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BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

FREE

Fair Queen, Little Miss and Exhibit Winners Inside



(above) Alvia Malcolm being crowned Boone County Fair Queen 2023

(below) Haven Asbury, Little Miss Boone County 2023

(right above) Queen and Little Miss with first runner up Emma Cordray and second runner up Delphine Calabrese, far right
(right below) Expressions upon learning who won.



Boone County Sheriff Uses Video Cameras at Fair

By David Larson

This year at the Boone County Fair the Boone County Sheriff will be using approximately 75 video cameras throughout the fairgrounds and the roads around the area to monitor the crowd and traffic. The video feeds will be displayed in a remote location on a bank of computer screens. If needed, communication to security at the fair will direct officers to assist where required. This is the first year using video surveillance, and the sheriff's office will be looking closely on how to improve use of this technology, according to Boone County Sheriff Scott Yunk.

Boone County is considering purchasing a new drone to assist with search and rescue, fire observational control, and water rescue. The county's drone, which is now 10 years old, only has an operational battery life of 15 minutes and very limited video capabilities.

This drone being considered will triple the battery life and provide streaming video to a command center. It will also be able to do thermal imaging. It will have a laser range finder and the ability to create a GPS location. The new drone will be better able to operate in inclement weather.

County Board member Brent Muller asked how deep it could thermal image in water. The Team Leader for Emergency Management in Boone County, responded that it would depend on variables like how long a body had been in the water or how deep it is in order to be picked up. Board member Alisa Patterson, asked if the thermal imaging could differentiate a person from the fire in a burning building. Again, the Team Leader responded, stating that it could very well.

The cost of a new drone is \$18,000, including extra batteries and a recharging generator. Up to fifty percent of the state

The purchase was approved by the Administrative Committee and will move to the County Board for a final decision.



Prior to the final round of the queen, contest both Little Miss and Queen contestants perform a dance for the audience

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THE MAKING OF A CHAMPION

Story and photos by Charles Herbst

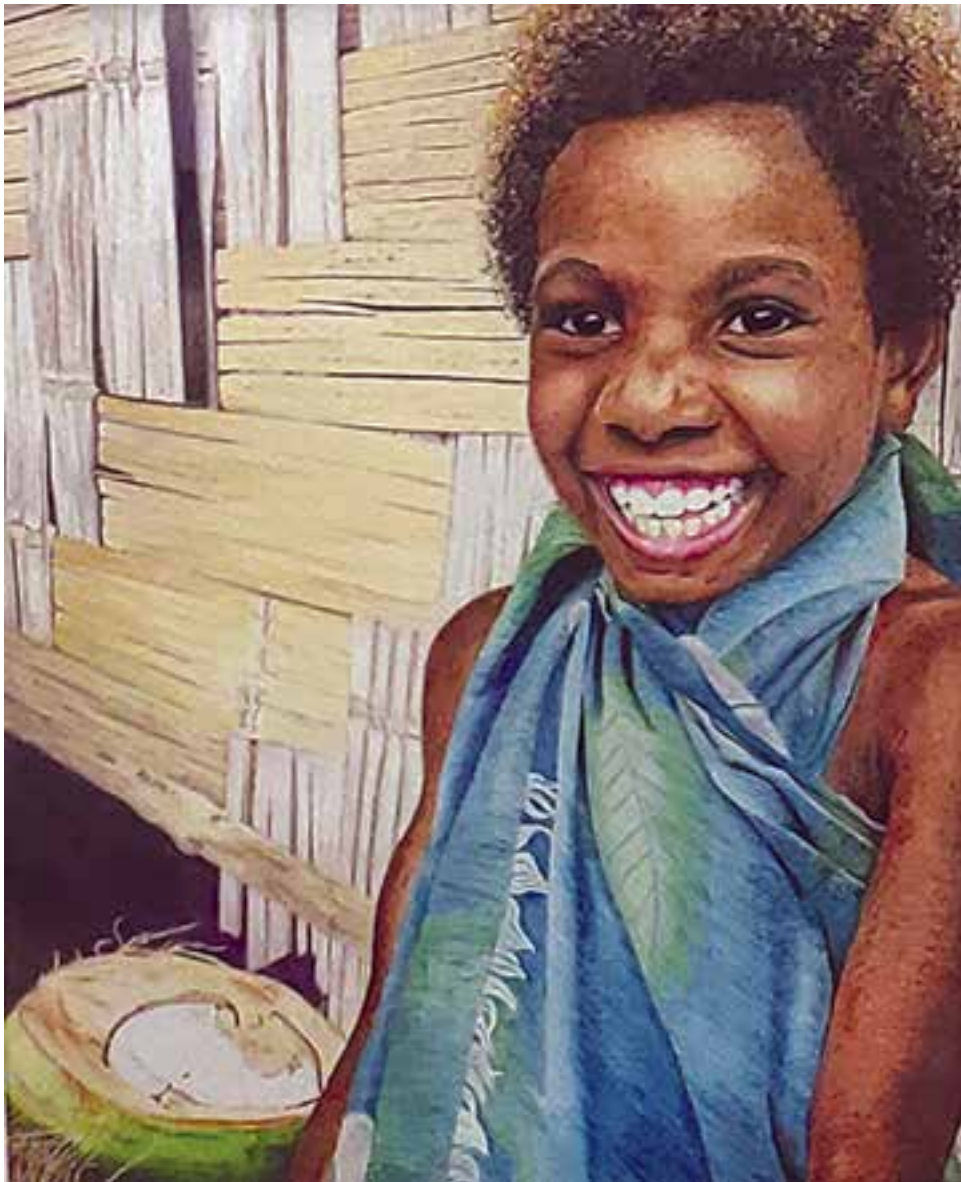


The best pig. The best pie. The best plate of peppers. With 4,723 different competitions, The Fair is a celebration of excellence in Boone County.

