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Field Trip

By David Larson

Hundreds of stories from hundreds of children have come from local YMCA field trips. This photo was taken most likely before these girls boarded a bus to take them on a field trip. The photo was taken in August of 1963, and it is likely of the Girls Adventure Club of the YMCA on their way to Shriners Circus in Rockford.

The YMCA, when it was located on the corner of South State Street and Locust Street, offered Belvidere youth the opportunity for an overnight visit to New Salem and Springfield to learn about Abraham Lincoln and Illinois.

Other yearly trips were to Chicago museums, or a Cubs or White Sox baseball game.

This August 3, 1963 photo is from the original black and white negatives taken by Fritz Meinheit, which have been scanned and restored by Thornton Photography. The collection has been donated by Pat and Nancy Mattison. Mr. Meinheit was the photographer for the *Belvidere Daily Republican*, of which Mr. Mattison was the editor.

The crystal clarity of Meinheit's photograph



is a testament to a time in Belvidere when local was a state of mind and not just a geographic location. In the coming weeks, the *Journal* hopes to publish more of the midcentury photography of Fritz Meinheit through the generosity of Thornton Photography and the Mattisons.

By and large, the photos we have been publishing proceeded the Meinheit period and have reflected the origin and growth of the City of Belvidere. In many ways, the Meinheit period was the culmination of Belvidere as a community. A time of proprietorship and a network of social relationships that felt all-encompassing.

Illinois Regains Access To \$77M in Federal Education Funds Following Judge's Order

Judge blocks Trump administration order cutting off access to pandemic relief money

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

A federal judge in New York issued a preliminary order Tuesday blocking the Trump administration from cutting off states' access to hundreds of millions of dollars in pandemic relief funds for public schools, including more than \$77 million for Illinois.

U.S. District Judge Edgardo Ramos, of the Southern District of New York, issued a preliminary injunction blocking enforcement of an order that Education Secretary Linda McMahon issued on Friday, March 28. That order reversed earlier decisions to grant the states additional time to spend funds they had been allocated.

The effect of McMahon's order was to immediately cut off access to funds that states said they had already committed to spend but not yet made the actual expenditures.

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul joined a coalition of 17 states in suing the federal government to block McMahon's order.

"The Trump administration's shortsighted and illegal decision to attempt to rescind already-appropriated education funding would hurt vulnerable students the most and could wreak havoc on the budgets of school districts throughout

Continued on page 4

Pritzker Signs Order To Protect Personal Autism Data in Response to Federal Action

HHS wants to create database using data gathered from state agencies

By Jade Aubrey Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker issued an executive order Wednesday that bars state agencies from collecting and disclosing data about autism to the federal government unless it's medically or legally necessary.

The order was in response to a move by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services earlier Wednesday to research and create a national autism database.

In a statement, Pritzker called the project a "threat" to the rights of disabled individuals. The order stated that the project raises privacy concerns about the collection and use of data, as well as potential "discriminatory profiling or surveillance of individuals with disabilities."

"Every Illinoisan deserves dignity, privacy, and the freedom to live without fear of surveillance or discrimination," Pritzker said. "As Donald Trump and DOGE threaten these freedoms, we are taking steps to ensure that our state remains a leader in protecting the rights of individuals with autism and all people with disabilities."

Executive Order 2025-02 also requires state agencies to follow strict privacy and data protection requirements when they do disclose such data, including making personal information

Continued on page 4

Illinois Seeks to Prevent Feds from Tying Funding for States to Immigration Enforcement

AG Raoul joins 19 other Democratic attorneys general in filing 2 lawsuits.

By Ben Szalinski Capitol News Illinois

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul and 19 other Democratic attorneys general filed a pair of lawsuits Tuesday against Trump administration policies designed to block federal funding to states that don't carry out U.S. immigration enforcement.

According to the lawsuits, recently enacted policies at the U.S. departments of Homeland Security and Transportation illegally tie grant funding for items such as natural disaster recovery and road construction to whether the state participates in federal immigration enforcement. The attorneys general say the goal of the policies is to illegally force states to carry out federal immigration responsibilities.

"This FEMA and transportation funding has nothing to do with immigration," Raoul said during a news conference. "However, it has everything to do with the safety of our residents after natural disasters and as they travel our roads, railways and in the sky."

Under the 2017 TRUST Act signed by Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner, Illinois law enforcement is prohibited from arresting and, in most cases, detaining a person based solely on their immigration status or assisting immigration

Continued on page 4



Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL)

Foster Leads Over 100 Colleagues Demanding Answers on National Science Foundation Funding Freeze

Press Release

Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL), Congress’ only PhD physicist, led 112 Members of Congress in expressing their concern with the Trump Administration’s directive for the National Science Foundation to freeze all grant funding. In a letter to President Trump, the Members



Janet (Casaleggi) Dobson-Moore, 82, Pop Gr, May 6
David Donahue, 89, Belvidere, May 6
Robert “Bob” Glorch, 91, Belvidere, May 6
Michael Kozuck, 72, Belvidere, May 6
Patricia Peleschak, 66, Marengo, May 8

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Photography Susan Moran
Office Amanda Nelson

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.

wrote:
“The NSF has, for decades, been a cornerstone of American innovation, funding groundbreaking research that has led to advancements in medical imaging, artificial intelligence, geographic information systems, and numerous other fields. Central to the NSF’s success has been its commitment to a merit-based, peer-reviewed grant process, ensuring that funding decisions are made based on scientific excellence and potential impact, free from political or ideological influence.
“Changes to this commitment have far-reaching implications. They not only disrupt ongoing research but also erode the confidence of the scientific community in the federal funding apparatus. Moreover, in an era of intense global competition, particularly with nations like China investing heavily in science and technology, these actions risk ceding our leadership position and compromising our ability to address critical challenges.”

