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The Yourt Building

By David Larson

A century ago, as well as today, it was common for those that develop property in the form of downtown buildings or skyscrapers to affix the name of the developer or their unique signature to the structure. Belvidere is no exception to this culture.

For over a century, the ballpark where the Chicago Cubs play baseball is named after the former owner and the builder of the ballpark, The Wrigley Company, a chewing gum manufacturer. Sears Roebuck and Company erected an office tower off the Loop in Chicago that was, for a period, the tallest building in the world. It was the Sears Tower. The structure shown here is the Yourt Building and is found immediately across the railroad tracks and on the west side of South State Street at Pleasant Street in downtown Belvidere. The building continues to exist and is occupied today though the building pictured to the far north of the structure is no longer there. Today, a real estate office is located in the Yourt Building and a furniture store is immediately next door. From there and moving north from the perspective of this photograph discloses the open space on the main street in Belvidere where the Verizon building stands. If you take a moment while driving north on State Street, you will notice on the lintel block located above the second-floor window in the flat narrow face of the building the date of 1895. That was the date when John H. Yourt, Sr. finished the building's construction. The inscription identifies, "J. Yourt 1895."

This building and many others located in downtown Belvidere are of a particular note, not because they are of an influential architectural design by a famous architect such as Frank Lloyd Wright, they are a common design found in rural communities at the turn of the Century. But they are not plain, which is why they are notable. The individual achievement is remarkable. Those who built them were proud of the community they built on the prairie in the new world and wanted to leave a legacy for future generations to build upon. Their heads were full of the possibilities of what they had started, and they expressed it by bringing elements of beauty to the buildings they built. Their construction, is not like the cinder-block chain-store. The structures serve as monuments, humble that they may be, of their builders' hopes for the community.

John H. Yourt was an early pioneer in Belvidere. He, along with a few others built the foundation of this city. The Yourts were well known in Belvidere. The earliest newspaper evidence of John Yourt in Belvidere is in 1861 in a published list of local individuals who donated funds for the purpose of caring for the families of soldiers who lost their lives in the Civil War. When Belvidere was deciding whether to pave State Street for the first time (from Hurlbut Street to Logan Avenue), the Yourts supported the expense by petitioning the city. This photograph

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Alms Coffee Shop located in the Yourts Building in the 1950s



The Yourts Building at the turn of the Century.

Public Health Officials Urge Caution Around Respiratory Illnesses

COVID-19 hospitalizations up in recent weeks, masks recommended in certain settings

By Andrew Adams Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Department of Public Health is advising Illinoisans to take precautions to avoid spreading respiratory illnesses as cases around the state and country are on the rise.

IDPH issued a health alert last week to hospitals, long-term care facilities and local health departments advising the use of masks and using screening techniques to reduce the

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U.S. Supreme Court Refuses to Block Assault Weapons Ban as Full Legal Challenges Progress

Pritzker says he still believes law is constitutional

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The U.S. Supreme Court issued two orders this week turning down requests to block enforcement of Illinois' assault weapons ban while challenges to the law are still being heard in lower courts.

On Wednesday, Justice Amy Coney Barrett turned down a request from Republican state Rep.

Continued on page 2

Court

from page 1

Dan Caulkins, of Decatur, and other gun rights advocates who lost their challenge to the law earlier this year at the Illinois Supreme Court.

Read more: Illinois Supreme Court upholds assault weapon ban, but federal test remains

And on Thursday, the full court issued an unsigned order denying a similar request for an injunction by the National Association for Gun Rights, one of the plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging both the statewide ban and a local ban in the city of Naperville.

NAGR filed its request Nov. 29 while it was waiting for the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals to decide whether it would reconsider its earlier decision upholding the law as constitutional. But the 7th Circuit said Monday it would not reconsider that decision.

Because of that, NAGR said this week it is now preparing to ask the Supreme Court for a full review of the law.

Speaking to reporters in Springfield at an unrelated event Thursday, Gov. JB Pritzker, who signed the law back in January, said he still believes it is constitutional.

“I still believe that – as everybody that voted on the law and voted for it – that this is not only a legal undertaking and an appropriate undertaking to keep and safeguard the people of the state of Illinois, but a constitutional one too,” he said.