For those who have won, the only thing better than winning a blue ribbon is a best in show rosette.

What's the difference between a champ and a chump? The Boone County Journal takes a look at a few of the champions and tells you what makes them the best.

Here are some of the best of the Boone County Fair and what the judges had to say about them:



Painting – Best of Show

Watercolor

Meridith Williams, Poplar Grove

Good combination of textures, painted with a lot of depth

Drawing – Best of Show

Figure or portrait in color

Nathan Lane, Caledonia

Outstanding shading techniques that make it look almost photographic, realism



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Roots Of Hybrid Corn Trace Back To Tazewell County

By Daniel Grant
FarmWeek

Those who drive by the northeast side of Delavan, Illinois on Springfield Road might notice a carved stone that serves as a historical marker.

But while the field where the marker sits looks quite common for the area, the events that took place there in the 1800s were quite remarkable and had a significant impact on production agriculture that are still felt today.

The Tazewell County farm is where Robert and James Reid just happened to mix two different types of corn that transformed the industry. The site is designated as the “birthplace of open-pollinated corn production,” according to Matt Shipton, a descendent of the Reids and a seed industry representative.

The historical marker, erected in 1955, was established by the Tazewell County Farm Bureau and other local groups, the Illinois Department of Agriculture and the Illinois Seed Dealers Association along with the University of Illinois and Michigan State University.

“It’s just fascinating to think of Delavan’s place in the middle of the Corn Belt,” Shipton told FarmWeek.

Shipton recently discussed the history recorded at the site and his ancestors’ role modernizing corn production during Kansas State University’s Grain Export and Supply Chain Expedition. The tour was organized and led by Guy Allen, senior ag economist at K-State and a Delavan native.

Robert Reid (1813-1888) moved to Illinois from Ohio in the mid-1800s and brought some of his own corn. But it wasn’t very good for processing and he had production issues, so he planted some local seeds known as “little yellow” Indian corn in the same field.

“He had missing hills (of corn), so he grabbed some local seed and filled in those missing hills,” Shipton said. “And by happenstance those two pollinated at the same time and created the open-pollinated corn.”

Then, for the next 60 to 70 years, Robert and James Reid (1844-1910) selected the best ears from this new line of corn, which kept improving its agronomic ability each subsequent season.

“They selected the best plants and best ears as they continued that lineage of the open-pollinated line,” Shipton said.

The end result came to be known as Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn. The open-pollinated variety not only dented, but it greatly outproduced most varieties of the late-1800s.

“Common corn yields for that time were around 25 to 35 bushels per acre,” Shipton said. “But by 1877 it was documented James reached 125 bushels per acre.”

Scott Jeckel, a Delavan native currently farming the former Reid property, noted the field produced a yield near 250 bushels last year. But it took nearly 150 years to double the production from what Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn achieved nearly a decade after the Civil War.

“We’ve constantly improved (crop potential),” Jeckel said. “But we’re talking a five-times jump (with what the Reids accomplished in the late-1800s). It was enormous.”

The Reids entered their corn in grain contests and it eventually became a sensation at the 1893 World’s Fair in Chicago. Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn took top honors at that event, officially known as The World’s Columbian Exposition to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’s arrival in the New World in 1492.

James Reid subsequently began receiving numerous requests for his corn from around the world. It’s said he fulfilled many of those requests by mailing Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn seed from the local post office in Delavan.

“By 1920, it was grown in every state and by 1930, an estimated 75% of corn grown in the U.S. could be traced back to Reid’s Yellow Dent Corn,” Shipton said. “Many reported it increased productivity in local areas where it was planted.

“But (James Reid) never became wealthy off the process,” he noted. “It sounds like he was more willing to give the seed away to help others have additional yield on their farms.”

Hybrid corn varieties were then introduced in the 1920s and overtook their open-pollinated predecessors, constituting nearly 100% of cultivation in the Corn Belt by the end of the 1930s.

But the source of a number of inbred lines used as parents of many present-day corn hybrids still have roots to the accidental discovery of a lifetime, when the Reids inadvertently created their open-pollinated, yellow dent corn.


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



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OBITUARIES

- Eunice Butcher, 92, Belvidere, August 1
- Donald Mahurin, 57, Belvidere, August 7
- Dixie Timmerman, 75, Poplar Grove, August 3
- Harold Wisted, 96, Marengo, May 6



REAL JOURNALISM FOR A REAL DEMOCRACY

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

David Grimm April 1938 - Dec. 2000
 Richelle Kingsbury Aug. 1955 - June 2013

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Each week, the Journal seeks to present a variety of voices.

