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Beyond the Fireworks

By David Larson

Contrary to popular myth, the summer of 1776 in Philadelphia was not sweltering, the temperature and conditions on July 4 were pleasant. It has been reported that it was Thomas Jefferson's habit to walk through his day armed with a thermometer to note the temperature at any given moment. He was said to have reported, the temperature in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776 at 6 a.m. was 68° and by mid-afternoon the outside temperature had risen to 72°.

The photograph shown here was of a first draft of what would follow with notable edits inserted and original elements erased. The essence of the rough draft shown here and the final draft that was the Declaration of Independence. The American colonies that were at war with Great Britain were declaring themselves, collectively and individually, as independent states and no longer a part of the colonies of Great Britain. The statement was profound. The statement was provocative. The statement was iridescent in the overwhelming, lustrous quality of the verve that was expressed by those that signed the document.

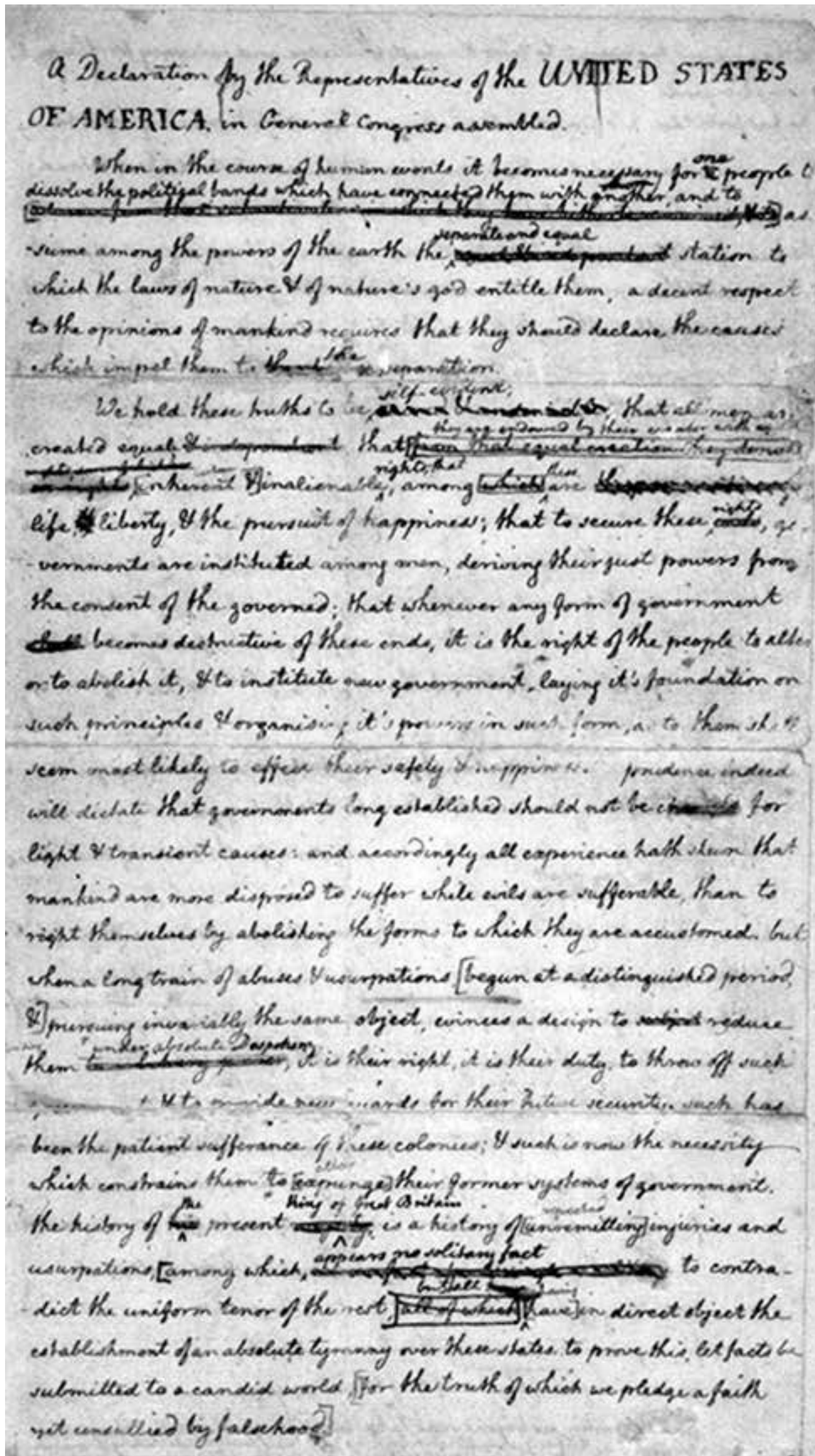
It was John Adams that had put forth one of the earliest resolutions that formed the foundation for the Declaration. Later, when others assumed a similar conclusion, it was John Adams again that asserted his leadership and called on Thomas Jefferson to write the actual first and final document.

No transcript remains of the actual conversation that occurred between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson regarding the proposition to ask Jefferson to prepare the actual document asserting independence from Britain, but one can only imagine a myriad number of scenarios that actually might have transpired between those two men. Would Adams have tapped Jefferson on the shoulder and asked, "Say, there is something that I want to ask of you?"

Though Thomas Jefferson was recommended by John Adams and selected by a committee to write the first and later drafts of the Declaration, the final version that one can see under glass in Washington DC was significantly altered from the version shown here. It seems that with the pivotal documents from political and social history from the Magna Carta to the SALT Treaty and beyond, although one person creates an original, and even later a rough draft, the final version is often prepared after heavy editing by a committee.

Though the document was created in the weeks leading to the date of approval that occurred on July 4, the actual ceremony to sign the document, with signatures that almost replayed Ruffles and Flourishes, was August 2. The style of signatures tended to assert the belief of those in attendance for what they had decided to do but further, their signatures established their further belief of the truth found in the opening words of the preamble.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights that among those are



Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Though Jefferson was the principal author of the Declaration, John Adams wrote the preamble that contained the words shown above, which has been deemed by some

historians to be some of the most significant and influential words of the English language. It is the connection to human rights that has led some historians to reach that conclusion.

Continued on page 2

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Carol L. Rasmussen

Carol L. Rasmussen, 84, of Marengo passed away June 25, 2023.

She was born September 8, 1938 in Belvidere to Elmer and Gladys (Peters) Eckhardt.

