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Looking north on South State Street at the 400 block.

photo provided by the Boone County historical Museum

## Sometime Around 1947

By David Larson

Belvidere was a city of local merchants in 1947. In the 400 block alone, there were two drug stores that we see in the picture, and more than a half-dozen city-wide. A daily newspaper full of advertisements served Boone County. Farm prices were high because of the European demand immediately after World War II.

The Marshal Plan was the national topic in the fall of 1947. Also on September 4th, the day of the grand opening of Howard Drugs, Gandhi, protesting British rule in India was in his third day of fasting and quickly becoming weak. Al Grace and his Orchestra played on the following Saturday night at Rainbow Gardens, which was just east of Belvidere beyond the Bel-Mar Country Club.

One sign we can see is Howard Drug, a father and son business, which was a Walgreen Agency pharmacy. In 1947 Walgreen's was a franchise, and not the company-owned store we see today. Howard Drug, like so many drug stores in the 40s, had a lunch counter and soda fountain. Green Rivers, hamburgers and French fries could be had for what today is pocket change. Colonial Bread and Borden's Ice Cream were available in the front end of the store along with many other goods. Borden's and Colonial, and many local businesses welcomed Ray Howard and his son, Ray Jr.'s opening with ads in the local newspaper. All of the contractors who helped build the store put in large ads wishing the Howards well in business.

It was striking how many merchants used the opening of Howard Drug as a reason to promote their own enterprises. O.H. Wright and Company

which was managed by Roy Countryman who later opened his own lumber yard. Hollenbeck & Silvius, Northern Illinois Terrazzo & Tile, McKesson & Robbins, drug wholesalers from Chicago, William Pratt Electric, Merrill and Stanley's Glass Construction Company, who built many of the buildings in Belvidere, including Manley Motors at First and State, Coombee's Paint Store, Belvidere Dairy Products, and Belvidere Plumbing & Heating. All prominently welcomed the new business.

Howard Drugs' location in 1963 became a partnership called O'Brien and Dobbins Drug Store, which was also a Walgreen Agency. The new drug store maintained a lunch counter at the rear of the store and was a popular place for high school students when Belvidere High School was located in what is now the Pearl Place building. In 1970, Harry O'Brien and Nels Dobbins moved the drug store to the Kroger building built by C.J. "Doc" Wolf in 1950. A drug store by that name remains today.

The building at 419 South State has gone through many phases since Howard Drugs occupied it. Today, the building's owner, Tom Lewis, along with the Boone County Journal, as a part of the restoration movement in downtown Belvidere, have renovated this 19th century building. This is where this newspaper and Boone County License and Title do business today.

Two doors north was another drug store, Kennedy Drugs at 415 South State Street. Between the two stores was Sullivan's Department Store, formerly Claimn's.

## Pritzker Announces Regional, Phased-In Plan For Reopening Economy

*Lawmakers could return briefly in May to address budget, other critical issues*

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker unveiled a plan Tuesday for the gradual reopening of the state's economy on a region-by-region basis, but he suggested it could take several months or even a year before the state fully reopens.

"Until we have a vaccine or an effective treatment or enough widespread immunity that new cases fail to materialize, the option of returning to normalcy doesn't exist," Pritzker said during his daily briefing in Chicago. "That means we have to learn how to live with COVID-19 until it can be vanquished."

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported 2,122 new cases of COVID-19 and 176 additional virus-related deaths over the previous 24 hours. That represented a sharp increase in daily deaths compared to Monday when only 46 deaths were announced. There were 13,139 tests results reported during that span.

That brings the statewide total for Illinois to 65,962 confirmed cases and 2,838 virus-related deaths since the pandemic first appeared in Illinois. The disease is now been reported in 97 of the state's 102 counties.

Pritzker outlined the "Restore Illinois" plan that divides the state into four regions and lays out the criteria for each one to move through five stages of reopening.

The four regions are drawn around the Illinois Department of Public Health's emergency medical service regions. They include a northeast region, primarily Chicago and its surrounding

*Continued on Page 3*

**Plan** *Continued page 1*  
suburbs; a north-central region; a central region; and a southern region.

The first phase, known as the "Rapid Spread", is what all of Illinois was in from mid-March through the end of April. During that phase, a strict stay-at-home order and social distancing guidelines are put in place and only essential businesses remain open.

Beginning May 1, all of Illinois moved into the second phase, "Flattening," in which the rate of infection among those tested and the number of patients admitted to hospital and ICU beds increases at a slower rate. Illinoisans are directed to wear face coverings when outside the home, and limited outdoor activities like golf, boating and fishing are allowed while observing social distancing guidelines.

Once a region's infection rates and hospitalization usage begin to stabilize or decline, it can enter the third phase, "Recovery," in which face coverings and social distancing will still be the norm. But manufacturing, offices, retail, barbershops and salons may reopen to the public, provided they comply with capacity limits and other safety precautions mandated by IDPH. People will also be allowed to gather in public in groups of 10 or fewer.

Once a region reaches the point when 20 percent or fewer of people tested are positive for the disease and the hospitalization rate remains stable or declines over a period of 28 days, it can enter the fourth phase, "Revitalization," in which public gatherings of up to 50 people

are allowed, bars and restaurants reopen, travel resumes and child care and schools can reopen under guidance from IDPH. But face coverings and social distancing will remain the norm during that phase.

The earliest that could happen for any region would be May 29, Pritzker said.

To be cleared for that phase, regions also must demonstrate that testing is available for anyone, regardless of symptoms or risk factors, and that contact-tracing can be completed within 24 hours on at least 90 percent of patients who test positive.

The final phase, "Illinois Restored," will occur only when a vaccine or highly effective treatment is widely available, or there are no new cases reported over a sustained period. Only at that point will a region's economy fully reopen, including public festivals and large gatherings, businesses and schools, although safety precautions will continue.

