

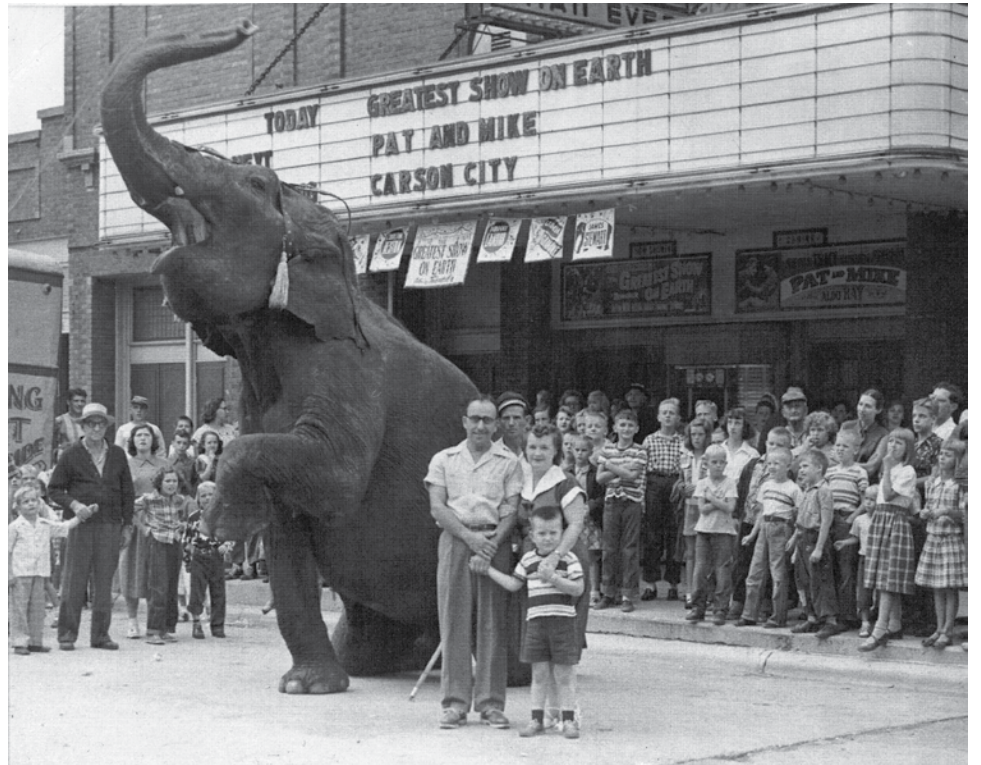


Corteo

Cirque du Soleil

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## When the Circus Came To State Street

When *The Greatest Show on Earth* was playing at the Apollo Theatre in Belvidere in 1953, a circus was also appearing at the fairgrounds (today's Spencer Park). The theatre manager, "Nick," persuaded the trainer to bring an elephant to State Street to promote the movie. As the elephant walk east on Lincoln Avenue, children followed it to the theater as it past each neighborhood.

funding from the Quebec government, and after a few rocky years of theatrical success but financial failure, were able to found *Le Grand Tour du Cirque du Soleil* in 1982 with additional help from the province.

Eventually, the Cirque du Soleil was able to establish itself on a sounder financial footing and, over the years, has evolved into a diversified Canadian entertainment company headquartered in Montreal and the largest theatrical producer in the world. The company currently produces about twenty unique shows, of which *Corteo* is one. Several, like *Corteo*, are traveling shows, others operate at fixed venues.

We were the guests of Cirque du Soleil last week at the BMO Harris Bradley Center in Milwaukee. The backstage tour was impressive and the performance of *Corteo* was most enjoyable.

*Corteo*, which means "cortege" in Italian, is the story of Maruo the clown, who, in a dream, imagines his funeral as a grand circus, where his friends perform in sixteen acts as a way of saying goodbye to him. The show features acrobats, trapeze artists, jugglers, clowns and athletes one typically sees at a circus. *Corteo* has its own full, live orchestra. Ragtime has been replaced by lyrical and playful operatic music, choreographed to reflect the mood of story.

In *Corteo*, one sees echoes of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, complete with a red-jacketed, whistle-blowing ringmaster, but this circus is not a recreation. *Corteo* is a different show, and polished in a very different way. This show does not feature animals, and is choreographed to produce a different atmosphere than the circuses of yesteryear. It would be difficult to say one is better than the other. Instead, it's better to enjoy the illusions that this circus creates and be entertained.

The show boasts an elaborate, formal stage with curtains. There are spectators on both sides of the stage and backstage areas at either end. To get performers from one backstage area to another, a luge-like system operates under the stage.

Producing a traveling circus requires great

*Continued on the page 3*

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## The Circus Lives On

by Charles Herbst

Last year, with the end of its 146-year run, Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus finally folded the tent for the last time.

But the show must go on! This weekend, in the fine tradition of the circus, Cirque du Soleil performs a circus, *Corteo*, at the BMO Harris Metro Center in Rockford. At press time, tickets are still available online and through the Metro Center box office.



Helium Dance, Corteo

Cirque du Soleil

Cirque du Soleil, meaning circus of the sun, was founded in Baie-Saint-Paul, Quebec. At age 18, Guy Laliberté had dropped out of college and toured Europe as a folk musician and busker. Returning to Canada in 1979, Laliberté organized a summer fair with the help of Daniel Gauthier and Gilles Ste-Croix. The three dreamed of creating an organized performing troupe. To attract the attention of the Quebec government and secure provincial funding, Ste-Croix walked 56 miles to Quebec City on stilts. The trio secured



Juggling, Corteo

Cirque du Soleil



# Illinois Native Bill Veeck was Champion for Game of Baseball

By Dennis Anderson  
Of the Peoria Journal Star

Bill Veeck wasn't your typical baseball team owner. He was listed in the Chicago phonebook. He often walked the Comiskey Park concourse shaking hands as he limped on his wooden leg that he retrofitted with an ashtray.

As a young man he planted the ivy on the outfield walls at Wrigley Field.

He hired Larry Doby, the first black to play in the American League just months after Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers. And he owned the Cleveland Indians when they last won a World Series in 1948.