Carol was a 30 year member of the Marengo Women's Pool League. She enjoyed bartending at The Spot for many years. She also loved to cross-stitch and made baby quilts.

Carol is survived by her children, Joy McKee of Marengo, Jim Rasmussen of Marengo, Jay Rasmussen of Hampshire, Julie (Barry) Wambold of Elkhorn, WI, Jack Rasmussen of Elkhorn, WI; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; her sister, Dona Schwedersky of Belvidere; her sister-in-law, Donna Eckhardt of Las Vegas, NV; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Jeff Rasmussen; her brothers, William Eckhardt and Elmer Eckhardt; her sister, Penny Chamberlin; her brothers-in-law, Mike Chamberlin and Jim Schwedersky; her companion Ron Meinert; her former husband James Rasmussen.

There will be gathering from 4 to 7pm on Friday, July 7 at Marengo-Union Funeral Home, 505 E. Grant Hwy., Marengo. There will be a memorial service at 7pm.

Online condolences may be made at www.marengo-unionfuneralhome.com.



Bruno Junod, 81, Poplar Grove, June 26
 Carol Rasmussen, 84, Marengo, June 25

Alan Arkin, 89, San Marcos, California June 29

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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.

Independence

from page 1

In this day of political dysfunction running at a fever pitch, it is almost incomprehensible to imagine that men and women in today's America would take such a cataclysmic step as to declare their independence from the British Empire. No one today, but for a few, can appreciate the strength of character and the certainty of a belief that would be necessary to ink one's name to such a momentous document.

The act of taking that step cannot be diminished in the importance or the strength of one's character that such a step required. So many people today are so much less than these men were in terms of our raw ability to manage the physical elements of the world or the political winds that buffeted a collection of people from side-to-side while striving to keep one's bearings.

The signatories of the Declaration of Independence were men that held an unbendable belief that what they were doing was not right and proper only for themselves, but they were doing what was needed to overcome tyranny and for them to sustain as a people in a new age of ideas.

This story is in part based on a story that appeared in 2012 by James Middleton

County Board Rejects Solar Special Use Permit

By David Larson

In a split decision at the June 15 Boone County Board meeting, Lightstar Renewables of Boston, Massachusetts was denied a solar array special use permit. The tie vote came after extensive debate about values and the legal framework of county government. The solar array would have been located on prime farmland.

The value of agricultural production versus the environmentally-positive use of solar panels was not discussed in the polarized discussion, which lasted nearly an hour. Those who opposed the permit stated that they were not opposed to solar power. The scene was reminiscent of the circus-like atmosphere that emerged when applications for renewable electricity-producing windmills. Instead, the debate centered on the current state of case law in Illinois regarding farmland and private property rights in the context of a community.

Ryan Curry, (R), District 1, challenged conventional thinking of the role and powers of the county in making zoning decisions about farmland.

Board member Tom Walberg, (R) District 2, stated that application is within the Comprehensive Plan's Industrial Zone, adjacent to the stone quarries on Irene Road, and thus being the next

step of industrial expansion in that area.

Curry responded, "...in regard to what Tom said, it is always going to be next industrial until it stops....if we were to eat up every bordering property and then eat up more and more bordering property we would have no farmland ...We are destroying a resource to put a renewable energy... We should find a solution that does not tear up farmland."

The debate then turned to the findings of fact in the Zoning Board of Appeal's (ZBA) review. Proponents of granting the permit argued that there were no objections, and opponents of the permit argued there were sufficient grounds in the findings to vote against the motion. Dave Wiltse, (R) District 1, offered a review of the findings of fact. Sherry Branson, (R) District 3, stated that she was opposed to voting in favor, but was required to because there were no objections in the ZBA finding of facts. Karl Johnson, (R) District 2, supported Wiltse and Branson, with an opinion on the issue of private property rights.

Brian Schneider, (R) District 1, pointed out that at the ZBA the Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District gave an unfavorable report, which stated that because of the high agricultural value of the land, they do not recommend approval of the permit. Marion Thornberry, (R) District 3, expressed skepticism that the site plan could produce hay, as the petitioners asserted at the ZBA hearing. Thornberry went on to say that hay was not an optimal crop in this area, as it is in the western United States.

Advising the board Carla Maville, Boone County Assistant States Attorney, stated that asserting loss of farmland as a reason to not approve the project is not a legally defensible position under the new state statute.

Those who voted in favor were: Dave Wiltse, Tom Walberg, Karl Johnson, Alisa Patterson, Sherry Branson, and Dana Logsdon. Those who voted not in favor were: Brian Schneider, Raymond Larson, Brent Mueller, Ryan Curry, and Marion Thornberry. A majority is required to grant the special use permit, and, because it was a tie vote, the permit was denied.

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State's 'Rainy Day' Fund Hits Record-High Balance Ahead Of New Fiscal Year

Self-described 'party pooper' comptroller eyes socking away even more in coming years

By Hannah Meisel Capitol News Illinois

There are no champagne toasts or fireworks, but when the clock strikes 12 a.m. on Saturday, it's the start of a new year in Illinois – a new fiscal year, that is.

And just as a new year is a time to contemplate recent accomplishments and make resolutions for the future, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza is ringing in fiscal year 2024 by celebrating a record-high \$1.94 billion in Illinois' "rainy day" fund and setting her sights on doubling that figure in the next decade.

"\$2 billion sounds like a lot of money, certainly in contrast to \$48,000," Mendoza said in an interview Friday, citing one of her most frequently repeated stories about the fund's balance in August 2018 – when the state was still recovering from a two-year budget impasse between Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and Democrats in the General Assembly.

The paltry sum would have only funded state government operations for 30 seconds, Mendoza estimates.

In contrast, nearly \$2 billion "gives us about 10 days' worth of operating reserves for our state," she said.

But despite achieving that high-water mark – and celebrating Illinois' eight recent credit ratings upgrades from the three major finance agencies that determine public and private creditworthiness – Mendoza joked that it's her job to be the "party pooper" or "Debbie Downer" of state government.

"The majority of states in our country have about 40 days' or more worth of reserves for their state operation," she said. "So we're doing great, but we have a far path yet to trek through."

While Mendoza would love to someday get Illinois to the same roughly 40 days of reserves that 26 states have socked away, she'd settle for 20 – which would be roughly 8 percent of Illinois' operating budget for a given year. She said that's what the major credit ratings agencies have advised if Illinois is to receive future credit upgrades.

