

Beloit Film Festival Season 18 Announced

By Charles Herbst

The Beloit International Film Festival has announced the films to be shown in its 18th Season. The complete schedule is posted on the Festival's website at www.beloitfilmfest.org.

There's always a special excitement at a live film festival, with filmmakers in attendance, the chance to ask questions, and to experience the power of film. This year, the Festival takes place from Friday, February 24 through Sunday, March 5.

While film festivals have proliferated in recent years, BIFF continues to be ranked among the world's top 100 film festivals and is consistently highly regarded among independent filmmakers for its enthusiastic, informed audiences and warm hospitality. The Festival focuses on the work of filmmakers from Wisconsin and Illinois, and presents a diverse international selection of films. Each film at the Festival is locally and carefully screened to offer a wide variety of high-quality comedy, drama, shorts, and documentaries each year to the Greater Beloit community.

Film reviews begin on page 2.

Tickets are no longer sold at the door. Tickets may either be purchased online at www.beloitfilmfest.org or in person at the Festival Box Office, 437 E. Grand Ave., telephone (608) 466 9693. If you have a gift certificate, known as a "Bifficate," you need to exchange it for a ticket either online or at the box office. Ticket prices for each film remain a very modest \$10, students with ID, \$5.

Some new venues are being used to screen films, but all of this year's venues are in Downtown Beloit and are walkable from each other. Of course, there is plenty of free parking available at each venue.

As always, many local eating and drinking establishments in Beloit will be offering special BIFF After Dark activities and entertainment.

The BIFF Sing-a-Long at La Casa Grande, 618 Fourth St., will take place on Sat., Feb. 26th at 10PM. This year, it's *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Yellow Brick Road, a local LGBTQ+ organization, will lead a downtown parade before the show and lead the audience singing *Let's Do the Time Warp, Again!* Admission is \$10, students \$5. Cocktails and food from La Casa Grande are available. Naturally, costumes are encouraged. Be sure to get your tickets early, as this event is certain to sell out!

This year's classic film, *Top Gun*, will be shown at La Casa Grande on March 5th at 2:30PM. Admission is free.

What to Know Ahead of Pritzker's Budget Proposal to Lawmakers

Proposed spending plan kicks off monthslong budgeting process each year

By Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker's second-term legislative agenda will kick off in earnest next week as he proposes his fifth annual state budget to



lawmakers in the General Assembly.

But while a governor's proposal usually provides the framework for the state's annual spending plan, it rarely makes it through the General Assembly untouched by lawmakers who have their own spending priorities.

The monthslong negotiating process involves dozens of budget hearings and behind-closed-doors meetings, eventually culminating in the budget's passage – in normal years – sometime before the end of the legislative session. This year, lawmakers are scheduled to adjourn on May 19.

Here's what to watch for ahead of Pritzker's Feb. 15 address.

Budget basics

While there are hundreds of funds in the state treasury with statutory requirements for how the money is spent, the most scrutinized is the General Revenue Fund, or GRF. That pool of

money – which last year topped \$50 billion for the first time – is the state's main discretionary spending account, meaning lawmakers have the greatest authority to move it around.

Generally, about 80 percent of GRF spending is allocated between pension payments (roughly 21 percent in the current fiscal year), K-12 education (21 percent), human services (19 percent) and health care (17 percent). The fund's main revenue sources are personal and corporate income tax and sales tax, along with some federal revenues and other state sources.

Since each budget allocates money collected over a future 12-month period, lawmakers generally base their spending proposals on economic estimates provided by the state's two main forecasting agencies.

Those are the legislative Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, also known as COGFA, and the Governor's

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Film Reviews and Screening Times

The 18th Annual Beloit International Film Festival

By Charles Herbst

It's always difficult to choose among over 100 good films, but I've identified several that I believe are both enjoyable and noteworthy. This year, the films seem to be more serious, with a large number of foreign films.

If any of films are sold out, check with the Festival. Additional screenings are generally added so as to give everyone a chance to see the film. Tickets may be purchased at the box office or online, but will not be sold at the door. Seating is open on a first-come-first-served basis.

BIFF Venues

All of the venues are in or near Downtown Beloit. There is a new one this year: the Beloit College Powerhouse. Everything is in walking distance from each other. Free parking is everywhere.
 Box Office: 437 E. Grand Ave. 608 466 9693
 Website: www.beloitfilmfest.org
 Bagels & More: 324 State St.
 Beloit College Powerhouse: 850 Pleasant St.
 Downtown Beloit Assn.: 557 E. Grand Ave.
 Hendricks Art Center: 409 Pleasant Street (Northeast corner of Grand Ave. – Enter on East side of building)
 La Casa Grande: 618 Fourth St.
 Visit Beloit: 656 Pleasant St.



Sandra Brooks, 76, Marengo, February 10
 William Brunschon, 77, Belvidere, February 9
 Alicia Fernandez, 74, Poplar Grove, February 5
 Kenneth Gieseke, 91, Belvidere, February 7
 Roger Hugg Jr., 74, Harvard, February 5
 Irene Moore, 79, Belvidere, February 7
 Jerry Murdock, 66, Belvidere, February 7

Burt Bacharach, 94, Los Angeles, February 8



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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.

Pinball-- The Man Who Saved the Game

Rated PG-13. Directed by Austin Bragg and Meredith Bragg

Before video games, there was pinball. *Pinball—The Man Who Saved the Game* is a film about Roger Sharpe, a young writer at *GQ* who helped spearhead the drive to make pinball legal in New York.

The modern pinball game was invented largely during the Great Depression in Chicago, and was made illegal in New York City (and many other places) in the 1940s. Mayor LaGuardia believed that it robbed children of hard-earned nickels and dimes. The ban stayed in place until 1976.

This film starts out as a mockumentary and develops as a drama, comedy, and romance all rolled into one. It is well-produced film that is fun to watch.

An older Roger Sharpe (Dennis Boutssikaris) is interviewed and is in scenes with the 1970s Roger Sharpe (Mike Faist). Sharpe hailed from Chicago and learned to play pinball (and apparently also bowl) while attending UW-Madison. When he got to New York, he found that the only place he could find a pinball machine was an adult bookstore. In a chance meeting in an elevator, he meets single-mother, Ellen (Crystal Reed). The film artfully intertwines their courtship into the story.

The audience learns a lot about pinball in this film (it's a game of skill, not of luck) in a story that is interestingly told. There is also a message about life: "Life is defined by risk: those you take and those you don't. The ball is gonna drain no matter what, so find what you want and take a shot."

This film is fun to watch and won the Audience Choice Award at the Heartland International Film Festival, and Best Narrative at Three Rivers Film Festival and Savannah Film Festival.