"It brings me no joy to say this, but based on what the experts tell us and everything we know about this virus and how easily it spreads in a crowd, large conventions, festivals and other major events will be on hold until we reach Phase 5," Pritzker said.

Revenues plunge, lawmakers might meet briefly in May

Pritzker also said the General Assembly might begin meeting before the end of May to address a handful of critical issues, including the state budget.

"This is a big state and representatives come from all over the state, hours away, so it may be very difficult to do a lot during the month of May, and certainly while we're in a stay-at-home order and need to remain in this order," he said.

According to the latest revenue reports, lawmakers might have a bigger budget hole to fill when they return than was initially feared.

The Commission on Government Forecasting

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## Quidnunc



## So...

If if an alderman sells their house and moves to Arizona, he can still support the Mayor with a vote in a virtual City Council Meetings which hides his location?

## Obituaries

Blatchford, Jeffrey, 50, Cherry Valley, April 25  
Gustafson, Merry An, 94, Belvidere, April 25  
Hursh, Ralph, 90, Belvidere, April 30



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Senior Writer/Editorial  
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David C. Larson  
Charles Herbst  
Bethany Staniec  
Susan Moran  
Amanda Nelson

David Grimm April 1938 - Dec. 2000  
Richelle Kingsbury Aug. 1955 - June 2013

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

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

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# THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

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--In Our Opinion--

## Fashion Accessories

and Accountability, or CoGFA, reported that base revenues in April came in \$2.6 billion lower than the same month last year, largely because the state pushed the income tax filing deadline from April 15 to July 15. CoGFA also reported that total revenues so far this year are now \$1 billion below last year's level, with two months remaining in the fiscal year.

In mid-April, Pritzker said Illinois would likely come up \$2.7 billion short in the current fiscal year, and \$6.2 billion short in the fiscal year that begins July 1. Those were based on estimates from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, which works closely with CoGFA. But CoGFA said it will be "recalibrating" its estimates over the coming days.

Asked when he plans to release concrete details of the budget adjustments he will recommend, Pritzker said he is working with members of the General Assembly.

"I know they have plans, thinking about getting together in May, and so my hope is that we'll be able to work together on a budget for the year," he said. "This is clearly the most unusual budget that anybody will have ever seen, because who has ever seen — at least in our lifetimes — the drop-off of revenue because of a pandemic? And so there's no doubt there's going to have to be a lot of collaboration, even across the aisle, to get things done."

I am sitting at my desk on the morning of the first Saturday in May. The sun is shining brightly, and the temperature is 72 degrees Fahrenheit. Ordinarily, the first thing I would be doing is checking the weather forecast for Louisville, Kentucky. Like many others, I would be hunched over my computer, studying the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, the *Daily Racing Form*, the *Finger Sheet*, and anything else I could get my hands on. Which of twenty horses is going to win the 146th running of the Kentucky Derby? The race results are impossible to predict or handicap, but that doesn't stop us from wasting hours trying.

It's called Derby Fever, and it grips Louisville for at least a week every year. It's been called everything from the fastest two minutes in sports to a silly-old horse race.

This year, Covid-19 has crashed the party. The fancy hats, wagering and bourbon-guzzling festivities have been put off until September 5. Ever conscious of its ratings, NBC plans to show a "virtual derby" this afternoon of past Triple Crown winners. Hmmm. (I'll pick Secretariat.)

Instead of fancy spring hats, my eyes are focused on 2020's fashion accessory: The face mask. Mine is sitting right next to my computer.

The mask I have is a gift of the Prairie Grange. Ruth Blasingame made it for me this past week, and dropped it off at the *Journal*. It was a gift. Not a "home-based business" or "fundraiser." An expression of caring about my welfare and those of my neighbors. A small, quiet effort to help vanquish a plague that is terrorizing all of us.

I am grateful. Not only for the mask, but for the sentiment behind it.

It reminds me of another gift I received in Boone County in August 2017. The Ida Public Library distributed thousands of special eclipse glasses so that we all could watch an eclipse of the sun without damaging our eyesight. Although the near-total eclipse at Belvidere's Spencer Park was festive in spite of the clouds, the total eclipse on a sunny day in Ashland, Missouri was truly a sight to behold. And I remember that my 2017 fashion accessory was a token of friendship and goodwill from the library.

In her Christmas message last year, Queen Elizabeth said that progress often comes with small steps that make a world of difference. Whether it's the grange masks, the sacrifices being made by emergency and other essential workers, or simply maintaining social distance, these small steps will help us vanquish this virus and set the tone for the post-pandemic world.

Many of us are worried about how we will survive these stressful times. We worry about elderly loved ones, and whether we can keep the virus away from them. And deeply divisive, selfish individuals are exacerbating our stress.

When this is over, we will gratefully remember Governor Pritzker and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, who implore us daily to protect ourselves and others by washing our hands, wearing masks, and staying home. Those who make fools of themselves by hoarding paper products—and politicians who cause dissent solely to further their personal agendas—will find themselves scorned. We'll leave to Providence the fate of those clergy who are more concerned with filling their collection plates than protecting the health of their parishioners. We suspect their "Constitutional rights" will be dimly regarded.

We have each other, and we will meet again.  
Charles Herbst



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|---|------------------|
| Reported to Treasurer's Office 9/1/19 - 2/29/20 |                  |
| Reports   | 4,921            |
| Properties                                      | 704,534          |
| Cash  | \$150,713,509    |
| Shares  | 28,151,299       |
| Returned to Owners 9/1/19 - 2/29/20             |                  |
| Number of paid claims                           | 87,701           |
| Cash and share value returned                   | \$106,004,555.86 |

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**Practice Areas:**

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- Tax Strategy
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- Real Estate
- Wealth Planning
- LLCs and Corporate

**Education:**

- LL.M. (Masters in Tax Law) New York University
- B.S. Business, J.D. Law (cum laude) Indiana University

**Experience:**

- International Tax Associates, Director of Federal Tax Research
- Ernst and Young LLP, Manager; Writer, Washington National Tax Writing Center
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# OP ED

## Sacrifices Then, Sacrifices Now

*Memories from the Greatest Generation can inspire us today*

by Dr. Mark DePue

As we struggle with the coronavirus today, we would do well to learn something about how the men and women of the “greatest generation” coped with adversity during World War II. They knew something about the pain and anxiety of separation, and about the importance of joining together to fight a common foe.