Mendoza has been pushing legislation to mandate that lawmakers put more into the state's rainy day and pension stabilization funds during strong fiscal years, but it has never received a vote in either

chamber of the General Assembly despite clearing a House committee unanimously. The comptroller said she plans to reintroduce the bill through her allies in the General Assembly.

"There is no good reason to not move forward with this legislation," Mendoza said, adding that credit ratings agencies haven't forgotten about Illinois' reputation of not "being a good fiscal steward year after year after year."

She boasted that Democratic leadership – including her, Gov. JB Pritzker and the Democratically controlled General Assembly – has helped right Illinois' fiscal ship in the last several years.

"However, governors change. Legislatures change," she said. "This is the time to do it. I don't see any good reason to, to delay it any further."

Mendoza said lawmakers should be able to increase the rainy day fund's balance to 8 percent of Illinois' budget in the next 10 to 15 years regardless of whether her bill requiring greater contributions becomes law.

From there, she said, Illinois should focus on paying down its unfunded pension liabilities, which stood at \$139.7 billion at the end of Fiscal Year 2022. The most current figure will be made public in the coming months.

Unfunded pension liabilities would never come due at the same time; pension payments are doled out monthly when state workers retire, while the state pays into its five pension systems twice per year.

Mendoza rejected the "crisis" label often ascribed to the pension issue, but she said it's not a problem to be ignored.

Paying more into the pension systems now will negate the piling up of interest costs in the future, reducing the crowding out of services that money could otherwise be used to fund, she said. Mendoza pointed to the \$700 million above the minimum required amount that the state has paid into its pension systems in recent fiscal years, which she said will save Illinois "about \$2.4 billion on the back end."

"And the more we do that, the quicker we're going to get out of this hole," she said.

That's why Mendoza said her proposed legislation targets the pension stabilization fund as well as the rainy day fund.

"It's not sexy," she said. "There's no ribbon cutting with saving money, but I think it's the best and most incredible use of taxpayer dollars to actually protect our budgets...the moral document that we're going to live off of that year."

Mendoza earlier this year had advised Pritzker and lawmakers to not start any new state programs in the coming year's budget. But she said she was happy with this year's budget "for the most part,"

despite new spending in areas like child care, pre-K programs and higher education.

"All of those spending initiatives, which are big ticket items, are all going to produce a good return on investment for taxpayers," she said.

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Illinois to Make Standard Driver's Licenses Available to Noncitizens Regardless Of Immigration Status

Temporary visitor's licenses will be replaced with document that can be used as ID

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Immigrants in Illinois with or without permission from U.S. immigration authorities will soon be able to obtain standard driver's licenses that can be used for identification.

Gov. JB Pritzker on Friday signed House Bill 3882, which will phase out the "Temporary Visitor Driver's License," or TVDL, which noncitizens currently use to drive legally in Illinois. The new law takes effect July 1, 2024.

"This legislation is a significant step in eliminating the barriers to opportunity that many undocumented immigrants face," Pritzker said in a statement. "We're ensuring every eligible individual can obtain a driver's license, making our roads safer, decreasing stigma, and creating more equitable systems for all."

TVDLs look similar to a standard driver's licenses, except they have a purple strip across the top that reads "TVDL" above the words "NOT VALID FOR IDENTIFICATION." Under the new law, those people will qualify for standard licenses that carry the words "Federal Limits Apply" at the top, but which do not qualify as REAL ID for travel purposes.

Immigrant rights advocates say the purple bar on the TVDL stigmatizes the people holding them, creates barriers to other kinds of services that

require identification such as picking up medication from a pharmacy or signing an apartment lease, and exposes them to law enforcement action.

"They know and the officer knows that this form of ID essentially serves as an admission of being undocumented or having a temporary visa," Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias said during a June 21 news conference. "TVDLs have become the 'Scarlet Letter' of someone's

Continued on Page 4



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



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ID

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immigration status and sadly exposes them to discrimination or immigration enforcement.”

In 2013, Illinois became one of the first states in the nation to offer TVDLs to residents without legal residency status. Proponents argued they would help ensure that all drivers on state roads, regardless of immigration status, had passed a road test and carry liability insurance. Currently, more than 300,000 individuals carry Illinois TVDLs, according to the secretary of state’s office.

The process for an individual who does not have a social security number to receive a standard license would be the same as it was for receiving a TVDL. The applicant must have lived in Illinois for more than a year and must provide U.S. immigration documentation, or if they don’t have that, a passport or a consular card that is within two years of its expiration date.

Giannoulis’ office said that documentation will ensure that noncitizens are not added to the voter rolls as part of Illinois’ automatic voter registration program.

The measure also prohibits the secretary of state from sharing driver information with immigration officials unless the official has a court-issued warrant, order or subpoena.

Real IDs requirements, which are scheduled to go into effect in May 2025, include stricter documentation such as a birth certificate and Social Security number to prove U.S. citizenship. They will be required for air travel and access to military bases or other secure facilities.

HB 3882 was among more than 150 bills that Pritzker signed on Friday.

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OP-ED

Hallowed

By Scott Reeder

Please fill in the blank: “Our Father who art in heaven ___ be they name.

This month, that question came up on the television gameshow Jeopardy and none of the otherwise smart contestants could answer that question.

The social media universe exploded with indignation. (In case you are wondering, the correct word is “hallowed.”)

The Rev. Franklin Graham said, “We have lost so much Biblical literacy & basic awareness of the things of God’s Word. This moving away from Biblical values will equal double jeopardy for our nation.”

To be honest, I admired Graham’s father, Billy, but after several years of listening to Franklin Graham bow before the altar of Donald Trump, I’ve come to the conclusion that the Graham gene pool might need a new lifeguard. His dad he ain’t.

But even a stopped clock is right twice a day. And Graham is on to something here. In many ways are society is becoming increasingly ignorant of scripture.

For centuries the Bible has been a common cultural reference point that bound our nation. When Abraham Lincoln gave his House Divided speech, he was quoting from the book of Matthew.

When I was in high school, the rock group Iron Maiden came out with the tune, “Hallowed be thy name” proving that scriptural knowledge can give insight into heavy metal music.

When Ben Franklin sent his “olive branch petition” to King George III it was a was a plea from colonists to avoid war with Great Britain. But its name came from a Biblical reference. (A dove bearing an olive branch returned to Noah’s Ark and it has become a symbol of peace.)