Letters. Every attempt will be made to print all letters received with the exception of those that are libelous or obscene. Letters should be signed and include an ID or phone number, so that we can contact the author prior to publication to verify authenticity.

Guest columns. Community leaders are encouraged to submit guest columns consistent with our editorial guidelines for possible inclusion in the Journal.

Opinions. The opinions expressed in the Journal are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Boone County Journal management or ownership.

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Other Cookies – Junior
 Aidan Bush
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Nicely done, festive, good presentation, uniform size, tastes good



Photography – Junior
 Bright Lights City Nights
 Hanah Beran, Caledonia
Really like composition, well-exposed, detail in lighting and shadows. There are leading lines to the subject of the photograph. Perspective leads you to the lower third of photo and conveys a sense of space and height.



Decorated Cupcakes – Junior
 Blane Becker, Caledonia
*Very neat, star tips nicely done
 Followed fair theme – three different designs – Santa, wreath, and tree*



Fancy Decorated Cake
 Janet Liss, Belvidere
Looked almost like a cartoon, creative, very colorful



Hybrid Tea Rose
 Elana Menge, Belvidere
Beautiful color—roses are open and perfect




Bundle of Wheat – bearded
 Bob Donley, Poplar Grove
Clean, nicely presented, good bearding



Fancy Decorated Cupcakes
 Penny Lane, Caledonia
Exceptionally detailed. Took a lot of time and work to be precise.

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Scrapbooking – 2 pages
 Joan Pfeifer, Belvidere
Cute. Lots of work, thought, and time. Very creative.



Macaroons (new category)
Malerie Wirth, South Beloit
 Not a traditional cookie – takes a process
 Good filling and flavor, appearance of finely-chopped nuts



Floral Arrangement – Best of Show
Basket of Mixed Annuals
 Christine Stevenson, Poplar Grove
 Nice mix of colors and about 6 different plants, zinnias, marigold, coleus, lantana. Beautiful.



Jewelry – All Metal
Nadine Zielinski, Necedah, Wisconsin
 Striking design



Painted Rocks – Still Life
Dayle Paulson, Roscoe
 Very colorful



Away from Home
 Arrangement to honor men and women in military service.
 Brenda Corcoran, Belvidere
 Simple, elegant red, white, and blue arrangement



Ceramics – Christmas or Winter
 Ted Krauss, Loves Park
 Lots of detail, nicely finished

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Christmas Decorated Cake
Megan Grant, Belvidere
Very uniform snowflakes with good attention to detail, pretty



Color Photography – Best of Show
Patterns and Textures
Stored Harvest
Bill Sparacino, Belvidere
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Plastic Canvas – Holiday
Debbie Hoffman, Loves Park
 Interior of house completely finished. Fabulous.



084950 Woodworking – Best of Show
Painted wood items
William West, Poplar Grove
 Impressive piece, fit and finish were beautiful

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Stepping Stones
Kim Kraus, Loves Park
Vibrant colors



Quilt – Recycled Materials
Susan Harnish, Caledonia
Great idea for a memory quilt



Decorated Cakes – Junior
Jenna Baumann, Poplar Grove
Lot of time, creative
Many different items used to decorate – upside down ice cream cone, graham cracker bear, gummies, pretzels, etc.



Ceramics – Best of Show
Roxann Dowell, Harvard
A lot of painting and all underglazed work



Most Unusual Vegetable
Jersey devil tomato
 Ray Mitchell, Belvidere
 Unique variety



Quilts – Best of Show – Sponsored by Sunshine Stitches
 Lori Knox, Sycamore
All corners of the squares meet perfectly and compliment each other. Binding is hand sewn and the corners are perfectly lapped over. Good color choices.

U of I Extension Master Gardener Online Training Offered

Are you ready to take your love of gardening to the next level? University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners will be offering a self-paced online training course this fall starting on Monday, Oct. 2. Whether you want to better your gardening knowledge or become an Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteer, this training is for you. The course is open to the public.

The course will offer in-depth horticulture content including soils and fertilizers, plant disease, entomology, pest management, organic gardening, and more. This course can be completed in 14 weeks and includes training videos, a manual, reading materials, and quizzes. A strong internet connection is recommended.

After training is completed, participants may apply to become an Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteer. These volunteers participate in community education programs which may include speaking at garden clubs, civic groups, or schools; answering calls or emails at the garden help desks; establishing demonstration gardens that serve as educational tools; and educating citizens on how to establish community gardens.

The course costs \$300 and registration is open through Monday, Sept. 11. For more information, contact Illinois Extension Program Coordinator in your county. Please call or email Cindy Jankiewicz at 815-732-2191, cjankie@illinois.edu in Ogle County; Judy Hodge at 815-544-3710, hodg@illinois.edu in Boone County; or Connie Handel at 815-758-8194, cahandel@illinois.edu in DeKalb County.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact your local county Extension office. Early requests are encouraged so that we may meet your needs.