They were no strangers to hard times, having survived the Great Depression. And they were also no strangers to political strife. In the weeks and months leading up to Pearl Harbor, most polls showed that Americans wanted nothing to do with “Europe’s war.” But Pearl Harbor changed all of that – overnight. After that fateful day, Americans were all in, totally committed to defeating her enemies.

Evelyn Fields’s life is a case in point. She grew up on a small farm in Nebraska during the worst of the Depression and the Dust Bowl that ravaged the plains states.

“I’ll tell you what was the worst emotional toll,” she said during a 2011 interview, “the dust storm. ... The heat was so horrible, and the dust was so horrible. Example: In your house, you put little pieces of paper in the strips of the window, you closed your shades, you closed your curtains — and this is hot... and you stayed inside the house just to try to get away from the dust. When night came, you couldn’t sleep, it was so hot.”

The dust storms played havoc on the family’s crops as well, and thus their very livelihood. “I remember one year ... my mother and father jumped in the Model T, went out to the corn field, and looked, and found one ear of corn. So their whole year of labor was one ear of corn. That’s how bad it was.”

What kept them going? Evelyn shared fond memories of beautiful Christmas celebrations in their country church, of the shows she enjoyed on their battery powered radio, and of the songs of the era.

“Every time you have a season in history that changes, you have songs that go with it,” she explained. “You had the one about ‘We ain’t got a barrel of money / Maybe we’re ragged and funny / but we’ll travel along / singing our song / side by side.’ And they did, and you couldn’t help but think of those people traveling in their cars — they’re

hungry, they’re dirty, they got the clothes on their back and a mattress tied to the top, and you know they were singing ‘Side by Side.’”

And then came the war.

Evelyn was working in Chicago when she met William C. Fields while he was going through training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center. They were married in February 1944, just weeks before he shipped out to the Pacific on the destroyer USS Putnam. While Bill served in the Pacific, Evelyn spent her war working for the Office of Price Administration.

She helped ease the pain of separation by writing to Bill every day, never knowing where the letter would reach him, or even if it would find him alive. Her best days were the ones when she received mail from him. “Wish I was getting off duty now,” Bill wrote in one of those letters, “catching a North Shore train, hurrying home.”

Often, Bill included a special treat for Evelyn, a poem perhaps, or a sketch of Evelyn created during a spare moment from his duties on a ship in hostile waters. It is little wonder that Evelyn cherished those letters and sketches for the rest of her life.

Today we face serious trials of our own, challenges that many compare to those dark days of World War II. And while most of us are isolated in our homes, we have so many advantages over our WW II-era parents and grandparents. We have instant communication through our cell phones and social media. Many of us have wide screen TVs to keep us entertained.

Those serving on the front lines today are doctors and nurses, first responders, cashiers in grocery

stores and fast food restaurants, farmers and truck drivers. We all have been touched in some way. We all know someone on the front lines. We fear for our loved ones and our own health. But we also know that together we will beat this scourge and emerge just a bit wiser on the other side.

Sadly, Evelyn passed away on March 28 at 97, but her spirit lives on in her stories of courage, love and humor that continue to inspire us today.

*Mark DePue is the Director of Oral*

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*History at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. You can listen to Evelyn Fields’s entire story, and those of countless others at [www.oralhistory.illinois.gov](http://www.oralhistory.illinois.gov).*

## Boone County Master Gardeners are Ready to Answer Your Gardening Questions

The Boone County Master Gardeners offer a free service answering garden questions at their Horticulture Help Desk. Master Gardeners research topics about insects, trees, shrubs, plants, vegetables, fruits, gardens, lawns, and more. They provide research-based answers to questions, and take time to find the information you need for your specific circumstance.

At this time of social distancing, the Master Gardeners are volunteering remotely and can be reached via email at [uiemg-boone@illinois.edu](mailto:uiemg-boone@illinois.edu). Homeowners are encouraged to email photos of their troubled plants, trees, shrubs, insects, etc. to help the Master Gardeners with their research.

Visit our Extension website for Boone, DeKalb and Ogle County for information on upcoming events at [extension.illinois.edu/bdo](http://extension.illinois.edu/bdo). If you have specific questions about the Master Gardener program, please contact Judy Hodge, Extension Program Coordinator at [hodg@illinois.edu](mailto:hodg@illinois.edu).



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## How Will We Heal Illinois' Agri-Food System?

*Given the scale of this sector, Illinois must find the fortitude to overcome engrained barriers and self-interests to accelerate its future.*

by **Bob Easter, Richard Guebert Jr. and Theresa E. Mintle**  
*Illinois Agri-Food Alliance*

In the midst of a global health crisis, the agri-food sector is pressing forward determined to do what it does best—feed the world. After all, empty grocery store shelves don't simply restock themselves.

COVID-19, however, is rapidly exposing our food system's susceptibilities and disconnects. Could this pandemic catalyze a rethinking and transformation of the current centralized model? With an outsized stake in the outcome, Illinois would be wise to consider.

Under normal circumstances, the modern-day food system operates with efficiency via a "just enough, just in time" lean inventory model supported by a global trade system. By design, it provides a diverse array of abundant, low-cost food and agriculture-derived products sourced around the world catered to consumer demands.

Illinois plays an influential role in this globally integrated system. Our fertile farmland and geographic location have transformed the state into a critical production, logistics, and transshipment point of food, feed, fuel, and fiber. We rank in the top 5 nationally in the production of soy, corn, and hogs and are a leader in agricultural and processed food exports. Chicago and its environs are home to leading businesses driving global commodity trading, food processing and manufacturing, food distribution and retail, and supporting services.