Fri., Mar. 3, 5PM, Beloit College Powerhouse
Sun., Mar 5, Noon, Bagels & More

Tall Tales

Rated PG-13. Directed by Attila Szász
 Hungary. Hungarian with English subtitles

In wartime, not everyone is a hero or fought on the winning side. It's 1945, the war has just concluded. There is great turmoil in Hungary. It is a dangerous time, and the hunt is on for war criminals. Hankó (Tamás Szabó Kimmel) is a con artist who answers the ads of families looking for missing soldiers. He tells them that he knew their loved one, and collects hospitality or anything else the troubled family is willing to bestow upon him.

Chased out of Budapest for connecting with the wrong family (who realizes that he is a scammer), he ends up abruptly leaving a train and comes to a forested cottage where he meets Judit (Vica Kerekes) and her son. Hankó tells Judit that he knew her husband Bérces (Levente Molár) in the war. Leery at first, Judit slowly begins to trust Hankó. Hankó helps Judit with household chores and the two become romantically involved. Hankó learns that Bérces is a brutal, vicious husband and father. Bérces finally comes home and falsely confirms that he knew Hankó in the war. This deceit provides both men with cover stories to account for their war service.

Predictably, this triangular relationship is unstable, and drama ensues. The film is well-acted with an artistic, dark cinematography, that reflects the chaotic times. The evolving story holds the viewer's interest well.

THANK YOU

With sincere gratitude, there are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy, love & support everyone has extended to our family during this time of loss. A special thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Celebration of Life, each one of you was a pillar of support & your presence meant the world to us.

The Family of Byron Stumpf

Tall Tales has won several awards, including Best Narrative Feature at the Anchorage Film Festival, Best Film at the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, and Best Feature Film at the Kyiv International Film Festival.

Sat., Feb. 25, 7:30PM, Visit Beloit
Sun., Feb. 26, 5PM, Bagels & More

Amerikatsi

Rated PG-13. Directed by Michael Goorjian
 Armenia. Armenian with English subtitles

Charlie (played by the director, Michael Goorjian) was born in Armenia. He was an orphaned stowaway to America at the time of the Armenian Genocide during World War I. In 1947, fresh-faced and naïve, Charlie answers the call to repatriate Armenia. Knowing almost no Armenian, almost immediately, Charlie finds himself arrested for wearing a necktie. Through miscommunication, he sentenced to ten years, and is held in solitary confinement so that other inmates won't be influenced by his "cosmopolitan" ways.

An earthquake-damaged prison wall allows him to see into the apartment of one of the prison guards, Tigran (Hovik Keuchkerian) and his wife, Ruzan (Narine Grigoryan). They are his only connection to the outside world, and he learns about Armenian culture by watching them. When Tigran finds out about the eavesdropping, instead of reporting Charlie, he invites him further into their lives. Tigran has been forced by the Soviet regime to suppress his passion for art, music, food, and life—at least in public. He freely shares these with Charlie through the window, along with family joys and sorrows.

While the film is a bit far-fetched, it has a pleasing, allegorical quality. It presents an Armenia struggling under the oppression of the Stalin and his adherents. An Armenia eager to celebrate and share its culture with the broader, outside world. Seeing everything through a window reinforces that message.

The film is well-produced and is enjoyable to watch. Its likeable sentimentality overcomes the implausibility of the plot.

Amerikatsi won the Grand Jury Prize for Best Narrative Feature at the Mystic Film Festival.

Sat., Feb. 25, 5PM, La Casa Grande
Sun., Feb. 26, Noon, La Casa Grande
Fri., Mar. 3, 7:30PM, Bagels & More

God's Petting You

Rated R. Directed by Jamie Patterson
 United Kingdom

Charlie (George Webster) is a heroin addict who attends recovery meetings in order to meet his dealer. He considers himself superior because he smokes heroin, rather than injecting the drug. He is still able to hold down a job and doesn't resort to crime to support his habit. But he is quick to advise others not to try it.

At one recovery meeting, Dealer Dave (Joe Wilkinson) tells him that he is moving away. He also meets Tattoo Girl (Skye Lourie). Charlie is a one-night-stand for her, but he falls for Tattoo Girl. Tattoo Girl has a steady boyfriend, Jimmy (Benedict Garrett) who is a well-heeled

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Pheasants Forever

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pornographer. Charlie and Tattoo Girl make plans to buy a gun and steal a fortune from Jimmy. In one, rather bemusing scene, Charlie tells his therapist (Alice Lowe) of his plans. She chooses not to report him to the authorities.

Many of the scenes are lengthy and filled with dialogue, which is well-delivered. Although the plot is shallow, the film has its share of laughs and guffaws.

God's Petting You is a very dark comedy from the Brighton underworld, a locale more known for pleasant, seaside holidays than grittiness. The film is most definitely not for children or more sensitive viewers. It contains full frontal nudity, sex, violence, murder, drugs, and vulgar language.

Sun, Feb 26, 5PM, Visit Beloit

Fri, Mar 3, 7:30PM, Visit Beloit

Out and About

Rated R. Directed by Peter Callahan

Middle-aged Jeff Fisher (played by the director, Peter Callahan) takes an afternoon walk through the neighborhoods of Hastings-on-Hudson, NY where he grew up. It is a beautiful, late-spring day. During his walk, Fisher meets quite a few people he's grown up with, his ex-wife, as well as newcomers to the village. In those interactions and Fisher's personal recollections, we learn about him and what's on his mind.

Fisher is a magazine editor who is facing a substantial pay cut. He is divorced, and misses his daughter, who has been away at college in Michigan. He would like his daughter to attend his Mother's 80th birthday party. He gave up his house in the divorce where his former wife and new husband now live.

Fisher lives in an apartment in town. His sisters are a lawyer and a doctor. He reflects on the fine homes in the area and wonders what the occupants do for a living. Fisher visits the pond where he used to play hockey and encounters a compulsive jogger. He wonders if the jogger isn't happier than the rest of us.

While the plot isn't particularly profound, Fisher's thoughts and interactions are familiar to everyone who has reflected on life and wondered if they chose the right course. It may not be for younger audiences, not because of the coarse language in the film, but they may lack the life experience to appreciate what is otherwise a very relatable film.

Out and About won Best Picture at the SoHo International Film Festival and Fisher won Best Actor at the Durango Film Festival.

Sat., Feb. 25, 7:30PM, Bagels & More

Sat., Mar. 4, 7:30PM, Hendricks Art Center

Relative

Rated R. Directed by Michael Glover Smith

Karen Frank (Wendy Robie) and David Frank (Francis Guinan) are a sixty-something couple living in a Victorian home in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. Their youngest son Benji (Cameron Scott Roberts) is graduating from college and about to start a job as a cartographer with Google. His older brother, Rod (Keith D. Gallagher) is 35, unemployed, and depressed from a marital breakup five years ago. He lives in his parents' basement, smokes weed, and plays video games. His sister, Norma (Emily Lape) has driven in for the weekend from Bettendorf, where she lives with her husband and son. His other sister, Evonne (Clare Cooney) comes to the party from Madison with her wife Lucia (Melissa DuPrey) and their biracial daughter. It quickly becomes apparent that Evonne and Lucia are planning to split up.