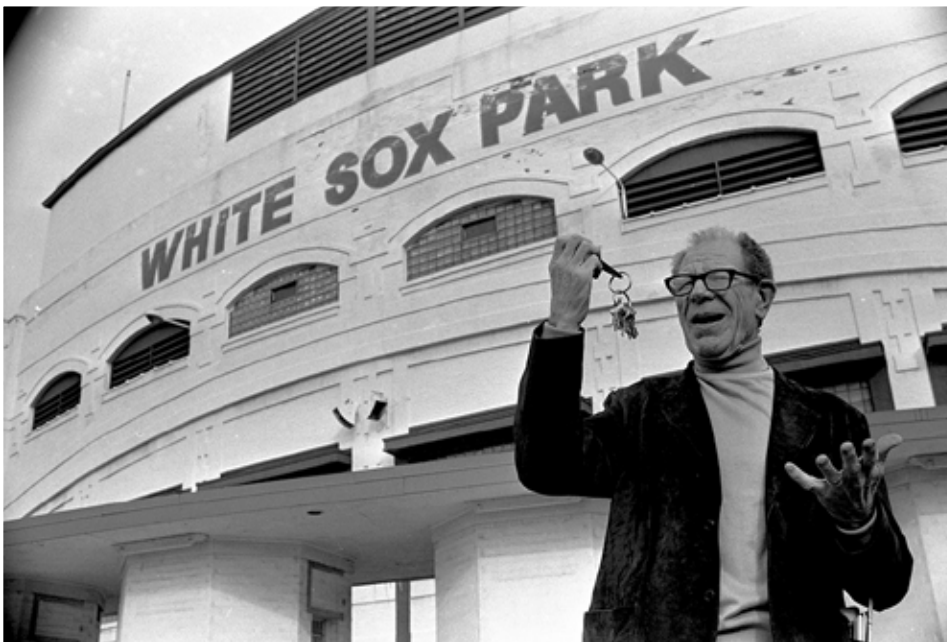
In later years, he was a regular on Chicago sports TV talk shows offering reasoned arguments on politics and society, and was often seen on WGN broadcasts of Cubs games shirtless with a beer in his hand sitting among the fans in the Wrigley Field bleachers.

Bill Veeck was a showman, nonconformist and a champion for the game of baseball and the fan. And he's an Illinois product.

Veeck was born in Hinsdale in 1914. One of his early jobs was working with his father, who ran the Chicago Cubs in the 1920s and 1930s, selling everything from tickets to popcorn.

"His father, William Veeck Sr., wrote for the Chicago American under the name Bill Bailey. He was intensely critical of the Cubs. It was unheard of at the time to take a newspaper writer and make him the general manager of the team," said Paul Dickson, author of "Bill Veeck: Baseball's Greatest Maverick." "He comes in and (owner William Wrigley Jr.) just loves him.

"He went in with the idea that Wrigley wanted to promote the team as an event for the whole family, rather than a game for guys with cigars in their mouths. He sold it as a summer oasis. They planted trees and the ivy on the outfield wall and redid the bleachers and put in new concession stands with better food. Wrigley was a great



Bill Veeck accepts the keys to Comiskey Park in 1976 after purchasing the Chicago White Sox for a second time.

advertising man and filled the newspapers with ads, not about how great the team was, but about the experience at Wrigley Field, about how much fun the family was going to have."

The Cubs won two National League pennants under Veeck Sr., who died in 1933 when his son was just 19 and a student at Kenyon College in Ohio. The son left school to return to work for the Cubs, becoming team treasurer.

"He wanted to fulfill what his dad was doing," Dickson said. "Part of that was planting the ivy. He carried out the mission that Wrigley wanted. He kept Wrigley Field a friendly place. Cubs games were a social place as well as as athletic event. Veeck made sure the hot dogs were hot and the beer was cold."

In 1942, Veeck, along with former Cubs star and manager Charlie Grimm, bought the Triple-A Milwaukee Brewers. Veeck experimented with promotions (including a contest to rename the ladies' room. The winner was "Hall of Fem.") and game times, seeking to attract as many fans as possible. He also enlisted in the Marines, serving three years in an artillery unit (the same unit as Peoria native and Chicago Cubs announcer Jack Brickhouse) during World War II. Veeck's leg was crushed by a recoiling artillery piece and his foot was amputated. He would later have more than 30 surgeries on the leg and lived the rest of his life in constant pain.

Veeck sold his interest in the Milwaukee club and in 1946 purchased the Cleveland Indians.

With Doby in the Cleveland lineup, Veeck also signed legendary pitcher Satchel Paige of the Negro Leagues, making him the oldest rookie in baseball history. The Indians won the World Series in 1948. A year later, and in need of money to settle a divorce with his first wife, Veeck sold the Indians.

In 1951, Veeck bought the lowly St. Louis Browns. According to one tale, when a fan called the Browns' offices to see what time that day's game was supposed to start, Veeck responded, "What time can you make it?"

Some of Veeck's greatest stunts took place in St. Louis. In August 1951, Eddie Gaedel, who stood 3 feet 7 inches and wore number 1/8, suited up for the Browns. The shortest man to ever play in the major leagues walked in his only plate appearance.

Veeck also turned game management over to the fans for a game, giving the crowd signs stating "Yes" and "No" when asked if the Browns should bunt, steal a base or play the infield in. The Browns beat Philadelphia 5-3 that day.

Money issues often prompted Veeck to sell his teams but rarely was he

grew up somewhere else he'd be a different person. He grew up reading the Chicago writers, people from his father's era, like Ring Lardner. It was a different kind of place than anywhere else."

In 1976, Veeck purchased his last baseball team, the Chicago White Sox again. This was on the eve of player free agency when salaries headed north of \$1 million for top stars. Veeck created a strategy to keep the Sox competitive: rent-a-player, in which he would bring in a player in the last year of his contract with no intention of signing him after the season.

"It solidified him as to who he was," Dickson said of rent-a-player. "He relished this opportunity."

By 1981, Veeck could no longer compete with baseball's new financial structure and sold the team. He left the game but his legacy continues and can be seen in every major- and minor-league ballpark, from the promotions to the scoreboards. He also had an influence on race and integration of the game.