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State Watchdog Investigating Employees Accused of Bilking Federal Pandemic Aid Program

Nationwide, about 17% of \$1.2 trillion in small business pandemic relief grants were fraudulent

By Molly Parker Capitol News Illinois

Dozens of state employees across multiple agencies are under investigation by a state watchdog for claims they fraudulently obtained payments from a federal pandemic-era loan program, *Capitol News Illinois* has learned.

Neil Olson, general counsel at the Illinois Office of the Executive Inspector General, confirmed that “OEIG has been investigating allegations of Paycheck Protection Program fraud by state employees under our jurisdiction.” The review, he said, is “systematic,” involving multiple state agencies and the other governing bodies under OEIG’s jurisdiction, which include state universities, boards and commissions, and regional transit boards.

Congress intended for the loans issued by the U.S. Small Business Administration, most of which were later forgiven, to keep small businesses afloat and their employees on the payroll as COVID-19 resulted in lockdowns and interrupted commerce.

Fraud in the PPP program has been widespread across the United States. In a June report, the inspector general for the SBA estimated that the agency paid out more than \$200 billion in “potentially fraudulent” aid during the pandemic – about 17 percent of the \$1.2 trillion that was dispersed through the PPP and other similar programs.

In the rush to swiftly disburse funds, the federal agency “weakened or removed the controls necessary to prevent fraudsters from easily gaining access to these programs,” the report stated. “The allure of ‘easy money’ in this pay and chase environment attracted an overwhelming number of fraudsters to the programs.”

The OEIG typically does not comment on ongoing investigations, and Olson declined to say how many employees could face disciplinary action – up to and including termination – as a result of the widespread probe or provide any additional details.

The scandal has ensnared numerous employees who work at the Illinois Department of Human Services, including at state-run facilities for people with disabilities that are facing staffing shortages. In late June, a spokesperson for the agency confirmed that at least 30 IDHS employees were in various stages of the disciplinary process for inappropriately taking PPP loans. At the time, eight IDHS employees had been fired, six had resigned and 16 were pending disciplinary action.

In a statement, the agency said that it is “committed to safeguarding the public” and takes the outcomes of the OEIG’s investigations seriously.

“Falsifying a federal loan document, for significant and improper personal gain, calls into question one’s character, honesty, and ability to act ethically,” the statement read. “While the vast majority of IDHS’ roughly 14,000 state employees are hard-working people of strong character who work tirelessly to help the most vulnerable, it is deeply concerning any time an

employee takes advantage of public programs.”

The agency said it will continue to work to detect and punish fraud committed by its workers, in cooperation with the OEIG, law enforcement and federal authorities.

The fraud was not limited to IDHS. Collectively, state employees may have obtained millions of dollars in fraudulent payments. A spokesperson for Gov. JB Pritzker declined to provide specifics about how many employees have faced disciplinary action for PPP fraud, saying that the governor’s office does not comment on ongoing investigations. While some employees have already received notices of their termination, they have a right to appeal that decision.

Not every state employee who claimed a PPP loan committed fraud. Some may have had legitimate outside employment that made them eligible for the federal loan program. Those individuals would not be disciplined.

State policies require employees to disclose secondary income, and certain state employees, such as agency managers and people who are responsible for procurement and other financial dealings, must also file statements of economic interest with the secretary of state’s office that would detail outside income. The investigations may center around whether they filed fraudulent paperwork to obtain the loan, thereby acting in a way unbecoming of a state employee, or failed to follow ethical guidelines disclosing such income – or both.

The OEIG is not a criminal law enforcement authority. In general, it investigates state employees for breaches of ethics and other misconduct and makes recommendations that could range from retraining to termination, depending on the seriousness of the offense. If conduct is criminal in nature, OEIG has the authority to share its findings with law enforcement.

Other public sector employees in Illinois have also come under scrutiny for PPP fraud. Numerous Cook County government workers have been terminated or resigned for bilking the program of hundreds of thousands of dollars over the past year.

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.

OP-ED

Finding Candor, Compassion, And Fun In Politics

By John T. Shaw

It’s a curious sign of our times that one of the best places that I’ve found to witness candor, compassion, and fun in American politics is the Illinois State Archives’ website. I suspect it is not the first place that most people would go to feel good about politics.

The Archives celebrated Illinois’ bicentennial in 2018 with an online exhibit called, “The 100 Most Valuable Documents at the Illinois State Archives.” It was created to inform, stimulate, and even provoke discussion about Illinois history and is still available on its website.

The documents are a wonderful blend of the profound and the prosaic, the uplifting and the disappointing. For example you can view Illinois’ 1818 Constitution, the first Black Law which in 1819 severely limited the rights of African Americans in Illinois, one of the first maps for what became the Illinois & Michigan Canal, an 1840 House resolution announcing that William Ewing of Vandalia defeated Abraham Lincoln of Springfield to be Illinois House speaker, the Illinois Central Railroad’s 1851 charter, the Suffrage Act of 1913 which made Illinois the first state east of the Mississippi River to give women the right to vote for president, and a December 1941 resolution convening a special session of the General Assembly following the attack on Pearl Harbor.

