,000. The agreement with the Community Building Complex is for a sale price of \$400,000 and includes three easements. The lot is appraised at \$140,000 according to Belvidere Budget & Finance Officer, Becky Tobin.

The sales contract contains three conditions: The unlimited use of the lot for public parking by the city. The right to use as a site for city-sponsored festivals at no cost. Thirdly, the city has the right of first refusal at a pre-established price of \$400,000 if the Community Building Complex sells the property.

The Community Building Complex receives revenue from rental of the complex and a one percent sales tax on restaurant, bar sales and hotel stays.



City to Look into a Comprehensive Alley Plan

By David Larson

At its last meeting on October 26th, the Belvidere City Council Committee of the Whole discussed the future of alleys in Belvidere. City Works Director, Brent Anderson has been assigned the duty to collect data. An overview of the work toward a consistent alley policy was laid out.

City Attorney Mike Drella explained to the council that he saw three directions the city could take if it chose to make changes. One direction is to vacate all alleys that are not necessary to access existing structures. Another is to close unimproved alleys and post them by sign as closed. Thirdly, bring alleys that residents want to keep up to date.

Public Works Director Brent Anderson explained to the council some facts about Belvidere's alleys: Alleys in Belvidere are 12 to 16 feet wide, with most being 12 feet. If vacated, generally the split would be half to each adjacent property owner. He estimated the value per square foot to be \$1.50.

To close all alleys by posting a sign would cost an estimated \$7,000 plus for signage. The third option, upgrading alleys, could be done by the street department over a few years and cost an estimated \$155,000, which would include about 30 alleys. Anderson reported that the city can lay its own blacktop and there is a local source for blacktop. In the past alleys were seal-coated surface maintained. This final option would also add to snow removal cost.

Anderson also gave a report on the current status of Belvidere's alleys: Belvidere has

Continued on Page 2

Graduated Tax Fails; Cuts, Tax Hikes or Both Could Follow

by Capitol News Illinois

Backers of a graduated income tax constitutional amendment conceded defeat Wednesday, Nov. 4, for Gov. JB Pritzker's marquee policy proposal which was projected to bring in more than \$3 billion annually to state coffers.

With 98 percent of precincts reporting, voters had rejected the amendment by a 55 percent to 45 percent margin. The Associated Press called the race for the "No" camp, as a large number of outstanding mail ballots were almost certainly not enough to make up for the deficit of approximately 500,000 votes.

In his daily COVID-19 briefing in Chicago, an agitated Pritzker lashed out against the Republican Party, warned of cuts to public safety and human services and said several other options were on the table for addressing state budget deficits that have been ongoing for decades.

"Illinois' fiscal problems haven't gone away. We now sit at a crossroads," Pritzker said. "Our state finances still require fundamental structural change. In the coming days I'll be talking with the leaders in the General Assembly about our path forward. But here's what we know for sure: I promised to be a governor who balances the budget and pays the bills that my predecessor left behind. I promised to make sure that our kids get a good education that we invest in job creation and that we build a better future for Illinois. There will be cuts, and they will be painful."

The failure of the amendment marks the end of a fight led by Pritzker which began legislatively in April 2019 and even before that politically when Pritzker was running for governor in 2017 and 2018.

Continued on Page 2

Bank *Continued page 1*

1913 Belvidere's four banks were doing business and were locally owned. They were: The First National Bank, The Second National Bank, The Peoples Bank and The Farmers Bank. Who the person is in the foreground of this picture is unknown, but it would not be unreasonable to guess it is the head cashier of the bank. At the time, A. Gates White was the cashier at the Farmers bank. In December 1813, the Governor of Illinois appointed Mr. White to be the Boone County Public Administrator. What the responsibilities of that office were are unclear at this time. In 1913, the County Board was organized differently than it is today. The County Board of Supervisors was composed of township officials, as opposed to today's 4 members elected from each of 3 districts. Today, the county has an administrator but is that the equivalent to Mr. White's office? We do not know.

In 1913, local banks and the City of Belvidere's finances were intertwined as is illustrated by this quote from the *Belvidere Daily Republican* April 13, 1913:

"The office of City Treasurer has always been considered more an office of the bank than of the individual running for office..."

The editorial went on in support of the cashier of the Farmers Bank for City Treasurer. The editorial argued that it was the Farmers Bank's "turn" to hold the position even though it was the newest bank. In the most diplomatic way it states the following:

"...There are four banks in Belvidere, each of which has a patronage entitled to consideration at the hands of the people. A few years ago a new bank was started here which has grown to a considerable prominence in a financial way and with the people, because of its uniform courtesy and fairness to its patrons and to everybody who wished to do business with it. There is no

difference, so far as courtesy is concerned, claimed in this campaign, between the banks of Belvidere, and none desired by the Farmers State bank. The Farmers' State bank believes that it is at least entitled to the same consideration, and in return assures its patrons that they will hereafter, as heretofore, always receive that uniform courtesy that has been the desire of the bank to manifest toward all people in the past."

In 1913, Belvidere national banks could issue currency under the signature of the head cashier of a particular bank. Today, currency has been standardized and under the signature of the Federal Secretary of the Treasury. The business of banking has been reformed into a more cohesive structure. 1913 was a sea-change year in the banking business. The Federal Reserve System was created. The Federal Reserve System is made up of regional banks and is the central banking system of the United States. There are twelve regional banks in total, one for each of the twelve Federal Reserve Districts that were created by the Federal Reserve Act of 1913. Belvidere is located in the Seventh Federal Reserve District, headquartered in Chicago.

Reserve Banks are organized as self-financing corporations and empowered by Congress to distribute currency and regulate its value under policies set by the Federal Open Market Committee and Bank's Board of Governors. The corporate structure reflects the concurrent interests of the government and the member banks, but neither of these interests amounts to outright ownership.

The financial panic of 1907 threatened several New York banks with failure. The result was the Federal Reserve System, which provided liquidity to banks. The Federal Reserve Banks opened for business in November 1914.