Accolades aside, COVID-19 has quickly illustrated our reliance on a centralized supply chain. When one segment breaks, disastrous feedbacks occur. Illinois' top commodities are seeing a rapid tailspin in market prices. Our dairy producers are being forced to dump thousands of gallons of milk a day. For beef and pork, where meat processing is heavily consolidated, the shuttering of facilities amid virus outbreaks present farmers throughout the state with limited options. Meanwhile, as unemployment and hunger rises, food banks cite scarcities and inadequate capacity.

Apart from the pandemic, other systemic challenges have long infected Illinois' agri-food sector. The state imports 96 percent of its fresh fruit and vegetables. Sector-facing businesses continually face an uphill battle in securing a robust workforce. Degraded and underinvested infrastructure is crippling capacity to store and transport products. Rural communities lack broadband in an era dependent on digital connectivity.

When COVID-19 subsides, the challenges and inequities it both caused and revealed will not simply disappear.

The pressure to return to "business-as-usual" must be abandoned in pursuit of a different kind of approach that emphasizes resilience, sustainability, and equitability across the value-chain.

In the era of COVID-19, Illinois must avoid "business-as-usual," form unconventional partnerships, and accelerate efforts to develop a more resilient, sustainable, equitable food system.

The world is quickly evolving to a new norm, and the complexity of problems it faces will continue to emerge with ever-increasing intensity. Sustaining the future of Illinois' vibrant agri-food economy is contingent upon adapting our food system to meet modern needs.

To achieve this, transformative collaboration will be required. Individuals and businesses will need to form unconventional partnerships to iteratively generate new ideas, innovations, and processes that address the most pressing challenges of our time.

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None of us knows how long this will last but with your help we can minimize the pain for our community. For every dollar donated the pantry is able to purchase \$8 worth of food. Normally 2/3 of our neighbors are fixed income/social security incomes and a 1/3 are people that are in a temporary tight spot. We expect the later group to expand.

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We have already seen some notable examples. The Chicago Park District teamed up with the Illinois Soybean Association and Indigenous Energy to produce hand sanitizer. The Integrated Bioprocessing Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois is doing the same for Chicago-area hospitals. Illinois Farm Bureau and its county affiliates are securing donations to support food pantries across the state. A coalition of Chicago-based corporations supported by The Chicago Community Trust is working to identify food distribution challenges and meet them with local solutions. Regional food system champions, including the Chicago Food Policy Action Council, Fresh Taste, and the Illinois Stewardship Alliance, are working together to mitigate local market disruptions.

These types of novel collaborations need to be sustained and enhanced going forward. In the near-term, efforts must continue to concentrate on ensuring health safety, food supply, and continuity across the supply chain. In the long-term, we need cross-sector engagement to reimagine

our food system with focus on reducing supply chain complexities, inefficiencies, and inequalities inherent in its current design.

No one individual or entity is equipped with the resources to navigate these turbulent times. Given the scale of its agri-food sector, Illinois must find the fortitude to overcome engrained barriers and self-interests to accelerate its future. Healing the fissures COVID-19 is amplifying will require radical collaboration. Only in meaningful partnership will Illinois foster the capacity to create the resilient food system needed in today's disruptive landscape.

*Bob Easter is chair of the Illinois Agri-Food Alliance and president emeritus of the University of Illinois. Rich Guebert Jr. is vice-chair of the Illinois Agri-Food Alliance and president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. Theresa E. Mintle is vice-chair of the Illinois Agri-Food Alliance and interim vice chancellor for public and government affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago.*

# LEGAL NOTICES

## Public Notices

IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT COURT IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID R. RASMUSSEN,  
2509 E. Sixth St., Belvidere, Illinois 61008. Date and place of death:  
January 3, 2020 Rockford, Illinois. Case No. 2020P23 PUBLICATION  
NOTICE - INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION TO: CREDITORS,  
CLAIMANTS, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES Notice is hereby  
given of the death of David R. Rasmussen who died on January 3,  
2020, a resident of Belvidere, Illinois. The Representative for the estate  
is Douglas J. Schefflow, 63 Douglas Avenue, Suite 200, Elgin, Illinois  
60120. The Attorney for the estate is Douglas J. Schefflow, 63 Douglas  
Avenue, Suite 200, Elgin, Illinois 60120. Claims against the estate may  
be filed on or before October 19, 2020. Claims against the estate may  
be filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 601 N. Main  
Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008 or with the Representative, or both.  
Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed  
with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to  
the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. On March 20, 2020 an  
Order Admitting the Will to Probate and Appointing the Representative  
was entered. Within forty-two (42) days after the effective date of the  
original Order Admitting the Will to Probate, you may file a petition  
with the Court to require proof of the validity of the Will by testimony  
or witnesses to the Will in open Court, or other evidence, as provided  
in Article VI 5/6-21 (755 ILCS 5/6/21). Within six (6) months after the  
effective date of the original Order Admitting the Will to Probate, you  
may file a petition with the Court to contest the validity of the Will as  
provided under Article VIII 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/8-1).  
The estate will be administrated without Court supervision unless an  
interested party terminates independent supervision administration by  
filing a petition to terminate under Article XXVIII 5/28-4 of the Probate  
Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4).