Read more: What to know about Illinois’ assault weapons ban



Eric Collins

Eric Collins passed away December 14, 2023, in Madison, WI surrounded by his loving family. He was born December 18, 1961, in Bloomington, IL to Russell and Dorothy Collins. Eric grew up in Russell Springs, KY and proudly served in the United States Navy.

Eric’s family will always remember his beaming smile and his ability to make friends everywhere he went. Anyone who knew him was well-acquainted with his mischievous antics, including supplying endless sweets, messing with telemarketers, and letting the toddlers drive the tractor, mower, and pickup. Eric’s grandchildren were his world, and the magic he created for them will live on forever in their hearts.

An avid hobby pilot, Eric loved his Cessna 140 and Stearman airplanes and the wonderful community of people he found at Bel Air Estates in Poplar Grove, IL (dubbed “Airplane Land” by Eric’s grandchildren). When on the ground, he could be found in his hangar working on one of his many restoration projects and teaching anyone who was willing to listen. He was always the first to lend a hand with his aviation buddies’ planes. He loved using his skills to help his loved ones and those in need.

Eric is survived by his wife, Marilyn Mitchell; sisters, Teresa Milligan, Lisa Lancaster, Carla Wheatley, and Rhonda Orman; stepchildren, William (Nichole) West, Lyndsay West, Jason West, Jessica (Joe) Fabal, and Olivia Cucco; and grandchildren, Liam, Keighan, Javian, Richard, Hayden, Zoë, and Clara. He was preceded in death by his parents and his first wife, Beverly.

Visitation will be from 9am until the funeral service at 12pm Wednesday, December 27, at Davenport Family Funeral Home, 149 W Main St. (Lake Cook Road), Barrington, IL. Burial service will be held at Williams Cemetery, 186 Williams Cemetery Road, Celina, TN on Friday, December 29 at 1pm with military honors.

Thursday curtailed proposed rate hikes and rejected grid plans from two major electric utilities, mirroring a series of bombshell decisions rendered last month that cut increases for Illinois’ four largest gas utilities.

The ICC rejected the pair of plans from Commonwealth Edison and Ameren Illinois that were meant to illustrate how the companies would comply with the state’s landmark climate legislation, the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act.

Those plans would have laid out how the utilities plan to integrate with new renewable energy resources and meet decarbonization requirements while ensuring electric rates remain affordable for low-income communities.

In rejecting the plans, regulators limited the companies’ proposed rate increases, meaning that next year’s impending increases will be significantly smaller than the utilities’ requests.

ICC Chair Doug Scott said the plans had “significant shortcomings” and failed to meet the minimum standards set out by CEJA, including by failing to adequately address how the plans would benefit low-income communities. He also said the planning process lacked transparency among other criticisms.

The companies now have three months to file updated plans, which will begin a new review process at the ICC.

Consumer and environmental advocates praised the ICC’s decisions, saying they represent a continued, overdue shift toward tighter utility oversight.

“This is not business as usual,” said Brad Klein, an attorney for the Environmental Law and Policy Center who argued in both cases. “This is really a very significant change in Illinois.”

Klein also said the commission “sent a strong message” to utilities and other stakeholders that they would all be held accountable to the goals laid out in CEJA.

Other advocacy groups, such as Illinois PIRG, the Union of Concerned Scientists and AARP Illinois, also commended the decisions.

Sarah Moskowitz, head of the consumer advocacy group Citizens Utility Board, said she is “quite pleased” with Thursday’s outcome.

CUB focused much of its arguments against the two cases on lowering the utilities’ proposed return on equity, or profit rate.

While both companies requested a 10.5 percent return, the ICC approved an 8.905 percent return for ComEd and an 8.72 percent return for Ameren.

While pleased, Moskowitz noted she was also surprised by the ICC’s recent decision making.

“I’ve never seen this kind of action from the commission before,” Moskowitz said.

While the profit rates for the two companies are now set, pending any potential appeals, key factors for rate-setting remain subject to change, based on the companies’ replacement grid plans.

“Billions of dollars continue to be on the line,” Moskowitz said.

Commissioner and former Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael Carrigan dissented in the decision – a rarity for the agency that mostly rules unanimously.

In a written dissent, Carrigan said while he did not believe the plans were compliant with the state’s climate law, he thought that the commission could have modified, rather than rejected, the plans to bring them into compliance.