Alleys *Continued page 1*

53 fully improved alleys, 19 being partially improved, 30 are unimproved. Eleven alleys are just grass, and hard to tell if there is an alley, but still may be used occasionally. 2 miles of alleys have already been vacated over time.

It was decided to solicit input of adjacent property owners and public comment. The Director of Public Works will finish his study on the subject and report it to council. In closing, Alderman Snow made a final comment that he supports a clear policy but likes the improvement of alleys that are regularly used, but would vacate those that are not. "A decent alley builds a better neighborhood and eliminates, 'the broken-window effect,'" Snow said.

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Tax *continued from page 1*

Pritzker spent \$58 million of his own personal fortune to promote the amendment, while billionaire Ken Griffin, the state's wealthiest person and founder of the hedge fund Citadel, dropped more than \$53 million into an effort to defeat the tax change.

The governor had billed the graduated income tax proposal – which would have imposed higher tax rates on higher income earners – as the best of three options, the others being a 20 percent increase to the state's flat tax or 15 percent across-the-board cuts to state spending.

Complicating matters is a global pandemic that has ripped a hole in state finances. Even before COVID-19 redefined the state's revenue picture, Pritzker had pegged the state's structural, year-after-year budget deficit at about \$3.2 billion. Considering lost revenues due to COVID-19 and associated economic restrictions, that deficit could exceed \$7 billion with the graduated tax's failure, Pritzker predicted in April.

The state's path forward could include some combination of cuts and tax increases, as well as borrowing from the federal government's Municipal Liquidity Facility program which was authorized in the state's budget for fiscal year 2021.

"Everything is on the table," Pritzker said.

Pritzker Warns of Record Positivity Rates as Entire State Triggers Mitigations

Governor highlights state, federal grant money to businesses

by Sarah Mansur Capitol News Illinois

All 11 of the state's mitigation regions will face stricter COVID-19 based restrictions by Wednesday due to increasing positivity rates, while opposition grows from some bars, restaurants and other small businesses struggling during the pandemic's economic downturn.


"The virus is spreading. And every region of the state is suffering from its insidious, invisible contagion," Gov. JB Pritzker said Monday during his daily COVID-19 briefing.

"Nothing we can do will immediately reduce the positivity rates, or hospitalizations, but our resurgence mitigations are designed to have an impact over several weeks as long as everyone takes some responsibility for masking, social distancing and following the (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and (Illinois Department of Public Health) guidelines. Just like driving a car, when someone blows through a stoplight, they not only risk their own life, but also the lives of all the drivers around them. Right now, the stoplight is red. Please act accordingly."

Continued on Page 3

Obituaries

- Ascher Jr., William, 88, Belvidere, October 23
- Barnett, George, 84, Poplar Grove, October 29
- Bergen, JoAnn, 91, Belvidere, October 25
- Johnson, Brian, 63, Belvidere, October 26
- Olson, Dale, 83, Cherry Valley, October 26
- Soderberg, Raymond, 83, Belvidere, October 23



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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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Covid *continued from page 2*

According to the governor, the past week was one of the worst single-week increases in regional positivity across the state since the spring, with none of the regions experiencing a decrease in their positivity rates.

The lowest increase in any region was by 1.2 percentage points, which was in Region 5 in southern Illinois, and the highest was a 3.1 percentage point increase in Region 7, which includes Will and Kankakee counties.

The state's rolling seven-day average case positivity rate reached 8.1 percent, which is the highest level since May 28. Monday's one-day positivity rate of 9.1 percent was the highest recorded since June 2.

Last week, the Illinois Restaurant Association called on Pritzker to consider alternative mitigations to reduce the hardships that many restaurants are already experiencing. The organization also said it plans to file a legal brief in support of pending lawsuits from restaurants challenging the administration's executive orders.

A group of more than a dozen restaurants in Springfield also filed a similar lawsuit against Pritzker on Friday. The new restrictions have also received pushback from some local leaders, including Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau, who have said they would not enforce them.

"All we're asking is for simple enforcement," Pritzker said in response to a question about pushback to the new restrictions. "Many, many restaurants and bars are doing the right thing. They're either using outdoor tents, or they're just providing pickup and delivery service or drive through during this difficult period."

But the governor also said some officials are choosing not to do the right thing.

"I would encourage people to speak to their local leaders and remind them that leadership means making some difficult decisions," he said.

Pritzker also touted the number of local businesses that have benefited from federal stimulus funding released by the state — the Business Interruption Grants program and the Local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (or Local CURE) Support Program.

"Until we can reduce the upward movement of hospitalizations and bring the rate of spread down, we must keep our economy moving forward, and support our small businesses," Pritzker said

Continued on Page 4

OP ED

Economists love graphs. They use graphs to represent theories. They use graphs to illustrate concepts. They use graphs to present current conditions extrapolated into the future. Currently economists are debating with graphs possible or likely resolutions of our current recession. Competing graphs represent competing projections. What graph would best project our ultimate emergence from our current plight? The answer matters. It matters a lot.

“V”

“V” Shaped Recession...More often than not, since the Depression our recessions have been “V” shaped. For various reasons a sharp, rapid decline in GDP--with a corresponding rise in unemployment--has been followed by an equally rapid recovery. The result? A “V” shaped recession. To state what is painfully obvious--Not This Time! That depressing fact will, of course, generate depressing consequences.

“U”

“U” Shaped Recession...Things can, of course, go from bad to worse. On occasion we suffered through a “U” shaped recession. “The bottom drops out.” A rapid, sharp decline in economic activity persists for a painfully long period. At least, though, the ultimate recovery would be bracing. But remember that economics is referred to as “the dismal science”. Some economists present graphs projecting a more dismal future.