Signature of Executor /S/Douglas J. Schefflow  
Published in The Boone County Journal April 17, 24, May 1

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**BELVIDERE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**  
Notice is hereby given that the City of Belvidere Planning and  
Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 12,  
2020 at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber, Belvidere City Hall, 401  
Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois 61008 upon the following:  
Application of Dean Kelly (Abbott Land and Investment  
Corporation), 2250 Southwind Boulevard, Bartlett, IL 60103 on behalf  
of the property owners, Dal Pra Trust 1994 and Southtown Ventures,  
LLC, 1901 Union Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008 for a special use for  
a daycare center (3+ children) at 435 Southtown Drive, Belvidere,  
IL 61008 within the GB, General Business District (Belvidere Zoning  
Ordinance Sections 150.105(C)(5)(B)(2) Daycare Center (3+ Children)  
and 150.904 Special Use Review and Approval Procedures. The subject  
property is legally described as:

A part of the South 25 acres of the east half of the Southeast  
Quarter of Section 35 Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the  
Third Principal Meridian described as beginning 631.49 feet north  
of the southeast corner, west 164.7 feet, north 187.2 feet, west  
794 feet, south 357.33 feet, west 366 feet, south 211.05 feet, east  
733.42 feet, northeast 226.99 feet, northeast 62.38 feet, northwest  
100.57 feet, northeast 173.87 feet, east 200 feet, north 164.55 feet  
to the point of beginning (except commencing at the southeast  
corner north 631.49 feet, west 164.7 feet, north 187.2 feet, west  
794 feet, south 357.33 feet, south 21 feet); located in Boone  
County, Illinois; PIN: 05-35-482-017.  
All persons interested in the petitions may attend and be heard at  
the stated time and place.  
Alissa Maher, Vice-Chairman,  
Belvidere Planning and Zoning Commission  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Apr 24

**VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE, ILLINOIS**  
**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
The Village of Poplar Grove will hold a public hearing on May 20,  
2020, at 7:00 p.m., at Poplar Grove Village Hall, 200 N. Hill St., Poplar  
Grove, IL 61065 to provide interested parties an opportunity to express  
their views on the proposed Downstate Small Business Stabilization  
application funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)  
funds. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who  
wish to attend the public hearing and need assistance should contact  
Village Clerk, Karri Anderberg at 815-765-3201 no later than May 18,  
2020. Every effort will be made to make reasonable accommodations for  
these persons.  
On or about June 9, 2020, the Village of Poplar Grove intends to  
apply to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportu-  
nity for a grant from the State CDBG program. This program is fund-  
ed by Title I of the federal Housing and Community Development Act  
of 1974, as amended. These funds are to be used to provide working  
capital for the benefit of The Golf Club, LLC d/b/a Timber Pointe Golf  
Club-\$25,000.00, and Mortimer Enterprise LLC Series d/b/a Mortimers  
Roadhouse and Grill-\$25,000.00. The total amount of CDBG funds to  
be requested is \$50,000.00 and will address the urgent needs of the busi-  
ness due to the COVID-19 emergency.  
Information related to this application will be available for review  
prior to the public hearing as of May 8, 2020 at the office Poplar Grove  
Village Hall, 200 N. Hill St., Poplar Grove, IL 61065 during customary  
Village Hall office hours, 8:30 - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. In-  
terested citizens are invited to provide comments regarding these issues  
either at the public hearing or by prior written statement. Written com-  
ments should be submitted to Village Clerk, Karri Anderberg - 200 N.  
Hill St., Poplar Grove, IL 61065 by no later than 4:30 p.m. on May 15,  
2020 to ensure placement of such comments in the official record of the  
public hearing proceedings. This project will result in no displacement  
of any persons or businesses. For additional information concerning the  
proposed project, please contact Village Attorney, Aaron Szeto at 815-  
900-7272 or write to Village Attorney, Aaron Szeto at 6735 Vistagreen  
Way, Suite 300, Rockford, IL 61107.  
May 8, 2020  
/s/ Karri Anderberg, Village Clerk  
published in the Boone County Journal on or about May 8, 2020

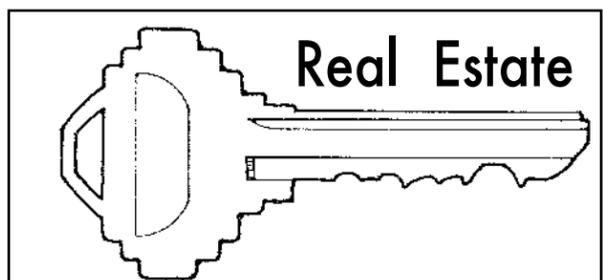
# LEGAL NOTICES

## Foreclosures

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL  
CIRCUIT COUNTY OF BOONE, STATE OF ILLINOIS  
BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED  
LIABILITY COMPANY, Plaintiff(s),  
vs. 20 CH 47  
BERTHA CONEJO, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD  
CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s).  
PUBLICATION NOTICE  
The requisite Affidavit for Publication having been filed, notice is  
hereby given to you: BERTHA CONEJO, NONRECORD CLAIMANTS  
and UNKNOWN OWNERS, Defendants in the above entitled suit, that  
said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Boone County,  
Chancery Division, by the said Plaintiff, against you and other Defendants,  
praying for foreclosure of a certain Real Estate Mortgage conveying the  
premises described as follows, to wit:  
LOT EIGHT (8) IN BLOCK NINETEEN (19) AS DESIGNATED  
UPON THE PLAT OF SHEFFIELD GREEN, PLAT NO. 6 BEING A  
SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTH HALF (1/2) OF SECTION  
35, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD  
PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS  
PLATTED AND RECORDED IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF  
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, IN PLAT IN INDEX FILE ENVELOPE  
NO. 32, AS DOCUMENT NO. 78-1544 ON MAY 22, 1978 AS  
SITUATED IN BOONE COUNTY AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.  
Tax Number: 05-35-330-008-0000  
commonly known as 1422 14TH AVE BELVIDERE IL 61008; and  
which said Real Estate Mortgage was made by BERTHA CONEJO,  
and recorded in the Office of the Boone County Recorder as the Document  
Number 2007R10021; that Summons was duly issued out of the said Court  
against you as provided by law, and that the said suit is now pending.  
Now, therefore, unless you, the said named Defendant, file your answer to  
the Complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance  
therein, in the office of the Circuit Court of Boone County, located at 601  
N MAIN ST, BELVIDERE, IL 61008, on or before May 25, 2020, default  
may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment  
entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