During the weekend, Benji meets Hekla (Elizabeth Stam) who was a classmate from several years ago. Benji ditches much of the party to be with Hekla, who insists that he rejoin the graduation party at the Franks home. Hekla, an aspiring actress, accompanies Benji to the party and wins the hearts of the Frank family. At the party, Karen and David announce that they are selling their Victorian home. This brings various, somewhat unexpected reactions from the children.

Much of the story concerns the dynamic between the family members and relationships at various stages. Smith artfully uses the Frank family to illustrate these stages: Benji and Hekla just meeting, Evonne and Lucia at a troubled point, Karen and David married for many years, and Rod and his ex-wife, long separated and unable to rationally communicate with each other. The film has a well-crafted story with convincing, credible characters.

Relative won Best Narrative Picture at the Buffalo International Film Festival and the Full Bloom Film Festival.

Fri., Mar. 3, 7:30PM, La Casa Grande

Sat., Mar. 4, 5PM, Bagels & More

The Long Breakup

Rated PG-13. Directed by Katya Soldak United States. English and Ukrainian with English Subtitles

The Long Breakup is a feature-length documentary about Ukraine's attempt to escape Russia's embrace, leave its Soviet past behind, and become a truly independent country.

This documentary includes the story of director Katya Soldak's childhood in Soviet Ukraine and her coming of age in an independent Ukraine. She grew up in Kharkiv, eighteen miles from the Russian border. Soldak is an editorial director for Forbes and has since lived in Brooklyn for many years with her daughter. She fondly remembers spending her summers as a child at a relative's farm in Russia. Soldak notes that Russian is frequently spoken in Eastern Ukraine.

This film has a particularly valuable perspective, as it was produced in 2020, long before the current war broke out. It provides an inside look at Ukraine and its longstanding ties with Russia. Soldak explains not only the deep divisions, but also the increasing affinity that most Ukrainians feel for their independent country. She presents a balanced approach and speaks with those who favor a union with Russia.

The Long Breakup won Best in Festival at the Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival.

Sat., Feb. 25, Noon, Visit Beloit

Mon., Feb. 27, 7:30PM, Hendricks Arts Center

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Office of Management and Budget, also known as GOMB. Each provides sophisticated economic projections laying out pessimistic, optimistic and middle-of-the-road looks at how state revenues may perform.

Revenue projections

Illinois is coming off a record-high \$50.3 billion in base revenue for the fiscal year that ended June 30 – about \$8 billion more than had been anticipated when the Fiscal Year 2022 budget was initially approved in the spring of 2021.

Following that strong performance, lawmakers budgeted for an 8 percent decrease in the current fiscal year that began July 1. But in the seven months that have already passed in FY 2023, revenues are outpacing even last year's strong performance by \$2.3 billion, according to COGFA's January report.

The strong revenue performance led COGFA to up its projections by \$4.9 billion in a November forecast revision. The agency now anticipates revenue receipts will top last year's totals by \$259 million.

GOMB, meanwhile, was more conservative, projecting revenues to spike by about \$3.6 billion over initial estimates. That was the basis for a supplemental spending plan that included \$2.7 billion in debt repayment and savings measures approved in the January lame duck session.

As the economic forecasting agencies mull the likelihood of a recession, we'll be watching to see if Pritzker plans for a downturn in revenue

or if the current-year projections for a surplus are updated in either direction.

Spending growth

In his second inaugural address last month, Pritzker telegraphed a few areas where he'd like to see increased state investment: child care, preschool and higher education.

"I propose we go all in for our children and make preschool available to every family throughout the state," he said in his speech. "And let's not stop there. Let's provide more economic security for families by eliminating child care deserts and expanding child care options."

On higher education, Pritzker said he'd like to make college tuition "free for every working-class family."

Details on those plans are lacking, so one thing to watch will be whether the governor proposes spending amounts or any specifics as to how such plans would be implemented.

The governor's K-12 education funding proposal is worth watching as well. The state's school funding formula, revamped in 2017, calls for an added \$350 million each year until all districts reach a point of funding adequacy.

The budget met that mark in three of four years during Pritzker's first term, keeping funding flat in only the fiscal year that coincided with the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. It bears watching to see if another \$350 million will be added to that in accordance with statute.

Spending growth is important to watch because GOMB's five-year budget analysis projected Illinois could be in for a deficit of about \$384 million and growing beginning in Fiscal Year 2025. Generally, that means the state must increase base revenues, cut expenditures or pass some combination of both.

While Illinois' base sales and income tax rates have not changed in Pritzker's time in office, the governor has taken credit for increasing revenues by eliminating some corporate tax exemptions and streamlining the way the state levies an online sales tax.

It remains to be seen what, if any, new revenue sources or structural spending reforms the governor might offer in his address next week.

Pensions

At about \$9.9 billion, the state's GRF pension payment was its single biggest expenditure for the current year, topping the \$9.8 billion spent on K-12 education.

And yet unfunded pension liability grew to \$139 billion last year, despite the state having upped its pension contribution by \$500 million beyond required levels over two years, including \$200 million in the current year.

Due to that added funding, COGFA predicted in a special November pension briefing that the required pension payment for the upcoming fiscal year will decrease by about \$38 million from the current year.

While that number reflects the payment required by law, the COGFA report outlined another annually repeated criticism of the state pension funding formula: accountants say it comes up short. The report estimated the state would have to increase its contribution by \$4.4 billion this year to stave off continued increases in unfunded liabilities.

While such a large infusion is unlikely – and the governor has staunchly resisted calls for a constitutional amendment to change pension benefits – we'll be watching to see if he'll propose any changes to the payment level required in law.

Lawmaker response

How easy a path the governor's budget will have can often be gleaned from the initial response to it. And with Democrats dominating both chambers of the General Assembly, the response from the governor's own party will likely be a stronger indicator.

Democratic comptroller Susana Mendoza, for

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example, said in a recent interview with Capitol News Illinois she'd be opposed to new ongoing spending initiatives. While she has no formal vote on the matter, her voice has proven an influential one at the Capitol.

But Republicans will also make their voices heard. The House GOP laid out its asks for the budget year last month, including greater GOP involvement, an earlier adoption of a revenue estimate and more time to review the budget. In recent years, state spending plans have frequently passed in the dead of night, leaving lawmakers mere hours to review their language.

The GOP's specific policy asks include eliminating the corporate franchise tax – a plan Pritzker approved in 2019 before he and Democratic lawmakers backtracked on it in future budget years. They also called for property tax relief and “reducing the harmful impacts of the estate tax on family farms.”