Congressman Foster’s Reaction to Presidential Gift

Press Release

President Trump recently announced that he intends to accept a gift from the Royal Family of Qatar: a luxury Boeing 747 airliner described as “A Palace in the Sky.” This will be used as the

new Air Force One during his presidency, then transferred to Trump’s Presidential Library where it will be available for his personal use after he leaves office.
Article I, Section 9 of the U.S. Constitution prohibits the president from accepting gifts from foreign governments or monarchs without the explicit consent of Congress. This is to prevent bribes or corrupt conflicts of interest—as could arise, for example, from the Trump family’s billion-dollar business dealings with Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and other Gulf countries.
According to the Constitution, Congress should soon be voting on this. I want to hear your thoughts:

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor,
The city council meeting on 5/12/25 on the agenda Section 2 Item B Building-Boone County Government Building Fees
What was covered under this Agenda Item is what amounts to a public comment that the mayor should have filled out a form to do so. It was filled with so much word salad Ron Popeil was spinning in his grave like a Rotisserie Chicken. Mayor Morris used the word I eleven times and me 3.
As mayor he should have just stated Ordinance
continued on page 3

Illinois Department of Transportation

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL OPEN HOUSE

The Illinois Department of Transportation will be conducting a Public Meeting Open House to encourage input from the public regarding the proposed improvements to IL 173 from 0.4 Miles W. of Village of Poplar Grove to Boone-McHenry County Line Road.

DATE AND LOCATION

WEDNESDAY, May 21, 2025
1:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

CAPRON LIONS COMMUNITY BUILDING
305 E. NORTH STREET, CAPRON, IL 61012

PURPOSE

VIEW GRAPHICS AND DISPLAYS
DISCUSS DESIGN CONCEPTS WITH IDOT STAFF
ANSWER QUESTIONS
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

This meeting will be held in an Open House format and a formal presentation will not be made. Persons are invited to attend at any time during the hours listed. IDOT personnel and representatives from the consultant team will be available to explain the project and answer questions.

The proposed project would involve use of land from the Boone County Conservation District at the Tuttle Clarkson Natural Area and Long Prairie Trail. The proposed improvements are not expected to affect the activities, features, or attributes that make the properties eligible for Section 4(f) protection. Through publication of this notice, the Department is requesting the public’s views on the proposed use of parkland, and on FHWA’s intent to make a Section 4(f) de minimus determination.

This meeting will be accessible to persons with a disability in compliance with current Accessibility Standards prepared by the Capital Development Board. Persons with a disability planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact Mrs. Traci Duden, Studies and Plans Engineer, Illinois Department of Transportation, 819 Depot Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021 before May 16, 2025. The contact may be in writing, by telephone at (815) 284-5932, or by e-mail at Traci.Duden@illinois.gov. Mrs. Duden may also be contacted using Illinois Relay via TTY 711 (Español TTY 711).

Letter from page 2

number so and so states this and that and to change this we need council approval. Then see if any council members would make a motion and a 2nd, to initiate conversation and decide.

Instead we as tax payers pay 80k or so for one man to decide.

Another 80k for a flock of sheep to sit back have the wool pulled over their eyes to hide the glare from the mirrors and filter out the smoke.

Here are the building permit fees from the most recent large projects in the City of Belvidere

Walmart/Project Yukon \$549,184.00

Scannell/General Mills \$323,555.65

Midwest Refrigerated \$ 59,263.00

Boone County Taxpayer \$210,889.94

In actuality this is the dog and pony show.

Mike Carlyle

Illinois State Parks Draw Highest Number Of Visitors in More Than a Decade

State has recently completed major renovations at some state parks

By Ben Szalinski Capitol News Illinois

Illinois state parks saw more visitors in 2024 than any point in the past 15 years, according to new data from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Illinois’ 290 state parks and 56 historic sites recorded more than 41 million visitors last year, which was the most in 15 years, following several significant capital projects to upgrade and improve many of the parks.

Interest in state parks has been growing since the pandemic, IDNR Director Natalie Phelps Finnie said in an interview.

“During COVID, people were stir crazy, shut in, and they once again realized how important nature is to all of us,” Phelps Finnie said.

An aggressive advertising campaign by the state has also helped, she said. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity launched the state’s “Middle of Everything” marketing campaign in 2022, which

promotes tourism at the state’s top recreation and cultural attractions in TV commercials, billboards and online advertising.

Starved Rock State Park in LaSalle County topped the list in 2024 with 2.4 million visitors coming to explore the canyons and waterfalls nestled in gorges along the Illinois River in north-central Illinois.

The second-most visited park last year was Illinois Beach State Park, near Zion, with 2 million visitors. IDNR completed a major \$73 million project last year to preserve the park from erosion.

“It’s always been a high number of visitors, but certainly the uptick we’ve seen since the beach was restored and since the resort is being invested in once again and remodeled,” Phelps Finnie said.

ROCKS

Beach State Park holds Illinois’ only undeveloped stretch of Lake Michigan shoreline, but it’s subject to the ferocious waves of the lake. The conditions have sometimes eroded up to 100 feet of shoreline a year in parts of the park.

To preserve the park’s shoreline, IDNR’s project included building 22 breakwater structures in the lake to decrease the power of the waves hitting the shore. Several of the structures are entirely submerged while others that poke out the surface of the lake are designed to provide nesting for migratory birds.

The project also included extending the public beach further into Lake Michigan. Erosion had diminished the beach to come within feet of the parking lot and hotel at the park.

The state also announced earlier this year it will put \$60 million toward deferred maintenance projects. More than half of that will go to Starved Rock for trail improvements, facility renovations and building a new wastewater system.

The department is also working on adding electric vehicle chargers at state parks and renovating the Old State Capitol in Springfield.

This summer, IDNR plans to restore and upgrade the Crenshaw House in Gallatin County to include a visitor center at a location on the reverse underground railroad, where slaves were held. According to IDNR, John Crenshaw used slaves at his southern Illinois home where he manufactured salt. Crenshaw is also believed to have kidnapped freed or escaped slaves to sell them back to slavery in the South.

