

FREE

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The Promise of a Post Pandemic World

by David Larson

When the new consolidated school was built on Pearl Street in 1916, Belvidere's North and South High School students began to extend their educations beyond the 8th grade. This photograph is the graduation class of 1919. On the back it is written, "North Side High School", but these students look older, and perhaps it was intended to memorialize those who had matriculated from Belvidere North to the new advanced Belvidere High School. It is interesting that in that same year, the enactment of the law that consolidated public school districts in Illinois came into effect. Two years later, the state had 60 consolidated public school districts.

It would be another almost 30 years before Belvidere schools were consolidated to become the Belvidere Community Unit School District #100 in 1949. That consolidation was made long after these young men and women embarked upon the rest of their lives. These students survived the influenza of 1918, which hit their age group much more severely than COVID-19 has in 2020-21, COVID-19 having attacked more middle aged and senior citizens.

It is remarkable that some graduation classes retain a close unity; almost a deep desire to remain connected and not to separate after graduation day passes. Some classes hold reunions every five or ten years, others hold reunions every year. Still others will meet maybe twice over 50 years or more, if any of the graduates have survived.

It is common to assert, "The world is so much more complex than what was the case yesterday." But no one today can imagine or remember from experience what the world or even Belvidere was like one year after the armistice of the "War to end all wars," World War I. However, the world in 1919 was likely a much more complex place to live than is the case today with computers and

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Questions Presented to Mayoral Candidates

The *Journal* presented two questions to both Belvidere Mayor Mike Chamberlain and his challenger in the upcoming April 6, 2021 election, Clint Morris. Both questions are substantially similar:

Mike Chamberlain

1.) *What would you like to accomplish in your third term if elected?*

No Response

2.) *The City of Belvidere purchased the Leath Building, and you were one of those in favor of repairing the roof. When you became mayor, you did not pursue repairing the roof. What was your reason for that decision?*

No Response

Clint Morris

1.) *What would you like to accomplish in your term if elected?*

I am seeking the office of Mayor because I believe the taxpayers of our city have not been represented by our current Mayor. He placed de-

veloper interests before hardworking taxpayers by voting to remove Impact Fees for a privately owned apartment building developer, abate their property taxes for 4 years, and waive inspection/permit fees for their project. All at the expense of hardworking taxpayers within this community. It has been proven that this residential growth does not pay for itself. Instead, it produces a need for public services that increases taxation on the rest of us residents. Money from special interests has distorted this Mayor's understanding of who he actually works for. In seeking this office, I fully understand who I work for, and it is not special interests that pay to play in our community. It is honest hardworking taxpayers that trust their leaders to work on their interests and behalf, not other interests at your expense. As candidate for Mayor, I have used my own funding, because I believe a serious conflict exists between elected office holders and influence buying contributors and it always works against the honest taxpayers. With that being said, I hope to accomplish the following:

* Remove a Pension for the Mayor position and create a 401k. No more Pension burden on taxpayers for an elected term

* Put up for competitive bid our resident's household waste. Reducing the taxpayer's monthly charges while gaining franchise fee funds for Belvidere public benefit projects. This will reduce the fleet of garbage trucks pounding our streets and reduce our expense to repair them. Another win.

* Create business growth, job opportunity and revenue by personally marketing our city. The goal to retain and support our employment base.

* Work with and push our State and Federal representatives to bring more State and Federal funding back home.

* Specifically work with Dean Foods, General Mills, Acument, etc. Create partnerships to ensure they prosper in our community, maintaining quality jobs and expansion opportunity.

* Remove our recent added gasoline tax and our recent sales tax increase. Stop the layer on

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Quidnunc



Boone County's COVID-19 rate has doubled in as many weeks and is twice the average of Illinois... Somebody's not wearing their mask.

OBITUARIES

Dolan, Dennis, 62, Cherry Valley, March 10
Ellingson, Genevieve, 93, Poplar Gr., March 11
Larson, Robert Sr., 90, Belvidere, March 15
Newport (Anderson), Celeste, 80, Ch V, March 1
Romanek, Ronald, 76, Poplar Grove, March 8
Rudolph, Margaret "Maggie", 37, Ch V, March 12
Marvelous Marvin Hagler, 66, March 13, Bartlett, NH
James Levine, 77, March 9, 2021, Palm Springs, CA
Roger Mudd, 93, March 9, 2021, McLean, Virginia

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Senior Writer/Editorial: Charles Herbst
Photography: Susan Moran

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.

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.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Open Government is Key to Honest Government

By Ken Paulson

When government fails, it's the rare public official who says, "Oops. My fault."

That's human nature, particularly for officials in the public eye who may have to run for office again. No one wants to be held directly responsible for letting the public down.

Case in point is the recent catastrophe in Texas, when unexpected winter storms left 4 million homes without power, ruptured pipes and tainted the water supply for many.

Texas' energy grid essentially collapsed. While Texas Gov. Greg Abbott was quick to blame frozen wind turbines, the cause was much more complex than that. To truly understand how things went so terribly wrong will require time, study and research.

So, too, with the coronavirus vaccine distribution. In this state and others, residents are frustrated with the slow rollout of vaccines. Is it poor distribution? Politics? A flawed strategy? These are literally matters of life and death.

But how do you get to the truth when public officials so rarely step up to take direct responsibility for failures?

The answer is public records. And public meetings. And access to the information that taxpayers deserve.

States throughout the country have laws that guarantee access to government records and meetings. But the details vary widely and there are many statutory exceptions. New challenges to access emerge every year in virtually every state.

The need to fight for government transparency is reaffirmed each year during Sunshine Week, a national awareness event overseen by the News Leaders Association and keyed to the March 16 birthday of James Madison. The fourth president of the United States drafted the Bill of Rights – including the guarantee of a free press – in 1791.

That journalism connection reflects the role news media play in the free flow of information, but it unfortunately can also leave the public with a sense that Sunshine Week reflects the concerns of a single industry.

To the contrary, access to government information is critical to every American who cares about the quality of his or her community, state and nation.

It's important to see government employees – including elected officials – as the people we hire through our tax dollars to do a good job for all of us. If you run a business or hire a contractor, you wouldn't hesitate to demand a full understanding of how something went wrong. That should be exactly our relationship with government.

Getting that information, though, requires public

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LETTERS TO EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Mike Chamberlain is a good mayor. He deserves to be re-elected by the citizens of Belvidere.

As mayor, Mike working with the City Council has assembled a group of department heads and city officials who deliver the good city services we all depend on. All city departments fire, police, public works, legal and finance do a good job.

Belvidere is a really good place to live because city government works well as guided by Mayor Mike to deliver the services, we all depend on.

Citizens of Belvidere should Vote for Mike! Our family, my wife, my granddaughter, and I are going to vote to re-elect Mike Chamberlain Mayor of Belvidere.

Remember: Mike is Right for Belvidere!