"Veeck opened the park for kids, women and families," Dickson said. "He knew the game was constantly facing challenges and he knew he had to keep a step ahead. He realized the total package of well-contained insanity. While it didn't always work, consider Disco Demolition (when the White Sox had to forfeit a game because fans destroyed the field), he had a major impact on the game."

Journal Star Executive Editor Dennis Anderson can be reached at [danderson@pjstar.com](mailto:danderson@pjstar.com) or on Twitter at @dennisedit.

*Editor's note: The weekly Illinois Bicentennial series is brought to you by the Illinois Associated Press Media Editors and Illinois Press Association. More than 20 newspapers are creating stories about the state's history, places and key moments in advance of the Bicentennial on Dec. 3, 2018. Stories published up to this date can be found at [200illinois.com](http://200illinois.com).*

## Obituaries

- Blunt, Mary, 96, Belvidere, April 3
- Grimes, Roy, 100, Belvidere, March 15
- Ralston, Anna, 92, Belvidere, March 31



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



With retired ballplayers, Bill Veeck, center in sports coat, unveils new uniforms in 1976 for the White Sox, including collars and shorts, which the team wore twice during the season.



## Poll Finds Most Illinois Voters Want State Budget Cuts, But Unsure What To Cut

By Cole Lauterbach | Illinois News Network

Three out of four Illinois voters want to balance the state's budget by somewhat shrinking the size of government and more than half said no taxes should be raised at all, according to recent poll results.

Even after a \$5 billion income tax increase in July, the state's budget is \$1.5 billion in the red.

So the question was asked by the Paul Simon Institute for Public Policy at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. The institute's poll found 51 percent of 1,001 voters want the state to balance its budget by cuts alone. Another 28 percent said the budget could be balanced using a combination of cuts and higher taxes. Ten percent said the budget should be balanced with tax increases alone.

"No one wants to give a government that is irresponsible with the money that it has been given one more dime," state Sen. Kyle McCarter, R-Lebanon, said. "The solution is not to pile one more tax on the people because of irresponsibility spending here in the capital."

But voters were unclear about where they would be willing to cut. Of those that said to cut spending, they wouldn't agree to cuts in human services, K-12 school funding, or higher education. In fact, 32 percent selected "none of the above."

Plainfield Rep. Mark Batinick said there are plenty of places within state government to streamline that taxpayers would agree to but "when you see scandals and inefficiencies, it's hard for taxpayers to want to write more checks.

"Batinick said inefficiencies with the state's higher education institutions and other reforms to things like workers' compensation could save money without cuts such as those presented in the poll.

"All of those sort of things add up over time, making your government less effective per dollar," he said.

The majority of Illinois' budget goes to healthcare-related costs and pension obligations, neither of which are easily cut or altered without political or constitutional challenges.

The poll found that a majority of respondents favored tax hikes on higher earners, even retirement income of more than \$100,000 that would have already been taxed when earned.

The institute has been asking the "cuts-versus-tax-versus-combination" question since 2009. From 2011 to 2015, the percentage of "cuts only" respondents had steadily been falling, leveling out at 42 percent before jumping back to 51 percent in this poll.

## The Circus continued from page 1

planning, precision and hard work. Much like the circus trains of old, *Corteo* has an entourage of 21 semi trucks containing carefully-labeled crates, which keep the circus gear organized. The circus travels with a gymnasium, complete with free weights and similar equipment; a private laundromat, with its own washers and dryers; the huge stage; and all the costumes and props for the show.

Mauro, the dreamer clown, hasn't died, and neither has the circus. We are glad to see the show go on. While the circus continues in an updated, 21st Century way, we are also glad to see the history of the traditional circus preserved as well.

One of the most spectacular ways in which the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey show has been preserved is the 1953 Oscar and Golden Globe-winning, *The Greatest Show on Earth*, starring Jimmy

Stewart, Charlton Heston and a huge cast. The movie is a drama about the lives of several of the circus performers. Circus life can be difficult, and the story reflects the struggles of the cast of the traveling show.

Cleverly, the movie embeds a performance of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey's Circus, with the circus acts interspersed in the rest of the movie. Despite its age, *The Greatest Show on Earth* still has relevance, and does an excellent job of memorializing the twentieth-century traveling circus. A copy of the movie is available at the Ida Public Library. For the story of when the movie came to Belvidere, see the accompanying story.

Another glimpse of the circus can be found at the Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Circus wagons and other memorabilia are on display and a traditional outdoor circus is performed seasonally.

But this weekend, the focus in Belvidere is how the circus has evolved. Cirque du Soleil has produced and brought to Rockford an entertaining extravaganza. Enjoy the show!

## Poplar Grove Recieves Award

(Chicago, Illinois)--Government Finance Officers Association announced that Village of Poplar Grove, Illinois, has received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for having achieved the award. This has been presented to Diana Dykstra, Village Administrator.

There are over 1,600 participants in the Budget Awards Program. The most recent Budget Award recipients, along with their corresponding budget documents, are posted quarterly on GFOA's website. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

Government Finance Officers Association is a major professional association servicing the needs of more than 19,000 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy and management.

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## Now Streaming...

The documentary chronicling Rita Crundwell's \$53.7 million theft from Dixon, IL soon will be widely available on the small screen.

*All the Queen's Horses* debuted in August and will be available on demand April 10 on more than 20 providers and platforms, including Comcast, DirecTV, Dish Network and Mediacom, iTunes, Google Play, YouTube and Amazon Prime.

The 71-minute film is about the Dixon former comptroller and her theft, which spanned 2 decades before her arrest in 2012 in the largest municipal fraud in U.S. history.

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# THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

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--In Our Opinion--

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Why We Are-- Who We Are

Dear Editor,

In my estimation, society began to change its attitude in the early '90's toward a more informal lifestyle. This has led to many lifestyle changes, both good and bad, and has caused some confusion, agitation, and huge efforts for understanding.

Casual Dress Policy Law & Legal Definition One of the attitudes changed was dress codes for employees. Casual Fridays were an attempt by company's to allow a less strict dress code one day a week and they are still in effect in many company's today. This has proved to be both beneficial and detrimental at the same time. This new policy started in the '90's in California's Silicon Valley.

There the employees took it upon themselves to wear denim jeans and cotton tee-shirts.