A few years ago, I interviewed Gwen Jordan, who was then an associate professor of legal studies at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

In a class Jordan is teaching at UIS, she discovered none of her students in the law and society class knew who Pontius Pilate was. (In case you need a reminder, he was a really bad governor — almost as bad as Rod Blagojevich and Bruce Rauner.)

Jordan was teaching from Rosco Pound’s tome “What is Law” where Pound ponders: “What is Truth.” That, of course, was the question Pilate asked Jesus Christ shortly before he ordered his crucifixion.

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In case you think Jordan is a religious zealot, think again. She grew up Presbyterian in Peoria, later dabbled at being a Unitarian and now just calls herself “spiritual.”

In Illinois, towns such as Athens, Mt. Zion, Zion, Hebron, Salem, Rome, Mount Olive and Bethany all derive their names from biblical references. Basic knowledge of scripture helps us understand our own heritage.

What Jordan is experiencing in the classroom is what my college civil liberties professor, Donald Boles, warned of more than 35 years ago. Boles was one of the foremost experts on the intersection of religion and public schools.

He agreed with the 1963 Supreme Court decision, *Abington Township v. Schempp*, which prohibited mandatory recitation of Bible verses in public schools. But he feared school administrators (modern day scribes and Pharisees) would use the ruling as a legal pretext to eliminate classes dealing with religion.

But the high court said just the opposite in their landmark ruling:

“In addition, it might well be said that one’s education is not complete without a study of comparative religion or the history of religion and its relationship to the advancement of civilization. It certainly may be said that the Bible is worthy of study for its literary and historic qualities. Nothing we have said here indicates that such study of the Bible or of religion, when presented objectively as part of a secular program of education, may not be effected consistently with the First Amendment.”

In other words, public schools should not be in the business of proselytizing. But it should be educating about religion.

Sadly, Professor Boles was prophetic. Schools have cut back on the religion courses during the past half century. And it has resulted in a growing ignorance of even the most basic biblical references.

This has had a corrosive effect on our society. Common touchstones are disappearing that once bridged the language gap between those active in a church or synagogue and those who are not.

Abraham Lincoln was keenly aware of the shared cultural reference the Bible represented when he quoted the Gospel of Matthew in the period leading up to the Civil War by saying “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

Could an American leader use such a biblical reference today and be understood by all?

Probably not. We are losing the common reference point the Bible has brought our culture.

It seems we, too, are becoming a house divided.

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OP-ED

Better Politics, Smarter Government: Life Lessons For Recent Graduates, And Everyone Else

By John T. Shaw

Many of us learned long ago of the limited persuasive power of unsolicited advice. Offering unprompted words of wisdom is the clear triumph of hope over experience! Nonetheless, this spring I bravely offered my students at Southern Illinois University some of the lessons that I have learned over my career. I humbly offer them here as well.

1. Work hard at every job — even the ones you don't like. You can learn a lot from work that isn't fun, rewarding, or stimulating. In addition to gaining skills, you can also study the qualities of successful colleagues. Learn from stars.

2. Try out as many things professionally as possible early in your career. Take chances, don't be afraid to fail, and then focus by mid-career.

3. Travel as much as you can within your own country and abroad. Traveling expands your horizons and makes you a larger person. And it's fun.

4. READ, especially BOOKS, and especially biographies and memoirs. They are life's instruction manuals.

5. Commit to excellence. My favorite historian, Barbara Tuchman, wrote that you either do things right or half-right, your approach is either careful or sloppy. Always try to do things right and make sure your approach is careful.

6. Keep improving your skills, in particular writing and negotiating. Effective writing requires clear thinking which is both valuable and rare. And much of life is negotiating, even when we are not aware of it.

7. Play the long game. Stay in touch with people. Send notes, make calls, and ask questions of your bosses, colleagues, friends and especially your parents and grandparents. Mark Twain was right: "When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

8. Persistence is an underrated, even essential, quality. Press ahead on projects and refuse to give up. Stay humble, exceed expectations, and control the controllables.

9. Make time to think and plan. George Shultz, as secretary of state, set aside one hour a week to sit quietly in his office to consider what he was trying to accomplish. He brought only a notepad, a pen, and his thoughts. Thinking and planning allows us to avoid one of life's greatest traps: letting the urgent take precedence over the important.

10. Take every opportunity, even small ones, to be courageous. John F. Kennedy wrote that courage "requires no exceptional qualifications, no magic formula, no special combination of time, place and circumstance. It is an opportunity that sooner or later is presented to us all."

11. Be on the lookout for mentors. Life has a way of providing them at times and in places that are surprising. Watch for them and pay as much attention to what they do as to what they say.

12. Be a good citizen. Learn how your government works, vote, support honorable candidates even if you don't agree with all their views. Make life better in your community and support problem-solvers.

13. Enjoy life; the years pass quickly. Al McGuire, the legendary coach of Marquette University,

sent a note to one of his successors, Tom Crean, wishing him luck. McGuire's handwriting was not completely legible, so the note ended with either "Enjoy the sun" or "Enjoy the run." Whichever word McGuire intended, the meaning is the same.

John T. Shaw is the director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois Institute Carbondale. His monthly column explores how Illinois can work toward better politics and smarter government.

Pritzker Signs Bills Altering Illinois' Health Insurance Market

Legislation authorizes state-based marketplace, rate review

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker signed legislation Tuesday that will dramatically alter the health insurance market in Illinois.

The measures establish a state-based exchange for policies sold under the Affordable Care Act and give the Illinois Department of Insurance the authority to modify or reject proposed rate increases.

"Since day one of my administration, I've been committed to making health care more equitable and holistic and accessible," Pritzker said at a bill signing ceremony in Chicago. "With these bills, we aren't just increasing access to affordable preventative care, we're improving the quality of life for millions who call Illinois home."

Under the Affordable Care Act, people who are not eligible for Medicaid but who do not have access to affordable health insurance through their employer can buy subsidized policies through an online exchange operated by either the federal government or their state government.

Illinois, however, was among the states that chose not to set up its own exchange. Instead, it pays an annual fee so Illinois residents can use the federal exchange.

That will change under House Bill 579, which calls on the Department of Insurance to set up a state-based exchange that will be fully operational by 2026.

Dana Popish Severinghaus, director of the Insurance Department, said during an interview after the bill signing that having a state-based exchange ultimately will make it easier for Illinois consumers to shop for insurance.