Sincerely, Andrew Racz
Belvidere Resident

To the Editor,

I have known Clint Morris for a number of years, one of his characteristics that you can count on is his integrity. He does what he says he will do. Following on of the flooding episodes in my neighborhood, Clint was checking with residents to determine the damage that had occurred from flooded basements and surface drainage. He told me that this problem would be addressed. Even though there were those on the council and city administration that were not in favor of correcting the problem at that time, he kept looking for the solutions and the money to address the problem. It took several years, but he did not give up. The result was the Columbia Avenue project. I have no reservations in fully endorsing Clint Morris for Mayor of the city of Belvidere.

David Meyer
Belvidere Citizen

Letter to the Editor:

We support Mary Marquardt as Belvidere Park Commissioner for re-election on April 6, 2021; and hope that you will too. Over the years the Belvidere Park District has expanded, thrived and excelled under her guiding hand. Although some change is always welcomed, consistency, continuity and experience matter. For that reason we are recommending that you re-elect Mary Marquardt to the Park Board, so she may continue her excellent work in a position that she loves.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Diann and Kim Helnore

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I Support Clint Morris for Mayor

I have been a friend of Clint's for over 35 years. He has a vast knowledge of the city's operations because he was an alderman for many years. We need someone who is willing to get rid of special interests and work for the people of Belvidere.

"Clint is the man to get this done."

JOCK DIFFORD

Questions

Continued page 1

- top of layer taxing of residents and businesses.
- * Attract business opportunity to our Irene Rd. interchange investment, spurring job creation
- * Stop spending taxpayer's money on promoting "self-serving Mayor Illinois Municipal League activities." They lobby for higher taxing limits using taxpayer's own money.
- * End Belvidere Township taxation on Belvidere homeowners saving them approx. \$200.00 per year on their property tax bill, from unnecessary duplication.
- * Cooperate with our elected city council members and create an atmosphere of trust through transparency and good listening skills.
- * Work with our county elected officials to better administer issues that affect the City's portion of Boone County.
- * Work tirelessly to promote citizen's health, safety, and welfare.
- * Work to maintain a diversified employment base, that is not strictly automotive. We must not forget what Janesville, Kenosha and others learned after plant closures. Plan for the worst and see that we prevent it.
- * Promote and support our business partners cooperating where we can to ensure they have a friend in city hall.

Voters will recall the current Mayor promised to assemble a citizens committee if he were elected to "meet and decide what the city should do." That not only displayed a lack of depth of understanding of the community you want to lead, worse nothing of the sort was ever accomplished.

2.) *The City of Belvidere purchased the Leath Building and you voted against repairing the roof. Because of the lack of maintenance and initiative after purchasing the building, many seem inclined to tear it down at a cost approaching \$750,000. What was your reason for that decision?*

Approximately, 10 years ago, while I was Al-

derman, a proposal was brought before the city council, during Mayor Brereton's term, to repair a portion of the vacant Leath Building roof. As I recall, the details of that decision went as follows: the NW corner of the building was leaking and the cost to repair the 1/5th of the roof was in the \$30,000.00 range. At that time, there was interest in acquiring the property for development. Because of this, I did not believe it prudent to spend taxpayer funds on a roof leak for a vacant building the city may be selling or giving away for development. Additionally, the entire roof being the same age would require a total investment of approx. \$150,000.00. Since the verdict was still out on the potential for new ownership, I proposed that the leak in question be repaired by purchasing a piece of rubber membrane roofing material to repair this leak, at a cost of approx. \$500.00 until the interest in the building became clear. It was my recollection that repair was approved by the council as a responsible use of taxpayer dollars at that particular time, versus a \$30,000.00 expense to a building the city may not continue to own. It has been 10 years since this roof issue was a problem and if it is now in danger of being torn down because of maintenance neglect, then that neglect rest entirely on the shoulders of the current administration of the past 8 years.

My goals are what I believe builds a better Belvidere and I am asking voters hire me to work on their behalf. We need to have leadership in our city that understands our needs and is willing to work to achieve them, change is way overdue. I am asking for your trust and vote on April 6th.

Respectfully,
Clint Morris

Mayoral Campaign Finance Report

10/1/2020 thru 12/31/2020

**"We Like Mike"
Citizens to Elect Mike Chamberlain Contributions:**

- Becan Construction Company of Illinois, Inc. Bartlett, IL \$2,500.00
- Benchmark Construction Co., Inc. Chicago, IL \$2,500.00
- Laborers' INTL Union of NA Local 32 PAC Account Cherry Valley, IL \$1,000.00
- Logan, Lorayne Rockford, IL \$500.00
- Northwestern Illinois Building Trades Rockford, IL \$2,500.00
- Plumbers & Pipefitters UA Local 23 P A C Rockford, IL \$5,000.00
- Schabacker, Steve and Judy Belvidere, IL \$200.00
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 219 PAC Fund Rockford, IL \$1,000.00
- Swedish American Health Management Corp Rockford, IL \$500.00
- Total \$14,700**

Clint Morris

Self-Funded - No Report

Senate to Begin Redistricting Process

Despite late census data, Harmon expects to complete process on time

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

An Illinois Senate committee will hold its first hearing Wednesday to begin the process of redrawing congressional and state legislative districts in line with the 2020 census, despite the fact that detailed census data will likely be unavailable until September.

Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, said in an interview that despite the delay by the Census Bureau, he expects the General Assembly to complete the process before the June 30 deadline set in the state constitution.

"Well, the delay in the census data is certainly a new challenge, in a year full of challenges. But we're prepared to forge ahead with our obligation to draw a map before June 30, as we're required to do by the Constitution," Harmon said.

Normally, states would receive the detailed "block-level" data from the Census Bureau in early April following the decennial census, but the process was delayed in 2020, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the Illinois Constitution, if lawmakers fail to approve new maps by June 30, the process is automatically handed over to an eight-member, bipartisan Legislative Redistricting Commission. That panel would then have until Aug. 10 to produce maps that have the support of at least five members. If it fails to meet that deadline, one more person would be chosen at random from a preapproved list to serve on the commission and the deadline would be extended to Oct. 5.

Harmon, however, said he does not believe that will be necessary, and the first committee hearing will feature testimony from the National Conference of State Legislatures about how other states are approaching the challenge.

"We know other states are getting started with their redistricting process as well, Iowa is kicking off their process," he said. "Oklahoma seems to be a little bit ahead of us. Oklahoma evidently has announced that it's going to begin using the 2019 estimated data from the American Community Survey, which in the past has been a fairly reliable predictor of what the final census data will look like."

Besides the late census data, Illinois faces other redistricting challenges this year, starting with the fact that due to declining population, Illinois is likely to lose one of its 18 U.S. congressional districts.

"We're waiting for the reapportionment numbers from Washington," Harmon said. "I think that the trend suggested will be we'll have 17 districts, but we'll wait for the final numbers from Washington to confirm that."

Harmon said he couldn't say which part of the state would be affected by the loss of a congressional seat because officials don't yet have detailed data to show precisely where the population shifts occurred. But he said the process is "more nuanced" than merely collapsing one district and absorbing that territory into other districts.

"It's not that one district just disappears," he said. "No matter how many districts we have, we will try to build districts that reflect the

Continued on Page 7

I SUPPORT CLINT MORRIS FOR MAYOR



I have worked with Clint Morris before the primary election on February 23 and have discussed the current City's Administration failures. Our talks and agreements have solidified a true concern for our citizens and not just in Belvidere. I would encourage voters to fill in the oval for Clint Morris. As I will.