“Based on comments made from the bench, we can say at this time that we are very disappointed with the outcome as described,” a ComEd spokesperson said in a statement released after the ICC announced its decision but before it issued its final order.

Ameren’s Matthew Tomc, the head of the company’s regulatory affairs, was also “disappointed”

Continued on page 3

OBITUARIES

- Janette Atencio, 667, Genoa, December 8
- John Bartman, 85, Marengo, December 6
- Phyllis Bodey, 88, Belvidere, December 11
- Joseph Cannici, 81, Belvidere, December 11
- Irene Colson, 86, Belvidere, December 9
- Connie Koltz, 87, Capron, December 9
- Nancy Lesko, 80, Belvidere, December 14
- Roland Pax, 89, Belvidere, December 8



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Publisher/Editor: David C. Larson
 Senior Writer/Editorial: Charles Herbst
 Photography: Susan Moran

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 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.

State Regulators Once Again Flex Muscle In Rejecting Utilities’ Grid Plans, Lessening Rate Hikes

Decisions continue shift at Illinois Commerce Commission toward tighter regulation of utilities

By Andrew Adams Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Commerce Commission on

Regulators

from page 2

by the decision and pushed back against the ICC's characterization of the company's grid plan.

"Ameren Illinois' plan was the result of a transparent two-year regulatory process with significant input from stakeholders, including the ICC's own expert staff," he said in a statement. "It meets the statutory requirements of the state's Climate and Equitable Jobs Act."

Tomc went on to say that Ameren's now-rejected plan advanced the state's clean energy goals.

Representatives from both companies said they will review the full decision.

Peoples Gas' failed request

In addition to the electric cases, the commission also revisited a gas rate case brought by Chicago's Peoples Gas on Thursday.

Earlier this month, the company requested clarification to part of the ICC's November decision limiting their rate increase and placing a controversial infrastructure program on hold pending an ICC investigation.

The company claimed the decision hampered their ability to conduct emergency repairs and requested the ICC increase the record rate increase it granted last month.

But the commission rejected this request, instead finding it was procedurally improper and that the company has an "enduring responsibility" outlined in law to maintain system safety, according to the commission's ruling.

Read more: Chicago utility pushes back against state oversight, asks for further rate increase

The company is "likely" to request a formal rehearing in the case, according to Peoples Gas spokesman David Schwartz.

The now-rejected request was met with strong interest from Chicago-area unions and other groups. Illinois AFL-CIO President Tim Drea, a group of Chicago city council members, as well as representatives of several area businesses, sent letters to the commissioners sharing concerns about the proceeding.

Scott admonished the tactic on Thursday and said these types of letters "frustrate the efforts of commissioners and commission staff to perform our duties." Instead, Scott said, concerned groups should offer public comment online or in meetings.

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.

Chicago Utility Pushes Back Against State Oversight, Asks for Further Rate Increase

Local unions worried about safety, job implications

By Andrew Adams *Capitol News Illinois*

Chicago utility Peoples Gas is requesting a multimillion-dollar bump to its already record-high rate increase approved by regulators last month.

In November, the Illinois Commerce Commission forced a yearlong pause on the company's controversial pipeline replacement program while it investigates whether the program

adequately prioritizes replacing high-risk natural gas pipes throughout Chicago, where the utility serves about 875,000 customers.

The company alleged in a filing with the ICC last week that a "misunderstanding" in last month's ruling will prevent the company from conducting emergency repairs and other "critical" work.

Consumer and environmental advocates have pushed back strongly against the request, saying that it is an attempt to overturn the ICC's decision without going through the proper appeals process.

The company is now seeking "expedited clarification" on what work it is allowed to continue doing and what work must be stopped. Peoples Gas claims that in pausing around \$265 million of work spread over several years, the ICC stopped the company from conducting critical infrastructure work that is beyond the scope of the program that is under investigation.

Peoples Gas is now seeking an additional \$9.1 million in annual revenue on top of the \$303 million increase that regulators approved in November.

Last month's ICC decision, which came in the form of a "final order," cut Peoples Gas' initial rate increase request by 25 percent. That, along with the decision to investigate the company's pipe replacement strategy, drew praise from consumer and environmental advocates.