This exhibit could — and I think should — be the basis of a terrific college or high school class on our state’s history. Two documents in *continued on page 13*


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OP-ED

from page 12

particular caught my attention. Not because of their gravity and consequence, but because they remind us that politics can be human and fun.

The first is a March 1858 letter from Abraham Lincoln to Illinois Governor William Bissell requesting that he pardon a man and his son who had been convicted of stealing six small hogs. The convicted man, Samuel Jones, was a widower with seven children.

It's worth recalling that 1858 was a busy year in Lincoln's life. He was building the Republican Party, delivered his "House Divided" speech, and later crisscrossed Illinois by train and coach for seven historic debates with his opponent for the U.S. Senate, Stephen Douglas. Though he had a lot on his mind, Lincoln took the time to write a brief letter that is a master class in candor, concision, and compassion. He acknowledged that he did not know the man convicted nor had he reviewed the evidence from the trial. However, he observed that Samuel Jones' neighbors "appear more anxious that he and his son should be pardoned, than I have known in any other case. This is really all I can say." The note is a modest and gentle request for mercy and commonsense. Governor Bissell pardoned the man and his son.

The second uplifting document is a 1949 veto statement by Governor Adlai Stevenson. The Illinois General Assembly had passed a bill, presumably playfully, requiring Illinoisans to keep their outdoor cats on leashes to prevent them from killing birds. Stevenson decided to veto the bill but not without having some fun. "I cannot agree that it should be the declared public policy of Illinois that a cat visiting a neighbor's yard or crossing the highway is a public nuisance. It is in the nature of cats to do a certain amount of unescorted roaming," he wrote, no doubt with a smile on his face.

"The problem of cat versus bird is as old as time. If we attempt to resolve it by legislation who knows but what we may be called upon to take sides as well in the age-old problems of dog versus cat, bird versus bird, or even bird versus worm. In my opinion, the State of Illinois and its

local governing bodies already have enough to do without trying to control feline delinquency. For these reasons, and not because I love birds the less or cats the more, I veto and withhold my approval from Senate Bill No. 93."

I cannot imagine there exists a more delightful veto message in Illinois history.

Lincoln's letter and Stevenson's veto message provide small examples of candor, compassion, and delight in public life. We need more of these qualities in person and now, not just online and from history.

John T. Shaw is the director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Shaw's monthly column explores how Illinois can work toward better politics and smarter government.

Drive-By Shooting in Belvidere

Press Release

Belvidere Police Detectives are investigating a gang related drive-by shooting which left one person in the hospital.

On August 3, 2023, at approximately 10:45 pm the Belvidere Police Department responded to the 1000 block of South Main Street for a report of gunshots.

On arrival, Belvidere Police discovered a 26-year-old male who had suffered from multiple gunshot wounds.

The male was transported to St. Anthony Hospital where he is being treated for his injuries.

Several witnesses reported a white sedan, possibly newer, fleeing the scene.

Preliminary information indicates that this was a targeted and isolated incident.

Police are asking for the community's help by providing any additional security footage from the area.

The Belvidere Police Department encourages anyone with information pertaining to this shooting to contact the Belvidere Police Department at 815-544-2135 or to provide information anonymously contact Boone County Crimestoppers at 815-547-7867 or online at boonecountycrimestoppers.com. Information leading to an arrest can be subject to a cash reward of up to \$1000.00.

Legislature Approves Bill to Tighten Restrictions on Red-Light Camera Industry

Bill hailed as first step toward broader ethics reform

By Andrew Adams Capitol News Illinois

Lawmakers in Springfield have unanimously approved a measure that would place new restrictions on the red-light and speed camera industry's involvement in state and local elections and government.

House Bill 3903 would ban automatic traffic enforcement companies or their officers from donating to candidates for public office at the state and local level. It would also prevent state and local government officials from accepting jobs or contracts with those companies while in office or for two years after leaving office, a kind of "revolving door" ban.

Sponsors praised the bill as much-needed ethics reform after several public officials in the past decade have been caught by federal investigators engaging in bribery deals and kickback schemes involving red-light camera companies.

"What this does is it tightens up the ethics surrounding the red-light camera corruption and scandals," Rep. Bob Rita, D-Blue Island, said during the House debate on Thursday.

Rep. Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, called the two-year revolving door ban "a good step."

HB 3909 received unanimous approval in the House on Thursday after a similar unanimous vote in the Senate last week.

The bill would also grant the Illinois Department of Transportation new authority to review and either approve or revoke approval for automated traffic enforcement systems under certain circumstances, such as if a public official is charged with bribery.

The measure would also require that local governments review the safety impacts of automated enforcement systems every two years. Local governments would also have the sole authority to decide to issue tickets, ending their current ability to delegate that decision to the red-light and speed camera companies they contract with.

Bribes in the legislature, local government

The spate of indictments and convictions of public officials caught up in bribery schemes with automated traffic enforcement companies was alluded to during debate on the bill at the Capitol.

"We've had issues with this and I think the bill is a great first step," Sen. Jil Tracy, a Quincy Republican and member of the legislature's ethics commission, said.

Tracy has seen two of her Senate colleagues indicted on such charges in the last four years.