- Jeff Carlisle

Paid for by Jeff Carlisle, 203 Secretariats Way, Belvidere

Vote Clint Morris for Mayor

He always supported the citizens of Belvidere, while on the City Council, no matter what the issue.

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From
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to all who came out to support our Pancake Breakfast last weekend

North Boone Fire District # 3 Announces New Station Fully Operational.

North Boone Fire District 3 at its March 8 Trustee's meeting authorized the public announcement that the new fire station at the corner of Dawson Lake and Caledonia Road is fully operational and that the old fire station in Caledonia is for sale. The District also will continue operations out of its Fire Station at 305 West Grove in Poplar Grove.

Treasurer Jason Vodnansky and Board secretary Dan Ziegler have both signed the mortgage documents on behalf of the Fire District for the new station. "The mortgage is through Solutions Bank and is in the amount of \$2,271,366.27," Treasurer Jason Vodnansky stated.

According to Fire Chief Dan Zaccard, the North Boone Fire District 3 has been actually running operations at the building since December. Due to the fact that proportionally a larger number of District calls are from Candlewick Lake, the District's first ambulance has moved to the new station as its base of operations. "Our second ambulance remains stationed at the North Boone Fire District 3 Fire Station at 305 W. Grove in Poplar Grove," Chief Zaccard said. "Eight new firefighters were hired last year and are being trained", Chief Zaccard added.

Board President Mike Winne stated that the old station in Caledonia, which has not been used recently, is up for sale by a closed bid process with a minimum bid of \$250,000. For further information interested bidders are asked to contact Fire Chief Zaccard at 815-494-8659. An open house is set for March 20. Bids are due by Noon April 1. Bid openings will be April 1, 2021 at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees at the Fire Station at 305 West Grove in Poplar Grove at 6:30 p.m..

Open Government *Continued page 2*

meetings where residents can ask questions. It also means access to the documents that led to a poor decision. Words on paper can be much more forthright than the dissembling of politicians.

It's critical that we hold government accountable, for better or worse. (It's also important to acknowledge when government leaders are doing a good job.)

How can you help? I have two suggestions. First, keep doing exactly what you're doing at this moment. Read and support your local newspaper. Local journalists, more than anyone else, will stand up for your right to information. Facebook will not be going toe-to-toe with your mayor.

Second, when you believe government isn't doing its job, demand an explanation. Ask to see the documents. Attend public meetings. And above all, support legislative efforts to make government more transparent.

It's too easy for officials who have failed us to point fingers, blame the media and wait for their side of the partisan fence to rally to their defense. We deserve better. We all pay taxes to support the work of government. We should get our money's worth.

Ken Paulson is the director of the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University, a lawyer and a former editor-in-chief of USA Today.

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1919 *Continued page 1*

cellphones simplifying our modern lives. Students today have their computers, connections to the Internet and even cable TV to consult to find the answer to questions. Life was not necessarily so simple in 1919.

The men and women shown here were dressed in their finest attire. They wanted to look their best for the graduation day ceremony. The men wore their suits with a stylish pocket square to carry off the image. A couple of the men wore a boutonniere in the buttonhole at their lapel. The girls wore snow-white dresses with lacework and sheer fabric that was stylish for that day.

The photograph was shot in 1919, when "discrete attraction" was the custom of that age. In 1919, it was more appropriate for young men and young women to make a more subtle statement to each other rather than to be boisterous about their desires, their intentions, or their ambition. However, these young "graduates" would soon matriculate into a different world that was about to emerge. In 10 years, financial catastrophe would spread nearly worldwide, sparing only the USSR.

In 1919, Oak Park native Ernest Hemingway sat in brasseries on the West Bank of Paris commiserating with James Joyce and viewing the art of Pablo Picasso, while enjoying the company of fellow American Gertrude Stein.

Their world was about to change in a manner that few if any of those proud graduates could imagine. Such is the case today with the young men and young women that are about to embark in the broader world.

In the second photograph is the faculty of the Belvidere North High School or Lincoln School, located on North Main Street. In the middle 1800s leading into the early 20th Century, there were few occupations open to women other than managing a home and raising a family, teaching school or being engaged in various forms of "entertainment."

As a part of the process to continue having a full compliment of teachers, there were laws in the era that barred teachers from being married. The idea of school administrators was, if the teachers were married, especially the women, they were certain to leave when they had children. To assure that this eventuality did not occur, female teachers in many school districts across the nation could not remain employed and be married.

A quick analysis of the images, numbers and lines drawn on the slate boards behind the teachers suggests the previous class had been studying the geometry of the ancient Greek Euclid. Passing through the Middle Ages, geometry was an element of the seven liberal arts and the core of the liberal arts curriculum of the American and European University until the 1900s. For many, the study of geometry opened the door to invention.

Someone would have also taught literature, history, perhaps music or the science of astronomy. There might also have been a teacher that taught chemistry and one of the teachers also might have taught typing on those new machines or bookkeeping and secretarial skills. Women were working their way into careers, aiding businessmen by writing their letters, keeping their books and billing their clients.

A portrait of Abraham Lincoln graced the space above the slate board, while an unidentified figure from out of the distant past hung above the adjoining slate board. We wonder why a wing-footed statue of Mercury would be found in the classroom where geometry was being taught. Perhaps the room also doubled as an art studio and the sculpture could have been used as a model for a drawing class. Or, the sculpture could have also been used in a literature class to illustrate Greek mythological tales.

House Committee Advances Expanding Ballot Drop Boxes, Curbside Voting

Legislation easing LGBTQ+ participation in elections discussed as well

by Raymon Troncoso Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois House Ethics and Elections Committee advanced a bill Monday that would expand ballot drop boxes and curbside voting throughout the state.

House Bill 1871 would make changes similar to those passed ahead of the 2020 presidential election during the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill was introduced last month by Democratic Rep. Katie Stuart of Edwardsville.

Under HB 1871, Illinois may use federal funds distributed to states for election administration through the 2002 Help America Vote Act to create and maintain secure collection sites for mail ballots.

Curb-side voting, which allows for an individual to fill out a ballot from their vehicle in a designated zone outside the polling place, would be allowed in all elections for certain persons. The practice was prevalent during the COVID crisis due to the elevated dangers for seniors and immuno-compromised individuals to vote in person.

If enacted, the legislation would allow for voters with temporary or permanent disabilities to engage in curbside voting on election day or on early voting days. A curb-side voting program must have at least two election judges, with at least one from the Democratic Party and one from the Republican party, present at each vehicle where curbside voting is taking place and the ballots must be filled out without

Continued on Page 5

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THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

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--In Our Opinion--

Maintaining City Property

interference from the election judges.

The bill would also expand mail voting by mandating that all election authorities accept any mail ballot, even if it is returned with no postage or not enough postage. Election officials would also have the option to legally maintain postage-free collection sites where voters can return their mail ballots.

The law would postmark ballots received after business hours as having arrived the next day, except for ballots dropped off after hours on election day, which will be treated as having arrived on election day.