Read more: Advocates hail regulatory 'earthquake' as state slashes requested gas rate increases

But the decision to pause some infrastructure spending while the state investigates the company's practices was met with strong pushback from both the company and the unions that represent its workers. They cite both the possible economic and safety impact of the decision.

In a statement, Peoples Gas said that "several hundred jobs will likely be lost" because of the ICC's actions.

Ed Maher, a spokesperson for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, said the decision could affect up to 1,000 workers, including 200 members of his union.

"It leaves an entire workforce without a way to feed their families for 12 months," he said.

Maier also said the ICC "overstepped any kind of precedent" and the paused work could create safety risks.

"The commissioners are playing politics with peoples' jobs, peoples' heat and peoples' safety," Maher said.

AFL-CIO President Tim Drea wrote a letter to the ICC commissioners on Monday in which he called their decision to pause the pipeline replacement program "troubling."

Consumer advocates, meanwhile, have pushed back against some of these claims.

Sarah Moskowitz, the head of the Citizens Utilities Board, called Peoples Gas' request "irresponsible."

"It is outrageous for Peoples Gas, which has been rolling in six straight years of record profits and just received a record rate hike, to claim that it suddenly doesn't have the resources to conduct repairs to its system and pay its workers," she said in a statement.

CUB filed a formal response to Peoples Gas' request on Wednesday, along with several other entities

that were involved in the case leading up to last month's decision. This includes groups like AARP Illinois and the Illinois Attorney General.

In a response filing to Peoples Gas' motion, the staff of the ICC criticized the utility on procedural issues as well as on its claims that it can't perform critical repairs without the additional rate hike.

"Not only is the company's interpretation of the final order incorrect, the company also fails to acknowledge that it is, in fact, obligated pursuant to statute to ensure both public safety and reliability," ICC staff wrote Wednesday.

Another filing, submitted on behalf of several other advocacy groups, criticized Peoples Gas for withholding the evidence the company is now citing when it went through the formal rate case proceeding.

The groups, which include the Environmental Law and Policy Center and Illinois PIRG, further argue that last month's order does not prevent the utility from conducting safety-related work and that the company's motion is an "unprecedented attempt to coerce" the ICC into modifying its decision.

Abe Scarr, head of Illinois PIRG and a longtime critic of Peoples Gas' pipeline replacement program, echoed other advocates' critiques and called ICC's recent decisions a "rude awakening for the utilities."

Last month, the ICC issued decisions in four gas rate cases, cutting each utility's requests by 25 to 50 percent.

"There has clearly been a major shift in how the Illinois Commerce Commission operates," Scarr said. "You can tell in all of the rate cases."

In addition to potentially responding to Peoples Gas' latest motion, the ICC is expected to issue a decision in two ongoing electric rate cases next week. Those cases have the potential to increase bills for Ameren Illinois and Commonwealth Edison customers by hundreds of dollars per year over the next four years.

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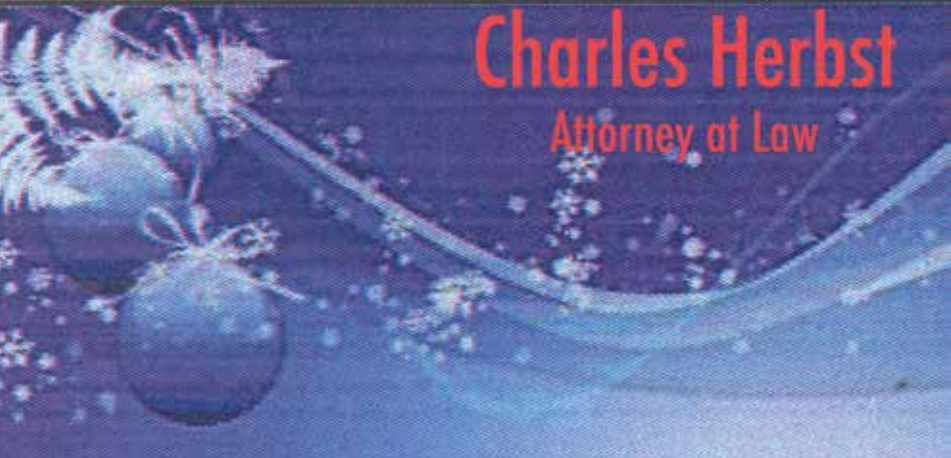
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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY,
601 NORTH MAIN STREET, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF Dale Aliotta, DECEASED.
23 PR 53