"I think it's ultimately our goal that Illinois consumers can have a one-stop shop where, whether they need to enroll in an ACA plan or a Medicaid plan or, you know, their family is split, we can do that in one place for them to make it as easy as possible," she said.

Pritzker said on Tuesday having a state-based exchange will give Illinois the flexibility to offer more enrollment periods during the year than the federal exchange offers and to coordinate with nonprofit organizations that help people navigate the marketplace.

But perhaps more importantly, Pritzker said, it will protect Illinois consumers from any potential changes in federal policy. During the Trump administration, funding for advertising and nonprofit groups to help people sign up for insurance were slashed and the yearly number of enrollment days was cut roughly in half.

"I'm suggesting that if Joe Biden were to lose reelection to a Republican, that people nationally

would lose their health care coverage or lose their access to that federal exchange, but they won't lose access to the Illinois exchange," Pritzker said.

Pritzker also signed House Bill 2296, which, for the first time, gives Illinois insurance regulators authority to review health insurance rate changes and, if necessary, modify or reject those proposed changes — authority that regulators in 41 other states already have.

Under the bill, beginning in 2025, companies that offer individual and small group health insurance policies will have to submit their proposed rates for the following year to the Insurance Department, which will post those flings on its website. After a 30-day public comment period, the department will either approve, modify or reject the proposed rate changes.

The bill also calls on the department to publish an annual report on health insurance coverage, affordability and cost trends in Illinois, including such things as cost trends by major service category, including prescription drugs; utilization patterns by major service category; the impact of benefit changes; enrollment trends; and demographic shifts.

State Sen. Laura Fine, D-Glenview, said during a separate interview before the bill signing that those changes will make the pricing of health insurance more transparent to consumers and give regulators the ability to determine whether consumers are being overcharged.

"The insurance industry, they file their plans with the Department of Insurance, and although the department goes through the actuarial process, they can't reject a rate," she said.

Under the new law, she said, regulators will be able to reject rates that are unreasonably high as well as rates that are so low that they could put the insurance company in financial risk.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to hundreds of print and broadcast outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.

Pritzker Quickly Wiends Expanded Authority to Freeze Noncitizen Health Care Enrollment

Activists accuse governor of 'aligning himself with anti-immigrant Republicans'

By Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker's administration wasted no time last week in exercising new authority granted by lawmakers to limit the number of enrollees in a pair of state-funded health care programs for low-income noncitizens.

In a move that drew intense backlash from immigrant rights advocates, Pritzker on Friday signed House Bill 1298 then immediately filed emergency rules authorized by the law to "temporarily" pause enrollment in the Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults program as of July 1. That state-funded program serves individuals aged 42 to 64 years who would be eligible for Medicaid benefits based on income levels but not their citizenship status.

Continued on Page 7

LEGAL NOTICES

TAX DEED NO: 2023-TX-20 FILED: 6/9/2023 To: Alberta Bogardus and all other persons/entities unknown having or claiming any right title or interest in the real estate described below.

TAKE NOTICE County of Boone Date Premises Sold October 28, 2021 Certificate No. 2020-00063 Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2020 THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at Denny Road, Capron, Illinois Legal Description or Property Index No. 04-27-300-001 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on October 28, 2023.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before October 28, 2023.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this County in Belvidere, Illinois on November 14, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom 3. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before October 28, 2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

For further information contact the County Clerk: ADDRESS: Boone County Clerk's Office, 1212 Logan Ave., Room 103, Belvidere, IL 61008 TELEPHONE: 815-544-3103 Zurmavar, LLC XV, Petitioner J. Thomas Witek Witek Law Offices 7210 E. State #102 Rockford, IL 61108 (815) 962-9288 Published in The Boone County Journal June 22, 29, July 6 q

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS NEWREZ LLC DBA SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING; Plaintiff, vs. 23 FC 18 CHRISTINA SOLIS; LUCIA ORTIZ TAPIA; UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS; Defendants,

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at the hour of 12:15 p.m., inside the front entrance of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Lot Two Hundred Sixty-seven (267) of Plat No. 6 of Sherman Oaks Subdivision, being a Subdivision of part of the South Half (1/2) of Section 24, Township 45 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Boone County, Illinois, Village of Poplar Grove, the Plat of which Subdivision is recorded in Plat Index File Envelope 312-A as Document Number 2005R01555 in the Recorder's Office of Boone County, Illinois; situated in the County of Boone and State of Illinois.

Commonly known as 318 W Edson St, Poplar Grove, IL 61065. P.I.N. 03-24-407-009.

The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.

For information call Mr. Matthew C. Abad at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SMS00812-23FC1

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 6088-933426 Published in The Boone County Journal June 29, July 6, 13

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF Anastasia Cosette Finocchio Case No. 2023MR21

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE OF MINOR CHILDREN

Notice is hereby given, that on August 1, 2023, at 9:00 am, I will present a Petition requesting that the Court change his/her present name of, Anastasia Cosette Finocchio,

minor, to the name of Antonio Samuel Dante Finocchio. The hearing will take place at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008.

Anastasia Cosette Finocchio, minor by, Antonia Maria Finocchio Published in the Boone County Journal 06/ 22,29 07/06

N THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF BOONE - IN PROBATE IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:BRAD JAMES LARSON, No. 2023-PR 32 Deceased.)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION-WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Brad James Larson on May 15, 2023. Letters of Office were issued on June 21, 2023, to Brenda S. Larson, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Charles G. Popp, P.C., 215 South State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before December 15, 2023, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk--Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office--Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to his/her attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Published in The Boone County Journal June 29, July 6, 13

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-3 TENTATIVE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE BOONE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #2 BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2023, AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2024 On June 21, 2023, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Boone County Fire Protection District # 2, Boone County, Illinois, the said Trustees adopted as a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of the Boone County Fire Protection District #2 for the General Fund for the period May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024, the following:

GENERAL FUND ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND RECEIPTS Estimated Cash Balance on hand as of April 30, 2023 Checking Account & Capitol Reserve \$1,204,133.10 Anticipated Revenues and Receipts: Property Taxes to be received in FY 2023-2024 \$ 1,094,000.00 Illinois Replacement Tax \$ 50,000.00 Interest Income \$ 2,500.00 Non Resident Billing \$ 65,000.00 Illinois Municipal League \$ 25,000.00 Grants \$ 2,000.00 Miscellaneous \$ 100,000.00 Total Anticipated Revenues and Receipts \$1,338,500.00 Total Cash Balance May 1, 2023 and Anticipated Revenues & Receipts \$2,542,633.10 Less Anticipated Expenditures May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024 \$2,097,945.00 Anticipated Cash Balance April 30, 2024 \$ 444,988.10

GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION The following amounts shall be tentatively budgeted and appropriated for the General Fund purposes of the Boone County Fire District #2 for the Fiscal Year May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024.