“W”

“W” Shaped Recession...It is difficult to deny that such a graph appears unfortunately to represent painfully accurately our current situation. After navigating some of the stages of what appeared to be a “V” shaped recession, the looming fall and winter virus resurgence threatens to drive us down into the depths again. If we add to the “V” shaped graph another precipitous decline, the “V” is transformed into a terribly threatening “W”. Heaven forbid, but this graph does seem at least plausibly to represent the prospect that we face.

So far we have focused primarily on graphs illustrating economic consequences of our situation. But there are social and cultural consequences, ominous consequences, of our current conditions. We need another graph to illustrate those ominous consequences. A terrible fate may be in store for our less fortunate fellow citizens.

The graph that follows to illustrate this tragedy in the making is not all that inconsistent with the possibility of a “W” shaped recession. We have not just an economy. We have also a society, and the graphs focusing exclusively on economics

“K”

“K” Shaped Recession...We have a society, a society that is in danger of rending by a number of causes. The coronavirus is a new but major contributor to that rending. Some classes have weathered the pandemic quite well, thank you. Many Americans can telecommute. They can literally avoid or escape the virus breeding grounds. Many Americans are ascending the upward sloping segment of the “K”.

But their immunity or ascendance comes almost literally at the expense of those fellow citizens who are slipping down the descending segment of the “K”. These folks have to work and live in and through the virus. Social scientists speak of a “pulling apart” to describe this rending of society along class lines. It was occurring already; now the trend is exacerbated by the virus.

Congress, in a temporary fit of social and political responsibility, addressed some of the problem in a series of laws focused on the immediate threat. Now, however, political considerations and hyperpartisanship have seduced them to revert to type. The aid has expired. Our fellow citizens are abandoned to slide helplessly down the lower segment of the “K” toward despair. It should be otherwise, but a “K” shaped recession.

“L” ??

Let us try to conclude on a sardonically optimistic note. In spite of all the depressing signals sent by many of these graphs, most economists would agree that we probably do not face the ultimate threat of an “L” shaped future. Who said that economics was the “dismal science” ?

Bob Evan
Rockford University

BY ORDER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Colleen Callahan, Director
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESSOURCES
OFFICE OF REALTY & CAPITAL PLANNING
DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE SERVICES & CONSULTATION
NOTICE OF SEALED BID PROPOSALS FOR FARM LEASING

Sealed bids for farm leasing will be accepted by the Department of Natural Resources for agriculture lease, consisting of approximately 97 acres respectfully. The acreage is located near the Rock Cut State Park, forms and related information will be discussed at a Mandatory Vendor Conference to be conducted by the Department of Natural Resources at the rock Cut State Park Office at 7218 Harlem Road, Loves Park, Illinois 61111 on November 23, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Prospective bidders will need to download and print the necessary forms from the Bid-Buy website at www.bidbuy.illinois.gov prior to the vendor conference. Plan to arrive early for assistance in registering on Bid-Buy or register prior to the meeting online at www.bidbuy.illinois.gov. Masks are required and vendors must practice social distancing.

Bids and supporting documents are due on December 8, 2020 by 2:00 p.m. to: Department of Natural Resources, Attn: Leigh Ann Henline, Fiscal/Procurement, One Natural Resources way, Springfield, IL 62702.

Bids will be opened on December 8, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. via Webex. The farm lease shall be awarded to the responsive, responsible, qualified bidder with the highest price.

The State of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources, shall not unlawfully discriminate based on race, color, sex, national origin, age or handicap in admission to, or treatment or employment in, programs or activities.

The Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. For more information visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/CLM/Documents/AgLeaseWebsite.pdf>

Charles Herbst

Attorney At Law

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Community News & Events

Illinois Tollway Announces 10th Annual Student Art Contest: The 2021 Tollway Map Cover Art Contest rules and all required entry forms are posted on the Tollway's website at www.Illinoistollway.com

Vacancies of the Boone County Volunteer Board:

<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Length of Term</u>
Boone County Board of Review June 1, 2021	Remainder of Term
Boone County Conservation District June 30, 2023	Remainder of Term
Commissioners of the Housing Authority January 1, 2025	(5) Year Term
January 1, 2023	(5) Year Term
Fire Protection District #3 July 20, 2023	(3) Year Term
July 20, 2023	(3) Year Term
Regional Planning Commission December 31, 2020	Remainder of Term
December 31, 2021	Remainder of Term

Boone County Ethics Commission
June 30, 2021 (1) Year Term

Interested parties are asked to send a letter and/or resume expressing your interest and qualifications along with your contact information to Boone County Board Chairman Karl Johnson, Administration Campus, 1212 Logan Ave., Suite 102, Belvidere, IL 61008. Please respond by November 1, 2020 to assure being considered.

C-SPAN'S 17th Annual Studentcam Video Competition: Mediacom and C-SPAN announce the start of this year's annual student documentary competition and encourage middle school and high school students to participate in the video documentary competition known as "StudentCam." Students are asked to create a short video documentary and submit it online between November 1, 2020 and January 20, 2021.

This year, the new topic for 2021 submissions is "Explore the issue you most want the president and new Congress to address in 2021." Students are asked to analyze the current and/or historical significance of their chosen issue and include differing points of view. Participants present their views by creating a short video documentary, five to six minutes in length. Students can work in teams or individually to create their videos.

Cash prizes of up to \$100,000 in total will be awarded to winning documentaries. Winners will

be announced in March 2021 and the top-rated videos will be televised on C-SPAN in April 2021. Complete competition details and entry forms are available on the C-SPAN StudentCam website <http://www.studentcam.org>.

Rock Valley College and Rockford University Hosting a Virtual Career & Internship Fair: Rock Valley College and Rockford University will be co-hosting a Virtual Career & Internship Fair on Monday, November 16, 2020 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Participation in the Virtual Career & Internship Fair is a great way to connect, network, and possibly interview with representatives of employing organizations. To view current employer lists, job openings and to pre-register for the event visit rockvalleycollege.edu/careerfair

For more information, please visit rockvalleycollege.edu/careerfair or contact the Career Services Departments at Rock Valley College at (815) 921-4146 or Rockford University at (815) 226-4022.