“We’re excited that the investment is being made and these parks are getting the attention they deserve,” Phelps Finnie said.

Read more: Illinois commits \$8M to repair deteriorating site where Lincoln launched political career

Lincoln’s New Salem Historic Site in Peterburg, where the 16th president lived in his 20s, was the state’s most visited historic site last year with 360,000 visitors. The site is in line for funding to repair aging buildings.

IDNR announced in March it will invest \$8 million to repair up to 23 replica log buildings at the site that depict how the village looked when Lincoln lived

there in the 1830s.

“You have things fall into disrepair and then it dominoes,” Phelps Finnie said. “It builds. So what was once maybe \$100 million or so is now a little over \$1 billion worth of deferred maintenance” across IDNR’s properties.

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Krishnamoorthi-0538.jpg: U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, a Schaumburg Democrat, speaks at the 2022 Illinois Democratic County Chairs Association annual brunch in Springfield. (Capitol News Illinois photo by Jerry Nowicki)

U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi Announces Senate Candidacy

Northwest suburban Democrat enters race with cash advantage

By Ben Szalinski Capitol News Illinois

U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi is the latest Democrat to enter the 2026 U.S. Senate primary for retiring Sen. Dick Durbin’s seat.

Krishnamoorthi, of Schaumburg, has represented the 8th Congressional District since 2017. He was born in India and grew up in Peoria. He earned a law degree from Harvard and has worked in the Illinois Attorney General’s Office and led a small tech company in the Chicago suburbs.

Describing his middle-class upbringing, Krishnamoorthi said he’ll “never be quiet while billionaires like Elon Musk and a convicted felon deny the dreams of the next generation for their own egos.”

“People want to know: At this moment, in this time, where is the power to fight back?” Krishnamoorthi said in a video launching his campaign. “What does it look like? Well, I’ll tell you. It looks like you ... all of us ready to step up and fight back.”

Krishnamoorthi represents parts of Kane, DuPage and Cook counties. As a candidate for Congress, Krishnamoorthi has often wooed voters with TV commercials showcasing casual mannerisms and his name, telling voters “just call me Raja.” It’s a theme he is continuing as he joins the Senate race.

Continued on page 7

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Education Funds from page 1

Illinois and the nation,” Raoul said in a statement Tuesday.

The lawsuit over pandemic-related education money is one of more than a dozen multistate suits Raoul has joined, in combination with other Democratic state attorneys general, challenging actions Trump has taken since being sworn in for a second term Jan. 20.

In 2020 and 2021, Congress passed several relief and economic stimulus packages totaling trillions of dollars to help individuals, businesses and state and local governments deal with the financial consequences of the pandemic. For schools, that included costs associated with preparing for the safe return to in-person learning, addressing the learning loss students suffered during the extended period of school closures, and addressing some of the unique needs of homeless children that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

According to the complaint, Illinois was awarded just over \$5 billion in “education stabilization” funds under the American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA, which was enacted in March 2021. Of that, \$77.2 million remained obligated but not yet spent as of the end of March 2025.

Those funds had been earmarked for such things as teacher mentoring, statewide instructional coaching, new principal mentoring, trauma response initiatives, the creation of social-emotional learning hubs and contracts for technology infrastructure upgrades, according to the complaint.

Under ARPA, those funds were intended to cover expenses incurred through Sept. 30, 2023. Subsequent legislation gave states an additional year, to Sept. 30, 2024, to “obligate” their funds. And under agency regulations, they had another 120 days beyond that to draw down the funds, although they were also given the option of requesting further extensions.

In January 2025, Illinois requested, and later received, permission to extend its deadline for drawing down the remainder of its funds to March 28, 2026. Other states involved in the lawsuit also received extensions.

But on Friday, March 28, 2025, the Department of Education issued a memo rescinding those extensions, effectively cutting off the states’ access to any unspent funds.

“Extending deadlines for COVID-related grants, which are in fact taxpayer funds, years after the COVID pandemic ended is not consistent with the Department’s priorities and thus not a worthwhile exercise of its discretion,” McMahon said in a memo to state education agency heads.

The injunction means the Department of Education cannot enforce the order, at least while the case is still being litigated or until the court issues a different order.

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Autism from page 1

anonymous where it’s practicable and only disclosing the minimum amount of personal information that’s legally necessary.

The move was prompted by an HHS announcement of a research project on Wednesday. The project will allow the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to have access to data and medical records of Medicare and Medicaid

enrollees diagnosed with autism in an effort to research autism, Newsweek reported.

It also directly responded to remarks made last month by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who called autism an “epidemic” and said that President Trump has tasked him with finding a cause for the “epidemic.”

“Autism is a neurological difference—not a disease or an epidemic,” Pritzker’s order read. “People with disabilities, including individuals with autism, are too often stigmatized and underestimated, and public policy should never diminish the diverse strengths and potential of this community.”

This is not the first time Kennedy has touched on his beliefs about autism. During an interview in 2023, he confirmed that he believes that vaccines cause autism, a theory the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and a wide body of research have long since debunked.

Executive orders aren’t often enacted by the Illinois governor, as last year he only signed three. This is the second order he has signed this year and is his latest action against the Trump Administration since his trade mission to Mexico this spring.

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Lawsuit from page 1

officials. State law does not protect people in Illinois from deportation, and federal officers can still make arrests and deport people in Illinois.

The federal policy is illegal, according to the attorneys general, because Congress controls spending and executive branch agencies cannot withhold appropriations allocated by Congress. Furthermore, they argue the states cannot be coerced into enforcing federal immigration laws.

President Donald Trump has signed executive orders designed to cut off federal funding to “sanctuary” states like Illinois. The U.S. Department of Justice also sued Illinois in February over the TRUST Act.

“The administration seeks to jeopardize readiness for disasters and safe roads to try to force Illinois law enforcement officers to shift their focus away from addressing serious crime in our communities in order to instead do the federal government’s job of civil immigration enforcement,” Raoul said.