Notice is given to creditors of the death of the above named decedent. Letters of office were issued to Kimberly Heun, 22552 Grade School Road, South Beloit, Illinois 61080, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is Christopher S. Nudo, Bazos Freeman Schuster & Pope, 1250 Larkin Avenue, Suite 100, Elgin, Illinois 60123.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed with the clerk or with the representative, or both, on or before June 7, 2024, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

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

Christopher S. Nudo
Bazos Freeman Schuster & Pope (6216623)
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Published in *The Boone County Journal* Dec 7, 14, 21, 2023 PNN

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Published in *The Boone County Journal* Dec 7, 14, 21

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LANEY RAY SOMERFIELD, Deceased
CASE NO.: 2023 PR 34

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is given of the death of Laney Ray Sommerfield, who died on August 15, 2023. Letters of Office were issued on November 16, 2023, to Pamela Sommerfield, 913 Theodore Street, Loves Park, Illinois 61111, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Michael J. Smith, of 6833 Stalter Drive, Rockford, Illinois.

Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before May 14, 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 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 Winnebago County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois, 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 her attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: December 12, 2023
Independent Administrator
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Dec. 14, 21, 28

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

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC; Plaintiff,
vs. 22 FC 7
EUGENE KOZIN; JOANNA KROL; LANDMARK
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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, January 25, 2024, 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:

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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. Ira T. Nevel at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125. 22-00354 SL
13234904
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Dec. 14, 21, 28 PNN



2024 Meetings

The North Boone Fire District # 3 at its Trustee's meeting held November 6th, 2023, determined that it will hold its Board of Trustees meetings on the Third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in person, when they occur, will be at the Poplar Grove Fire Station #1 in the back haul located at 305 W Grove St, Poplar Grove, IL 61065 as follows:

- January 16th, 2024 Tuesday due to Martin Luther King Holiday
- February 20th, 2024 Tuesday due to Presidents Day
- March 18, 2024
- April 15, 2024
- May 20, 2024
- June 17, 2024
- July 15, 2024
- August 19, 2024
- September 16, 2024
- October 21, 2024
- November 18, 2024
- December 16, 2024

Other dates including a hearing on the tentative budget and adoption of the Budget will be announced.

Lesley M. Ragland, Secretary
North Boone Fire District # 3
P.O. Box 114
Poplar Grove, IL 61065
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Dec 21, 2023

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
In The Interest of: KENDALL BEU, minor
No. 23-JA-22

Christopher Beu (Father), All Whom it may concern
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on NOVEMBER 13, 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 Kendall Beu, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 2:00 P.M. central daylight time on 01/04/24 and 02/01/24; 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: December 12, 2023
Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK
Published in *The Boone County Journal*: 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023, 01/04/2024 - C

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
In The Interest of: BECKETT BEU, minor
No. 23-JA-21

Christopher Beu (Father), All Whom it may concern
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on NOVEMBER 13, 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 Beckett Beu, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 2:00 P.M. central daylight time on 01/04/24 and 02/01/24; 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: December 12, 2023
Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK
Published in *The Boone County Journal*: 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023, 01/04/2024 - C

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
In The Interest of: TOBIAS L. McCONNAUGHAY, minor
No. 22-JA-11

John Nielsen, Father, All Unknown Fathers
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on NOVEMBER 30, 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 Tobias L. McConnaughay, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 1:30 & 2:00 P.M. central daylight time on 01/25/24 and 02/15/24; 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: December 06, 2023
Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK
Published in *The Boone County Journal*: 12/21/2023, 12/28/2023, 01/04/2024 - C

Pursuant to the Illinois Self-Service Storage Facility Act, notice is hereby given that the storage facility listed below will sell at public auction the personal property in the below listed occupants' leased spaces to satisfy the owner's lien. The personal property stored therein by the following occupants may include but is not limited to general household, office and personal items, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances. The unit will be sold at public auction through online auction services of <https://www.storageauctions.com> with bids opening at 9:00 AM on 12/07/2023 and closing at 10:00 AM on 12/28/2023. Strovo Management LLC d/b/a Belvidere Storage, 810 W. Locust Street, Belvidere, IL. 61008 Phone (815) 337-7398