"The ultimate dress code." One stand out feature: Managers of the Jackson-Lewis employment law employment law firm noticed a lax attitude toward being absent or tardy and in some, it caused inappropriate actions, and a flirtatious attitude between workers. It is not the norm for all employees and many company's have gone back to the more formal dress code. This opportunity has led to generations of more informal attire at home, churches and schools. Sunday services at church has changed. Dress apparel at church has gone casual, some men and women are wearing jeans, although many are dressed more formally.

The classroom dress code is more informal, it hasn't changed much over the years, except for pushing the bar for Jr. and Sr. high school students. The fads and hair style and colorization has not lost ground either.

Children and Discipline-No child deserves to be physically hurt or injured due to discipline. There are many forms to be used: Time outs, a privilege removed, being grounded, (older children) or banished to their own rooms, or as some parents: use of a tempered swat to their rears with no marks left behind. Unfortunately, children know how to use the system. If there's a hint of spanking, the police are called and children know this. They are threatening their parents with this. The schools are having problems with unruly students causing

*Continued on page 5*

**I SAY TO YOU TODAY, MY FRIENDS, THOUGH, EVEN THOUGH WE FACE THE DIFFICULTIES OF TODAY AND TOMORROW, I STILL HAVE A DREAM. IT IS A DREAM DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE AMERICAN DREAM. I HAVE A DREAM THAT ONE DAY THIS NATION WILL RISE UP, LIVE OUT THE TRUE MEANING OF IT ITS CREED: "WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL."**

REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FIFTY YEARS LATER, KING'S DREAM IS STILL A WORK IN PROGRESS, AND PROBABLY ALWAYS WILL BE. OUR HOPE FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW IS INSPIRED BY THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO WORK FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND BETTER WORLD.

## Backfire

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD – What do Bruce Rauner's campaign and the Loyola Ramblers have in common?

They both had surprising March performances. The Ramblers did well and Rauner did poorly.

Just as the Las Vegas odds makers gave Loyola little chance to make it to the Final Four in the men's NCAA basketball tournament, Illinois political prognosticators said Rauner would have a cakewalk in the primary.

Instead, the Ramblers finished in the Final Four and Rauner just barely won the nomination against state Rep. Jeanne Ives.

According to the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform, Rauner raised \$215 per vote. Ives, on the other hand, raised just \$12 per vote. Even with the advantages of incumbency and a war chest bursting with cash, Rauner won by just 2 percent.

Unless Rauner can turn things around, come November, he is toast.

His time in office has been marked by a non-productive stare-down with powerful House Speaker Mike Madigan. We get it. Madigan is bad for the state. You're not going to get any argument from me on that.

But a person can't lead by pointing fingers. The "because Madigan" mantra has become tiring even among the Speaker's harshest critics. We are looking to you, Gov. Rauner, for accomplishments and you've come up lacking.

Worse yet, Governor, you've lied to your supporters. You promised Republicans in the legislature that you would veto a measure that would provide state funding for elective abortions. You also promised Chicago Cardinal Blase Cupich and multiple other religious leaders.

And then you signed the measure.

Is your word good? Apparently, not.

So who is an example of effective leadership in Illinois? Well, 98-year-old Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt would be a good one.

The chaplain for the Loyola Ramblers has devoted her life to service. She has spent most of her lifetime as a member of The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Integrity and service are hallmarks of her career.

A Catholic college administrator during the turbulent era of the Vietnam War protests, she didn't disparage or lie about those with whom she disagreed. She loved them and cared about them.

During the GOP primary race, Rauner led with his pocketbook, spending his own wealth to disparage Ives with falsehoods and deceptions.

Sister Jean, on the other hand, led with her heart. Rambler players left the court and hugged her after each game. They had an abiding respect and trust for their leader.

Rauner eked out a "win" in which half of his "players" showed their contempt.

That's the difference between leading with the pocketbook and leading with the heart.

Governor, you could learn a lot from Sister Jean.

Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist. He works as a freelance reporter in the Springfield area and produces the podcast *Suspect Convictions*. He can be reached at [ScottReeder1965@gmail.com](mailto:ScottReeder1965@gmail.com).

## Congressional Candidate Dady Responds to Anti-Immigrant Propaganda

BELVIDERE, IL— As the turmoil playing out on the national stage hits closer and closer to home, some residents of the Illinois 16 District awoke Saturday morning to find hate on their doorsteps.

Constituents of Congressman Adam Kinzinger in at least one Belvidere subdivision reported discovering flyers emblazoned with slogans like "Keep America American!" and featuring exhortations to "report any and all illegal aliens." The flyers are attributed to a group calling themselves "Patriot Front," a growing organization of nativists styled after international neo-Nazi groups.

"It's shocking and nauseating that this kind of hate is worming its way into our neighborhoods," said Sara Dady, local attorney and Congressional candidate, after she was notified about the flyers by an associate early Saturday morning. "Leaving flyers on peoples' lawns the middle of the night is the work of a coward. This kind of thing is meant to divide us, pure and simple, and I think the vast majority of Illinoisans see it for what it is. This isn't what we're about."

The Patriot Front's website quotes jingoistic statements from Confederate General Robert E. Lee, businessman and noted anti-Semite Henry Ford, and Andrew Jackson, famed for Indian removal and his support of slavery. Similar to pro-Nazi demonstrators in Charleston, South Carolina last year, members of the Patriot Front often use scare-tactics to intimidate local residents, such as torch-lit rallies, vandalism, and violent imagery, usually while wearing masks.

The leaflets were found on private property, indicating that the perpetrators trespassed in order to place them.

According to Dady, the leafletting is especially divisive in light of this weekend's significance to Christians.

"On this weekend of all weekends, we should be remembering Christ's greatest commandment. We should be treating our neighbors with love, not targeting groups with hate," Dady said, referring to Matthew 22:36 in the Christian Bible.

In this verse, also known as the Golden Rule, a Pharisee asks Jesus "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment?" to which Jesus replied "Love the Lord your God with all your heart . . . and the second is like it: Love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these commandments."

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**Letter** *Continued from page 4*

chaos in the classroom or on the premises. Now they banish the student from the classroom for a few days. They are in a room with a teacher to complete their work. This is for a mild disruption, the more problematic are expelled from the school and put in a more structured setting.