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

RVC Lecture Series Begins

Join Dr. Julie Hernandez, RVC Professor of Psychology, in this First Tuesday Lecture: The Stanford Prison Experiment Reexamined: Was it all a Lie?

The Stanford Prison Experiment was conducted by psychologist Philip Zimbardo in 1971, and its results revealed the effectiveness of a simulated prison environment on college students who had been assigned the role of prisoner or guard. Zimbardo concluded from the experiment that the prison environment can lead to loss of a sense of self in prisoners, and abuse of power by guards. The experiment made Philip Zimbardo famous and shaped current thinking about the power of the situation and roles in determining people's behavior. Recent research and publications that analyzed the Stanford Prison Experiment suggest that several of the well-known conclusions based on it are lies. In this First Tuesday Lecture presentation, Dr. Julie Hernandez, Professor of Psychology, will review the Stanford Prison Study and reexamine it by discussing some of the criticisms of its methodology, results, and ethics that have recently come to light.

Join us in person or attend via Zoom at bit.ly/FirstTuesdays2022

Mar 07, 2023 @ 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Student Center Atrium and Zoom

Join Dr. Martin Quirk, RVC Professor of History, in this First Tuesday Lecture: Answering the Alarm: The History of American Firefighting.

This presentation explores the development of American firefighting via major historical events. Firefighters have become one of the most enduring symbols of America, embodying some of its best qualities. From its beginnings in the early Colonial period, American firefighting draws together larger cultural and social movements and reflects the changes of urbanization and industrialization.

Join us in person or attend via Zoom at bit.ly/FirstTuesdays2022

Apr 04, 2023 @ 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Student Center Atrium and Zoom

Join Dr. Jef Tripp, RVC Assistant Professor of Developmental Mathematics, in this First Tuesday Lecture: Sex and Gender in the Ancient Biblical World.

Sex and gender have become hot-button topics recently, with some working toward a transition

in how we understand the causes, meaning, and importance of sex and gender. It would not be the first time such a shift in understanding took place. This lecture examines how ancient Mediterranean people understood sex and gender differently than both binary and non-binary thinkers do today.

Join us in person or attend via Zoom at bit.ly/FirstTuesdays2022

May 02, 2023 @ 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Student Center Atrium and Zoom

Join Brian Wagner, RVC Associate Professor of Philosophy, in this First Tuesday Lecture: A Brief History of Islamic Religious Interpretation.

Every religion goes through intensive debate about how to interpret scriptures in order to build a robust theology. When this happens, each religion tends to break up into two or more denominations: conservative and progressive branches. In this lecture, we will explore how the various branches of Islam have determined what is important to theology, and the reasoning used to justify each interpretation. Finally, we will show how different interpretations affect the application and practice of religion in everyday life.

Join us in person or attend via Zoom at bit.ly/FirstTuesdays2022

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Join us in person or attend via Zoom at bit.ly/FirstTuesdays2022

RVC Graduates Filmmakers and Prepares for Program Expansion

Press Release

On Saturday, Feb. 4, 15 students will celebrate the completion of the Illinois Film Office (IFO) Film/TV Workforce Training Program at Rock Valley College. This specialized training program was a joint effort between RVC, the IFO, and the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity. The free, 80-hour, intensive training course prepares individuals for entry-level work in the motion picture industry. All program completers are credentialed and added to a talent pool with the IFO.

The four-week training program was so successful that RVC's Mass Communication program chair, Jerry LaBuy, is preparing to launch another round of training.

According to Jerry, “With new productions coming to IL, and production facilities like City Stage Studios being created in our area, producers need to know who is ready to go and work. This program does that, and our grads are already getting noticed and offers for those jobs. We love to see it.”

The pilot program launched in January to train individuals to work on TV or film sets in Illinois, specifically outside the city of Chicago. Illinois is losing opportunities to bring film production to areas outside the city due to a lack of skilled production talent. The IFO has teamed up with RVC to increase the number of skilled labor to address a workforce shortage outside of Chicago.

“Our first round of students were eager to learn about the industry and understand how to get the entry-level jobs we have on film and TV sets here in Illinois. Our class instructors are industry vet-

erans and worked really well with some terrific students in this first class ever like this offered in Northern Illinois,” said RVC program chair Jerry LaBuy.

The course is now accepting applications, and seating is limited to 15. This program is intended to particularly increase the participation of women, gender non-conforming, LGBTQ+, and people of color in the creative workforce. Participants must be 18 years or older and must have a high school diploma or GED. No prior experience in film and TV is required.

Students will learn:

An introduction to the film industry,

How to be a production assistant,

And will get assistance with career coaching and creating their resume.

The program will take place over four weeks, beginning on March 21, 2023. Classes will be held from 6 – 9 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and include a special field trip on Saturday, March 25. Program completers will be recognized in a ceremony on Saturday, April 15.

“Our new graduates are ready to get involved in the film and TV productions happening in Rockford and beyond. The knowledge and skills learned will help them as they take those first steps in the industry. We are excited for another cohort of students to join them,” said Jerry.

The course is made possible through funding from the Illinois Film Office through the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity.

Individuals interested in the program should complete the inquiry form here.

Contact program manager and instructor Jerry LaBuy at j.labuy@rockvalleycollege.edu or call (815) 921-3360.

About the Instructors

Jerry LaBuy, Program Manager and Instructor

Jerry LaBuy has worked in radio, journalism, television, and film production for over 25 years. During his career he has worked with filmmakers such as Lawrence Turman (“The Thing” “American History X”), Elizabeth Allen (“Ramona and Beezus” “Purple Hearts”), and Bing Liu (“Minding the Gap” “All These Sons”).

Mr. LaBuy's extensive background includes award-winning work in news, advertising, documentary, and narrative production as well as sound design. He is a graduate of Columbia College Chicago (B.A.) and DePaul University (M.F.A.). Prior to his production career he was on staff with the University of Southern Califor-

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RVC

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nia's School of the Cinematic Arts. He is currently the chair of the Mass Communication program at Rock Valley College.

Mr. LaBuy is also the Executive Director of the Mosaic World Film Festival, an event held every September in Rockford, IL. In addition to teaching, he runs his own film production company, The Caledonia Night Sky Co., which focuses primarily on commercial production and narrative filmmaking.

Thomas Ciciura, Instructor

Thomas Ciciura is an Emmy award winning Illinois based film professional since 1991 and has credits on films such as "Ali", "War of the Worlds", "Contagion", "Ocean's Twelve", "Fantasia 2000" & "Into the Blue"; TV shows "Chicago Fire", "Chicago PD", "Empire", "Sirens" and "Early Edition" plus hundreds of commercials for brands like Coca Cola, Adidas, Nintendo & Gatorade. He is a member of the International Cinematographer's Guild and the IATSE Local 476 Studio Mechanics, and has extensive training and several certificates including Special Effects and Stunt Safety and all of the Contract Services Safety Pass training required to be listed on the Hollywood Experience Roster. Mr. Ciciura has taught film studies at Huntington University and several cinematography and lighting workshops to many age levels including jr. high, high school and college and has also taught Radio/TV/Video/Film and TV writing at Northwestern University's National High School Institute.