Community Building Complex Committee Regular Board Meeting: Thursday November 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Building Board Room.

Covid

Continued from page 3

during his briefing. "And I encourage everyone listening to support your local small businesses. These are the heroes who are the lifeblood of our communities, and they are job creators."

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has distributed \$95 million in BIG funds to businesses through 4,000 individual grants, and there remains \$175 million in program to disburse, according to the governor's office.

Nearly \$50 million has also been distributed from the CURE program, which reimburses local governments for COVID-related expenses. About \$31.9 million in CURE funding is in the process of being distributed, with \$170 million remaining.

Both the BIG grants and Local CURE funding comes from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act.

Tania Hernandez, a business owner who has benefited from BIG funds, spoke at Pritzker's daily press briefing about how the grant money helped keep her dress shop from failing due to the ongoing pandemic, as her business pivoted to making masks instead.

"The BIG grant that was provided by the state was essential for us. It allowed us to keep our employees and pay rent. Without this financial help, it was impossible for us to survive."

"We're facing critical times but the BIG grant has been a lift for us," Hernandez said.

Still, Pritzker said, more is needed in the way of aid to struggling businesses.

"The dollars provided by the federal government aren't nearly enough," Pritzker said. "So I've simultaneously called for the federal government to deliver more direct assistance for Americans in every state. And I would encourage elected officials across the state to join in on that advocacy."

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.

Legislative Probe Into Madigan Postponed

Chairman cites pandemic, need for ComEd documents

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The chairman of a special committee investigating Democratic State House Speaker Michael Madigan's role in a bribery scheme involving utility giant Commonwealth Edison has postponed the panel's next meeting, which had been scheduled for Thursday.

Rep. Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, announced Wednesday that the meeting is being delayed, in part because of the worsening COVID-19 pandemic and in part because it is still waiting to receive documents from ComEd.

"The Committee is currently awaiting documents requested from ComEd, which the company has indicated they are working to provide within the coming weeks," Welch said in a statement Tuesday. "Both Democrats and Republicans believe these documents will provide critical context to our work. While we face a surge in COVID cases across the state and new mitigation guidelines, holding a hearing without these requested documents would not only be unproductive but also an unnecessary risk for members, staff and our communities at large."

Welch did not announce a new date for the delayed meeting.

Madigan was implicated in the bribery scheme in July when ComEd officials entered a deferred prosecution agreement in federal court in which they admitted to handing out lobbying jobs and contracts to close associates of Madigan's over a nine-year period in an effort to curry his favor for state legislation that benefitted the company. Madigan has denied any wrongdoing and has not been charged with a crime.

Republicans in the General Assembly, however, say the allegations spelled out in the deferred prosecution agreement amount to "conduct unbecoming of a legislator," and they filed a petition in the House in August that initiated the disciplinary proceeding.

That proceeding begins with the formation of a Special Investigating Committee whose job is to determine whether there is enough evidence

Continued on Page 5

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Madigan

Continued from page 4

to support such a charge. The six-member committee is divided evenly between Democrats and Republicans, but a majority of at least four votes is required to pass any motion.

So far, the committee has met only twice, the last time on Sept. 29. A week later, Welch announced that the committee would not meet again until after the Nov. 3 general election in order to remove the proceedings from “the backdrop of a political campaign.”

In his statement Wednesday, Welch noted that both Republicans and Democrats on the panel wanted to hear testimony from Fidel Marquez, a former ComEd senior vice president of governmental and external affairs, but that he had declined to appear before the committee. Marquez was indicted for his role in the scheme and has pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery.

Although the state Senate has adopted rules that allow them to hold subject matter hearings remotely, the House has not adopted such a rule, which means their committee meetings, including disciplinary ones, must be conducted in person.

Last week, Region 3 of the state’s reopening plan, which includes Springfield where the Special Investigating Committee meets, was placed under enhanced mitigation measures after the rolling seven-day average COVID-19 test positivity rate rose above 8 percent for three consecutive days. As of Sunday, Nov. 1, the most recent data available, the region’s positivity rate stood at 11.1 percent.

House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, R-Western Springs, who initiated the petition that led to the committee’s formation, had scheduled a virtual news conference for Wednesday afternoon, but that news conference was postponed due to technical difficulties, according to a caucus spokeswoman.

Tom Demmer, R-Dixon, the ranking Republican on the committee, issued the following statement later Wednesday:

“The duty of the Special Investigating Committee is to conduct an investigation. A petition was filed 66 days ago in accordance with House Rules. The last meeting was 37 days ago, at which time we made a motion to issue subpoenas to key witnesses who have relevant and important information—but the Chairman did not allow a vote on that motion. Members of the House of Representatives—in both parties—should be concerned about the way this process is being handled.”

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.

Failed 3rd District Retention is First Ever in State Supreme Court’s History

Republican candidate in southern Illinois wins 5th District high court seat

by Sarah Mansur Capitol News Illinois

For the first time since Illinois adopted judicial retention elections in 1964, an Illinois Supreme Court justice lost a retention bid to stay on the state’s highest court.

Justice Thomas Kilbride failed to win at least 60 percent of the ‘yes’ vote in his district, earning only 56.4 percent of the vote, according to unofficial results. Kilbride conceded from the race in an email statement issued around 11:30 p.m. on Tuesday night.

“Though votes continue to be counted, I am

disappointed in the apparent outcome. I want to thank the voters of the Third Judicial District for twice placing their faith in me to uphold the sacred principles that guide our judicial system. Serving on the Illinois Supreme Court has been the honor and privilege of my lifetime, and I am proud of the legacy I will leave behind, including a court that is more open, transparent and accessible to all, regardless of economic means,” the statement read.