BUDGETED APPROPRIATED A.) Administration: 1.) Insurance \$ 149,500.00 \$ 179,400.00 2.) Office Operations \$ 53,195.00 \$ 63,834.00 3.) Professional Fees \$ 14,400.00 \$ 17,280.00 4.) Training \$ 29,500.00 \$ 35,400.00 5.) Trustee Compensation \$ 4,200.00 \$ 5,040.00 6.) Utilities \$ 33,200.00 \$ 39,840.00 7.) Volunteer Compensation \$ 100,000.00 \$ 120,000.00 8.) Labor \$ 1,215,500.00 \$ 1,578,000.00 9.)Miscellaneous/Contingency \$ 13,000.00 \$ 15,600.00 10.) Unemployment Fund \$ 5,500.00 \$ 7,050.00 TOTAL ADMINISTRATION: \$ 1,617,995.00 \$ 2,061,144.40 B.) Equipment 1.) Repairs, Maintenance \$ 23,800.00 \$ 28,560.00 2.) Firefighters' Equipment \$ 92,600.00 \$ 111,120.00 3.) Other New Equipment Purchases \$ 143,500.00 \$ 172,200.00 TOTAL EQUIPMENT \$ 259,900.00 \$ 311,880.00 C.) Station Expenses 1.) Building and Grounds \$ 76,250.00 \$ 91,500.00 TOTAL STATION EXPENSES \$ 76,250.00 \$ 91,500.00 D.) Apparatus Expense 1.) Operation (Gas and Oil) \$ 35,000.00 \$ 42,500.00 2.) Vehicle Maintenance \$ 54,300.00 \$ 163,834.00 TOTAL APPARATUS EXPENSES \$ 89,300.00 \$ 206,334.00 E.) Capital Reserve 1.) Apparatus Replacement \$ 60,000.00 \$ 75,000.00 2.) Apparatus Upgrades \$ 0.00 \$ 0.00 3.) Fire Station \$ 200,000.00 \$ 300,000.00 TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE EXPENSE \$ 260,000.00 \$ 375,000.00

RECAPITULATION Total Administrative and Operating Expense \$ 1,617,995.00 Total Equipment Expense \$ 259,900.00 Total Station (Building) Expense \$ 76,250.00 Total Fire Apparatus Expense \$ 89,300.00 Capital Reserve Apparatus, Building \$ 260,000.00 TOTAL TENTATIVE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION-GENERAL FUND \$ 2,303,445.00 Mark Huntington, Treasurer Board of Trustees BCFD # 2 13th 2023 Published in The Boone County Journal June 29, July 6, 13

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, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024 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 July 31st, 2023 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 21st day of June, 2023 Brian Kunce, Fire Chief Published in the Boone County Journal June 29, July 6th, 13th 2023

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: LILLIE CURRY, minor No. 23-JA-18 Sylvester Curry, Unknown Fathers and All Whom It May Concern ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on JUNE 8, 2023, 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 Lillie Curry, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 2:30 P.M. and 1:30 P.M. central daylight time on 7/13/2023 & 9/14/23; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

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

Dated: June 20, 2023 Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK Published in The Boone County Journal: 6/29, 7/6, 7/13 - C

Public Hearing on E-Learning/Remote Learning Days on Emergency/Snow Days Students, Families and D100 Community Members, D100 will be hosting a public hearing on Monday, July 17th, at 6:00 p.m., in the Boardroom at 1201 5th Avenue in Belvidere. The purpose of the hearing will be to take public input on the proposal to offer an e-learning or remote learning day in lieu of a traditional emergency (snow) day. D100 recognizes that it can be challenging for students and families to extend the school year when emergency days necessitate that additional days are added to the school calendar. As a result, D100 is proposing an e-learning option that would allow learning to continue on these days so that the calendar does not necessarily need to be impacted when an emergency/snow day is needed. Please join us on Monday, July 17th at 6:00 p.m. if you would like to provide feedback to D100 on this topic. Published in the Boone County Journal July 6th,

CITY OF BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the corporate authority of the City of Belvidere, Illinois will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 17, 2023 in the City Council Chambers, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois to provide interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the proposed federally-funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public hearing and need assistance should contact Sarah Turnipseed, City Clerk, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois (815-544-2612) no later than Wednesday, July 12, 2023. Every effort will be made to make reasonable accommodations for these persons.

On or about August 1, 2023, the City of Belvidere intends to apply to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a grant from the State CDBG program. This program is funded by Title 1 of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. These funds are to be used for a community development project that will include the following activities: Cleanup of debris in the City of Belvidere as a result of the F-1 tornado that passed through the City on March 31, 2023. The total amount of CDBG funds to be requested is \$120,766.59.

Information related to this project will be available for review prior to the public hearing as of July 10, 2023 at the office of the Belvidere City Clerk, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Interested citizens are invited to provide comments regarding this issue either at the public hearing or by prior written statement. Written comments should be submitted to Sarah Turnipseed, City Clerk, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois no later than Friday, July 14, 2023 in order to ensure placement of such comments in the official record of the public hearing proceedings. This project will result in no displacement of any persons or businesses. For additional information concerning the proposed project, please contact Brent Anderson, Public Works Director, by phone (815-544-9256) or by email (banderson@ci.belvidere.il.us).

City of Belvidere, Illinois Sarah Turnipseed, City Clerk Published in the Boone County Journal July 6th,

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:DAVID LEE BURNETT, Deceased.