This is in line with how election law treats mail ballots actually returned through the mail: If they are postmarked for a date no later than election day, but arrive after polls are closed, they will still be counted if received by election officials before the end-date of provisional ballot counting.

Republicans on the committee opposed the legislation on the grounds that expanding voting methods should also mean expanding safeguards to prevent potential fraud.

Rep. Ryan Spain, R-Peoria, noted HB 1871 is the third time drop box legislation has come before the General Assembly in the past year, yet changes requested by Republicans have still not been added or considered.

"I think the drop boxes can be a useful tool in communities, but I think if we're going to continue to allow drop boxes to be utilized in elections in the future there are many more rules that we need to put in place," he said. "We have had an opportunity to really tighten up and provide details beyond what the state board of elections is doing about these drop boxes, and again we're not doing so. I think that's a major oversight."

The committee advanced HB 1871 to the House Floor along partisan lines in a 10 to 7 vote.

No other legislation was considered for debate, but four other bills received brief subject matter hearings.

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The *Journal* had the opportunity to join a retinue of interested individuals to tour the Leath Building on Meadow Street, east of Ace Hardware. Most of this building was originally built to house the National Sewing Machine Company.

A visual survey by the group revealed significant damage to the roof, which has caused extensive interior damage extending to all levels, including the ground floor of the 4-story building. Yet, the foundational structure of massive wooden beams and pillars remains soundly intact. However, allowing the damaged roof to remain unrepaired has caused a small amount of damage to the brick curtain wall. If this continues, it is clear that the walls will ultimately implode and make saving this massive building impossible.

Alderwoman Freeman asked what the city is doing with the Leath Building in a November 2020 City Council meeting. The *Journal* reported on this meeting in our December 11, 2020 issue. The following is an excerpt from that article.

The City of Belvidere purchased the Leath property in December of 2009 for \$10. The purchase was approved with only one dissenting vote by alderman Clint Morris. Mayor Chamberlain was an alderman at the time and was one of the "yes" votes.

In May 2012, Alderman Bowley made a motion to repair a leak that had developed in the roof. When the city purchased the building, it employed Carlson Engineering to assess the condition of the building. At a June 2012 committee meeting,

Chamberlain, in support of repairing the roof, cited Carlson Engineering's report, stating the building has a sound foundation and support system. Chamberlain said, "The building is in pretty good shape." A motion was put on the floor by Alderman Bowley and seconded by Alderman Snow to accept a bid by Superior Roofing for \$12,500 to repair 4,500 sq. ft. of the 21,000 sq. ft. roof.

Debate ensued with Alderman Morris leading a charge against repairing the roof, claiming the city was not able to afford it. A voice vote was taken

and the motion lost. Then-Mayor Fred Brereton commented to this reporter, out of frustration, that the city had salvaged about \$50,000 in scrap metal abandoned in the building and had free use of the east end storage building for only \$10.

To date, the roof leak has not been addressed. The estimated cost to demolish the building is between \$500,000 to \$750,000, according to the city budget and finance officer.

When elected mayor, Chamberlain responded to a written question that this newspaper put to him and published in the *Journal* prior to his winning election in 2013.

Journal: What is your plan for the Leath Building?

Chamberlain: The following are the steps I will follow to find a positive solution for the Leath Building:

"FIX THE ROOF! Allowing the building to deteriorate further is pointless. The City uses the building for storage, reducing the need and cost for other storage options.

Have a thorough engineering study completed to determine the building's viability for redevelopment. Once the true viability of the of the structure is determined, we can prioritize options for development. Have a new appraisal done on the property. What is its current market value? Secure bids to determine demolition cost for the building.

"Once we understand the building's structural integrity, market value, and estimated deconstruction cost, we will present the findings to the community, asking for their input. How would they like to see us proceed? We can review previous ideas and see if they are of value to the current findings. Aggressively market the property to developers. We need an experienced partner to either rehabilitate the building, or redevelop the site after deconstruction. Looking at similar successful projects in other communities will give us a starting point. Multiple stakeholders may be necessary.

"Once a suitable project takes shape, the idea will be shared with the community again for their input and buy-in. An alternative to the redevelopment of the existing building or new construction of some type would be converting the property to community greenspace. A cooperative effort between government bodies could achieve realization of a greenspace option. Solving the Leath challenge will be a vital step in a downtown economic revival."

Mayoral candidate Clint Morris was part of the group who toured the building this week and expressed shock at the extent of the damage 13 years had brought to the building. Morris defended his decision to vote against the motion to repair the leak because he felt it could have been done with a membrane patch for about \$500. The minutes of the meetings of 2009 only show total vote counts and not individual votes. Reporter James Middleton's notes from the City Council meeting reflect discussion of a membrane, yet, in more than a decade, nothing was done by the city to maintain the roof.

In November 2020, Belvidere Budget & Finance Officer Becky Tobin reported to the City Council that it is estimated that demolition will cost between \$500,000 and \$750,000, raising the obvious question: Is it cheaper to repair or demolish?

Prevailing sentiment seems to be unchanged: Wait until something happens and then deal with it. Our approach is to ask the original question: What should we do with the building?.

David Larson

**File your tax return with confidence.
Looking for someone with experience
that you can trust?**



It can be hard to find the right person. Someone who understands your needs and can deliver.

I've worked with hundreds of families and closely-held businesses, including farms. I understand your situation. I've practiced tax law for over 25 years. I have an advanced tax law degree. I've worked for a big four accounting firm, been on the staff of a major tax publisher and served as the tax research director for a major consulting company.

My overhead is low, and my rates are competitive and reasonable. Most of all, returns are prepared in the privacy of an attorney's office, with the confidentiality that only an attorney can provide. No fishbowl atmosphere, flimsy partitions, overheard conversations or prying eyes. Hours are strictly by appointment, so you won't be kept waiting.

If this sounds like what you need, please call me for an appointment.



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

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

Simply follow the directions at this website:

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

**It is easy we will send a truck and it is tax deductible
The proceeds go to the local Food Pantry
Empower Boone in Capron IL**

CONSOLIDATED ELECTION NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021, a Consolidated Election will be held at the usual polling places in the various precincts in the County of Boone and State of Illinois, for the purpose of electing candidates for the following office:

CITIES OF BELVIDERE & LOVES PARK

- Mayor
- City Clerk
- City Treasurer
- Aldermen

VILLAGES OF POPLAR GROVE & TIMBERLANE

- President
- Clerk
- Trustees

VILLAGE OF CAPRON & CHERRY VALLEY

- President
- Trustees

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

- President
- Clerk
- Treasurer
- Trustees

TOWNSHIPS OF BELVIDERE, BONUS, BOONE, CALEDONIA, FLORA, LEROY, MANCHESTER, POPLAR GROVE & SPRING

- Supervisor
- Clerk
- Assessor or Multi-Township Assessor
- Highway Commissioner
- Trustees

BELVIDERE AND ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICTS

- Park Commissioners

CHERRY VALLEY AND NORTH SUBURBAN LIBRARY DISTRICTS

- Trustees.