Kilbride is part of the 4-3 Democratic majority on the seven-person Supreme Court. He represents the 3rd Judicial District, which includes 21 counties across north-central Illinois. Democratic justices have maintained a majority on the Illinois Supreme Court since 1969.

Kilbride’s retention was opposed by Citizens for Judicial Fairness, a campaign committee that raised millions backing his removal, with hopes of electing a Republican to the 3rd District seat in 2022.

Jim Nowlan, chairman of the Judicial Fairness committee, in a statement Tuesday night, said the outcome “sends an unmistakable message that Illinoisans want an independent judiciary with no ties to [Democratic Illinois House Speaker] Mike Madigan.”

“We call on the Supreme Court to listen to the people as they consider a potential interim replacement to serve until 2022,” Nowlan said in the statement.

Since this is the first time a Supreme Court justice has lost retention, the court has never before faced

the issue of replacing a candidate who has failed to gain retention.

Under article 6, sections 3 and 12, of the Illinois Constitution, the state Supreme Court must appoint an interim justice to fill the vacant seat, by a vote of at least four justices, until the next election in 2022.

The justices typically do not reveal the breakdown of their vote.

A court spokesman said he did not know when the court would appoint an interim justice to fill Kilbride’s seat.

The state constitution does not set a specific time frame for when the Supreme Court must vote on an appointment after a vacancy on the court occurs.

The constitution states that the “person appointed to fill a vacancy 60 or more days prior to the next primary election to nominate Judges

Continued on Page 7

Attention Belvidere Township Property Owners Interested in Appealing Their 2020 Assessment

One of the main duties of the Belvidere Township Assessor’s Office is to monitor real estate sales data and use that information to uniformly assess, or value, real property. The Fair Market Value indicated in your recently mailed assessment notice is an opinion of what your property might sell for between a willing buyer and willing seller, based on the sales information that we review for similar properties.

If you disagree with the indicated value, you have a right to file an assessment appeal. It is important to note that you are appealing the property value and not the property taxes. Filing an assessment appeal will not necessarily affect the amount you pay in property taxes.

I recommend you contact our office first if you are considering filing an assessment appeal. It is important to verify the information we have on record for your property, verify the information we use to value your property, and receive additional information regarding the appeal process.

¥ Appeal forms and sales information are available at our office or on our website: Belvideretownshipassessor.com

¥ A sales locator tool can also be accessed on the Boone County Assessor’s website: Boonecountyil.org.

¥ Our office hours are 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM M-F and on a temporary basis outside of regular business hours by appointment only to assist with the appeal process.

The Deadline to File an Appeal Is Monday November 23rd, 2020



Micheal St. Angel
Belvidere Township Assessor
8200 Fairgrounds Rd
Belvidere, IL 61008
815.547.8095
mstangel@belvideretownshipassessor.com

**Do you have a Car or Truck that you don’t want?
Would you like to Donate to a Worthy Cause?**

Simply follow the directions at this website:

<https://careasy.org/nonprofit/empower-boone-inc>

It is easy we will send a truck and it is tax deductible

The proceeds go to the local Food Pantry

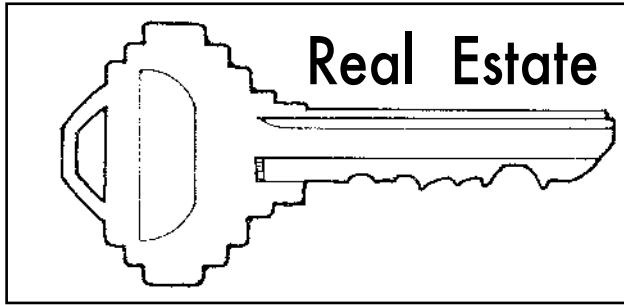
Empower Boone in Capron IL

**Boone County License & Title
Stickers - Titles - Plates
We Are OPEN**

419 S. State St. Bel
815-544-2075

Bring:
Postcard Bill from the Secretary of State
Or
Old Registration Card
Or
Vin# + Plate # + Expiration Date





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

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff,
-v- 2020CH10
KEISHA M. THOMAS 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 October 13, 2020, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on November 20, 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 695 SOUTHTOWNE DR, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-35-456-046
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 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, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876

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.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300

E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com

Attorney File No. 14-20-00357

Attorney ARDC No. 00468002

Case Number: 2020CH10

TJSC#: 40-2294

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.

Case # 2020CH10
13158423

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Oct 23, 30; Nov 6, 2020.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

MIDFIRST BANK;
Plaintiff,

vs. 19 CH 150

SHANE M. KOVACH; KAYLYNNE KOVACH; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; MILESTONE MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS;

Defendants,

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at the hour of 12:15 p.m. inside the front entrance of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street., Belvidere, Illinois 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 1035 Maple Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008.
P.I.N. 05-35-276-016.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds.

The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 19-036040 F2

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

intercountyjudicialsales.com

13158611

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Oct 30; Nov 6, 13, 2020

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR REGISTERED HOLDERS OF LONG BEACH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-WL1, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-WL1 Plaintiff,
vs. 19 CH 22

MIGUEL ALVARADO; MICHELE HENRY; Defendants,
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, December 10, 2020, at the hour of 12:15 p.m. in the office of inside the front entrance of the, Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street., Belvidere, Illinois 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 11065 MEADOWLARK LANE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Mr. Ira T. Nevel at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125. File Number 19-00516

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

intercountyjudicialsales.com

13159046

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Nov 6, 13, 20, 2020

LEGAL NOTICES

Foreclosures

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

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff,
-v- 2020CH10

KEISHA M. THOMAS 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 October 13, 2020, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on November 20, 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:

UNIT 2 IN BUILDING 9 OF SOUTHTOWNE VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM, AS DELINEATED ON THE SURVEY OF PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE 3RD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, WHICH SURVEY IS ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "B" TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP RECORDED OCTOBER 12, 2004 AS DOC# 2004R11971 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS APPURTENANT TO SAID UNIT, AS SET FORTH IN SAID DECLARATION AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME.