"Brazil could surpass the U.S. in corn exports sometime between 2024 and 2026," she said. "We'll see. There are many factors at play."

USDA's November forecast pegged all U.S. ag exports at \$190 billion for fiscal year 2023, down \$3.5 billion from its August estimate.

Grain and feed exports are projected to decrease by \$300 million to \$46.2 billion in 2023. And USDA reduced its estimate of U.S. corn exports by 150 million bushels to 1.92 billion as of Jan. 12, reflecting the slowest pace of sales since 2019-20.

Meanwhile, U.S. ag imports are projected to grow to \$199 billion this year, driven by higher imports of horticultural products, sugar, tropical products and grain and feed.

"A strong dollar, while a headwind to the export forecast, is partially responsible for the higher import demand," USDA noted.

However, there could be an opening for the U.S. to export more corn in the months ahead before Brazil harvests its second-crop corn, safrinha. That's not the case with soybeans, though, as Brazilian soybeans should start hitting the market next month.

USDA lowered its soybean export forecast for

the U.S. by 55 million bushels as of Jan. 12 to 2 billion bushels.

"The U.S. should have an opportunity to sell more corn before Brazil's safrinha harvest in July," Colussi said.

Double- and triple-cropping adds about 66 million acres worth of crop production in Brazil each year.

Elsewhere, the crop outlook in Argentina isn't as rosy. With 85% of corn and 90% of soybeans planted as of Jan. 5, the majority of beans (70%) went into the ground outside of the period to maximize yields due to weather-related planting delays.

"Drought conditions made it difficult to plant early," Colussi said. "It's a third consecutive La Niña year, which usually creates a hotter and drier summer in Argentina."

And the August-through-December timeframe the past three years there has been the driest in more than 30 years.

Crop output subsequently is projected to decline by 45% for wheat and 15% for corn in Argentina for 2022-23.

USDA's latest estimates released Jan. 12 pegged the Argentine soy crop at 45.5 mmt, down 4 million from the previous estimate, while the Brazilian soy crop increased a million to 153 mmt.

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

Brazil Could Surpass U.S. as World's Top Corn Exporter

By Daniel Grant
FarmWeek

Competition in world markets is expected to intensify as Brazil is projected to produce record corn and soybean crops for 2022-23.

Joana Colussi, postdoctoral research associate at the University of Illinois who serves on the farmdoc team there, reported crop production in her home country of Brazil could increase to record levels of 5.6 billion bushels of beans and 4.9 billion bushels of corn.

If realized, Brazilian corn output for 2022-23 would be up 12% from the previous year, with a portion of the additional bushels likely headed to the export market.

"The weather situation so far has been favorable conditions for most regions," Colussi said at the Illinois Farm Economics Summit in Peoria. "There's been moderate to severe drought in the south, but

expectations so far are for good yields."

In 2022, Brazil exported a record amount of corn, 44 million metric tons (mmt) or 1.73 billion bushels. And those sales could swell to 50 mmt (or 1.96 billion bushels) this year.

"China signed an agreement with Brazil to import corn. Those shipments started in November," Colussi said.

If the pace of corn production and exports continues to grow in Brazil, could it surpass the U.S. as the world's top exporter? Colussi believes it's possible.

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

M-F 9-5
Sat 9-1

Bring:
Postcard Bill from the Secretary of State
Or
Old Registration Card
Or
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419 S. State St. Bel
815-544-2075



Looking for a tax preparer? My clients file with confidence.

I have over 35 years of experience as a tax attorney with an advanced law degree in taxation. My clients know that their taxes are prepared professionally, getting all the deductions and credits that they deserve, and they don't have to fear a letter from the IRS. I can e-file any prior-year or current-year tax return. My overhead is low, my rates are reasonable, and handle things privately.

Historically, lawyers have prepared tax returns. Using a tax attorney gives you a unique advantage: At least once a year, you can talk to an attorney and discuss what is important to you. We can discuss your will or trust, assist with an upcoming real estate transaction, or even put your business into an LLC to protect your assets. Or maybe just answer a question that's been bugging you for years.

When was the last time you had a legal question? Or had some large organization try to intimidate you, and you really weren't sure of your rights. Did you know someone you could ask? Or did you just "wing it" and hope for the best? My clients know they can call me anytime for some quick advice.

Owe the IRS money? Haven't filed? Afraid to file? Gotten a letter from them? I can help. With 35 years of experience as a tax attorney, I've helped many other people in your situation.

If your return consists of more than just a W-2, or you have a tax problem, please give me a call. Hours are by appointment.

CHARLES HERBST, J.D., LL.M.
LAW, PLANNING AND TAX
Belvidere and Rockford • 815 484 9482 • taxviking.com

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice

Early Voting for the February 28, 2023 Consolidated Primary Election will begin on Thursday, January 19, 2023 and end February 27, 2023. This election is only for City of Belvidere WARD 2 voters. Early Voting will be conducted at the Boone County Clerk's Office, 1212 Logan Ave., Suite 103, Belvidere, IL 61008. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00PM, except holidays. The office will also be open on Saturday, February 25, 2023 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM.

For more information about Early Voting please contact the Boone County Clerk's Office at 815-544-3103.

* This Consolidated Primary includes ONLY a Republican Ward 2 Alderperson Race.

Published in The Boone County Journal Jan 12 to Feb 23, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, PLAINTIFF,
v. CASE NO.: 2022FC94
TOBY RAY ROBIN; BRITTANY NICOLE ROBIN; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; DEFENDANTS.
PROPERTY ADDRESS:
711 MCKINLEY AVENUE
BELVIDERE, IL 61008

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you: BRITTANY NICOLE ROBIN UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS that Plaintiff commenced this case in the Circuit Court of Boone County against you and other defendants, for foreclosure of a certain mortgage lien recorded against the real estate described as follows:

PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE EAST LINE OF THE ROAD OR STREET KNOWN AS MCKINLEY AVENUE, IN THE CITY OF BELVIDERE, BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, WHICH STAKE IS 12 RODS AND 8 FEET SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION OF THE EAST LINE OF SAID MCKINLEY AVENUE WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF JACKSON STREET IN SAID CITY AS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN GEORGE W. CAMPBELLS SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF BELVIDERE, KNOWN AS MAPLE RANGE; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH ON SAID EAST LINE OF SAID MCKINLEY AVENUE 4 RODS; THENCE EAST AT RIGHT ANGLES 8 RODS; THENCE NORTH AT RIGHT ANGLES 4 RODS; THENCE WEST AT RIGHT ANGLES 8 RODS TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. SITUATED IN THE CITY OF BELVIDERE, COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Common Address: 711 MCKINLEY AVENUE BELVIDERE, IL 61008
PIN: 05-25-102-005

Said mortgage was executed by TOBY RAY ROBIN AND BRITTANY NICOLE ROBIN, as mortgagor(s) and MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ENVOY MORTGAGE, LTD, as mortgagee, on 12/8/2020 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois as Document Number 2020R08144.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Unless you file your Appearance and Answer/Response in this case in the office of the clerk of this court by 03/13/2023 A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE OR DECREEE BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED FOR IN THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT.