Board Members for the following School Districts:

- HARVARD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 50.
- BELVIDERE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 100.
- KINNIKINNICK COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 131.
- NORTH BOONE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 200.
- HONONEGAH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 207.
- HIAWATHA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 426.

Trustees for the following Community College Districts:

- COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 511 (ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE).
- KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 523.
- McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 528.

Members of the Regional Board of School Trustee for the following:

- BOONE AND WINNEBAGO COUNTIES, DeKALB COUNTY & McHENRY COUNTY COUNTY FIRE DISTRICTS #2, #2, #4 - Trustees.

AT THE FOLLOWING PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACE

- BELVIDERE 1 COMMUNITY BUILDING - 111 W First St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 2 COMMUNITY BUILDING - 111 W First St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 3 COMMUNITY BUILDING - 111 W First St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 4 COMMUNITY BUILDING - 111 W First St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 5 BELVIDERE VWF POST #1361-1310 W. Lincoln Ave, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 6 IDA PUBLIC LIBRARY - 320 N State St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 7 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - W Jackson & Appleton Rd, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 8 MANLEY BELVIDERE FORD-LINCOLN, 1800 N. State St. Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 9 BOONE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CAMPUS - 1212 Logan Ave Belv.
- BELVIDERE 10 SALVATION ARMY - 422 S Main St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 11 EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH - 220 E Harrison St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 12 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 221 N Main St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 13 COMMUNITY BUILDING - 111 W First St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 14 COMMUNITY BUILDING - 111 W First St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 15 BOONE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CAMPUS - 1212 Logan Ave, Belv.
- BELVIDERE 16 POPLAR GROVE AIRPORT/EAA HANGAR-5151 Orth Rd, Poplar Grove
- BELVIDERE 17 BOONE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT - 603 Appleton, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 18 KUNES CHRYSLER, JEEP, DODGE RAM - 1855 N State St, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 19 KEEN AGE CENTER - 2141 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 20 CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - 425 Riverside Rd, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 21 SWANHILLS GOLF COURSE - 2600 Gustafson Rd, Belvidere
- BELVIDERE 22 KEEN AGE CENTER - 2141 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere
- FLORA 1 UAW HALL LOCAL 1268 - 1100 W Chrysler Dr, Belvidere
- FLORA 2 FLORA TOWN HALL - 3100 Town Hall Rd, Belvidere
- CALEDONIA 1 TIMBERLANE VILLAGE HALL-2940 Charleston Ct. Caledonia
- CALEDONIA 2 CANDLEWICK LAKE REC CENTER - 1812 Candlewick Dr, Poplar Grove
- CALEDONIA 3 CANDLEWICK LAKE REC CENTER - 1812 Candlewick Dr, Poplar Grove
- MANCHESTER MANCHESTER TOWN HALL- 20904 Grade School Rd Caledonia
- SPRING SPRING TOWN HALL - 3150 Shattuck Rd, Belvidere
- BONUS 1 GARDEN PRAIRIE FIRE STATION - 19044 Rt 20, Garden Prairie
- BONUS 2 BONUS TOWNSHIP BUILDING - 9015 Marengo Rd, Garden Prairie
- BONUS 3 LOGAN AVE SELF STORAGE/DOC'S UPHOLSTERY - 6544 Logan Ave.

- Belv
- BOONE 1 FIRE STATION - 120 W Ogden St, Capron
- BOONE 2 CAPRON LION'S COMMUNITY CENTER - 305 E North St, Capron
- LEROY LEROY TOWN HALL - 9743 Blaine Rd, Capron

- POPLAR GROVE 1POPLAR GROVE VILLAGE HALL - 200 Hill St, Poplar Grove
- POPLAR GROVE 2POPLAR GROVE FIRE STATION - Route 173, Poplar Grove
- POPLAR GROVE 3POPLAR GROVE FIRE STATION - Route 173, Poplar Grove

The polls of said Consolidated Election will be open continuously from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on April 6, 2021, at which the Unisyn Voting System, including the OVO Optical Scan will be in use.

Dated this March 12, 2021

JULIE A BLISS, COUNTY CLERK

Published in *The Boone County Journal* 3/19/21

FORECLOSURES

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

BMO Harris Bank N.A. PLAINTIFF

Vs. No. 2019CH158

Elizabeth Yeast; Joshua Van Meter; Candace Van Meter; The Condominiums of Logan Square; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of William J. Van Meter; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Timothy A. Miller, as Special Representative for William J. Van Meter (Deceased) DEFENDANTS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:

Candace Van Meter Unknown Heirs and Legatees of William J. Van Meter Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants

That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit:

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2147 Derby Ln Belvidere, IL 61008

and which said Mortgage was made by: William J. Van Meter the Mortgagor(s), to Harris N.A., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2010R08554; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,

Linda J Anderson
Clerk of the Circuit Court
601 North Main Street
Belvidere, IL 61008

on or before April 19, 2021, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT. 13165784

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Mar 19, 26; Apr 2, 2021

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
(630) 794-5300
DuPage # 15170
Winnebago # 531
Our File No. 14-19-11531
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.

LEGAL NOTICES

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: Raelynn Page, minor

No. 21-JA-3

Jessie Herbig/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on January 20, 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 Raelynn Page, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 3:00 P.M. central daylight time on 03/11/2021 & 04/22/2021; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an adjudicatory 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 THE 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 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 amend 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: February 22, 2021 Linda J. Anderson, Circuit Clerk

Published in *The Boone County Journal*; March 5, 12, 19 - C

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: Arianna Smalley minor

No. 20-JA-28

Thomas Smalley/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on October 28, 2020, 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 Arianna Smalley, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 3:00 P.M. central daylight time on 03/11/2021 & 04/29/2021; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an adjudicatory 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 THE 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 amend 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: February 17, 2021

Linda J. Anderson, Circuit Clerk

Published in *The Boone County Journal*; March 5,12,19 - C

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: Averiella Smalley minor

No. 21-JA-05

Thomas Smalley/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on January 21, 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 Averiella Smalley, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 3:00 P.M. central daylight time on 03/11/2021 & 04/29/2021; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an adjudicatory 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 THE 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 amend 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: February 17, 2021, Linda J. Anderson, Circuit Clerk

Published in *The Boone County Journal*; March 5,12,19 - C

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF SEALED BIDS
SALE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE
NORTH BOONE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #3**

The Board of Trustees of the North Boone Fire Protection District #3, Boone County, Illinois, is currently accepting sealed bids for the purchase of property no longer needed for fire protection purposes pursuant to 70 ILCS 705/10a. The property is located at 2428 Main Street, Caledonia, Illinois. (PIN 03-21-131-011).

The site consists of two full and two partial adjacent lots on a single PIN consisting of approximately .58 acres. The site is improved with a Lester metal structure consisting of office space, storage, and a garage with four overhead garage doors, an adjacent single space masonry garage, a metal-roofed overhead structure, a generator, and a paved driveway. The property is located on a mostly rectangular-shaped parcel lying on the southeast corner of Main Street and Front Street in the Village of Caledonia.

The property is subject to the Boone County zoning ordinance and any zoning ordinances as adopted by the Village of Caledonia. The property is improved with electric and gas utilities, well water and septic facilities, and subject to easements of record.