In September of last year, Sen. Emil Jones III, D-Chicago, was charged with bribery for a scheme connecting him to red-light camera company SafeSpeed LLC in exchange for shielding the organization from a study of red-light systems in the state. Jones has pleaded not guilty and remains in the Senate. He voted in favor of the measure last week.

The late Sen. Martin Sandoval, D-Chicago, also

continued on page 16

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Financial Mortgage Corp., and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of BOONE County, Illinois, as Document No. 2006R09800; modified 2019R06084; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Pamela Coduto Boone County Circuit Clerk's Office 17th Judicial Circuit Court 601 N. Main Street Belvidere, Illinois 61008 on or before, September 11, 2023, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANYTIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT. SOTTILE & BARILE, LLC 1415 West 22nd Street, Tower Floor Oak Brook, IL 60523 (312) 883-2810 Pleadings E-mail Address: illinois@sottileandbarile.com NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector 13226916 Published in The Boone County Journal Aug 10, 17, 24 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST, Plaintiff,

vs. 22 FC 46 UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JIMMY E. WOODARD; KIMBERLY ANN TUREK AKA KIMBERLY A. TUREK AKA KIMBERLY TUREK INDIVIDUALLY AND EXECUTOR OF THE WILL OF JIMMY E. WOODARD; WENDY SHAVER; DONALD SHRIVER AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR JIMMY E. WOODARD; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD 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, September 14, 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 FOUR (4) IN BLOCK THREE (3) IN COHOON'S ADDITION TO BELVIDERE; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 815 WHITNEY BLVD, BELVIDERE, IL 61008. P.I.N. 05-36-111-010. 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 The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 1446-184225 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION intercountyjudicialsales.com 13226425 Published in The Boone County Journal Aug 10, 17, 24 2023

ASSUMED NAMES

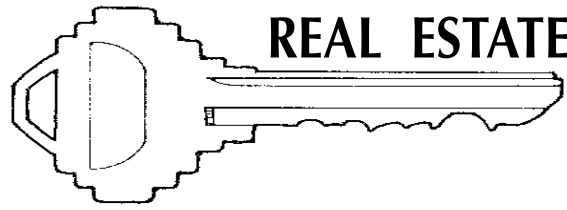
CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF BUSINESS PUBLICATION NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on January 7th, A.D. 2019, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as RIVER WOOD CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, located at 205 E. LINCOLN AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: As of June 30th, 2021, Mr. Eric Haugen has ceased doing business under the above Assumed Name and has no further connections with, or financial interest in, the business carried on under such Assumed Name. Dated this 3rd day of July, A.D. 2023 Julie A. Bliss Boone County Clerk Published in the Boone County Journal 7/27, 8/3, 8/10/2023 (C)

CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF BUSINESS PUBLICATION NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on June 30th A.D. 2021, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as RIVER WOOD CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, located at 519 E. LINCOLN AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: As of June 30th, 2021, Elizabeth Niziolek has commenced doing business under the above Assumed Name. Dated this 13th day of July, A.D. 2023 Julie A. Bliss Boone County Clerk Published in the Boone County Journal 7/27, 8/3, 8/10/2023 (C)

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION No. DBA4162 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that an ONLINE RETAIL business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of ELECTRIC FIELDS WOODWORKING that its location is or will be at 787 Spring Creek Road, in Rockford 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: 815-575-9702 Michael Congdon, 787 Spring Creek Road, Rockford, IL 61114 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: Thursday, July 20, 2023, Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder Published in Boone County Journal 7/27, 8/3, 8/10 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION No. DBA4159 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a CATERING AND CHARCUTERIE business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of AMAZING GRAZE 815 LLC that its location is or will be 2912 COUNTRY MEADOW LANE, 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: 815-721-0196 Kimberly M. Adams, 2912 Country Meadow Lane, 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: July 12, 2023, Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder Published in Boone County Journal 8/3, 8/10, 8/17 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION No. DBA4163 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a CLEANING SERVICE business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of DELUXE CLEANING SERVICE that its location is or will be 425 W. JACKSON STREET, 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: 8156215964 Mireya Sanchez Gonzalez, 425 W. Jackson St., 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: August 01, 2023, Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder Published in Boone County Journal 08/03,10,17



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-AB4 Plaintiff, -v- 22 FC 43 THOMAS R. BREEN, SHARON BREEN AKA SHARON K. BREEN, CANDLEWICK LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC. Defendant NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 23, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on August 24, 2023, at the NLT Title L.L.C. 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 415 LAMPLIGHTER LOOP SOUTHEAST, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065 Property Index No. 03-26-151-017 The real estate is improved with a residential condominium. The judgment amount was \$193,581.38. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 601 E. William St., DECATUR, IL, 62523 (217) 422-1719. Please refer to file number 1645474. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. HEAVNER, BEYERS & MIHLAR, LLC 601 E. William St. DECATUR IL, 62523 217-422-1719 Fax #: 217-422-1754 E-Mail: Non-CookPleadings@hsbattys.com Attorney File No. 1645474 Case Number: 22 FC 43 TJSC#: 43-2157 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 22 FC 43 13225096 Published in The Boone County Journal July 20, 27, Aug 3