Commonly known as 695 SOUTHTOWNE DR, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-35-456-046

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 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, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876

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.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100
BURR RIDGE IL, 60527
630-794-5300

E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com

Attorney File No. 14-20-00357

Attorney ARDC No. 00468002

Case Number: 2020CH10

TJSC#: 40-2294

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.

Case # 2020CH10
13158423

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Oct 23, 30; Nov 6, 2020.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

MIDFIRST BANK;
Plaintiff,

vs. 19 CH 150

SHANE M. KOVACH; KAYLYNNE KOVACH; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; MILESTONE MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS;

Defendants,

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at the hour of 12:15 p.m. inside the front entrance of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street., Belvidere, Illinois 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Lot Six (6) in Block Two (2) of A.H. Allen's Re-Survey of the city of Belvidere, as planned and recorded in the Recorder's Office of Boone County, Illinois, situated in Boone County, State of Illinois.

Commonly known as 1035 Maple Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008.
P.I.N. 05-35-276-016.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds.

The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski, LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 19-036040 F2

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

intercountyjudicialsales.com

13158611

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Oct 30; Nov 6, 13, 2020

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE, IN TRUST FOR REGISTERED HOLDERS OF LONG BEACH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-WL1, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-WL1 Plaintiff,

vs. 19 CH 22

MIGUEL ALVARADO; MICHELE HENRY; Defendants,
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, December 10, 2020, at the hour of 12:15 p.m. in the office of inside the front entrance of the, Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street., Belvidere, Illinois 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOT FORTY (40) AS DESIGNATED UPON THE PLAT OF BEVER-KREEK, A SUBDIVISION IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 3591 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS. SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 05-03-376-005.

Commonly known as 11065 MEADOWLARK LANE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Mr. Ira T. Nevel at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125. File Number 19-00516

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

intercountyjudicialsales.com

13159046

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Nov 6, 13, 20, 2020

Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, In Probate

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: MARILYN A. DEMING, deceased

Case No. 2020 P58

CLAIM NOTICE
TO: CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

1. Notice is hereby given of the death of MARILYN A. DEMING who died on May 18, 2020 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center, Rockford, Illinois.

2. Letters of Office were issued on September 17, 2020 to the Executor of the estate, ROBERT J. DEMING whose address is 2633 W. Medill Ave., Chicago, IL 60647.

3. The attorney for the estate is Paul J. Huber, 226 Lake Summerset Rd., Davis, IL 61019

4. The estate will be administered without court supervision unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by filing a petition to terminate with the Clerk.

4. Claims against the estate may be filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008 or with the Representative, or both, on or before May 3, 2021, which date is not less than 6 months from the date of the first publication of this notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Any claim not filed with the requisite dated stated above is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney with 10 days after it has been filed.

Paul J. Huber, attorney for Robert J. Deming

Name: Paul J. Huber

Attorney for: Robert J. Deming

Address: 226 Lake Summerset Rd.
Davis, Illinois 61019

Phone: (815) 248-4000

Fax: (866) 529-9977

Email: paulhuberlaw@gmail.com

Attorney No. 06192970

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Oct 30; Nov 6, 13, 2020

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
To the legal voters, residents of the Town of Flora Township in the County of Boone and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of Flora Township will take place on Tuesday, November 10th at 6:00p.m. Flora Township Building
3100 Townhall Road
Belvidere, IL 61008
Published in the Boone County Journal 11/6/2020

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

DATE: November 4, 2020
PROJECT: Advanced Technology Center
 Rock Valley College
 Belvidere, Illinois

LOCATION: Rock Valley College
 1400 Big Thunder Boulevard
 Belvidere, Illinois, 61008

OWNER: Rock Valley College
 3301 North Mulford Road
 Rockford, Illinois 61114

OWNER'S REP: Belvidere Unit School District #100
 1201 5th Avenue
 Belvidere, Illinois 61008

ARCHITECT: Ollmann Ernest Martin & Associates, Inc.
 200 South State Street
 Belvidere, Illinois 61008
 Tel: 815/ 544-7790

SCOPE: Bids will be received for a single contract for all work required to convert the former Shopko location into Rock Valley College's Advanced Manufacturing Training Center.

DATE DUE: Sealed bids will be received until 2:00 pm on Friday, November 20, 2020, at the office Belvidere CUSD 100, 1201 5th Avenue. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately after the bid window has closed. Due to current COVID restrictions the bids will be opened virtually and information on how to access the bid opening virtually will be provided at the Pre-Bid meeting.

PRE-BID MEETING: All prospective general contractors are required to attend a pre-bid meeting, and subcontractors are invited to attend the pre-bid at 2:00 pm on Thursday, November 10, 2020, at the site, 1400 Big Thunder Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois.

PRE-BID SITE VISIT: Contractors are required to survey the existing conditions prior to bidding and the building will remain open until 5:00 pm on November 10, 2020. Additional times for access will be announced at the Pre-Bid meeting.

ACCESS TO BIDDING DOCUMENTS: Bidding Documents are on file for reference at the following location:
 Office of the Architect
 Belvidere, Illinois
 NIBCA (N. Ill. Bldg. Contractors Assn)...
 Rockford, Illinois
 Bidding Documents may be secured from the office DG Printing of Rockford, LLC, 728 Prospect Street, Suite 109, Rockford, IL 61107. Phone number is 815-961-0000 and website is www.dgdplanroom.com.

DEPOSIT REQUIRED: Bidders may secure sets of bidding documents from the printer. Bidders should be aware of the fact that the printer may charge a fee to access the documents. PDF files are made available to bidders for the purpose of making reproductions pursuant to specification Section 000114 "ownership and Use of Instruments of Service" for copyright purposes.

BID FORM: Bids shall be submitted in duplicate on forms issued by Architect. An electronic copy of the bids will also be required to be submitted with the duplicate copies of the bids.