Any party interested in submitting a sealed bid must do by obtaining a bid packet located at the North Boone Fire Station #3 located at 2920 Charleston Court, Caledonia, Illinois beginning on March 15, 2021 on weekdays between the hours of 1 to 4 p.m. All bid packets must be returned to this same Fire Station no later than noon on April 1, 2021. There will be an open house at the subject property on March 20th from 08:00 until 12:00 noon. All bids must be submitted in conformity with the detailed instructions contained within the bid packet. The Board of Trustees shall open the sealed bids during its April 1, 2021 board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The minimum acceptable bid price for the property is \$250,000.00. The District retains the right to reject any and all bids.

Published in *The Boone County Journal* 3/19/21

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

THE CITY OF BELVIDERE, An Illinois Municipal Corporation, Plaintiff,)

v. 2021ED1 Parcel No. 05-36-206-010

RANDY J. FINZEL, BETH GRAY, PRAIRIE COMMUNITY BANK, and UNKNOWN OWNERS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

YOU, UNKNOWN OWNERS, ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that this case has been commenced and is pending against you and other respondents, asking for an Entry of an Order of Eminent Domain and other relief at real property commonly known as 953 Logan Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois. Legally described as:

Parcel: A part of 05-36-206-010

A parcel of land being a part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 36, Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, described as follows: Beginning at a 5/8" iron pin in the Southerly line of a public road designated Logan Avenue, 17 and 35/100 chains (17 and 4/100 chains measured), as measured along the Southerly line of said Logan Avenue Easterly of the intersection of the West line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 36 with the Southerly line of said Logan Avenue, said point also being the Northwest corner of the premises conveyed by Marlene Ann Lawler n/k/a Marlene Ann Smith to Randy J. Finzel by Warranty Deed recorded March 13, 2006 as Document No. 2006R2811 in the Recorder's Office of Boone County, Illinois; thence South 74 degrees 18 minutes 55 seconds East along the Southerly line of

said Logan Avenue, a distance of 66.84 feet to the Northeast corner of said premises conveyed by Marlene Ann Lawler n/k/a Marlene Ann Smith to Randy J. Finzel; thence South 16 degrees 27 minutes 23 seconds West along the East line of said premises so conveyed, a distance of 1.87 feet; thence North 74 degrees 01 minute 01 second West, a distance of 66.84 feet to a point in the West line of said premises so conveyed; thence North 16 degrees 27 minutes 23 seconds East along the West line of said premises so conveyed a distance of 1.52 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 113 square feet, more or less, all being situated in the City of Belvidere, Boone County Illinois. (the Acquisition Parcel)

UNLESS YOU FILE YOUR ANSWER or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the office of the Clerk of this Court Boone County, Illinois, on or before April 16, 2021, A JUDGEMENT BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THIS COMPLAINT.

Linda J. Anderson, Clerk of the Court
Prepared By: Michael S. Drella, City Attorney #6236991
City of Belvidere
401 Whitney Boulevard
Belvidere, Illinois 61008
815/544-2612
Published in *The Boone County Journal* March 12, 19, 26

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO
PUVITI CARMONA, Plaintiff
-VS- CASE # 20D-838
SHAWN CARMONA JR, Defendant
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Plaintiff appears Self Represented; Defendant appears Not Present
- Not Served
THIS IS THE ONLY NOTICE YOU WILL RECEIVE OF THE TRIAL DATE. YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE AND (IF APPLICABLE) PAY A FEE, OR YOU MAY BE FOUND IN DEFAULT. SEE ROOM 108.

Cause continued to 03/25/21 at 1:30 p.m. for status on publication and possible prove up.
Notice is given to you, RICHARD ALLEN HITT, Defendant that this cause has
Dated: 02-11-2021
Joseph P. Bruscato
Winnebago County, Illinois
Published in Boone County Journal 3/5, 12, 19 - C

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 17H JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LOWELL A. RUBECK
DECEASED Case No. 2021 P 12
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of LOWELL A. RUBECK of 182 Biester Drive, Belvidere, Illinois 61008. Letters of Office were issued on February 25, 2021 to Mary Cotner, 641 Ashland Avenue, Rockford, Illinois 61103 whose attorney is Robert C. Becker, Jr., 213 West Main Street, Genoa, Illinois 60135.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Boone County Court House, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the representatives, or both, on or before August 25, 2021 and 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.

The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless an interested party terminates independent administration by filing a petition to terminate under Section 28-4 of the Illinois Probate Act.
Linda Anderson (Clerk of the Circuit Court)
Published in *The Boone County Journal* March 12, 19, 26

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE-IN PROBATE
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TERESA ANN SNOW,
Deceased PROBATE NO. 2021 -P - 11
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

Notice is given to creditors and Claimants of the death of TERESA ANN SNOW, of Belvidere, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on February 22, 2021 to DANIEL SNOW, Executor, who is the legal Representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney CHERYL RUSSELL-SMITH, 519 So. Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Clerk, Probate Division, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the legal representative, or both on or before August 5, 2021, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required under 755 ILCS 6/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed on or before that date is denied. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the attorney for the estate within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

DANIEL SNOW, Executor
Cheryl Russell-Smith, Attorney for Estate
519 S. Main Street
Belvidere, Illinois 61008
(815) 544-0911
Published in *The Boone County Journal* March 12, 19, 26

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, April 13, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber, Belvidere City Hall, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois 61008 upon the following:

Application of Deuce's Wild Hospitality, LLC, 7548 Western Gales Drive, Rockford, IL 61107 on behalf of the property owner, Logan Square Plaza Inc., 2777 Finley Road #13, Downers Grove, IL 60515 for a special use to permit indoor commercial entertainment. Specifically, a bar with video gaming at 884 Belvidere Road, Belvidere, IL 61008 (Belvidere Zoning Ordinance Sections 150.105(C)(4)(B)(2) Indoor Commercial Entertainment and 150.904 Special Use Review and Approval Procedures) in the PB, Planned Business District on 1.50 acres. The subject property is legally described as:
Lot 69 of Logan Square Subdivision as recorded in the Recorder's Office of Boone County as document 2003R13998; located in Boone County, Illinois; (PIN: 06-31-151-001).

All persons interested in the petitions may attend and be heard at the stated time and place.
Carl Gnewuch, Chairman,
Belvidere Planning and Zoning Commission
Published in *The Boone County Journal* 3/19/21

Annual Town Meeting Caledonia Township
Notice is hereby given to the legal voters, residents of Caledonia Township in the County of Boone and State of Illinois that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at The Caledonia Township Building located at 2430 Main Street, Caledonia for

the transaction of the following: Nominate and elect Moderator, Approve minutes of the July 21, 2020 meeting, Reading of Annual Financial Statements, Old Business and New Business.