Billions of dollars of federal funding could be at risk for Illinois, Raoul said. This includes \$122 million Illinois received last year for disaster recovery, \$2 billion for highways, \$60 million for counterterrorism, and \$24 million to protect nonprofits from attacks by extremists.

“At a time when the disaster relief and transportation needs of this country are significant, we deserve to know our federal agencies are focused on the welfare of all of us,” Raoul said.

The lawsuits come a week after DHS Secretary Kristi Noem visited Illinois to criticize the state’s “sanctuary” policies.

“This governor has bragged about Illinois being a firewall against President Trump’s immigration enforcement agenda, and it is very clear that he is violating the constitution of the United States because it is a federal law that the federal government set and enforce immigration

policies,” Noem said.

Read more: DHS Secretary Kristi Noem’s Illinois stop on immigration laws called ‘publicity stunt’

Raoul also argued the federal government has never before allocated funding based on whether a state agrees with the president’s political agenda.

No states have lost funding so far as a result of these policies, but it’s “imminent,” California Attorney General Rob Bonta said. He did not say why the lawsuits were filed in Rhode Island federal court, which is where Democratic attorneys general have filed many other lawsuits against the Trump administration.

Raoul has seen some success in the more than a dozen lawsuits against the Trump administration his office is involved in. A federal judge in New York last week issued a preliminary injunction blocking a U.S. Department of Education effort to cut off some federal funding to states, giving Illinois access to \$77 million.

Illinois has also joined other lawsuits to prevent the Department of Education from being dismantled, ensure the state continues to have access to various types of federal funding, and prevent the federal government from limiting birthright citizenship among others.

The cases appear to be straining his offices’ resources, however, as Raoul is asking state lawmakers to increase funding for his office by \$15 million this year to hire more attorneys.

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‘Our Identity Has Been Frozen in Time’: How Native American Advocates Are Influencing Springfield

Preserving history, improving imagery and correcting historic wrongs are focus of Statehouse advocacy

By Bridgette Fox & Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois

Amid the annual bustle at the Illinois Capitol during the legislative session’s midpoint, a sea of color and singing filled the rotunda on a sunny March day.

Attendees of the 2025 Native American Summit, organized by the Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative, were draped in regalia and leading a drum ceremony for the first time in an Illinois that was home to a federally recognized tribe.

And it was happening amid a backdrop of Native American groups working to secure passage of a bill that would ban what they say is offensive imagery in Illinois school mascots.

“Our identity has been frozen in time, and it’s going to stay frozen in time as long as we’re portrayed as mascots and things of the past,” said Matt Beaudet, a citizen of the Montauk Tribe of Indians who was in Springfield to advocate for the bill’s passage.

Andrew Johnson, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and executive director of the Native American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois, explained the importance of attire.

“We will refer to the clothes that we wear – the traditional clothes that we wear – as regalia. It is something that is honored. It has been passed down,” Johnson said. “There are reasons for wearing the particular items that are there. So, we have that term, ‘regalia.’ It’s built and has the bedrock of respect and honor.”

How natives are often portrayed as mascots in school logos throughout the state, however, has a more detrimental effect of “costuming,” he said.

“It really is not a sense of honor there,” he said. “It is not a sense of history. In fact, it’s a perversion of history to think that these mascots are maintaining any kind of that memory of Native people.”

Johnson and Beaudet are part of a working group convened by state Rep. Maurice West, D-Rockford, that’s at the forefront on Native American issues at the Capitol.

In the past several years, Native American advocacy groups have scored what they call major victories in state government.

The state has agreed to return tribal land in northern Illinois, required schools to teach Native culture, allowed high school students to wear cultural and religious items during graduation, and streamlined the process of repatriation and reburial of Native American remains and artifacts.

This year’s top priority would require K-12 schools to pick new logos and mascots by July 2026 to replace any that have Native American names and imagery by 2030. That measure passed the House 71-40 on April 10 and is awaiting action in the Senate in the session’s final three weeks.

If it becomes law, it will mark the latest in a series of policy wins for Native groups that have been working at the Capitol for measures they say go a long way toward righting historic wrongs.

The return of stolen land

The most recent bill to earn the governor’s signature returns stolen land to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Gov. JB Pritzker signed that measure nearly a year after the Prairie Band became the state’s first federally recognized tribe in April 2024.

Illinois has a well-documented history as a removal state, meaning Native Americans were forcibly removed multiple times, including through the Trail of Tears. The Prairie Band Potawatomi’s land in DeKalb County was erroneously declared “abandoned” by the U.S. government and sold at auction in 1849 because Chief Shab-eh-nay had temporarily left the land to visit relatives in Kansas.

For decades, the nearly 1,500 acres had been state park land. State Sen. Mark Walker, D-Arlington Heights, helped usher the measure through the legislature before its ultimate passage in January following heated debate and a narrow 63-41 vote in the waning hours of session. Walker also sponsored the measure focusing on repatriation and reburial of Native remains.

“These two issues, the one about a reservation and the one about Indian burials, came to my attention as two really difficult issues to solve,” Walker said. “And they’ve been around the state probably 30-40 years.”

The legislative win for the Prairie Band Potawatomi was years in the making, a product of organized lobbying and coordination. Joseph “Zeke” Rupnick, tribal chairman of the Prairie Band and Shab-eh-nay’s descendant, was a mainstay at the Capitol in the lead-up to the passage of the measure.

“This moment reflects the power of collaboration and the shared desire to build a future rooted in justice and respect,” Rupnick said in a statement following Pritzker’s March signing of the bill. “Illinois has shown true courage and vision by leading the way in the Land Back movement, demonstrating that healing and reconciliation are possible.”

Even with the land transfer measure passed, the

Prairie Band’s involvement in state policymaking isn’t going away.

“We, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, being the first tribe to have some of our unceded treaty lands reaffirmed here in the state, have tried to be very involved in issues here within the state,” said Raphael Wahwassuck, a council member for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Wahwassuck is also a member of West’s working group and is pushing to secure passage of the mascot ban, among other policy changes.