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS GREENSTONE CREDIT UNION Plaintiff, -v- 2023 FC 33 AMY L. SANDERSFELD et al Defendant NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 18, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on September 1, 2023, at the NLT Title L.L.C. 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 187 RED OAK STREET, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065 Property Index No. 03-24-253-010 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)

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

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

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

For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@ilcslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-23-02265 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Case Number: 2023 FC 33 TJSC#: 43-2900 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 FC 33 13225618 Published in The Boone County Journal Jul 27; Aug 3, 10, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff, -v- 2022 FC 33 CHRISTOPHER LEFEVER, NICOLE LEFEVER, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Defendant NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on February 22, 2023, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on August 21, 2023, at the NLT Title L.L.C. 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1408 DAWNGATE DRIVE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008 Property Index No. 05-36-428-003 The real estate is improved with a single family residence. The judgment amount was \$120,185.14. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact CHAD LEWIS, ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810, CHICAGO, IL, 60601 (561) 241-6901. Please refer to file number 22-022566. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CHAD LEWIS ROBERTSON ANSCHUTZ SCHNEID CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 205 N. MICHIGAN SUITE 810 CHICAGO IL, 60601 561-241-6901 E-Mail: ILMAIL@RASLG.COM Attorney File No. 22-022566 Attorney ARDC No. 6306439 Case Number: 2022 FC 33 TJSC#: 43-791 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2022 FC 33 13225691 Published in The Boone County Journal Jul 27; Aug 3, 10, 2023

Continued on Page 16



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST, Plaintiff,
vs. 22 FC 46
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JIMMY E. WOODARD; KIMBERLY ANN TUREK AKA KIMBERLY A. TUREK AKA KIMBERLY TUREK INDIVIDUALLY AND EXECUTOR OF THE WILL OF JIMMY E. WOODARD; WENDY SHAVER; DONALD SHRIVER AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR JIMMY E. WOODARD; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD 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, September 14, 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 815 WHITNEY BLVD, BELVIDERE, IL 61008. P.I.N. 05-36-111-010.
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 The Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Diaz Anselmo & Associates, P.A., 1771 West Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois 60563. (630) 453-6925. 1446-184225
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13226425

Cameras

from page 13

admitted to accepting bribes from the company and falsifying tax returns in 2020. Sandoval died of COVID-19 complications later that year while he was awaiting sentencing.

“The public deserves to have the utmost trust in their government and their law enforcement,” bill sponsor Sen. Laura Murphy, D-Des Plaines, said in a news release. “We need to ensure that there is accountability and honesty on all levels.”

Two former suburban Chicago mayors, a former Cook County commissioner and his chief of staff have also pleaded guilty to charges involving bribes or kickbacks from SafeSpeed.

In 2016, former assistant Chicago transportation commissioner John Bills was convicted of accepting lavish gifts and \$600,000 in exchange for pushing the city to accept contracts from the red-light camera company Redflex. Bills received a 10-year prison sentence, the longest sentence so far handed down to an Illinois official in connection with a red-light camera company. Federal prison records show he's moved on to a halfway house.

A first step?

The General Assembly is facing pressure to enact ethics reforms in response to federal probes beyond those involving red light camera companies. Earlier this month, three ex-lobbyists and the former CEO of electric utility Commonwealth Edison were convicted of orchestrating a bribery scheme to curry favor with former House Speaker Michael Madigan, who was himself indicted on related corruption and racketeering charges last year.

In mid-May, former Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn made an appearance in Springfield to call for a special legislative session to consider ethics reform, noting that the ComEd verdict revealed a “grievous breach of public trust.”

“If you take a look at the indictments that have been made that are going to be tried next year, the allegations include violations of conflict of interest,” Quinn said. “That’s just not right. It’s not right for anybody in Illinois who’s a taxpayer to have legislators voting on bills where they have a financial interest.”

Ryan Tolley, the policy director for the government reform group CHANGE Illinois, noted that HB 3909 marks the first time the legislature has enacted a two-year revolving door ban, an idea that was contentious even when the General Assembly passed a six-month ban on lawmakers leaving for lobbying gigs in 2021.

“Hopefully this can be a first step moving forward,” Tolley said in an interview.

Tolley noted that he believes further action is needed on ethics reform, such as giving the Legislative Inspector General, the General Assembly’s top ethics

official, more independent authority to investigate potential wrongdoing.

Former LIG Carol Pope cited her lack of power to conduct investigations or impose sanctions as a reason for her 2021 resignation, calling the office a “paper tiger.”

Madigan’s Ex-Chief of Staff Will Test Limits of Loyalty

Tim Mapes accused of lying to grand jury despite immunity order

By Hannah Meisel Capitol News Illinois

In the summer of 2018, Tim Mapes’ name had only recently faded from unflattering headlines after he was forced to resign from three top jobs he held under powerful Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan.

Mapes, who served as Madigan’s chief of staff for more than two decades, was accused of sexual harassment by a woman who reported to him in his capacity as clerk of the Illinois House. It was the third accusation of sexual harassment within Madigan’s power structure that year, and the speaker was facing pressure to clean house. “At my direction,” a statement from Madigan read at the time, “Tim Mapes has resigned.”