Unit#87 Tyler S. Albrecht, Unit#63 Robert L. Jr. Flores, Unit#33 Jasmine M. Goble, Unit#68 Javier Godinez, Unit#22 Robert D. Bonebrake, Unit#6 Maria V. Reyna
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Dec 14, 21, 2023

ASSUMED NAMES

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

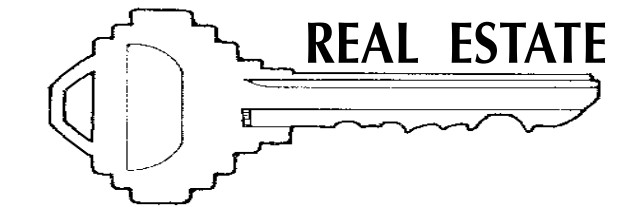
No. DBA4178 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a AUTO AND TOWING business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of WEST SIDE TOWING AND SALVAGE that its location is or will be 726 COLUMBIA AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that 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: 779-500-9693
Robert B. Huisel, 726 Columbia Avenue, 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: December 11, 2023
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 12/14, 12/21, 12/28 - P

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

No. DBA4179 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a RESTAURANT business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of PANDA GARDEN that its location is or will be 13522 JULIE DR., POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065, 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: 815-765-1060
Zhenquan Yang, 4427 Menge Lane, 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: December 11, 2023
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 12/14, 21, 28 - P



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

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC; Plaintiff,
vs. 22 FC 7
EUGENE KOZIN; JOANNA KROL; LANDMARK
CROSSINGS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION; 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, January 25, 2024, 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 1904 SAWYER RD., BELVIDERE, IL 61008.
P.I.N. 05-22-276-025.

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. Ira T. Nevel at Plaintiff's Attorney, Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel, 175 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. (312) 357-1125. 22-00354 SL
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ROOM FOR RENT: Belvidere: Nice
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Call (815) 544-4466

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Call to see if any are available

Building

from page 1

is estimated to have been taken between 1895 and 1900, before Belvidere paved the dirt State Street. The Yourts built a home at 115 West Pleasant Street, which was considered one of the most pretentious of the time.

Like so many from Belvidere, in the summer, the Yourts would often visit Lake Delevan or Lake Geneva, where they harbored a steam launch. Mrs. Youst's family lived in Chicago, where she would often visit them. Both of the Yourts were originally from New York. Mrs. Yourt would often travel back to New York to visit family there as well. She was also known to travel to Denver and Salt Lake City. In those days, the local newspaper would report such information. The Yourts were often cited as visiting Chicago, most likely by train.

An entertaining story appeared in the Belvidere Daily Republican on September 20, 1900, about a party, which the Yourts attended. It was described as a social event which caused all who were invited to cancel all other engagements. Messrs. Eugene F. Sabin and Benjamin F. Harnish hosted the event. Originally intended to be a men's only stag, the wives in protest threatened to form an "Amalgamated Association of Only Girls." Upon which, the wives were invited as long as they agreed not to use the Havana de Perfectos. An arrangement was made to substitute bon bons for the Cubans. Both sides were satisfied.

John Yourt invested in many businesses. He appears to have been primarily engaged in finance and insurance. He was a partner in the first banks in Belvidere: Yourt, Lawrence Co. on East Lincoln. Short lived, it was the first bank. When the First National Bank was organized in 1865, he was one of the original stockholders and served as a member of its board along with Allen Fuller.

John H. Yourt's son by the same name, a graduate of Princeton University, was born here in 1857. He owned a hotel/restaurant in the Chicago loop called the Saratoga Hotel as early as 1890. In 1894 he was known to be making a deal to own a hotel in Taylorville. He also owned a seat on the Chicago Board of Trade. He dealt primarily in wheat and was a participant in the Harper Wheat Corner, in which he got caught "long" when the market bubble broke. A classic American novel, *The Pit*, by Frank Norris in 1903 memorialized this swashbuckling period in American history. John lost heavily and moved back to Belvidere to work as a timekeeper at the National Sewing Machine Company in 1910. He was promoted to head timekeeper before retiring in 1939. John H. Yourt, Jr. died in Belvidere at the age of 84 in November of 1941.