LAW OFFICES OF IRA T. NEVEL, LLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Ira T. Nevel - ARDC #6185808  
Timothy R. Yucill - ARDC #6192172  
Greg Elsnic - ARDC #6242847  
Aaron Nevel - ARDC #6322724  
Joseph Baldwin - ARDC #6323598  
Danielle Alvarez - ARDC #6325510  
175 North Franklin St. Suite 201  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 357-1125  
Pleadings@nevellaw.com  
KP  
# 20-00389  
13150191  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Apr 24; May 1, 8, 2020.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS  
TCF NATIONAL BANK; Plaintiff,  
vs. 19 CH 127  
ELMER J. BEILFUSS AKA ELMER BEILFUSS; UNKNOWN  
OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; 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, June 11, 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 45 AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT NO. 3 OF BEAVER  
VALLEY, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST  
QUARTER OF SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST  
OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN AS RECORDED IN THE  
RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY AS DOCUMENT NO.  
89-1168, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE  
OF ILLINOIS. P.I.N. 05-09-354-013.  
Commonly known as 2102 Pengate Parkway, 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. David T. Cohen at Plaintiff's Attorney,  
Cohen Dovitz Makowka, LLC, 10729 West 159th Street, Orland Park,  
Illinois 60467-4531. (708) 460-7711.  
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
intercountyjudicialsales.com  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* May 1, 8, 16, 2020.



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS  
TCF NATIONAL BANK; Plaintiff,  
vs. 19 CH 127  
ELMER J. BEILFUSS AKA ELMER BEILFUSS; UNKNOWN  
OWNERS AND NON RECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,  
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Illinois 60467-4531. (708) 460-7711.  
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION  
intercountyjudicialsales.com  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* May 1, 8, 16, 2020.

# 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 Landscaping business in said County and  
State under the name of Green Rescue Lawncare at the following addresses  
10240 Springborough Dr., Rockford, IL 61107 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: Jordan Horvath 10240 Spring Borough  
Dr. Rockford, IL 61107 Phone 815-519-8581. Signed: Jordan Horvath  
4/25/2020 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 25th day  
of April 2020.  
Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk,  
By Sherry L. Blauert, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 05/8,15,22

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 Lawn Care Service business in said  
County and State under the name of Frank's Lawncare at the following  
addresses 102 Bullard St. P.O.Box 93 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 w. Polinder 102 Bullard  
St.P.O.Box 93. Signed: Frank W. Polinder 4/20/2020 Subscribed and sworn  
(or affirmed) to before me, this 20th day of April 2020.  
Julie A. Stapler, County Clerk,  
By Sherry L. Blauert, Deputy  
Published in the Boone County Journal 05/8,15,22

# Community News

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

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

**The Wall That Heals visit to the Belvidere area May 7-10 has been postponed-**

This event hosted by Flora Grange #1762 would have brought the preeminent replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the Boone County Fairgrounds May 7-10 for Vietnam veterans, family members, students and other members of the public. We are already looking at dates in 2021 to reschedule this important event. We want to thank all our sponsors whose continued support will make this event possible in 2021.

# Northwest Illinois Church Appeals Ruling Upholding Stay-At-Home Order

*Judge said public health outweighs right to gather in public*

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Attorneys for a northwest Illinois church said Monday that they have appealed a federal judge's ruling that upheld Gov. JB Pritzker's stay-at-home order as it applies to worship services.

The announcement came one day after U.S. District Judge John Z. Lee ruled against a petition by Beloved Church in Lena and its pastor, Stephen Cassell, to block the order, saying the public interest in preventing the spread of COVID-19 outweighed their First Amendment right to hold a public service with large numbers of people.

"Governor Pritzker's arbitrary 10-person limit applies only to churches but not to the many other businesses open in Illinois today, from liquor stores to lawyers to pet groomers," Peter Breen, vice president and senior counsel for the Thomas More Society, which represents the church, said in a statement late Monday. "Our Constitution requires that churches receive at least equal treatment as any secular enterprise. Pritzker's latest threat of jail for people of faith is outrageous, and

we will seek immediate relief from the court of appeals to defend our clients.”

In his ruling Sunday, Lee acknowledged that freedom of religion is a fundamental right, “[b]ut even the foundational rights secured by the First Amendment are not without limits; they are subject to restriction if necessary to further compelling government interests — and, certainly, the prevention of mass infections and deaths qualifies,” Lee wrote. “After all, without life, there can be no liberty or pursuit of happiness.”

The judge noted that more than 60,000 Americans have died from COVID-19, “more than the number of people who perished during the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Pearl Harbor, and the Battle of Gettysburg combined.”

The suit was filed on Thursday, April 30, against Pritzker, Stephenson County Sheriff David Snyders, Lena Police Chief Steve Schaible and Craig Beintema, administrator of the Stephenson County Department of Public Health. It sought to permanently block enforcement of Pritzker’s latest, revised stay-at-home order, which went into effect May 1 and extends through May 30.

Under that revised order, churches may hold public services in groups of 10 or fewer as long as they follow social distancing requirements. Despite that, the church reportedly held its regular service on Sunday. WREX-TV in Rockford reported that a public relations firm representing the church said churchgoers were provided hand sanitizer and family units were spaced 6 feet apart.

As of Monday, according to the state’s COVID-19 website, there have been 63 cases of the disease in Stephenson County, but so far, no deaths.

The Beloved Church case is just one legal challenge seeking to overturn the stay-at-home order. Republican Reps. Darren Bailey, of Xenia, and John Cabello, of Machesney Park, are both challenging the order in state courts.

A circuit court judge in Clay County last week ruled in favor of Bailey’s complaint that the order violated his civil rights. But while that case was being appealed, Bailey asked that the order be vacated and the case returned to circuit court, where he plans to file an amended complaint.