PERFORMANCE BOND: A performance and payment bond for the full amount of the Contract will be required of the successful bidder. All costs associated with the bond shall be included on a separate line item within the bid documents.

BID SECURITY: Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of at least 10% of the total amount of the base bid and all additive alternate bids. This may be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, bank draft or bid bond, payable to the Owner as a guarantee that should the bidder be awarded the Work, the bidder will enter into a contract with the Owner and will furnish the proper performance and payment bond within the time limit set by the Owner. Bid securities will be returned to all other bidders when the successful bidder files a proper performance and payment bond (if bond is required) and the contract is executed by the Owner. If the successful bidder fails to file such contract and performance and payment bond (if bond is required), the amount of his bid security shall be forfeited to the Owner as liquidated damages.

WAGE RULES: Each craft, type of worker and mechanic needed to execute the Contract shall be paid the prevailing wage rate for the locality in which the work is performed, in accordance with all federal laws and laws of the State as well as local ordinances and regulations applicable to the work hereunder and having force of law.

TAX EXEMPT: Rock Valley College is a tax exempt entity.

RIGHTS RESERVED BY OWNER: The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or reject any or all bids when, in the opinion of the Owner, such action will serve the best interests of the Owner.

WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS: No bid may be withdrawn for a period of 120 days after the opening of bids without written consent of the Owner.

DETAILED BID A detailed Advertisement for Bid will be posted on the Rock Valley College website. The Advertisement for Bid on the Rock Valley College website contains more detailed information and additional requirements for prospective bidders. Please see the following website for more information:
https://www.rockvalleycollege.edu/Community/Vendors_BidInfo/index.cfm
 By order of the Board of Trustees of Rock Valley College
 Published in *The Boone County Journal* November 6, 2020

Assumed Names

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS
 COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a estate sales and service business in said County and State under the name of Sweet Pea Estate Sales at the following post office address: 12875 Caledonia Road, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Traci Bender, 12875 Caledonia Road, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #815-979-4034
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 8th day of October, A.D. 2020
 Julie Stapler, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal October 16, 23, 30

Courts

Continued from page 5

shall serve until the vacancy is filled for a term at the next general or judicial election."

Both Kilbride and Justice Lloyd Karmer, who is retiring, have terms that end on Dec. 6.

If the court meets to appoint a justice before then, the two outgoing justices could be involved in selecting the temporary successor, said Ann Lousin, a constitutional law professor at the University of Illinois Chicago John Marshall Law School.

"If [Kilbride] does sit in on the meeting, he would have a say in his successor," Lousin said. "He would be one vote out of seven."

Kilbride's retention race has already exceeded the previous record for spending in an Illinois Supreme Court retention race, and it could be the most expensive race in the court's history.

The seven justices on the Illinois Supreme Court are elected from five judicial districts. The 1st Judicial District, which encompasses Cook County, contains three justices – Anne Burke, Mary Jane Theis and P. Scott Neville, who are also Democrats. Neville was also elected to the Supreme Court on Tuesday, but he ran unopposed.

Karmer, a Republican representing the 5th Judicial District, will be succeeded by Justice David Overstreet, who won his contested race.

5th Judicial District race

Overstreet, a Republican, defeated his opponent Justice Judy Cates in the only other competitive Illinois Supreme Court race on Tuesday. Overstreet won roughly 63 percent of the vote, or 358,455 votes, according to unofficial results.

"It is the honor of a lifetime to be elected by the citizens of the 5th Judicial District of Illinois to serve as your next Supreme Court Justice," Overstreet wrote on his Facebook page Wednesday morning.

The 5th Judicial District covers 37 counties in southern Illinois.

Both Overstreet, 54, and Cates, 68, serve on the 5th District Appellate

Court — one of five state appellate courts, which are one level below the Illinois Supreme Court and hear appeals from circuit courts.

Cates will retain her seat on the appellate court. She did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday.

Overstreet first joined the bench when he was appointed a circuit court judge in the 2nd Judicial Circuit Court in 2007. Before that, he worked in small, private firms in southern Illinois and Knoxville, Tennessee.

He was elected to the circuit court in 2008, appointed to the appellate court in 2017, and won election to the appellate court in 2018.

Overstreet describes himself as a "constitutional conservative," while Cates ran as a centrist Democrat who promised to protect the rights of gun owners.

Before Karmer was elected to the Illinois Supreme Court in 2004, voters in the 5th Judicial District had only elected Democrats to the high court since 1964.

Overstreet's election to the court means that three Republican justices will remain on the Illinois Supreme Court.

Justice Rita Garman, from the 4th Judicial District, and Justice Michael Burke, from the 2nd Judicial District, are also Republicans.

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.

Interested in
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Pritzker Pressures Local Officials to Enforce Mitigation Orders

Governor also encourages those who qualify to sign up for ACA health coverage

by *Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois*

As state leaders continue to face pushback from the restaurant industry and even some county and municipal governments regarding COVID-19 mitigation measures, Gov. JB Pritzker on Tuesday put pressure squarely on the shoulders of local elected officials.

“The fact is that local officials who are not doing the right thing are the ones who are going to be responsible for the rates of infection going through the roof, and our hospitals getting overrun and people are dying if they don’t enforce the rules,” Pritzker said during his daily briefing in Chicago. “That is why those rules exist.”

Beginning Wednesday, all 11 regions of the state’s reopening plan will be under enhanced mitigation orders to control the spread of the virus because they have seen sustained periods of test positivity rates over 8 percent and, in some cases, dangerously rising hospitalization rates. The last region to cross those thresholds was Region 2, in west-central Illinois, where the enhanced mitigation measures take effect Wednesday.

Those mitigations include closing bars and restaurants to indoor service as well as limits on the size of public gatherings and social events.

But the restaurant industry has pushed back hard against the orders, arguing there is insufficient data to show that bars and restaurants have been a significant source of virus spread in Illinois. Those establishments went through several weeks of mandatory closures during the early phases of the pandemic, and they say another extended period of closure will force many of them out of business permanently.