Dated March 12, 2021
Theresa Balk, Town Clerk.
Published in *The Boone County Journal* 3/19/21

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 indoor dog pool business in said County and State under the name of K-9 Splashtastic at the following post office address: 910 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: Justin McMillan, 329 west Perry Street, Belvidere, IL 61008; Stacy Fiebelkorn, 910 North State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #847-338-8922.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 8th day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Published in Boone County Journal March 12, 19, 26

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a gaming parlor business in said County and State under the name of Rosa's Slots at the following post office address: 884 Belvidere Road, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Rose Mary L. Leggio, 7548 Western Gales Drive, Rockford, IL 61107; phone #815-243-2789.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 26th day of February, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Published in Boone County Journal March 5, 12, 19

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a pet waste removal business in said County and State under the name of Prairie Land Pet Waste Removal at the following post office address: 3791 Shattuck Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038 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: Grant Griffis, 3791 Shattuck Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038; phone #815-362-6090.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 1st day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Published in Boone County Journal March 5, 12, 19

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a siding and contracting business in said County and State under the name of Ace Contracting at the following post office address: 1526 Ruby 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: Rafael Avila, 1526 Ruby Street, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #815-621-9192.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 2nd day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Published in Boone County Journal March 5, 12, 19

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Car Performance/Car Repair Shop business in said County and State under the name of Roewer's Speedshop at the following post office address: 9184 Beaver Valley Rd., 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: Matthew Roewer, 9184 Beaver Valley Rd., Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #815-904-9690.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 24th day of February, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Giselle Lenover, Deputy
Published in Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Online Boutique business in said County and State under the name of Once Upon a Bowtique at the following post office address: 7852 Moore Hill Court, 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: Megan Nickles, 7852 Moore Hill Court, Belvidere, IL 61008.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Giselle Lenover, Deputy
Published in the Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Pizza business in said County and State under the name of Sam's Pizza at the following post office address: 138 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: Josephine Alfanso, 138 North State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Giselle Lenover, Deputy
Published in the Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Rental Property business in said County and State under the name of Surf Song Resort Townhouse Unit # 343 at the following post office address: 902 Taylor Ridge, 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: Osama Badran & Suhaila Badran, 902 Taylor Ridge, Belvidere, IL 61008.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Published in the Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a roofing business in said County and State under the name of 3 Eagle Roofing at the following post office address: 7541 Lawrenceville Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038 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: Juan Almanza, 7541 Lawrenceville Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038; phone #224-402-1970.
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 17th day of March, A.D. 2021
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk
Published in Boone County Journal March 19, 26, April 2

Redistricting *Continued from page 3*

communities of interest and apportion the people of Illinois into the 17 or 18 districts that will have."

Another challenge is that although the process of drawing legislative districts is inherently political, and there is a long tradition of majority parties of using their advantage to draw maps to protect themselves, Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker has vowed that he will not sign off on any maps that are unfairly gerrymandered.

"We are planning to prepare a fair map that reflects the diversity of our state and provides for fair and equal representation to the very best of our ability," Harmon said.

The Illinois General Assembly is made up of 59 state Senate districts and 118 state House districts. Each Senate district has exactly two House districts nested within its boundaries.

Harmon said the General Assembly plans to hold a series of as many as two dozen public hearings throughout the state to take input from residents of all 102 counties on how they think maps should be drawn.

"We're also for the first time ever going to create an online portal and give Illinois residents the tools to jump online and draw their own legislative districts for submission to our committee," he said.

"It is always a challenge to make sure that we provide for fair and equal representation of all communities," he said. "That's why we're embarking on this robust series of hearings. We want to make sure that anyone in Illinois who wants to chime in on the redistricting process is able to do so. We want to hear from all stakeholders, all communities of interest so we can better fashion a map that fully and fairly represents the communities of Illinois."

The Senate Redistricting Committee includes 12 members and will be chaired by Sen. Omar Aquino, D-Chicago. Sen. Jason Barickman, R-Bloomington, serves as the Republican spokesperson. The committee is also broken up into 15 subcommittees, each focusing on different regions of the state.

The House Redistricting Committee, chaired by Rep. Elizabeth Hernandez, D-Cicero, has not yet scheduled its first meeting.

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Ethics *Continued page 5*

One of them was House Bill 57 from Democratic Rep. Daniel Didech of Buffalo Grove. Under current law, individuals who changed their name within 3 years of running for office must have their former name listed on the ballot alongside their current one.

Exceptions to this include those who have taken an adoptive surname, their spouse's surname through marriage, or dropped their spouse's name due to divorce or annulment.

Didech's bill would expand the list of exceptions to include those who have gained or lost a surname through the formation or dissolution of civil union. It would also grant an exception to individuals who have legally changed their name to conform to a new gender identity.

For transgender people or those who identify as non-binary, the use of their "dead name" – the name they were assigned at birth that doesn't conform with their current gender identity – is considered a harmful practice, Didech said.

"The gender identity exception will reduce the stigma and make it easier for LGBTQ candidates to run for office and serve in our government," Didech said. "Forcing a candidate to print their dead name on the ballot serves no legitimate public policy rationale, is unfair and damaging to the candidates and we believe it is something that our state should stop doing."

Mandatory K-12 Sex Education Bill Advances in the House

Measure faces strong opposition from anti-abortion groups

by *Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois*

An Illinois House committee advanced a bill Wednesday that would mandate all public school districts in the state provide a comprehensive, age-appropriate curriculum on sex education, sexual abuse awareness and healthy relationships for all grades, K-12.

Illinois currently has a law that leaves the option of teaching sex education up to the discretion of local school districts, but House Bill 1736, dubbed the Responsible Education for Adolescents and Children, or REACH Act, would make it mandatory.

“This whole idea came about because students were reaching out and asking for this in their curriculum,” Rep. Kathleen Willis, D-Addison, the bill’s chief sponsor, said during a virtual hearing. “There are many schools that do not have this, and that is one of the most important things and one of the reasons I jumped on board.”

Willis said the bill calls for developing three curriculums. For students in kindergarten through 2nd grade, it would focus on personal safety, identifying trusted adults and respecting others. For grades 3-5, it would focus on personal safety and healthy relationships, bullying prevention, harassment, abuse, anatomy, puberty, hygiene, body image, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expressions.

In grades 6-12, the curriculum would include instruction in the concepts of consent, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, the benefits of abstinence, pregnancy prevention and sexually transmitted infection prevention.

The bill calls for the Illinois State Board of Education to develop educational standards for each grade level, but it would allow local districts to develop their own curricula. The current version of the bill calls for those to be in place no later than July 1, 2022, but Willis said she plans to propose further amendments that would allow ISBE more time to develop the standards.

The bill would also allow parents to opt out of allowing their children to receive the instruction.

Julia Strehlow, a licensed social worker with the Chicago Children’s Advocacy Center, an agency that responds to reports of child sexual abuse from child welfare and law enforcement officials, said she believes it’s important to begin educating children about sexuality and abuse in early grades.

Nationally, she said, the median age of child sex abuse victims is 9, and in the Chicago center where she works, the median age is 8.

“Currently, there’s no mandate to educate children about their bodies or who to talk to about unsafe touches before the age of 8, or really actually at any age in terms of mandates,” Strehlow said. “We also know that child sexual abuse has a significant lasting impact on the mental health and overall well-being of the child victim in their family costing close to \$300,000 per individual throughout their lifetime. So we must start early to stop it.”