NO. 2023 PR 33 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION-WILLS AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of DAVID LEE BURNETT. Letters of Office were issued on June 21, 2023, to Michael Burnett, 3906 West Wood Court, Belvidere, Illinois 61008 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 January 19, 2024, 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 date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the legal estate representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office, Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to his attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Dated: June 26, 2023 Michael Burnett Independent Administrator Attorney Russell J. Luchtenburg 130 South State Street, #303 Belvidere, Illinois 61008 815/547-5588 Published in The Boone County Journal July 6, 13, 20

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

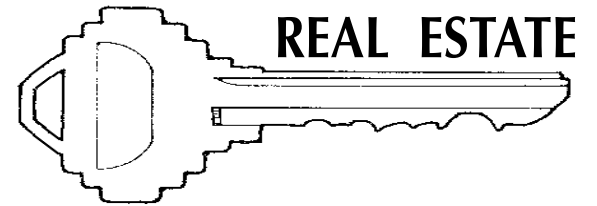
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: ELIJAH WRIGHT, minor No. 23-JA-17 KIRK WRIGHT, Unknown Fathers and All Whom It May Concern ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on JUNE 8, 2023, 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 Elijah Wright, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 1:30 P.M. central daylight time on 9/14/23; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

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

Dated: June 29, 2023 Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK Published in The Boone County Journal: 7/5, 7/13, 7/20 - C



TAKE NOTICE
 CERTIFICATE NO. 2019-00679
 TO:
 JI Corporation
 JI Corporation
 JI Corporation
 Muhammad Z Mehmood
 Spouse of Muhammad Z Mehmood
 Muhammad Z Mehmood
 Spouse of Muhammad Z Mehmood
 Occupant
 Boone County Clerk
 Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots. A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, IL as Case No. 2023TX16
 The Property is located at:
 141 S. Appleton Rd., Belvidere, IL
 Property Index Number: 05-34-200-023
 Said Property was sold on 10/29/2020 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on 10/25/2023. On 11/14/2023 at 9:30 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.
 MS Investments Inc., Petitioner
 Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 29, July 6, 13

STATE OF ILLINOIS
 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
 SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL
 BOONE COUNTY
 SHANNON COLLETTE ALLEN Plaintiff
 -VS- CASE # 2023-DN-33
 JIMMY LEE ALLEN Defendant
 NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
 Notice is given to you, JIMMY ALLEN, Defendant that this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE and other relief.
 Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Boone County, Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, Illinois, 61008 on or before the 21st day of NOVEMBER, 2023 a Judgment or other relief as prayed for by the Plaintiff may be granted.
 Dated: 06/30/2023
 Pamela Coduto
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 17th Judicial Court
 Boone County, Illinois
 Published in *The Boone County Journal* 7/6, 7/13, 7/20 (C)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
 NEWREZ LLC DBA SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING;
 Plaintiff,
 vs. 23 FC 18
 CHRISTINA SOLIS; LUCIA ORTIZ TAPIA; UNKNOWN OWNERS GENERALLY AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS;
 Defendants,

NOTICE OF SALE
 PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on Thursday, August 3, 2023, at the hour of 12:15 p.m., inside the front entrance of the, Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
 Commonly known as 318 W Edson St, Poplar Grove, IL 61065.
 P.I.N. 03-24-407-009.
 The improvement on the property consists of a single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.
 Sale terms: 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection.
 For information call Mr. Matthew C. Abad at Plaintiff's Attorney, Altman, Strautins & Kromm, LLC d/b/a Kluever Law Group, 200 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 236-0077. SMS00812-23FC1
 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
 intercountyjudicialsales.com
 6088-933426
 Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 29, July 6, 13

TAKE NOTICE
 CERTIFICATE NO. 2019-00005
 TO:
 Lynn Hullah
 Lynn Hullah
 Lynn Hullah
 Spouse of Lynn Hullah
 Spouse of Lynn Hullah
 Spouse of Lynn Hullah
 Matthew Morse
 Matthew Morse
 Spouse of Matthew Morse
 Spouse of Matthew Morse
 Occupant
 Ashley Morse
 Occupant
 Nancy Salvadorini
 Boone County Clerk
 Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property; Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots. A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of BOONE County, IL as Case No. 2023TX15
 The Property is located at: 19904 & 19912 Poplar Grove Rd., Poplar Grove 61065
 Property Index Number: 01-25-200-005
 Said Property was sold on 10/29/2020 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2019. The period of redemption will expire on 10/25/2023. On 11/14/2023 at 9:30 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.
 Midtax Inc., Petitioner
 Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 29, July 6, 13

ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY
 ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 No. DBA4157 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a ESTHETICS business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of BREE'S BEAUTY that its location is or will be at 130 South State Street, Suite 301 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 below.
 Phone Number: 815-621-5750
 Breanna Rose Hedman, 1414 South Main Street, Belvidere, IL 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: Monday, June 26, 2023, Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
 Published in Boone County Journal 7/6, 7/13, 7/20 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY
 ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
 No. DBA4156 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a FACIALS business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of BESH0 BEAUTY STUDIO that its location is or will be at 1400 Dawngate Drive 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 below.
 Phone Number: 815-222-8383
 Elizabeth Bello, 1400 Dawngate Drive, Belvidere, IL 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: Friday, June 23, 2023, Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
 Published in Boone County Journal 6/29, 7/6, 7/13 - P

CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF BUSINESS PUBLICATION NOTICE
 Public Notice is hereby given that on June 23rd, A.D. 2023, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as BESH0 BEAUTY AND SPA, located at 1400 Dawngate Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: DISSOLUTION OF BESH0 BEAUTY AND SPA BUSINESS.
 Dated this 23rd day of June A.D. 2023
 Julie A. Bliss
 Boone County Clerk
 Published in the Boone County Journal 6/29, 7/6, 7/13 - P

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOONE COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
 Notice is hereby given that the Boone County Zoning Board of appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, 1212 Logan Ave, Belvidere, IL 61008 upon the following petitions:
 The applicant, Chad Harbison, is seeking a special use permit in the A-1, Agriculture Zoning District for Commercial Vehicle Parking pursuant to Section 2.7 (Special Uses) and Section 3.16.1 (Table of Permitted Uses) of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance at 2366 Genoa Road, PIN:08-20-300-005, unincorporated Boone County, Belvidere Township.
 The applicant, Boone County, is seeking a text amendment of Section 1.2.3 definitions, to include "Short-Term Rental/Vacation Rental" as a use definition, along with the use designation of short-term/vacation rental as special use permit under 2.7 (Special Use), section 3.16.1 (Table of Permitted Uses) within the R-1, A-1, A-2 Zoning Districts, and an amendment to Chapter 4, Design Criteria for Specific Uses, to include section 4.23, short-term/vacation rental, all within Appendix A, of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance.
 All persons interested may appear at the hearing and be heard at the stated time and place.
 Craig Allen Hale, Vice-Chair, Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals
 Published in the Boone County Journal 07/06/2023

Looking for someone to iron men's dress shirts
 call 815-871-3000

The Journal
 has old newspapers free
 for picking up from time to time.
 Call to see if any are available