The Me Generation (The Generational Differences Chart) This phenomenon has been with us since the baby boomers to present day. We lack empathy for others, or the will to help others in need. These positive/negative attitudes are for all society to think about, mull out in their conscience, to come to grips with and adept as their own.

How this all fits together with the ME generation; The Baby Boomers (1946 to 1964) Generation X (1965 to 1980) The Millennials (1977 to 2000)

The Traditionalists (1900 to 1945) was the generations before or after the wars. Prior to 1945, life was hard and difficult, The Great Depression, World Wars 1 and 2. The population didn't have much but when the war ended, prosperity came and they had to get used to a more prosperous life style. Life after 1945 became easier with new gadgets invented, refrigerators, automobiles, automatic washers and driers, computers, cell phones etc. Life in general became easier, family life became more centered, cars made getting around easier, but the political and national effects took their toll. Civil rights of the '50's, the Vietnam War televised, the Cold war with Russia, Watergate, the energy crisis, Corporation scandal, city riots, school shootings, and the terrorist attack. All these political and national occurrences has effected how we act as living society. Children of these generations have been affected, they were always the next generation. How do you explain Watergate, racial strife to a child and have them grow up to be a happy confident adult. The toll

of the years brought strife or balance to a family.

This last generation has been affected the most. As children they were coddled, they grew up with technology. They are the smallest percentage of the working population due to the troubles of the 1980's economy and the turmoil of 2008 and '9. Because of there student loans, they cannot buy

a home because they have no job and that makes t hard to start a family. All of this combined has affected how we live, what we feel and how we act.

My material is from Casual Dress- Policy Law and Legal Definition  
Generational Differences Chart-- WMFC  
Lana Prouty

## How can I do my best?



Not the same since that accident?  
Headaches that won't go away?  
Frequent illness?

We may have your solution to these problems and more!

Philip R. Schalow, DC, DCCJP

Hannah A. Orem, DC

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Celebration of Manufacturing  
expo & dinner

Wednesday, April 25

Giovanni's, Inc.

4:00pm expo

6:00-8:00pm dinner & program

As the bedrock for our community, manufacturing is vital to our region's success. At the Rockford Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Manufacturing Expo & Dinner, we showcase and celebrate the power of our factory floors - both the machines and the men and women who run them.

\$55 Individual | \$550 Corporate Table of 10

Register online at [rockfordchamber.com](http://rockfordchamber.com)

**New this Year! - Celebration of Manufacturing Video Expo**

Celebrate manufacturing through the power of video. New in 2018, 10 manufacturers will have the opportunity to showcase their organization through video.

**On-Site Expo:**

Participate in our On-Site Manufacturing Expo. Open to Manufacturers and those who partner with manufacturers, the On-Site Expo is perfect for those looking to increase brand awareness, strengthen relationships or attract new partners. For more information, visit [rockfordchamber.com](http://rockfordchamber.com).

The evening will close with the announcement of **Individual Business Catalyst of the Year** and **Manufacturer of the Year**.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PATRICIA R. HOFFMAN,  
Deceased.  
No. 2016-P-22

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION-WILL AND CLAIMS  
TO: QUINTON I. HOFFMAN, DAMIAN V. HOFFMAN AND  
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

NOTICE is given of the death of PATRICIA R. HOFFMAN. An  
Order Declaring Heirship and Appointing Representative & Letters of  
Office were issued on May 2, 2016 to JACQUELINE HOFFMAN,  
of Pingree Grove, Illinois and JAMES HOFFMAN, of Warrenville,  
Illinois, who are the Co-Executors of the Estate. The attorney for the  
estate is Attorney Nathan J. Noble, 504 North State Street, Belvidere,  
Illinois.

The Final Report for the Estate was filed with the Boone County  
Circuit Clerk on March 9, 2018. Heirs and Legatees may file an  
objection to such Final report within forty-two (42) days after the filing  
of the final report, as provided in section 5/28-11 (e) of the Probate Act  
of 1975. (755 ILCS 5/28-11).

The Final hearing date is June 12, 2018 @ 9:00am in Courtroom 3  
for purposes of approving the final report, discharging the Executor and  
closing the Estate.

Jacqueline Hoffman, James Hoffman  
Co-Executors  
Published in The Boone County Journal Mar 23, 30; Apr 6, 2018

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

In the Matter of the Estate of CRAIG H. BROWN, Deceased.  
No. 2018-P-8

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of CRAIG H. BROWN of Belvidere,  
Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 13, 2018, to PATRICIA  
M. PANZICA, 9325 Steeplebush Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008, as  
Independent Executor whose attorneys are WILLIAMS McCARTHY  
LLP, 120 W. State St., P.O. Box 219, Rockford, IL 61105.

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 mailing or  
delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of  
the Court, Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere,  
IL 61008 or with the representative, or both, on or before September 24,  
2018, or within 3 months from the date of mailing or delivery of notice  
to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the  
Probate Act, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite  
date stated above is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must  
be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within  
10 days after it has been filed.

PATRICIA M. PANZICA  
Independent Executor  
Published in The Boone County Journal Mar 23, 30; Apr 6, 2018

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

VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE, a body politic and corporate,  
Plaintiff

vs.  
Case No.:2018-MC-1  
FORREST PALLET, INC.,  
STEPHEN FORREST, HOLCOMB  
BANCORP, INC., HOWARD HICKS,  
and MIDTAX, INC., AND UNKNOWN  
OWNERS AND NONRECORD  
CLAIMAINANTS  
Defendants.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO:FORREST PALLET, INC.  
709 Medford Drive  
Rockford, IL 61107

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, FORREST PALLET, INC., that there  
is a pending court case of Poplar Grove, Plaintiff vs. Stephen Forrest,  
Forrest Pallet, Inc., Howard Hicks, Midtax, Inc. and Unknown Owners  
and Nonrecord Claimants, Defendants, in the Circuit Court of the 17th  
Judicial Circuit, County of Boone, State of Illinois. The pending court  
case is 2018 MC 1 and was filed on January 16, 2018 in the Circuit  
Court of the 17th Judicial Circuit, County of Boone, State of Illinois and  
is set for a case management conference on June 20, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.  
In Courtroom 3 in the Boone County Courthouse. After April 15, 2018,  
a default judgement may be sought and entered against you if you fail to  
respond to the pleadings and notice by publication.