Cabello’s suit challenges the legality of the order as a whole and is seeking to have it overturned statewide. A hearing in that case is scheduled for May 14 in Winnebago County.

## Health Care Advocates Say Legal Lifting of Stay-At-Home Order Would Be ‘Devastating’

*Restriction has prevented catastrophes in Illinois hospitals, they say in court filing*

by *Rebecca Anzel Capitol News Illinois*

The novel coronavirus pandemic’s historic impact on Illinois warrants Gov. JB Pritzker’s stay-at-home order, four state health care advocacy organizations argue in a court filing.

That restriction, in place with modifications since March 21, prevented the accelerated spreading of COVID-19, health care facilities from using up stores of personal protective

gear, hospitals from running out of beds and the short-staffing of personnel, attorneys for the organizations wrote.

At each step of the lawsuit filed by Xenia Republican Rep. Darren Bailey challenging Pritzker’s authority to issue successive 30-day disaster proclamations, the Illinois Health and Hospital Association, Illinois State Medical Society, Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nursing and the state’s chapter of the American Nurses Association have submitted their argument in support of the governor.

The novel coronavirus is not restricted to any one region of the state nor does it adhere to the 30-day timeline the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act references, the groups wrote.

Dr. Michael Wahl, medical director of the Health and Hospital Association, testified that without the stay-at-home order, the financial cost and public burden of COVID-19 would have been “catastrophic.”

Wahl is also an emergency medicine physician at hospitals in suburban Chicago.

And the impact of lifting the stay-at-home order, according to the filing, “cannot be overstated: There will be a resurgence of the virus that will have devastating, widespread, and long-lasting effects” once Illinois’ hospitals are overrun with cases.

Hospitals, assisted living facilities and other health care centers would be unable to restock gowns, gloves, masks and other personal protective gear “at a time when the ability to rapidly replenish such supplies is unavailable,” according to the court filing.

As Bailey’s case moves back to the Clay County Circuit Court, the advocacy organizations warn in the document that residents in that area would be “heavily impacted by any surge in cases” there.

The only hospital in the county has no intensive care unit beds, needed if the condition of a patient with COVID-19 worsens. That hospital also has only 20 beds available for residents, according to the court filing.

The groups’ argument also applies to a related lawsuit filed by Machesney Park Republican Rep. John Cabello. His case also alleges Pritzker overstepped his authority in ordering Illinoisans to stay at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Its outcome is applicable to all Illinoisans, whereas Bailey’s lawsuit applies only to himself.

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

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## AG Asks Supreme Court to Weigh in on Bailey’s Lawsuit

*Only 22 such requests granted since 1995 by Rebecca Anzel Capitol News Illinois*

The Illinois attorney general’s office asked the state’s highest court to consider arguments in a state representative’s case challenging the governor’s authority to oversee the COVID-19 pandemic.

If the Illinois Supreme Court agrees, it would take over from the fifth appellate district, which has not yet held a hearing in Xenia Republican Rep. Darren Bailey’s lawsuit.

Of the 203 similar requests made to the highest court since 1995, only 22 were allowed by the justices, according to a spokesperson for the court.

In a document filed with the court Wednesday, the attorney general’s office argued Clay County Circuit Court Judge Michael McHaney’s ruling that Bailey is no longer subject to Gov. JB Pritzker’s stay-at-home order was grounded on an “erroneous conclusion.”

Bailey alleges Pritzker does not have the power to issue successive 30-day disaster proclamations for the same disaster — COVID-19, in this case. The state disagrees.

“Because COVID-19 has killed over 2,000 Illinois residents and continues to infect more, and because the circuit court’s ruling threatens the governor’s authority to protect the public from the virus, the public interest requires an expeditious and definitive determination of this appeal by this court,” the state argued in the court filing.

The state is asking the Supreme Court to either order Bailey’s attorney Thomas DeVore to respond by Friday or halt McHaney’s ruling from taking effect until arguments can be held.

DeVore did not immediately return a request for comment Thursday.

At issue in this case is whether the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act prevents a governor from declaring more than one state of emergency per disaster.

Governors historically have issued successive proclamations, according to the state. Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn did so in 2009 in response to the H1N1 virus and after flooding in 2011. Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and Pritzker also responded to severe flooding in 2017 and 2019 respectively

with successive proclamations.

In the court document, the state maintains this is legal.

The act does not specifically prevent a governor from doing

*Continued on Page 8*

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**Courts** *continued from page 7*

so, according to the attorney general's office, although it does not specifically permit it either.

Its only requirement is for a disaster to exist, the filing continued, so when the COVID-19 emergency concludes, Pritzker will be unable to continue using the extraordinary powers.

Without those disaster proclamations, the state argues, Illinois would be unable to quickly purchase gloves, gowns, masks and other personal protective equipment; prevent price gouging; establish alternative health care facilities such as the one at McCormick Place in Chicago; or deploy the National Guard.

Pritzker issued those proclamations — on March 9 and April 1 — because the novel coronavirus still qualifies as a disaster, the attorney general's office continued.

And he ordered residents to stay at home due to internal data showing that action would prevent a spike in virus-related deaths, according to the court document.

Bailey, as a government employee, is already exempt from its provisions, the state added.

"While the circuit court order on its face pertains specifically to Bailey, the implications extend far beyond Bailey and jeopardize the health of Illinois residents throughout the state in several ways," the office wrote.

McHaney's ruling "threatens the legitimacy of the governor's actions" as well as any further actions he deems necessary, according to the filing. And if the ruling is allowed to stand, the General Assembly would need to meet to determine what further steps are needed. That would be "risking the health of its members and staff," the office argued.

The state also wrote that because Bailey's win at the circuit court level inspired other residents to file related cases, this will cause a "patchwork of conflicting orders" from courts across Illinois.