But despite Madigan having publicly cut ties with Mapes, the disgraced political operative was still privy to what was going on inside the longtime speaker’s inner circle, according to wiretapped phone conversations captured by federal agents in 2018 and 2019. Those recordings were captured on the cell phone of Mike McClain, Madigan’s close friend and confidant who for decades also was a fixture in the Democratic power structure that controlled the General Assembly.

In an early July 2018 call, McClain told Mapes about a dinner he and the speaker had recently in a loud restaurant. Mapes joked that McClain should’ve told the establishment’s management, “I’m Mike McClain, I’m the right-hand guy to Mike Madigan.”

McClain quipped back, “I’m the right-hand guy of Tim Mapes.”

Less than three years later, Mapes would be indicted on one count each of perjury and obstruction of justice after he told a grand jury that he didn’t know McClain was doing Madigan’s bidding in the years after he officially retired as a lobbyist in 2016.

Mapes allegedly lied to the grand jury despite being under an immunity order; he’d been warned that any untruthful testimony while under the order would result in criminal charges. But the Madigan loyalist has maintained his innocence, and on Monday, jury selection begins in his federal trial in Chicago.

In recent weeks, Mapes and government lawyers have filed last-minute motions trying to block each other’s witnesses and evidence, though Judge John Kness has mostly denied Mapes’ requests.

The motions contain previews of some wiretapped phone recordings that will be played at trial, mostly made from McClain’s cell phone. McClain has already been convicted for his role in helping his biggest client, electric utility Commonwealth Edison, bribe Madigan with jobs and contracts for the speaker’s allies in exchange for legislative wins for ComEd in Springfield.

In that seven-week trial this spring, federal prosecutors played dozens of calls featuring McClain and showed the jury hundreds of emails that showed the extent to which McClain went to bat for Madigan. In more than one instance, McClain told colleagues that the speaker was his “real client,” and a few witnesses even referred to him as a “double agent” for both ComEd and Madigan.

McClain is also Madigan’s co-defendant in a

related bribery and racketeering case against the speaker, in which the two men are alleged to have leveraged every position of power Madigan held – including as a partner in his property tax-focused law firm – in a “criminal enterprise.” That trial is scheduled for April 1, 2024.

And in this trial, federal prosecutors will attempt to show that Mapes was well aware of McClain’s role as Madigan’s other right-hand man, a label often used for Mapes himself in the decades he served the speaker.

In the weeks following Mapes’ ouster in early June 2018, he and McClain spoke about a dozen times, according to federal court records.

“You’re the only person’s made me cry today,” McClain told Mapes on the day he was forced to resign, according to court records. “Anything I can do, ya know, I’m willing to do, you know that, don’t ya?”

That afternoon, McClain also told Mapes, “I never thought you would be the one to leave the fox hole.”

Though Mapes contended that letting the jury hear certain calls between him and McClain would be unfairly prejudicial, prosecutors argued the calls show why Mapes was so resistant to telling the grand jury anything that might incriminate either McClain or Madigan.

In their other calls that summer, Mapes and McClain also supported each other through McClain’s mother’s death, which the government contends is further evidence of their closeness. But they also discussed legislative and political business.

In a pair of calls within a week of each other in June 2018, McClain and Mapes strategized about fundraising within the Democratic Party of Illinois, where Mapes had most recently been executive director under Madigan, the longtime party chair.

In the second of those calls, McClain allegedly relayed a recent conversation he’d had with Madigan about how to reallocate Mapes’ work with DPI after his departure.

“This is of course relevant to Mapes’ false testimony that he was not aware of the interactions between McClain and Madigan,” government lawyers wrote in a filing last month. “It is also relevant to show that McClain was stepping into Mapes’ shoes after he left, and Mapes knew about it.”

Kness sided with prosecutors in an opinion filed last month denying Mapes’ request to block evidence at trial – including the government’s intention to tell the jury that Mapes violated his immunity order, which Mapes argued was irrelevant.

“As the government argues, Defendant found himself in a difficult position: he did not want to testify truthfully about McClain and Madigan, but he could not invoke the Fifth Amendment privilege because he had signed an immunity agreement,” Kness wrote. “When faced with potentially incriminating questions, therefore, Defendant claimed not to remember – a difficult assertion for the prosecutor to disprove. Because the immunity agreement explains why Defendant answered questions in an allegedly perjurious way, the immunity agreement clears the low bar for relevance.”

Mapes and McClain kept each other abreast of other developments in their world for months after Mapes’ resignation, including when Mapes was approached by FBI agents in January 2019. Mapes prepared a memo after his meeting with the feds, and the next month told McClain about a conversation he’d had with Madigan’s attorney, Sheldon Zenner, according to court filings.

Mapes said he’d given Zenner the memo per “a request,” and that he was calling McClain to “report back in” afterward.

“A jury could readily infer that Mapes made these statements to McClain with the intent that McClain relay them to Madigan,” prosecutors wrote last month. “At the end of the call, Mapes again says, ‘I’m just reporting in,’ again clearly showing that he was intending to keep McClain in the loop, so that Madigan, too, could be kept in the loop.”