Portions of the bill, however, are drawing strong opposition from anti-abortion groups who argue that the upper grade-level curriculum amounts to promoting abortion.

According to the bill, the grades 6-12 curriculum would have to include “unbiased information and non-stigmatizing information about the options regarding pregnancy, including parenting, adoption, and abortion.”

It also calls for instruction in “Diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, including affirmative representation and health-positive instruction.”

“So both of these situations are indoctrinating our students in the public schools, against their beliefs against their parents’ beliefs,” said Ralph Rivera, a lobbyist for Illinois Right to Life Action and the Pro Family Alliance. “And that’s very important because that’s where we come from. This is a religious belief for us.”

Rep. Avery Bourne, R-Morrisonville, the ranking Republican on the committee, opposed the bill,

arguing that imposing such a mandate on schools should require a longer discussion.

“This is a really drastic departure from our current sex education requirements,” she said. “The fact that we’re requiring this of every school, certainly the different curriculum that will be included is different. And I think that it deserves a much longer and more in depth hearing than what we’ve been able to have today.”

The committee voted 14-7 to advance the bill to the full House, even though Willis said it will need to return to the committee in the weeks to come to consider further amendments that have not yet been drafted.

Clean Energy Jobs Act Advances to House

Sponsor committed to ongoing discussion with opponents

by *Grace Barbic Capitol News Illinois*

The Illinois House Energy and Environment Committee advanced a pair of energy bills that would overhaul the state’s energy industry to the House floor Monday.

House Bill 804, otherwise known as the Clean Energy Jobs Act, or CEJA, would put Illinois on track to 100 percent renewable energy by 2050. House Bill 2640, known as the Path to 100 Act, also passed the committee Monday night. It would increase the cap on energy bills from about 2 to 4 percent to provide funding for renewable projects, avoiding what its advocates call the “solar cliff.”

Sponsored by Rep. Ann Williams, D-Chicago, CEJA would increase development of renewable energy sources, such as wind turbines and solar power, commit Illinois to cutting carbon from the power sector by 2030, reduce pollution from gas and diesel vehicles by electrifying the transportation sector, and create jobs and economic opportunity across the state, according to sponsors.

Both bills moved out of committee on 18-11 votes after hours of discussion on Monday.

Opponents of CEJA said they are ready for the transition to clean energy, but are concerned about the reliability and affordability for utility companies and customers if CEJA becomes law.

Williams said she is committed to working with the opposition before bringing the bill back to committee with amendments. In the previous General Assembly, lawmakers considered folding CEJA, the Path to 100 and other energy legislation into a massive energy regulation omnibus bill.

“It’s definitely an ongoing conversation, and we need to work closely with our partners in organized labor and other stakeholders to reach consensus... I feel very positive about the momentum that the fight for clean energy gained last night,” Williams said in an interview.

CEJA had 1,510 proponents and 118 opponents listed on the state’s website, and a panel of 12 witnesses presented testimony at the hearing.

The bill would create Clean Jobs Workforce Hubs, which the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition describes as a network of frontline organizations that provide direct and sustained support for minority and disadvantaged communities, including job opportunities.

Williams said CEJA would drive billions of dollars in clean energy development and create thousands of jobs for communities that need it most, especially downstate communities that need a just transition as coal plants shut down.

CEJA was crafted with a focus on equity aimed to tackle climate change concerns while also addressing social and environmental injustices in Illinois, she said. Lawmakers also had a joint committee hearing with the Economic Justice and Equity Committee scheduled this week to discuss diversity, equity and inclusion within CEJA.

“We don’t just want electric vehicle charging stations, rooftop and community solar, and energy efficiency projects completed in Black neighborhoods and communities. We want Black workers installing them, and we want Black-owned businesses designing the projects and getting them built,” said the Rev. Tony Pierce, Board President of Illinois People’s Action, who testified Monday.

“CEJA is the only comprehensive energy bill that delivers on that promise, and after the devastating effects of the pandemic, we need these good-paying jobs now more than ever,” he said.

The 900-page bill also includes stricter utility accountability provisions including ending formula rate hikes to provide more oversight of the rate making process, creating a series of best practices for utilities and improving energy efficiency through fixed resource requirements.

Illinois’ energy grid is part of a multistate transmission entity. Northern Illinois is part of PJM Interconnection, a regional transmission organization, and the rest of the state is part of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, or MISO.

Those organizations procure energy and capacity, which means that the power generators are paid in advance to ensure that the energy capacity will be available when it’s needed at peak usage times for years in advance.

CEJA would include fixed resource requirements, which means that instead of relying on the regional market for capacity procurement, Illinois would have its own state procurement process for the PJM territory. The bill would not pull the state from that grid, but would remove it from the multistate capacity procurement auction to allow the state more authority in setting its own energy procurement goals.

“So we would be able to say we want clean energy sources, we want to rely on renewables,” Williams said. “And if we can’t get enough renewables right away, utilize other clean energy sources, but not rely on fossil fuels for the capacity needs.”

Illinois ratepayers currently spend about \$1.8 billion dollars in the PJM marketplace for capacity payments for fossil fuel plants, Williams said. Changing the capacity procurement process would allow the state to emphasize cleaner energy for capacity payments.

Patrick Evans with the Illinois Energy Association said he questions whether the bill will actually achieve what it is trying to achieve. Evans said he has concerns about the rate impact and an emissions fee included in the bill.

Many of CEJA’s programs are funded through fees placed on carbon-emitting energy sources. That includes fees paid quarterly by fossil fuel emitters based on the share of carbon they emit. That money would go to the Energy Community Reinvestment Fund to pay for the various aspects of the bill, with a revenue goal of \$400 million annually through 2025.

“We can’t find a plant that would be able to pay the fee and be a viable business in Illinois,” Evans said. “We don’t believe that fee will be paid. The power plants will opt to close.”

Williams said the bill is essentially requiring carbon-emitting plants to pay remediation costs for pollution.

“This is a reasonable way to ask the polluters to pay, not the ratepayers, and by shifting the burden from the ratepayers, to the generators that actually emit carbon pollution into the air,” Williams said.

Jim Blessing, vice president of regulatory policy and energy supply for Ameren Illinois, said he is concerned about the impact of the bill on downstate rates, noting that losing every fossil fuel plant in Illinois would further reduce baseload energy production, or the amount of power that can be supplied to the grid at any given time.

“While this may not be a concern in the northeastern Illinois area, it would lead to downstate being very short of meeting capacity obligations and cause the price of energy to skyrocket,” Blessing said.

Based on an analysis done by Ameren Illinois, Blessing said CEJA would add \$19.2 billion to downstate customer bills over the next 30 years.

“This is on top of what our customers are already paying into the current policy,” Blessing said. “It will cost the average downstate family \$24 more on their monthly energy bills.”

Williams said she is willing to continue discussions to address the opposition’s concerns, but still believes it is urgent to pass a comprehensive energy bill this session.

“I think CEJA is the bill that will accomplish all of our clean energy goals, including addressing the climate crisis, bringing jobs and economic development to underserved communities. And, of course, finally putting an end to the backroom deals and profit driven energy policies of the past,” Williams said.