Thomas LaSalle 6340111
Robertson Anschutz Schneid Crane & Partners, PLLC
205 N. Michigan Suite 810
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (561) 241-6901 E-mail: ILmail@raslg.com
File: 22-065508
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
6088-929997
Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 9, 16, 23

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

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
vs. CASE NO. 2022FC96
BERENICE DOMINGUEZ; THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; MIDLAND FUNDING LLC, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO SYNCHRONY BANK; OAKBROOK ESTATES HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS;
Defendant(s).

Property Address: 1180 Hazelwood Drive Belvidere, IL 61008

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, OAKBROOK ESTATES HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS ; defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

LOT SEVENTY-ONE (71) AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT NO. 4 OF OAKBROOK WOODS, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THE PLAT OF WHICH SUBDIVISION IS RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 2000R10175 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

P.I.N.: 07-02-179-011

Said property is commonly known as 1180 Hazelwood Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008 and which said mortgage(s) was/were made and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 2011R08239, and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending.

NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Boone County on or before MARCH 13, 2023, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp.

YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SAVE YOUR HOME – DO NOT IGNORE THIS DOCUMENT. By order of the Chief Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, this case is subject to Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program. For further information on the mediation process, please see the NOTICE OF MANDATORY MEDIATION on file with the Clerk of the Circuit Court by contacting the Plaintiff's attorney at the address listed below.

This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Diaz Anselmo & Associates, LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
1771 West Diehl Road, Suite 120
Naperville, IL 60563
Telephone: (630) 453-6960
Facsimile: (630) 428-4620
Attorney No. Cook 64727, DuPage 293191
Service E-mail: midwestpleadings@dallegal.com
6088-930019
Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 9, 16, 23

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

ELENA MORENO HERNANDEZ, Plaintiff
-VS- CASE # 2022-DN-46
ANTONIO REYES ROCHA, Defendant

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given to you, ANTONIO REYES ROCHA, Defendant that this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for A LEGAL 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, Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, Illinois, 61008 on or before the 15th day of FEBRUARY, 2023 a Judgment or other relief as prayed for by the Plaintiff may be granted.

Dated: 1/27/2023

Pamela Coduto
Clerk of the Circuit Court
17th Judicial Court
Boone County, Illinois

Published in The Boone County Journal 2/2, 2/9, 2/19 (P)

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

In The Interest of: Arrian Jada Pasley, minor
No. 21-JA-06

ANDRE PASLEY and All whom it may concern

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on JANUARY 27, 2021, a petition was filed under the JUVENILE COURT ACT by Atty. Tricia Smith, State's Attorney, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, in the Circuit Court of Boone County entitled "In the Interest of Arrian Jada Pasley minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 2:30/2:00 P.M. central daylight time on 3/2/23 & 5/25/23; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHT TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

Dated: January 20, 2023 Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK
Published in The Boone County Journal: 2/2, 2/9, 2/16 – C

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

In The Interest of: O'Marion J. Pasley, minor
No. 21-JA-07

ANDRE PASLEY and All whom it may concern

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on JANUARY 27, 2021, a petition was filed under the JUVENILE COURT ACT by Atty. Tricia Smith, State's Attorney, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, in the Circuit Court of Boone County entitled "In the Interest of O'Marion J. Pasley minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 2:30/2:00 P.M. central daylight time on 3/2/23 & 5/25/23; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHT TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

Dated: January 20, 2023

Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK

Published in The Boone County Journal: 2/2, 2/9, 2/16 – C

**TAX DEED NO.: 2023TX6
FILED: 1/17/2023
TAKE NOTICE**

County of Boone
Date Premises Sold: October 29, 2020
Certificate No.: 2019-00684
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2019
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A

Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at: 1237 West 6th Street, Belvidere, IL 61008
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 05-35-301-013

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 12, 2023.

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

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 12, 2023.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Court Room 3, on July 25, 2023 at 9:15 AM.

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

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 12, 2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone, Illinois at the Office of the

County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave.,
Suite 103
Belvidere, IL 61008
(815) 544-3103
Myriad Capital LLC
Purchaser or Assignee

January 26, 2023

Jessica Hartsock

Jessica Hartsock f/k/a Jessica Stensrud

Garland L. Hartsock

Occupant

Autumn P Stensrud

BMO Harris Bank National Association as Successor to Amcore Bank N.A.

BMO Harris Bank National Association as Successor to Amcore Bank N.A.

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois

Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as

"Unknown Owners"

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"

Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 9, 16, 23

**TAX DEED NO.: 2023TX5
FILED: 1/17/2023
TAKE NOTICE**

County of Boone
Date Premises Sold: October 29, 2020
Certificate No.: 2019-00280
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2019
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A

Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at: 626 Candlewick Drive NE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

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

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 12, 2023.

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

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 12, 2023.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Court Room 3, on July 25, 2023 at 9:15 AM.

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

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 12, 2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave.,
Suite 103
Belvidere, IL 61008
(815) 544-3103
Equity One Investment Fund LLC, Purchaser or Assignee
January 26, 2023

Unknown Heirs & devisees for the Estate of Ivy V. Ventura
Iva V. Ventura, Gina M. Ventura, Deno M. Ventura, Deno M. Ventura
Deno M. Ventura
Charles T. Sewell, L.L.C., As Attorneys in 2022PR-29

Occupant
Candlewick Lake Association, Inc.

David Wiltse as President for Candlewick Lake Association, Inc.

Theresa Balk as R/A for Candlewick Lake Association, Inc.

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois

Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"

6088-929830

Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 9, 16, 23

**TAX DEED NO.: 2023TX7
FILED: 1/17/2023
TAKE NOTICE**

County of Boone
Date Premises Sold: October 29, 2020
Certificate No.: 2019-00775
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2019
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A

Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at: 1966 Pearl Street Road, Belvidere, IL 61008
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 07-26-200-006

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 12, 2023.

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

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 12, 2023.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Court Room 3, on July 25, 2023 at 9:15 AM.