“I hear counterarguments about how ‘oh we’re honoring’ or ‘this is our tradition,’ and I just don’t empathize with those because there’s better ways you can honor an individual or a group of people,” he said of the portrayal of Native Americans as school mascots.

Advocacy evolution

The mascot ban before the Senate is not a new proposal – even for its House sponsor. West, the Rockford Democrat, first tried to pass legislation in 2020 that would ban Native mascots in K-12 schools, but he changed his plans upon a call from Johnson.

While Johnson relayed to West that mascots are an issue, he and other advocates wanted to prioritize something else: requiring schools to teach Native history.

“The posture I have for my working groups is I’m the chauffeur,” West said. “When I meet with them, they tell me what they want to do, and I simply share with them if there’s a path forward, and if there is a path, we start driving.”



Attendees of the 2025 Native American Summit at the Illinois State Capitol pose for a photo on the Capitol rotunda alongside state Rep. Maurice West, D-Rockford, top right. West convenes a working group on Native American issues at the Capitol. (Capitol News Illinois photo by Andrew Campbell)

That measure, sponsored by West, was signed into law in 2023, with the requirement taking effect this school year.

Les Begay, a working group member, citizen of the Diné Nation and leader of the Indigenous People’s Day Coalition, said in general, Illinoisans don’t know much about Native Americans. That’s why measures such as the Mascot ban and history requirement are so important, the tribal leaders said.

“There’s so many people in Illinois that have

Continued on page 8

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LEGAL NOTICES

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**In the Parental Responsibilities of A.F.A.P.:
Ingrid Alfonso Pinzon, Petitioner
Case No. 2024FA91
and
Joany Alexis Leon Leal, Respondent.**

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU JOANY ALEXIS LEON LEAL, and to all others whom it may concern that on December 30, 2025, a Petition for Allocation of Parental Responsibilities was filed in this court and that in the courtroom of the Honorable Judge Balogh in the Boone County Courthouse at 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, on June 11, 2025 at 10:15 A.M. or as soon thereafter as this may case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have a guardian of the minor appointed.
UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court in the Boone County Courthouse, Belvidere, Illinois on or before May 30, 2025 an order or decree of default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the Petition.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Prepared by: Omar Salguero
ARDC No. 6311354
Law Offices of Omar Salguero
7210 E. State St., Suite 206
Rockford, IL 61108
P: (815) 446-0770
Published in The Boone County Journal May 1, 8, 15, 2025

state of Illinois in the circuit court of the 17th judicial circuit
county of BOONE probate division
**In the Matter of the Estate of Kenneth B. Klug Decedent.
Case No. 2025-PR-23
CLAIM NOTICE**
Notice is given of the death of KENNETH B. KLUG, of Belvidere, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on April 28, 2025, to LISA WEAVER, 496 Edinburgh Lane, West Dundee, Illinois 60118 as Executor.
Claims against the estate may be filed on or before November 1, 2025, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to Creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Boone County Courthouse, Probate Division, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the estate legal representative, or both.
Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
/s/ Lisa Weaver
LISA WEAVER, Executor for the Estate of KENNETH B. KLUG,
Deceased
PREPARED BY:
HINSHAW & CULBERTSON LLP
Marcia L. Mueller, ARDC #3122098
100 Park Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61101
815-490-4919
mmueller@hinshawlaw.com
Attorneys for Estate
Published in The Boone County Journal May 1, 8, 15, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, STATE OF ILLINOIS
**In the Parental Responsibilities of A.F.A.P.:
Paola Pinzon Rangel, Petitioner
Case No. 2024FA92
,and
Campo Daniel Alfonso Rueda, Respondent.**
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU CAMPO DANIEL ALFONSO RUEDA, and to all others whom it may concern that on December 30, 2025, a Petition for Allocation of Parental Responsibilities was filed in this court and that in the courtroom of the Honorable Judge Balogh in the Boone County Courthouse at 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, on June 11, 2025 at 10:15 A.M. or as soon thereafter as this may case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have a guardian of the minor appointed.
UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Circuit Clerk of this Court in the Boone County Courthouse, Belvidere, Illinois on or before May 30, 2025 an order or decree of default may be taken against you for the relief asked in the Petition.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Prepared by: Omar Salguero
ARDC No. 6311354
Law Offices of Omar Salguero
7210 E. State St., Suite 206
Rockford, IL 61108
P: (815) 446-0770
Published in The Boone County Journal May 1, 8, 15, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the operating purposes of Boone County Fire Protection District No. 2 in the County of Boone, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2025 and ending April 30, 2026 will be on file and available for public viewing during business hours (8:00 AM – 5 PM) at the station at 1777 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere, IL.
Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:00 p.m. Monday June 2nd, 2025 at Boone County Fire Protection District at 1777 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere, IL. and that final hearing and action will be taken at that time.
Dated this 25th day of April, 2025
Mark Huntington, Treasurer
Published in the Boone County Journal May 1, May 8, May 15 of 2025

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE
**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LYLE J. SHERMAN,
Deceased
PROBATE No. 2025-PR-21
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION – WILLS AND CLAIMS**
Notice is given to creditors of the death of LYLE J. SHERMAN. Letters of office were issued on April 25, 2025, to Ed Zenk, 8304 Shore Drive, Machesney Park, Illinois 61115, Independent Administrator, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney RUSSELL J. LUCHTENBURG, 130 South State Street, #303, Belvidere, Illinois 61008.
Claims against the estate may be filed on or before November 14, 2025, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Illinois probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite dated stated above shall be barred.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division, at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the legal representative and to his attorney within ten days after it has been filed.
Attorney Russell J. Luchtenburg
130 South State Street, #303
Belvidere, Illinois 61008
815/547-5588
Published in the Boone County Journal 5/01, 5/08, 05/15/2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
**DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE
FOR AMERICAN HOME MORTGAGE ASSETS TRUST 2006-6,
MORTGAGE-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES
SERIES 2006-6 PLAINTIFF,
-vs
NO. 25 FC 7
Unknown Heirs and/or Legatees of Tammy J. Wilkinson a/k/a Tammy Webb, Deceased; Walden Webb; Ireland Webb; Timothy A. Miller, as Special Representative of Tammy J. Wilkinson a/k/a Tammy Webb, Deceased; Unknown Owners And Non-Record Claimants
DEFENDANTS**