Officials in Springfield and Sangamon County announced Tuesday that they will take a “phased approach” to enforcing the orders, starting with limiting indoor seating at bars and restaurants to 25 percent of the establishment’s capacity.

That announcement came on the same day the Illinois Department of Public Health announced that 3,594 people in the state were being hospitalized with COVID-19, the largest number since May 28. IDPH also reported Tuesday that 6,516 new cases of the disease and 68 virus-related deaths had been confirmed over the previous 24 hours.

In Region 3, which includes Springfield, the test positivity rate stood at 10.6 percent on Oct. 30, the most recent date for which numbers were available.

“We know that that the places that are remaining open, they’re having large gatherings and defying these rules are, in fact, spreading locations,” Pritzker said. “These are places that are amplifying the virus across the state. And so, you know, when you’ve got double-digit positivity rates in your area, as is the case in Springfield, then the local officials need to take the laws that are on the books and the regulations that we’ve put forward and the orders that we’ve asked people to follow and enforce them locally.”

‘Obamacare’ enrollment opens

As the number of COVID-19 cases continues to rise throughout the state, Pritzker used his Tuesday media briefing to encourage Illinoisans who do not have health insurance coverage through their employer or Medicaid to sign up for subsidized coverage through the state-run marketplace under the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare.

Open enrollment in that program began Monday

and runs through Dec. 15.

“Since its passage in 2010, the ACA has been an invaluable asset in Illinois’ fight to provide health care to all residents of the state,” Pritzker said.

People can also access a special enrollment period if they formerly had employer-based coverage but lost their job for any reason, Pritzker said.

The ACA plans offer discounts in the form of tax credits for people who qualify based on their income. According to the Illinois Department of Insurance, more than 240,000 Illinois residents received those discounts last year.

This year, the department said, 179 different plans are available through eight different insurance carriers.

People can sign up for coverage by visiting the website GetCoveredIllinois.gov.

Elections Board Warns That Races Could be Undecided for Days

Mail-in ballots postmarked by Nov. 3 will be accepted if they arrive by Nov. 17

by *Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois*

Although nearly 3.6 million Illinoisans had already voted by Monday morning, according to the Illinois State Board of Elections, nearly 2.3 million ballots are still to be cast if the state is to match the 70.56 percent turnout of 2016.

As of Monday, there were 586,709 mail-in ballots that Illinois voters had requested but not returned. As long as those ballots are post-marked by Tuesday, Nov. 3, they must be accepted by local election authorities if they arrive by Nov. 17 – two weeks after Election Day.

Those ballots can also be turned in at polling locations or deposited at official election authority drop boxes, which officials say are better options to ensure the vote is counted due to potential mail delays.

“If you still have your vote by mail ballot, you can do one of two things: Either bring it with you and vote in person (on Election Day)... or fill it out and bring it directly to your local election authority and check to see if you have a secure ballot drop box in your area,” Gov. JB Pritzker said at his daily news conference Monday. “Do not mail your ballot unless you take it directly to the post office and have it postmarked by (Election Day).”

Because of the outstanding ballots, the Elections Board is warning that election night totals are unofficial, and it could take several weeks to decide close races as officials wait for outstanding mail ballots. Election night results are always unofficial, but the volume of outstanding ballots this year means more races could take longer to decide.

“The Illinois State Board of Elections will regularly update the statewide totals for mail ballots on its website, but does not report any election results until it certifies the vote on Dec. 4. Unofficial results before certification may be obtained from local election authorities,” the Board said in a news release.

The Board warned that the graduated tax constitutional amendment question – which can pass if it receives 60 percent approval from voters who vote on the question or a simple majority of yes votes among all ballots cast – could take extra time to decide if the vote is close.

“Because of this formula, the fate of the amendment may not be known on election night even when accounting for mail ballots not yet returned,” the Board wrote.

Pritzker advised patience on races with national significance as well.

“Counting votes that arrived by mail is time-consuming work for our county clerks and their staffs,” he said. “With vote-by-mail hitting all-time records, that means that we have to be patient about the results of all races this year. It will possibly take until Wednesday or Thursday, or even Friday to get results for some races in Illinois and in states across the country, every vote must be counted, particularly on the national level. It is very important that we are patient with the presidential election.”

Pritzker said it’s “extremely important” that Illinoisans do not get their election news over social media.

“We know that there are foreign actors, specifically Russia, Iran and others who intend to promote misinformation throughout Election Day, and in the days after. They would like nothing more than to promote conspiracy theories and sow discontent,” Pritzker said. “If you want accurate information about the vote count, go to your local election authority’s website, or to the Politico website, or to the New York Times website where they track all the races nationwide or visit other reputable national news outlets.”

He urged news consumers to avoid reposting viral content they may see on social media.

“Look at a variety of news outlets if you like but be wary of claims you see on social media, foreign actors posing as Americans are producing disinformation, such as fake videos or fake official statements, hoping that you will repost it,” he said. “So check before you repost anything, or better yet, you may want to take the next few days off from social media. Facebook and Twitter will still be there in the morning.”

Also at his news conference, Pritzker was asked about Election Day security and the potential for unrest, and he noted the Illinois National Guard is “at a state of readiness,” out of “an abundance of caution.”

“We’ve made sure that our National Guard is simply in a state of readiness. We did this back during the few days before the ruling around Breonna Taylor. We want to make sure that that cities, counties that call upon us for help from the state of Illinois that we have those resources available to them,” he said.

On Monday, the Illinois National Guard tweeted that they did not have a specific mission. National Guard vehicles were seen staging at McCormick Place convention center in Chicago.

“Lots of people seeing (Illinois National Guard) trucks moving about,” the Guard wrote in the tweet. “While we can’t discuss the specifics of troop movements or future plans for security reasons, we can say that we do not have any missions and are just preparing in case we are needed. We join most others in hoping we aren’t.”

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