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

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 12, 2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave.,
Suite 103
Belvidere, IL 61008
(815) 544-3103
Myriad Capital LLC
Purchaser or Assignee
January 26, 2023

Thomas M. Thompson, Occupant, Melinda Rivers
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois

Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"

6088-929829

Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 9, 16, 23

CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023, a Consolidated Primary Election will be held at the BOONE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE in the County of Boone and State of Illinois, for the purpose of electing candidates for the following offices:
 REPUBLICAN PARTY TO BE NOMINATED:
 BELVIDERE CITY ALDERMAN WARD 2 – 1 TO BE NOMINATED
 The polls of said Consolidated Primary Election will be open continuously from 6 A.M. to 7 P.M. on Tuesday, February 28, 2023. This Primary is only a Republican primary for WARD 2 of the City of Belvidere.
 VOTING WILL ONLY TAKE PLACE IN THE BOONE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
 OFFICE 1212 Logan Ave, #103, Belvidere, IL 61008.
 Dated at Belvidere, Illinois on February 3, 2023.
 Julie A. Bliss
 Boone County Clerk
 Published in The Boone County Journal Feb 16, 2023

ASSUMED NAMES

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
 This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a general labor carpentry business said County and State under the name of CLASSIC CONSTRUCTION at the following post office address: 3291 Pheasant Lane, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Wanda Marshall, 3291 Pheasant Lane, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (630) 258-8779.
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 27th day of January, A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal 2/2, 2/9, 2/16 - P

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
 This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact an Online Plant Sales business in said County and State under the name of PLANTBY at the following post office address: 2914 Clines Ford Dr., Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Alissa D. Usedom, 2914 Clines Ford Dr., Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 708-3997.
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 7th day of February, A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal 2/9, 16, 23

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
 This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact an online consulting business said County and State under the name of SHARI DANIELAK CONSULTING at the following post office address: 2247 Winding Creek Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Shari Danielak, 2247 Winding Creek Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 566-9406.
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 12th day of January, A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal 2/9, 2/16, 2/23 - P

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
 This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a carpentry business said County and State under the name of R&R REMODELING at the following post office address: 1316 11th Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Alexus B. Rodriguez, 1316 11th Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 543-3924.
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 9th day of February, A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal 2/16, 2/23, 3/2 - P

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
 This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a sale of handmade crafts business in said County and State under the name of THE SPIRIT OF SIRENS at the following post office address: 14288 KB Road, Capron, IL 61012 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Jessica Lynn Smith, 14288 KB Road, Capron, IL 61012; phone # (815) 312-6525.
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 13th day of February, A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal 2/16, 2/23, 3/2 - P

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
 This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a barbershop business said County and State under the name of UNDERGROUND BARBER SHOP at the following post office address: 2030 North State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Angel Garcia, 119 West 4th Street, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 494-1717.
 Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 10th day of February, A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
 Published in Boone County Journal 2/16, 2/23, 3/2 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 COUNTY OF BOONE
 No. DBA4131
 ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 The undersigned person or persons do hereby certify that a ONE LINE RESALE business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of TK FLIPS. That its location is or will be 415 BIESTER DR. in BELVIDERE in the County of BOONE COUNTY, State of Illinois, and that the true or real full name or names of the person or persons owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person or persons is shown as below
 TRAVIS JAMES TOLSMA, 415 BIESTER DR., BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS 61008.
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Hannah Meisel, Capitol News Illinois

Veteran Statehouse Reporter Hannah Meisel Joins Capitol News Illinois Reporting Team

News outlet plans rapid expansion in 5th year of operation

By Capitol News Illinois

Longtime Statehouse reporter Hannah Meisel has joined the Capitol News Illinois team as a full-time state government and politics reporter.

She's had a number of assignments covering the Statehouse and Illinois government since the 2014 legislative session, most recently serving as Statehouse editor for NPR Illinois from 2020 until after the November 2022 election. Prior to that, Meisel worked at The Daily Line, Law 360 and Illinois Public Media in addition to various assignments for other outlets.

Throughout her career she's been a frequent guest on TV and radio programs throughout Illinois and beyond, including hosting a weekly public television roundtable show and being tapped as a featured speaker and panelist for live events. Meisel has excelled in both print news and broadcast formats, and she has developed a wide-ranging knowledge of state government and extensive sources.

In 2020, The Washington Post named her one of the outstanding political reporters to follow in Illinois. In 2021, she won the Illinois News Broadcasters Association's Crystal Mic Award for best small market radio reporter in the state.

"I'm thrilled to be joining a team that shares my vision of what state government coverage could – and frankly – should look like as a responsible answer to a seemingly never-ending news cycle that, unfortunately, tends to focus on the wrong things," Meisel said. "I've witnessed CNI grow and mature since its inception and I'm really excited about what we can achieve together."

Meisel's experience will help grow CNI's multimedia footprint while shoring up the coverage that has been the backbone of the news outlet since it launched in 2019 – thoughtful, analytic coverage of Illinois government from the Statehouse to government agencies, courts and the political landscape.

"Hannah is one of the most well-connected reporters in the state and is a wealth of institutional Capitol knowledge," CNI Bureau Chief Jerry Nowicki said. "She's another strong addition to the well-rounded, talented roster of reporters we're building at Capitol News Illinois."

She joins veteran reporter Peter Hancock, investigative powerhouse Beth Hundsdorfer and Nowicki, who make up CNI's full-time reporting

crew working from the basement of the state Capitol in Springfield.

Meisel is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the U of I Springfield's Public Affairs Reporting master's program, through which Capitol News Illinois hosts a reporting intern each legislative session. This year's PAR reporter is Nika Schoonover.

The hiring announcement comes at a time of rapid expansion for Capitol News Illinois, as the outlet prepares to launch a broadcast operation this year. The hiring process for those new positions continues, and Meisel's public radio experience will be vital in ensuring a successful launch.

The expansion is largely made possible by a \$2 million, three-year investment from the McCormick Foundation. The Illinois Broadcasters Association and Southern Illinois Editorial Association have also made significant financial contributions to the expansion effort.

Capitol News Illinois operates solely on grants and donations. It does not charge a subscription for access to its coverage or a fee to publish its stories. The McCormick Foundation and Illinois Press Foundation have been the major donors to CNI during its first four years of operation.

Meisel's first official day was Friday, Jan. 20, after freelancing with CNI for the end of the 102nd General Assembly's "lame duck" session earlier this month.

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

Approaching 'Medicaid Cliff' Could Leave Hundreds of Thousands Uninsured

Pandemic-era program will expire on March 31

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

As many as 700,000 Illinoisans may stand to lose their Medicaid coverage after March 31, but the Department of Healthcare and Family Services says it is working to reduce that number and help those affected find health insurance elsewhere.

Medicaid is a health insurance program for poor and disabled people that is jointly funded by the federal government and the states.

The coverage "cliff," as some have called it, is the result of a spending bill that Congress passed in December. It puts an end to a pandemic-era rule that sent billions of additional federal dollars to states if they agreed to keep Medicaid patients continuously enrolled in the program through the end of the public health emergency without having to go through the normal reapplication process.