PUBLICATION NOTICE
The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you Unknown Heirs and/or Legatees of Tammy J. Wilkinson a/k/a Tammy Webb, Deceased; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants.
Defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Boone County, by the said Plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION NINETEEN (19), TOWNSHIP FORTY-FIVE (45) NORTH, RANGE FOUR (4) EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN; BEGINNING AT AN IRON STAKE IN THE SOUTH LINE OF RAY STREET, EXTENDED, 66 FEET EAST FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF BLOCK 2 OF RAY’S ADDITION TO POPLAR GROVE, AS THE SAME IS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN THE RECORDER’S OFFICE IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THENCE EAST ALONG SAID STREET LINE, 66 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE; THENCE SOUTH AND PARALLEL WITH THE EAST LINE OF SAID BLOCK 132 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE; THENCE WEST, PARALLEL WITH SOUTH LINE OF RAY STREET, 66 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE; THENCE NORTH 132 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. SITUATED IN BOONE COUNTY, STATE OF ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as 117 Ray Street, Poplar Grove, IL 61065
Permanent Index No.: 04-19-102-008
and which said Mortgage was made by Tammy J. Wilkinson, single woman Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for HLB Mortgage as Mortgagee, and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, Document No. 2006R10475.
And for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of the said Court against you as provided by law, and that the suit is now pending.
Now therefore, unless you, the said above named defendants, e-file your answer to the Complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, on or before the 30th day after the first publication of this notice which is JUNE 9, 2025. Default may be entered against you at any time after that day 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 efile, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit
https://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.
Clerk
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
2801 Lakeside Drive, Suite 207
Bannockburn, IL 60015
(847) 291-1717
ILNOTICES@logs.com
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOUR PERSONAL LIABILITY FOR THIS DEBT HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY OR BY AN ORDER GRANTING IN REM RELIEF FROM STAY, THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED SOLELY TO FORECLOSE THE MORTGAGE REMAINING ON YOUR PROPERTY AND IS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT THE DISCHARGED PERSONAL OBLIGATION.
6088-953309
Published in The Boone County Journal May 8, 15, 22, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
**PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,
PLAINTIFF,
VS. NO. 2024FC71
ANTHONY ROBERT TRIPOLI A/K/A ANTHONY R TRIPOLI
A/K/A ANTHONY TRIPOLI; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; PRAIRIE MEADOW ESTATES LOT OWNERS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS.
12751 VESTAS PLACE
BELVIDERE, IL 61008**
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU,
Prairie Meadow Estates Lot Owners
Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants
defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE, STATE OF ILLINOIS, TO WIT:
LOT SEVENTY (70) AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT NO. 3 OF PRAIRIE MEADOW ESTATES, BEING PART OF THE WEST HALF (1/2) OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED NOVEMBER 26, 2003 AS DOCUMENT NO. 2003R19850, ENVELOPE NO. 287-A IN THE RECORDER’S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as: 12751 Vestas Place
Belvidere, IL 61008
and which said Mortgage was made by,
Anthony Robert Tripoli a/k/a Anthony R Tripoli a/k/a Anthony Tripoli

Mortgagor(s), to
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for American Pacific Mortgage Corporation
Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2022R03161; and for other relief.
UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before June 16, 2025, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.
You have been sued. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official document with the court within the time stated on this Notice called an “Appearance” and a document called an “Answer/Response”. The Answer/Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you could be held in default and lose the case. After you fill out the necessary documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. You may be charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application for Waiver of Court Fees. It is possible that the court will allow you to attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk’s office or visit the Court’s website to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this. Need help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov for information about going to court, including how to fill out and file documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Notice can be found at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local Circuit Court Clerk’s office or website. ¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o envíe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411- 1121, o visite ilcourthelp.gov para obtener informacin sobre los casos de la corte y cmo completar y presentar formularios.
PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF’S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
1 N. Dearborn St. Suite 1200
Chicago, IL 60602
Ph. (312) 346-9088
File No. 23-16533IL-1154120
I3266065
Published in Boone County Journal May 15,22, 29, 2025 PNN

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE
PROBATE DIVISION
**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
JUDY S. KUDLICKI, Deceased.
Case No. 2025-PR-0000016
CLAIM NOTICE**
NOTICE is given of the death of Judy S. Kudlicki. Letters of Office were issued on March 26, 2025 to Jill Mammoser, 12039 Oakview Place, Genoa, IL 60135, who is the legal Executor of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Nancy Grimme Schilling, Schilling Law, LLC, 973 Featherstone Road, Suite 350, Rockford, IL 61107.
Claims against the estate may be filed on or before November 20, 2025, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division at the Winnebago County Courthouse, 400 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois, 61101, or with the estate legal representative, or both.
Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk’s Office – Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to his/her attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.
Dated: May 6, 2025
Jill Mammoser, Executor
By: Schilling Law, LLC
By: Nancy Grimme Schilling
Schilling Law, LLC
By: Nancy Grimme Schilling
973 Featherstone Road, Suite 350
Rockford, Il 61107
Phone: (815) 977-5000
Fax: (815) 977-5742
nancyschilling@schilling-law.com
Published in Boone County Journal May 15,22, 29, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
**MORTGAGE CENTER L.L.C. Plaintiff,
-v.- 2024 FC 21
EDWIN H. RANDALL JR, KRISTINE L. RANDALL, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant
NOTICE OF SALE**
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 11, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on June 10, 2025, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
THE SOUTH 17 ACRES OF THE SOUTH HALF OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 35, IN TOWNSHIP 46 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.
Commonly known as 18143 CAPRON ROAD, CAPRON, IL 61012
Property Index No. 02-35-300-002
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$262,156.98.
Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g) (1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA Plaintiff's Attorneys, 180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 782-9676. Please refer to file number WWR 23-001179.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA

180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400

CHICAGO IL, 60601

312-782-9676

Fax #: 312-782-4201

E-Mail: ChicagoREDG@weltman.com

Attorney File No. WWR 23-001179

Case Number: 2024 FC 21

TJSC#: 45-1148

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2024 FC 21

6088-953386

Published in Boone County Journal May 15,22, 29, 2025 SW

ESTATE OF MILDRED M. SALATHE DECEASED.