Dated: March 20, 2018  
Linda J. Anderson  
Boone County Circuit Clerk.  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/30, 04/06,13

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

VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE, a body politic and corporate,  
Plaintiff

vs.Case No.:2018-MC-1  
FORREST PALLET, INC.,  
STEPHEN FORREST, HOLCOMB  
BANCORP, INC., HOWARD HICKS,  
and MIDTAX, INC., AND UNKNOWN  
OWNERS AND NONRECORD  
CLAIMAINANTS  
Defendants.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: HOWARD HICKS  
10864 Lemon Grass  
Roscoe, IL 61073

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, HOWARD HICKS, that there is a  
pending court case of Poplar Grove, Plaintiff vs. Stephen Forrest,  
Forrest Pallet, Inc., Howard Hicks, Midtax, Inc. and Unknown Owners  
and Nonrecord Claimants, Defendants, in the Circuit Court of the 17th  
Judicial Circuit, County of Boone, State of Illinois. The pending court  
case is 2018 MC 1 and was filed on January 16, 2018 in the Circuit  
Court of the 17th Judicial Circuit, County of Boone, State of Illinois and  
is set for a case management conference on June 20, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.  
In Courtroom 3 in the Boone County Courthouse. After April 15, 2018,  
a default judgement may be sought and entered against you if you fail to  
respond to the pleadings and notice by publication.

Dated: March 20, 2018  
Linda J. Anderson  
Boone County Circuit Clerk.  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/30, 04/06,13

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

Somailys Pina Plaintiff  
vs  
Uriel Pina Defendant.  
No.18-D-34

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, Uriel Pina, Defendant, that this cause has been  
commenced against you in this Court asking for Divorce and other  
relief. Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance  
in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Boone County,  
Courthouse, Belvidere, Illinois, on or before the 25th day of April, 2018,  
at 1:30 pm. A Judgment or other relief as prayed for by the Plaintiff may  
be granted.

Linda J. Anderson Circuit Clerk  
Published in the Boone County Journal 3/23,30 04/06

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

VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE, a body politic and corporate,  
Plaintiff

vs. Case No.:2018-MC-1  
FORREST PALLET, INC.,  
STEPHEN FORREST, HOLCOMB  
BANCORP, INC., HOWARD HICKS,  
and MIDTAX, INC., AND UNKNOWN  
OWNERS AND NONRECORD  
CLAIMAINANTS  
Defendants.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: STEPHEN FORREST  
709 Medford Drive  
Rockford, IL 61107

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, STEPHEN FORREST, that there is  
a pending court case of Poplar Grove, Plaintiff vs. Stephen Forrest,  
Forrest Pallet, Inc., Howard Hicks, Midtax, Inc. and Unknown Owners  
and Nonrecord Claimants, Defendants, in the Circuit Court of the 17th  
Judicial Circuit, County of Boone, State of Illinois. The pending court  
case is 2018 MC 1 and was filed on January 16, 2018 in the Circuit Court  
of the 17th Judicial Circuit, County of Boone, State of Illinois and is set  
for a case management conference on June 20, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. In  
Courtroom 3 in the Boone County Courthouse. After April 15, 2018, a  
default judgement may be sought and entered against you if you fail to  
respond to the pleadings and notice by publication.

Dated: March 20, 2018  
Linda J. Anderson  
Boone County Circuit Clerk.  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/30, 04/06,13

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

IN RE THE MATTER OF: Lawrence Gil Lewis No. 18-MR-26  
NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
Notice is given you, the public, that on April 17, 2018, I will file a Petition  
For Change of Name in this Court asking the Court to change my present  
name of Lawrence Gil Lewis to the name of Lindsey Elise Lewis.  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/30, 04/06,13-c

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

In the Matter of the Estate of WALTER L. WHEELER, Deceased.  
Case No. 18 P 19

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION - WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Walter L. Wheeler. Letters  
of Office were issued on March 27, 2018, to Mary Rachel Wheeler,  
Executor, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for  
the estate is Attorney Nathan J. Noble, P.C., 504 North State Street,  
Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before October 6, 2018,  
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 N Main St, Belvidere, IL 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 attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Date: 4/4/18  
Nathan J. Noble  
Attorney for Executor  
Published in the Boone County Journal 04/06,13 ,20-2018

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

IN RE THE MATIER OF NAME CHANGE OF:  
NICHOLAS CHARLES KRAUS, A MINOR, BY ms MOTHER  
KATHLEEN GARRETT PETITIONER  
CASE NO. 2018-

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Public notice is given that, on May 29, 2018, at 10:00 A.M.1 Nicholas  
Charles Kraus a minor, by my mother will file my petition in the court  
in the County of Boone and State of Illinois praying for the change of  
my name from Nicholas Charles Kraus to Nicholas Charles Garrett,  
pursuant to the statute in such case made and provided.

Dated: April 5, 2018  
Niholas Chrles Kraus, a monir  
by his mother Kathleen Garrett  
Charles T. Sewell, LLC Attorney at Law  
215 South State Street Belvidere, Illinois 61008  
Telephone 815-544-3118  
ARDC: 2554984  
E-Mail: charlests1@aol.com  
Published in the Boone County Journal 04/06,13, 20-2018

# 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 Dog Grooming and Boarding business  
in said County and State under the name of Oodles and Doodles at the  
following post office addresses: 8647 N. Boone School Rd., Capron,  
IL, 61012 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: Brandy Semonich, 100

Galahad Ct. SE, Poplar Grove, IL, 61065. Signed: Brandy Semonich,  
03/27/18  
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me this 27th. day of March,  
2018, Julie A. Stapler , County Clerk, by Giselle Lenover, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/30, 04/06,13

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 Landscaping business in said County  
and State under the name of Castillo Landscaping at the following post  
office addresses:1123 East Ave., 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: Daniel Castillo, 1123 East  
Ave., Belvidere, IL, 61008. Signed:Daniel Castillo, 03/16/18  
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me this 16th. day of March,  
2018, Julie A. Stapler , County Clerk, by Sherry L Blauert, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/23,30 04/06