We estimate from the photograph that, based upon the electrical lines strung on poles, the trolley tracks that ran down the middle of South State Street, and the horse-drawn buggies at the curb, the picture was shot soon after the building was erected in 1896 but before the paving in 1900. In 1896, the first trolley car was put in motion, as Mrs. Frank Plane turned on the electric current. John Yourt, Sr. was a rider on the inaugural ride.

It would be another decade or more before horseless-carriages were found parked, rather than horse-carriages tied at the curb. For decades after, some residents of Belvidere believed that the beginning of the end of the city arrived when the trolley tracks and the hitching posts

were removed from South State Street. This activity occurred in time for concrete sidewalks to replace the wood slats and for paving to replace the gravel macadam that had functioned well for so many years.

Change for some can come slow and not easy. The Yourt Building remains a downtown Belvidere landmark that has sustained over the decades. The building endured beyond the National Sewing Machine Company and its presence here. The Yourt Building prospered well beyond the trolley system and tracks that had served the city and residents for years. The Yourt Building also lasted beyond the disappearance of the Piggly-Wiggly Grocery Store that replaced the National Sewing Machine Company's parent buildings. It is likely that the Yourt Building could survive many more years. Likely those that occupy the ground floor of the building might agree, the structure has many more years to endure and to provide a home for one business or another.

In the world of mercantile development and downtown redevelopment, it is not so important what business or commercial endeavors occupy a building, but what is important is that the building is occupied. Such remains the case with the J. Yourt Building on South State Street.

COVID-19

from page 1

spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses, particularly in areas of the state with elevated levels of COVID-19 hospitalizations.

Hospitalizations for COVID-19 were up 22 percent statewide last week compared to the week before.

Eight west-central Illinois counties are now at "high" levels of COVID-19 hospitalizations according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This means that there were more than 20 hospitalizations per 100,000 people in those counties during the most recent week for which data is available. Iroquois and Kankakee counties in northern Illinois also face high hospitalizations.

Hospital admissions related to COVID-19 have made up around 3 to 4 percent of all admissions in the past month, according to data on respiratory illnesses from IDPH, the highest they have been since this time last year. Hospitalizations for other respiratory illnesses have also spiked in recent weeks.

These figures are still far below the peaks seen in late 2020 and early 2022, when COVID-19 accounted for roughly 18 percent and 25 percent of hospital admissions respectively.

While statewide hospitalization rates remain at "low" levels according to the CDC, neighboring states Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Iowa all face elevated levels, which has caused some concern for officials at IDPH.

"With the alarming rise in respiratory viruses we are seeing across the state and the country, IDPH is recommending healthcare facilities take precautions to reduce the spread of these viruses and protect their patients, staffs and visitors," IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra said in a statement last week.

In addition to the coronavirus, IDPH also tracks hospital admissions stemming from influenza and

respiratory syncytial virus, a common respiratory virus often referred to as RSV that can be dangerous for certain high-risk individuals, like those with asthma or COPD.

For all Illinoisans, IDPH recommended taking precautions for holiday gatherings, particularly for those at high risk of complications from a respiratory infection like older or very young individuals.

This includes practicing good hand hygiene and proper indoor ventilation for any gatherings. For someone experiencing symptoms of a respiratory illness, like coughing, sneezing, sore throat, runny nose or a fever, IDPH encourages testing and staying home if possible.

Vaccinations for COVID-19 and the flu are available at most pharmacies. A vaccination for RSV is available for those age 60 and older and for some pregnant people.

In some state-run facilities, COVID-19 infections have already interrupted daily life. Earlier this month, the state Department of Human Services announced that several COVID-19 outbreaks had occurred at state-operated developmental centers in Waukegan, Park Forest, Centralia, Anna and Kankakee.

In response, IDHS reduced communal dining, group activities and some planned outings, and introduced social distancing and quarantine measures for those served at the centers.

The number of people testing positive for COVID-19 in these state-run centers has fallen since the beginning of the month, with 12 residents and 22 staff members testing positive as of Dec. 18, down from 58 residents and 35 staff members on Dec. 6.

"IDPH has been working closely with our counterparts at IDHS facilities to monitor conditions, to offer strategies to contain any outbreaks, and to provide resources, direct consultations and assessments," Hilary Spencer, head of the IDPH infection prevention team, said in an early December news release.

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