Case No. 2025PR22.

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION – State of Illinois, County of BOONE, IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

In the Matter of the Petition for Letters of Administration upon the estate of MILDRED M. SALATHE, deceased. Case No. 2025PR22.

Public Notice is hereby given that an amended application or petition has been filed by GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC in the Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, Boone County, Illinois, Probate division showing that the above named decedent, who resided in Boone County, Illinois, died on November 02, 2020 and that said decedent left surviving, any Unknown heirs, as the only heirs at law.

Notice is hereby given to UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MILDRED M. SALATHE, and to all whom it may concern, that the said above named petitioner prays that Letters of Administration be granted to Shawn P. Ryan and that said Petition has been set for hearing, and proof of heirship of said petition will be offered to the Circuit Court of Boone County, Probate Division, room 3, Boone County Courthouse 601 N Main St. Belvidere, IL, on June 10, 2025 at 9:00 AM or as soon thereafter as counsel or the matter can be heard, at which time and place you may attend if you see fit. You may attend my zoom, www.zoom.us meeting ID: 96397918024.

Eric Feldman & Associates, P.C.

53 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 1622 Chicago, Illinois 60604.

6088-953416

Published in Boone County Journal May 15,22, 29, 2025 SW

PUBLIC NOTICE

MANCHESTER RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #5

Public Notice is hereby given that at 7:00 P.M. Monday, May 19, 2025 a meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall 20904 Grade School Road Caledonia, Il. The newly elected trustee will be installed.

Published in the Boone County Journal 05/15/2025 (B)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Road purposes of the Township of Caledonia, in the County of Boone, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026 will be on file and available for public inspection, by appointment (815-222-9907), at 610 Constitution Drive SW, Poplar Grove, Illinois from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 7:30 PM, Thursday, June 12, 2025 at the Caledonia Township Building and that final hearing and action will be taken at that time.

Dated: May 9th, 2025

Valerie Alt, Supervisor

Theresa Balk, Town Clerk

Published in the Boone County Journal 05/15/2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of Caledonia in the County of Boone, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026 will be on file and available for public inspection, by appointment (815-222-9907), at 610 Constitution Drive SW, Poplar Grove, Illinois from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Notice is further given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 7:30 PM, Thursday, June 12, 2025 at the Caledonia Township Building and that final hearing and action will be taken at that time.

Dated: May 9th, 2025

Valerie Alt, Supervisor

Theresa Balk, Town Clerk

Published in the Boone County Journal 05/15/2025

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. 4232 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a RETAIL business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of TOO HAT TO HANDLE that its location is or will be 13553 HARVES WYAY in POPLAR GROVE, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below. Phone Number: 815-621-4146

COURTNEY CHESTER 13553 HARVEST WAY
POPLAR GROVE, ILLINOIS 61065

I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: May 7, 2025

Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder

Published in Boone County Journal 5/8, 5/15, 5/22 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

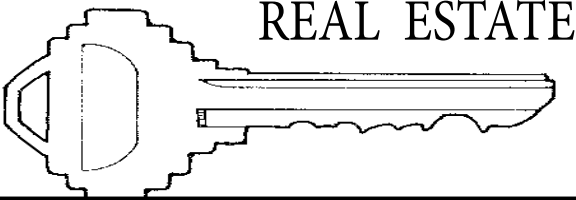
No. DBA4231 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a CRAFT AND COTTAGE BAKERY business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of LATINO + CRAFTS that its location is or will be 615 SOUTHTOWNE DR in BELVIDERE, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown as below Phone Number: 847-505-3355

JULIE TU LATINO 615 SOUTHTOWNE DR.
BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS 61008

I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: May 5, 2025

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder

Published in Boone County Journal 05/08,15,22 - P



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

MORTGAGE CENTER L.L.C. Plaintiff,

-v.- 2024 FC 21

EDWIN H. RANDALL JR, KRISTINE L. RANDALL, UNKNOWN
OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 11, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on June 10, 2025, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 18143 CAPRON ROAD, CAPRON, IL 61012

Property Index No. 02-35-300-002

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.

The judgment amount was \$262,156.98.

Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA Plaintiff's Attorneys, 180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (312) 782-9676. Please refer to file number WWR 23-001179.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION

One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

WELTMAN, WEINBERG & REIS CO., LPA

180 N. LASALLE STREET, SUITE 2400

CHICAGO IL, 60601

312-782-9676

Fax #: 312-782-4201

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Candidate from page 3

"I worked on a friend's campaign that showed Illinois will give you a shot, even if you have a funny name," Krishnamoorthi said, referring to his stint as an advisor to Barack Obama's 2004 Senate campaign. "And inspired by Barack's example, I was elected to Congress."

As a member of the House, Krishnamoorthi is the ranking member on the Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. He also serves on the House intelligence committee.

Like other Democrats around the country, Krishnamoorthi recently visited areas of Illinois outside of his district that are represented by Republicans in Congress to highlight the impacts of the Trump administration's policies.

Krishnamoorthi is the third Democrat to enter the race and begins with a big cash advantage. Federal election records show he has \$19.4 million in his campaign fund and has consistently raised more money than other members of Illinois' congressional delegation. His campaign reported raising \$3 million in the first quarter of 2024.