"In light of these significant, time-sensitive, life-or-death public health concerns, and the potential restraint on the governor's necessary authority to manage them given the circuit court's (order)," it is important the Supreme Court take over this case, the attorney general's office argued.

McHaney's ruling "harms (Pritzker's) ability to protect the other branches of Illinois government who have been relying on his emergency authority, the residents of Illinois who have been staying at home in order to protect themselves and each other during this crisis and the Illinois residents, including medical providers and other essential workers, who cannot stay home," the state wrote in the court document.

"...While it may be stressful and frustrating to remain mostly at home, the modest harm to Bailey is shared by many, fully justified in the circumstances, and pales in comparison to the dire public consequences that (McHaney's ruling) carries," it added.

## Pritzker Reports Modest Hospitalization Progress

*Says local authorities will still be key stay-at-home order enforcers*

by Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker said the state is making modest progress in terms of COVID-19 hospitalizations and that his stay-at-home order will continue to be enforced at a local, not statewide, level.

The Illinois Department of Public Health on Monday reported 2,341 new cases, bringing the state's total to 63,840. IDPH also reported 46 additional deaths — the lowest daily number since April 19 — related to novel coronavirus, bringing that total to 2,662.

"As to the number of fatalities today, I would just encourage everybody to look at these things on a multi-day basis, taking maybe a three-, five-, or seven-day average," he said Monday during

his daily COVID-19 briefing in Chicago. "When I saw this number today, I was hopeful that this was the beginning or, you know, a continuation of a trend that I've been praying for. ... But I think one day is not a helpful number to look at."

In the past 10 days, the state has recorded death totals of 79, 59, 50, 142, 90, 140, 102, 102, 59 and the 46 announced Monday by Pritzker.

"I want to remind everyone that snapshots in time alone are not enough to offer a full understanding of where we are, but together they can offer some indication of how things are trending," Pritzker said.

The governor noted that health department data shows the state is making progress on hospitalizations and ventilator use. The number of people hospitalized in Illinois with COVID-19 peaked at 5,036 on April 28, according to IDPH data, and dipped to 4,493 on Monday — the lowest total since April 18.

Additionally, the percentage of intensive care unit beds occupied by COVID-19 patients has decreased from 40 percent on April 19 to 33 percent on Monday. That is due in large part to an increase of more than 500 available beds during that span, as the COVID-19 ICU patients on April 19 numbered 1,239 as opposed to 1,232 Monday. The highest ICU hospitalization number thus far was 1,290 on April 28.

On April 6, 29 percent of ventilators were in use by COVID-19 patients as opposed to 22 percent Monday, although capacity grew by more than 500 ventilators over that span. There were 763 ventilators in use by COVID-19 patients Monday, which remained well within the daily average of the past month.

### Regional capacity, testing

Pritzker also laid out hospital capacity in the state's various medical regions — an indicator he said he uses to inform his decisions as to when to reopen certain sectors of the economy.

There were 86 ICU beds, or 51.5 percent, available in the Rockford region as of midnight; 40.2 percent or 101 beds in the Peoria region; 54.3 percent or 82 beds in the Springfield region; 27.5 percent or 25 beds in the Edwardsville region; 27.5 percent or 41 beds in the Marion region; and 44.9 percent or 62 beds in the Champaign region.

In Cook and the collar counties, available beds ranged from 11 to 18 percent, except in the northwest suburbs, where 38.3 percent of beds were available.

Pritzker said areas that don't have many beds are of particular concern when considering economic plans.

"If there's a significant spike in that area, 25 is not a big number," he said. "And so what we want to make sure is that we were able to handle a spike, because that's what you know potentially could occur if we reopen things too fast."

There were 13,834 new tests for the virus completed in the past 24 hours, IDPH reported. That is a statewide positivity rate of about 17 percent, meaning it has reached into the 20s only once in the past 12 days. Prior to that span, between 20 and 26 percent of those tested each day from April 6 to April 22 were positive.

The state has reported more than 10,000 test results daily since April 24, although on Monday Pritzker said that despite that number being a long-stated goal, it is still not enough.

Pritzker said more testing is still needed in nursing homes, homes for the developmentally disabled, and other congregate settings such as prisons. He also said the amount of testing in Illinois is not enough to produce R-naught values — which show how many individuals one carrier of the virus infects — per region of the state.

While he said the existence of widespread contact tracing in the state is not a precondition for reopening the economy, he said it is "critically important" to limiting the spread of the virus.

### Economy and stay-at-home order

Pritzker also said while he is concerned that large gatherings — such as one reported at the Be-

loved Church in Lena over the weekend — will lead to spikes in cases of the virus, his priority is to still have local authorities enforce the stay-at-home order. A federal judge ruled this weekend that Pritzker did not overstep his authority in applying the order to churches in limiting worship to 10 or fewer people.

"We have always asked local law enforcement local officials to enforce these orders," Pritzker said. "And the best way to do that of course is a reminder to the pastor and to the parishioners that they're putting themselves and others in danger by holding a service like this."

He added that the priority is to disburse the crowds.

"It's not an intention that people will go to jail," he said. "I will say, however, that if people are persistently defiant, they can be put in jail. And I'm not suggesting that that's the best answer (or) the first answer, but it is something that's an option for local law enforcement."

Pritzker also discouraged Illinoisans from going to Indiana or elsewhere to utilize services that have opened there but not here, but he acknowledged "people are free to do what they want."

Pritzker said Illinoisans will not need to wait until May 30 for full details of future plans to reopen the economy and loosen social restrictions.

"Certainly we've been thinking about this and working on it for some time now, to make sure that we're going to give people a view into how the phases might work and how many phases there are and what would work in each phase," he said.

He also cautioned that business owners and local municipalities defying the order could be opening themselves up to civil liabilities.

"I was a businessman before I became governor and I have to tell you that I would not want to defy the executive order because I believe that I would be taking on liability if I did that," he said.



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