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 Landscaping, Lawn Care business in  
said County and State under the name of J&P Landscaping Services at  
the following post office addresses:1212 Pearl 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: Jesus Garcia, 1212 Pearl St.,  
Belvidere, IL, 61008. Signed:Jesus Garcia, 03/19/18  
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me this 19th. day of March,  
2018, Julie A. Stapler , County Clerk, by Sherry L Blauert, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/23,30 04/06

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 Property Maintenance business in said  
County and State under the name of R P Property Maintenance at the  
following post office addresses: 3128 Partridge Ln., 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: Rennie Pippel, 3128 Partridge  
Ln., Belvidere, IL, 61008. Signed: Rennie Pippel, 03/23/18  
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me this 23rd. day of March,  
2018, Julie A. Stapler , County Clerk, by Christine Gardner, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/30, 04/06,13

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 Landscaping business in said County and  
State under the name of All in One at the following post office addresses:  
206 Candlewick Dr., Poplar Grove, IL, 61065 and that the true and real full  
names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with  
the respective residence address of each, are as follows:  
NAME AND ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE: Frank Lassin, 206 Candlewick  
Dr., Poplar Grove, IL, 61065. Signed: Frank Lassin, 04/04/18  
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me this 4th. day of April,  
2018, Julie A. Stapler , County Clerk, by Giselle Lenover, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 04/06,13,20

**Classifieds**  
**Private Party Ads Only**  
**\$5 For First 15 Words/**

A Public Notice is an important tool in assuring an  
informed citizenry; a conduit of information from the  
government to the public. Notices are mandated by  
legislatures to make sure there is a public window into  
the activities of governments, officers of the court and  
others holding a public trust. Among the most  
common types of public notices are: hearings,  
government budgets, notices of contract bids,  
foreclosures, probate notices, adoptions, and  
dissolution of marriages, name changes and assumed  
business names. There are four key elements to a  
public notice:

- Independent:** A public notice is published in a forum independent of the government, typically in a local newspaper.
- Archivable:** A public notice is archived in a secure and publicly available format.
- Accessible:** A public notice is capable of being accessed by all segments of society.
- Verifiable:** The public and the source of the notice can verify the notice was published, usually by an affidavit provided by the publisher.

Enabling an informed citizenry through newspaper  
public notices helped America to develop participatory  
democracy where it counts: where money is spent,  
policy is made and futures charted. Public notices by  
government and private parties are so tightly woven  
into the American fabric that many citizens may take  
them for granted. Located in easily found sections of  
the newspapers, public notices reach out to interested  
readers, leading them to opportunities. Voices are  
expressed on taxation, communities are formed around  
planned public improvements, and assets are saved  
from loss to unworthy creditors – all as a result of  
public notices.

*Public Notice Network*



# Community News & Events

**Boone County Conservation District Summer Camp-** Located at 603 N. Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008. Registration begins April 2nd! More information is available at [www.bccdil.org](http://www.bccdil.org) includes 3 different age groups: Camp Ducktails 4-5 year olds from 9am-11:30 on Thursday's \$20/day Starting June 28th, Camp Redwing 6-11 year olds from 9am-3pm Monday through Friday 5 weeks \$100/wk starting June 25th, Camp Redtail 12-15 year olds Canoe Camping Sylvania Wilderness Area, MI \$200 July 24th-July 27th. Please call (815) 547-7935 for any questions.

**Niemeyer Pattern Workshop-** Friday, April 6, 2018. Donna Mather will lead a workshop at Swedish American Hospital's Conference Center, 9:00 to 3:00, Room 6. Donna will teach the Niemeyer pattern, Impatiens. Call 815-395-1389 to pre-register.

**When a Life Becomes Myth: History, Myth, and Family Stories-** Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 1:30 P.M. Located at the Boone County Museum of History (314 South State Street, Belvidere, IL) This is a talk about the reconstruction of a life. An odd and dramatic family tale showed a life slowly being converted to myth over generations. Using genealogy, history, and even weather records to reconstruct what seems to have happened revealed a life that was not so far from the storyline of a myth from the very beginning. In the end, it has come full circle, from story to research to storytelling. All interested persons are welcome! Refreshments will be served. There is no cost to attend. For more information, call Wendy at (779)203-3511.

**Capron Elementary School Fun Fair-** Saturday, April 7, 2018. This is our annual event where students play games, win prizes and build happy memories. During the Fun Fair, we sponsor a silent auction and raffle to help raise additional funds for our numerous programs. All proceeds will help fund special programs, like educational assemblies, and for equipment and supplies for the school that fall outside the regular school budget. We are hoping to add funds to our playground savings account this year as well! Please contact Katie Rudy, at 815-520-0405, should you have any questions.

**The Great War: World War 1 at Midway Village-** Saturday, April 7 10am to 5pm and Sunday, April 8 10am to 4pm. With a silent Film Showing Saturday Evening, Doors open at 6:30pm and the show starts at 7pm. Visitors are invited to experience a 1918 movie house as part of an evening feature of the Great War: World War 1 military reenactment experience. Enjoy a showing of Buster Keaton silent films with live accompaniment by the Rockford Wind Ensemble. Light refreshments and visitors are encouraged to dress in period costume. The films will be shown in the museum Center Lakeview Rooms. \$10 Adults; \$5 Child (ages 3-17) for the Silent Film Showing. You may purchase admission at the door the evening of the showing on Saturday, April 7. For advance tickets, you may call 815-397-9112 or stop by the Museum Gift Store. The Silent Film Showing is in conjunction with The Great War: World War 1 and admission is separate from the military re-enactment special event.

**Flora Grange Roast Beef Dinner Fundraiser-** Sunday, April 8, 2018. Flora Grange #1762 invites the public to its Annual Spring Roast Beef Dinner, Sunday, April 8th at Flora Grange Hall, (2105 Stone Quarry Rd., Three miles south of bypass 20) (Appleton Rd.) Reservations are being taken for two servings at 11:30am and 12:45pm. Adults are \$11 and children 6-12 \$6.00. Call 815-547-6173 or 815-222-6173. Tickets are available at the door. Carry outs available. The dinner features a homemade salad bar, bake sale and, of course the tender and tasty roast beef all prepared by the members of Flora Grange.