Because that law separated the Medicaid rules from other emergency actions, the program will end sooner than the May 11 date on which both the White House and Gov. JB Pritzker plan to end their emergency declarations.

The change means many who have been receiving continuous Medicaid coverage

Continued on Page 8

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Medicade

from page 7

throughout the pandemic will have to reapply for benefits, potentially leading to loss of coverage if the individual would no longer qualify for benefits or if they fail to complete a reapplication.

Nationwide, the federal government estimates that 15 million people, or 17.4 percent of Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program enrollees, will lose their coverage as a result of ending the continuous enrollment program. That would translate to roughly 700,000 people in Illinois if it follows the national pattern, but DHFS officials believe they can mitigate the impact of the rule change.

"At the state level, we estimate a total of roughly 384,000 will lose coverage because we believe in doing everything we can to help eligible Medicaid customers keep their benefits," DHFS spokesperson Jamie Munks said in an email. "The truth is, nobody knows for sure. What we do know is that we are committed to ensuring everyone who is eligible maintains their coverage, and that those who are not are given information about alternative coverage."

To avoid losing coverage, DHFS strongly urges Medicaid enrollees to fill out their renewal forms as soon as possible. The agency will resume regular verifications starting in late April, and people with a June renewal date will be the first ones to go through the restarted process. Those people will need to submit their renewal forms before June 1 so they can maintain coverage without disruption.

Munks said Illinois has been preparing for the eventual end of continuous coverage for months and has been communicating with Medicaid beneficiaries about the importance of updating their contact information on file with the Medicaid program.

"The state has and continues to increase customer service staff and enhance our systems," she said.

Munks said customers can complete their renewal by phone, although online is the preferred method.

The agency will try to reach affected individuals by mail, email, text messaging, phone calls and paid advertising, she said. It will also work with partner providers, advocacy organizations, nonprofits and other government entities, she added.

Munks said people who are found to be ineligible may still have other options for low-cost insurance, including individual plans sold through the Affordable Care Act marketplace, which operates in Illinois under the name Get Covered Illinois. People who meet certain income guidelines can receive tax credits to pay all or part of their premiums.

Who is most affected?

Throughout the pandemic, people who were enrolled in Medicaid did not have to go through the normal process of reapplying every 12 months to determine whether they were eligible, even if there were changes in their income or household that would normally make them ineligible.

DHFS says that Illinois' Medicaid enrollment grew by about 1 million enrollees during that period, to 3.9 million. But the state also received an additional \$3 billion in federal funding through the enhanced matching rate.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that when the continuous enrollment program ends, about 9.5 percent of Medicaid enrollees nationwide, or 8.2 million

people, will lose coverage because they are no longer eligible. The most common reasons for losing eligibility are changes in income or household makeup or moving out of the state in which they were covered.

But another 7.9 percent, or 6.8 million people, will lose coverage despite still being eligible for Medicaid because they don't complete their applications properly or the state is somehow unable to process the application – a process called "administrative churning."

Children and young adults, ages 18-34, make up the largest categories of people expected to lose coverage. The change is also expected to disproportionately affect the Latino community, which makes up one quarter of those predicted to be ineligible and one-third of those expected to experience churning.

Black individuals make up 14 percent of those expected to lose Medicaid eligibility and 15 percent of those expected to experience churning.

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Illinois' Biometric Privacy Law Strengthened by Latest High Court Ruling

Unanimous opinion finds five-year statute of limitations for claims under the BIPA

By Hannah Meisel Capitol News Illinois

People who've been subject to fingerprinting, face or retinal scans as either employees or customers of Illinois companies have five years to file lawsuits if they believe the business violated a stringent state privacy law, the Illinois Supreme Court ruled this week.

It's the latest in a handful of cases that have reached Illinois' high court in recent years, all refining the state's Biometric Information Privacy Act. Also known as BIPA, the first-of-its-kind law has, since 2008, made Illinois the only state that grants a private right of action to sue over the improper collection and mishandling of biometric data.

The justices on Thursday ruled BIPA has an unequivocal five-year statute of limitations on all claims under the law – not a one-year window as employers and business groups had hoped for.

In this case, logistics company Black Horse Carriers Inc., which has since been acquired by trucking giant Penske, faced a class action lawsuit. A former employee initiated the suit, alleging the company violated BIPA by requiring time clock fingerprint authentication without maintaining a publicly available policy on how the company would treat employees' biometric data.

The suit also claimed Black Horse failed to provide notice to employees that the timeclock was collecting their fingerprints, and didn't explicitly get employees' consent. The company argued the court should've applied the one-year statute of limitations under Illinois' Right of Publicity Act. But the court unanimously disagreed.

In issuing a blanket five-year statute of limitations for all BIPA claims, the 5-0 majority of the court emphasized that "the full ramifications of the harms associated with biometric technology is unknown." Without the law, the court wrote, individuals whose biometric data was improperly collected or disseminated might never even know it – at least until they felt the consequences.

"We find that a longer limitations period would comport with the public welfare and safety aims of the General Assembly by allowing an aggrieved party sufficient time to discover the violation and take action," the court ruled.

Danielle Kays, an attorney with Chicago-based firm Seyfarth Shaw LLP with experience in cases involving biometric information, said employers like her clients were already working under the assumption that a five-year statute of limitations was likely to prevail. But this week's ruling, she said, provides more clarity in a law that's still taking shape in a sea of legal challenges.

Nearly 1.5 million Illinoisans were eligible for their share of a \$650 million class action settlement with Facebook under BIPA in 2020, a five-year case that was one of the first among thousands of suits filed under the law, with the trend really taking off around 2018, Kays said.

She said she advises clients to stay on top of compliance that may evolve with each major decision, including this week's, which solidifies a five-year statute of limitations.

"Many cases have been stayed waiting for those decisions," Kays said. "So there are many factual and legal defenses that have not been litigated still."

Thursday's opinion was another legal victory for proponents of BIPA – especially a handful of law firms specializing in filing class action cases over biometric data. Those attorneys have made the same basic argument in thousands of lawsuits over the last several years: if someone's identity is stolen, they can obtain a new social security number. But if their biometric data is stolen, it's impossible to get a new fingerprint or face.

So far, Illinois' high court has agreed – as did a federal jury in October, granting \$228 million in damages in a class action BIPA case against BNSF Railways, the first jury test of the law.

The Black Horse Carriers case was argued in front of the court in September, but Kays and other attorneys involved in BIPA litigation are waiting on an even more consequential decision in a class action suit against fast food chain White Castle.

In that case, the court is being asked to decide whether each time an employee clocks in and out using his or her fingerprint constitutes a separate violation of BIPA. Such a ruling could prove extremely costly to employers, as damages under the law start at \$1,000 for negligent violations and \$5,000 for violations deemed "reckless."

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