ROOM FOR RENT: Belvidere: Nice furnished room w/ fridge, near downtown, bus stop, Aldi, Drug & Dollar Stores. No Sec. Deposit. \$102/wk. or \$430/mo.
 Call (815) 544-4466



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

M-F 9-5
 Sat 9-1

Bring:
 Postcard Bill from the Secretary of State
 Or
 Old Registration Card
 Or
 Vin# + Plate # + Expiration Date

419 S. State St. Bel
 815-544-2075

Continued on Page 8

Pritzker from page 5
 A similar program serving noncitizens age 65 and older, known as Health Benefits for Immigrant Seniors, will remain open unless enrollment reaches 16,500, at which time it will also be paused. As of June 7, there were 14,594 people enrolled in HBIS, according to the administration, which projected in March that enrollment would increase to 21,000 in the upcoming fiscal year.
 The Healthy Illinois Campaign, which advocates for health care equity for noncitizens, called the freeze "immoral and shortsighted," saying it will force people "to forgo cancer treatment, diabetes care, mental health care, and countless other kinds of necessary medical treatment."
 "By slashing live-saving health coverage for Illinois immigrants, Gov. Pritzker is turning his back on the communities he claims Illinois welcomes and aligning himself with anti-immigrant Republicans around the country," the organization said in a statement.
 Pritzker had previously defended and celebrated the programs when he signed them into law, agreeing with advocates that it is cheaper to provide preventative care to noncitizens rather than making them rely on emergency room visits to treat conditions that have gone undiagnosed due to a lack of health care benefits.
 But a news release Friday from the Department of Healthcare and Family Services billed the changes as a necessary move to ensure "programs do not exceed the funds available and appropriated by the General Assembly" – an amount pegged at about \$550 million.
 "Compared with the traditional Medicaid population, month-over-month enrollment has grown at a higher rate, and per-enrollee costs have tracked higher among the HBIA and HBIS-enrolled populations due to more prevalent, untreated chronic conditions and higher hospital costs," IDHFS said in a news release.
 The emergency rules will now be considered by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, a bipartisan 12-member group of lawmakers from both chambers of the General Assembly. The rules will remain in place for 150 days, although HB 1298 allows the administration to refile an identical rule after that time.
 JCAR could vote by a three-fifths majority – or eight votes – to suspend the rules. It could also object to them, leaving them in place while

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requesting a response from the administration. But nothing in law requires JCAR to act on the rules, in which case they would remain in place.

Costs 'in question'

Advocates hailed the 2020 launch of the HBIS program as setting a "national precedent" for providing health care for immigrant seniors regardless of their legal residency status.

But it far outpaced the initial estimate of \$2 million annually that was cited by its House sponsor at the time, Rep. Delia Ramirez, D-Chicago, who has since moved on to Congress.

"We have to protect something so fundamental to our humanity as providing health care coverage to people, regardless of documentation status," Ramirez said in a statement after the governor announced the changes. "It's extremely disappointing to hear that the state administration has decided to stop immigrants from accessing life-saving health insurance under the pretense that it costs too much, especially since the alleged costs of the program are in question."

The Pritzker administration in March noted the HBIS program cost the state \$187.5 million in the prior 12 months, and it projected that cost would increase to \$285 million in the upcoming fiscal year.

Expansions of the HBIA program have similarly outpaced expectations, leading the administration to project a total price tag of \$1.1 billion for noncitizen health care in the upcoming fiscal year if enrollment wasn't capped. That number was about 5 times what Pritzker had proposed spending in his February budget.

Advocates accused the governor of overestimating those numbers and caving to calls by Republicans to curtail the program's spending. GOP lawmakers held several news conferences in the waning days of the General Assembly's spring session to call for a suspension of the programs, which they said would entice new immigrants to come to the state and thus become increasingly expensive.

When he signed the state's Fiscal Year 2024 budget earlier this month, Pritzker said capping program enrollment would help limit spending to "about \$550 million."

"That's more than we expected, but not nearly as much as it might have cost if we didn't have the tools necessary (to limit program growth)," Pritzker said.

The HBIA pause does not affect current enrollees, but the administration also announced enrollees of both programs will soon be subject to copays and coinsurance if their health care is not otherwise eligible for federal reimbursement. That includes a \$250 copay for inpatient hospitalizations and \$100 for an emergency room visit. Enrollees receiving certain outpatient services at hospitals or surgical centers would be subject to 10 percent coinsurance.

IDHFS said in a statement that enrollee payments under the new coinsurance requirement "could range from \$3.70 to \$202.95, depending on the service received."

Ramirez suggested those changes would "result in higher costs for those already enrolled in the program and place additional financial strains on our safety net hospitals."

Health care providers would be responsible for collecting those cost-sharing payments and would bear the cost of nonpayment.

In January, enrollees will also be transferred to the state's Medicaid managed care program, a system overseen by private insurers. That change

is aimed at generating additional dollars through the state's tax on managed care organizations.

IDHFS also noted in a news release that the department is looking to maximize federal reimbursement for emergency medical expenses, as well as pursuing supplemental prescription drug rebates for those covered under the programs. It will also seek reimbursement from "large public hospitals" – namely the Cook County Hospital System – that received "payments in excess of the rates paid to non-large public hospitals" under the program.

The Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus urged eligible noncitizens to enroll in the program in June before it is paused. Eligible individuals can enroll online at abe.illinois.gov/abe/access.

"As we pride ourselves as being a welcoming state, we should not be cutting health benefits and creating barriers to health care," the Latino Caucus said in a statement.

The caucus had advocated for an expansion of the program to individuals aged 19-41, which

would have cost a projected \$380 million alone, according to the administration. That expansion would have ensured health care coverage for low-income noncitizens of any age, as those aged 18 and under are already covered under the state's AllKids program.

"Latino Caucus members have not given up – and will pursue closing the gap in coverage until we achieve health care for all residents," the caucus said in a statement. "The often-disenfranchised communities we represent sent us to Springfield to be their voice; we will never turn our backs on them."

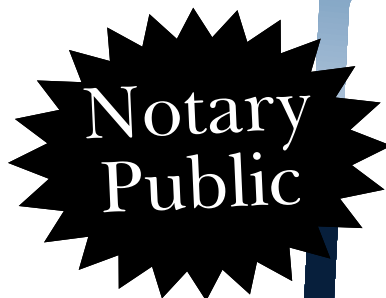
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