**The Blaine Cemetery Association Spring Meeting-** Sunday, April 8, 2018. at 1:00 PM at the Blaine Cemetery, Blaine Road, Poplar Grove IL. Weather permitting, the meeting will be held at the Blaine Cemetery. In the event of inclement weather,

we will move the meeting to the LeRoy Township Hall, Blaine Road, Capron IL.

**The Annual Holocaust Memorial Observance-** Tuesday, April 10, 2018. It will be at 7:00 pm at Rockford University Regents Hall in Burpee Student Center. There will be a Holocaust survivor speaker sponsored by the Rockford University Forum Series and a candle lighting ceremony. This event is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Please call or email to reserve your seat: 815-226-4100 or email: [boxoffice@rockford.edu](mailto:boxoffice@rockford.edu)

**Spring Township Annual Town Meeting-** Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Spring Town Hall, 3150 Shattuck Rd. The annual financial reports will be presented along with a time for public comment.

**Boone County Volunteer Board Vacancy-** Boone County Regional Planning Commission Term Expires Length Of Term  
December 31, 2020 (3) 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 Avenue, Suite 102, Belvidere, IL 61008. Please respond by April 12, 2018 to assure being considered.

**Marengo Chapter of Ducks Unlimited 33rd Annual Membership Banquet-** Friday, April 13th, 2018 at Starline Factory located at 300 W. Front Street in Harvard, IL 60033. The banquet consists of an all you can eat prime rib dinner with all the trimmings, a one year membership to Ducks Unlimited, a subscription to the DU magazine and a DU Stainless Steel travel mug. A variety of games and raffle items will be available, as well as live \$ silent auctions of limited edition guns, decoys, a 2018 Polaris four-wheeler and wildlife art. Cocktails and appetizers will be available starting at 6pm. For more information please email [MflywayDU@gmail.com](mailto:MflywayDU@gmail.com) or go to [www.MarengoDU.com](http://www.MarengoDU.com)

**Outsider Artists Present Original Works of Art at Rockford ArtScene-** April 13th and 14th, 4:00pm-9:00pm. Located at The Nordlof Center (118 North Main Street, Rockford, Illinois 61101). Twelve Outsider Artist, living and working and working in Rockford, will exhibit "Inside Out," a collective of pieces expressing what it means to learn and work outside the boundaries of traditional art schools and studios. This opportunity is not to be missed. Attendees will be delighted by a wide variety of themes and mediums created by artist enrolled in Project Art-Open Studio. Project Art is a collaborative arts program between The Arc of Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties and Rockford Park District's Therapeutic Recreation program. To learn more, and to see a full calendar of events, visit [www.arcwbo.org](http://www.arcwbo.org)

**63rd Annual Kiwanis Club of Dekalb-** Saturday, April 14, 2018 from 7:00am-12:00 noon. Located at the Westminster Presbyterian Church (830 N. Annie Glidden Rd., Dekalb, IL, 60115).

**Casino Bus Trip Open To The Public-** April 18th going to "Jumers" Casino. Cost is \$25.00 per person. Includes Bus ride, Free Buffet Lunch at the Casino and \$5.00 Casino credit. Also other activities to make the trip enjoyable. Meet at the Belvidere Moose Lodge on Beloit Rd. at 7:30am for free coffee and donuts. Bus leaves at 8:30 am. Returns around 5:30 pm. You will get a Free Drink Ticket and \$1.00 off Dinner ticket, if you decide to stay at the lodge for the Chicken Dinner. Sign up at the Moose Lodge or call Bob Hammortree at (779) 552-8195. (Benefit for a Charity).

**Parks and Conservation Foundation Boone County Community Cleanup-** Saturday, April 21 from 8:00am-1:00pm. Participants who register will receive a free t-shirt and lunch. Located at Poplar Grove Village Hall, 200 Hill Street for volunteer sign-in, doughnuts and coffee. Volunteers of all ages are encouraged to participate and are welcome to bring their own equipment including gloves, garbage grabbers, hand pruners and other hand tools. Free lunch and t-shirts will be provided. Registration begins at the Poplar Grove Village Hall located at 200 Hill Street in Poplar Grove, IL, 7:30am-8:00am. After a brief program there will be a group photo,

then volunteers will disperse to their assigned work. Contact Pam Stock to register at 815-547-7935 or online at [www.comcastinthecommunity.com](http://www.comcastinthecommunity.com) Bring work gloves and dress for the weather.

**Stateline Music Foundation Scholarship Aid Awards Audition-** Stateline Music Foundation is offering scholarship aid awards for high school seniors graduating in 2018 who will enroll in a college curriculum in music and who reside or attend high school in one of nine counties in Northwestern Illinois. The auditions, which are open to the public, will be held Saturday, April 21, 2018, beginning at 3:00 p.m. In the Fine Arts Building at Highland Community College in Freeport, Illinois. The auditions are open to student musicians in voice, strings, piano, woodwinds, brasses, percussion and organ. Information and application blanks may be obtained from Kenneth Drake at 11481 N. Springfield Rd., Baileyville, Illinois 61007 or by email at [keosdrake@gmail.com](mailto:keosdrake@gmail.com)

**Annual Spring Reception Featuring Keynote Speaker: Manley Feinberg II-** Thursday, April 26. Located at the Community Building Complex of Boone County (111 W. 1st Street, Belvidere). Eleven years with Build-A-Bear Workshop, Mr. Feinberg's leadership direction helped take the company from 40 stores to over 400 worldwide, revenue growth from \$55 million to over \$474 million, and a successful IPO on the NYSE.

**The Gathering at Macktown-** April 28 & 29, 2018 from 9AM til 4PM. Located at the Macktown Forest Preserve (2221 Freeport Rd., Rockton, IL 61072). Why just read about history when you can experience it?! Take a step back in time to experience American frontier life through the 1840's at a National Historic Site! Visitors can talk with voyageurs, trappers, Native Americans, militiamen, settlers and craftsmen who have gathered to trade news and goods. There will be black powder shooting demonstrations, archery demonstrations, canoe landings, demonstrations of old-time crafts and skills, music and much more! Admission: \$7.00 Adults, \$5.00 Students, Children under 6 are FREE! For more info call: 815-624-4200 or go to [www.macktownlivinghistory.com](http://www.macktownlivinghistory.com)



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