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Native Americans from page 5

been born here that know nothing about Cahokia,” Begay said, referring to a state-managed UNESCO World Heritage site located in St. Clair County.

Cahokia Mounds, in Collinsville, is home to what was the largest pre-Columbian site north of Mexico. The site was abandoned before Europeans arrived on the continent, but at the height of its population in 1250, there were more people living there than in London, England.

Johnson was part of the successful push to pass the Native education measure in 2023, testifying to the importance of teaching Native history.

“This is one of the many examples where the lack of proper education has deprived our citizens of discovering the full extent of the complexity, interrelations and impact of the people who originally inhabited this land and who continue to live here today,” Johnson said at the time.

After Johnson reached out to West, he found people from other Native organizations throughout the state, along with citizens and representatives of federally recognized tribes, who wanted to collaborate.

“I might not be a Native American, but I’m a Black man with my own history, and I am able to empathize with how they are feeling, so that’s what, that’s what keeps me going,” West said.



Rep. Maurice West, D-Rockford, stands on the House floor on Thursday, April 10, 2025. West’s bill banning Native American mascots in K-12 schools passed the House and awaits action in the Senate. (Capitol News Illinois photo by Andrew Adams)

For many, the policy pushes are the latest front in decades of advocating for Native culture.

When Begay studied at the University of Kansas in the 1970s, he was exposed to the American Indian Movement, an organization that gained national attention for occupying Alcatraz Island, the Trail of Broken Treaties and providing grassroots support services for Native Americans.

While members of the working group acknowledged the movement “crossed the line a couple times” AIM and the era’s activism had a lasting impact on some.

“The AIM leaders that originally were based out of Minnesota, they came to the university where I was and spoke once, and I just – after that I just wanted to get more involved,” Begay said.

Begay worked on Native issues with people at Haskell Indian Nations University, a Native American college in the same city as the University of Kansas. In 2016, he joined the board of the American Indian Center, one of the largest centers for urban Native Americans in the country.

Since retiring, Begay has had even more time to work on issues he’s passionate about, like advocating to change the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. Illinois passed a law in 2017 recognizing “Indigenous Peoples Day” as the last Monday in September each year, but

it has not replaced Columbus Day on the official calendar of state holidays.

Beaudet, a lawyer, volunteered with the Native American Rights Fund in the 2000s, helping tribes and Native Americans with legal cases.

He said the issue of Native mascots is something that crops up for him every so often, like at Lane Tech College Prep where he sat on the school’s council and successfully helped advocate to get rid of their mascot, the “Indians.”

He also shared a personal example of the negative effects of Native imagery in Illinois school mascots. Beaudet was exposed to stereotypical depictions of Natives when he attended Archbishop Weber High School in Chicago, the home of the “Red Horde.” Beaudet said showing up for away games in high school brought racism with it.

“When we showed up, it was ‘massacre the horde,’” Beaudet said. “They would have a Native mannequin hanging from the stands or being dragged, supposedly dead, across the field. So, it always brings up a moral, I guess to use the word, visceral response.”

Johnson, who worked for the American Indian Center from 2011-2015 as chief financial officer then eventually its executive director, moved to Illinois from California in the mid-1990s.

“Joining the American Indian Center and hearing what’s going on in other places really, really piqued my concern with what students were exposed to, what they had to endure, and really cemented my efforts to try to do something about this,” Johnson said regarding the mascot ban.

He said Native issues have come a long way in Illinois.

“I have seen a difference over the last 10 to 12 years, where it was people saying ‘I didn’t even know there were any Natives in Illinois itself,’ and saying that with all degree of seriousness related to it,” Johnson said.

Now, Johnson said, legislative moves are showing how much progress is being made.

Future advocacy

While the mascot ban is still unsettled, working group members are already individually considering legislation for next session, though there is no consensus yet at a group level.

Marne Smiley, a citizen of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe and a working group member, said she provides data and insight to the group as a reference about other Native Americans’ priorities. The data is collected through her role at the Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative, or CAICC, which has organized the annual Native American Summit since 2023.

According to one survey from CAICC, there are three issues Native people generally care about most: children, youth and families; mental health; and access to affordable housing.

Johnson said housing and codifying the Indian Child Welfare Act are two things he’ll likely be pushing for in the next legislative session.

The Indian Child Welfare Act, or ICWA, is a federal law that says Native families are the preferred placement for where Native children

removed from their homes are placed. So, children would preferably be moved in with a family in their tribe or to an extended family member instead of putting the child in the foster care system.

Johnson said he’s interested in codifying ICWA in Illinois statute in case of changes to federal law.

A 2023 study from Children and Youth Services Review about the effectiveness of ICWA touched on how Native American children were “overrepresented in the foster care system.” A 16-state survey in 1978, the same year that ICWA became law, showed 85% of Native children in foster care were placed in non-Native homes.

Under another federal law, the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act, tribal nations like the Prairie Band Potawatomi work closely with places like the Illinois State Museum and universities to return or reinter human remains.

Begay said he’s interested in strengthening protections under NAGPRA on a state level.

Beyond NAGPRA, other Native interests could be advanced at the federal level as well.

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin reintroduced legislation April 29 that would require the National Park Service to study Cahokia Mounds to determine whether it should become a National Park, a designation he’s been trying to secure for Cahokia for years.

Lori Belknap is the state’s site director at Cahokia, after having worked there for 18 years, first joining as a student and volunteer then eventually working her way up.

“So many people I’ve spoken to over the years, in all those different capacities, have said ‘I didn’t even know this was here,’” Belknap said. “You know, they heard about it on TV or they came when they were a kid for a field trip, just a lot of different information.”

Belknap said the site has recently averaged about 200,000 visitors per year, even despite funding challenges and the fact that the visitor’s center has been closed for mechanical updates.

“I know it’s a sacred site to the Native culture, and we’re just trying to do the best we can to honor that and be good stewards of the site, for the right now,” Belknap said.

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