

## Community Turns Out to Honor a Fallen Marine

By David Larson

On June 8, 2022, Marine Corporal Nathan Carlson, a graduate of Harlem High School, was killed in a V-22 Osprey helicopter crash during training exercises in remote Southern California. Nathan was the Crew Chief on the V-22 Osprey. Nathan had just turned 21, and had recently married Emily Baxter of Belvidere.

Nathan Carlson's remains were returned to Illinois on June 30th. With the arrival of family members from different parts of the country, O'Hare International Airport became the origin of the procession back to Rockford via I-90. The journey began with a Marine color guard, who transferred the cremains from the aircraft to the family bus home.

A rally point, in coordination with the Illinois State Police, was established at the Schaumburg exit, where dozens of motorcycles and police vehicles joined and coordinated the procession for the journey to Rockford. As soon as the final leg of the trip began, the family witnessed, with a deep emotional reaction, a turnout of patriotic well-wishers on the side of the road and at every overpass all the way to the hotel where they planned to stay in Rockford. The Illinois State Police blocked all of the entrances as the procession passed so that the 2-mile-long procession could travel in safety and unimpeded.

Individuals stood at attention, often saluting, others with flags in hand, and many just being there to express their respect for Corporal Carlson. Family members expressed astonishment that so many people who had never met the Marine made the effort to be there.

A funeral was held at Harlem High School on July 2. Upon completion of the funeral ceremonies, a three V-22 Osprey Marine Corps formation flew over the school.

The V-22 Osprey helicopter was developed out of a need realized during the Iranian hostage crises in Operation Eagle Claw, in 1980, when attempts to rescue 52 staff members being held in the US Embassy failed. During the operation, three of the eight helicopters failed, one of which crashed into a transport plane that was staging at a safe distance.

The V-22 Osprey is a tilt-motor hybrid helicopter and airplane capable of vertical takeoffs and landings, but with the speed and payload of a cargo plane. Two engines on the end of each wing can tilt 90 degrees and can switch modes in 12 seconds, while in flight. It has a land speed of 351 mph and can climb to a height of 13,000 feet in helicopter mode. It can transport 32 troops or 15,000 pounds of cargo.



The procession for Corporal Nathan Carlson as it is about to pass under the Irene Road overpass.



Bryan Blodgett, his son Mason, and Cindy Restrepo waiting for the procession at Irene Rd. Bridge.

## Temporary Tax Relief Measures to Begin Friday in Illinois

Rebates to be mailed while other taxes put on temporary pause

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Illinoisans will receive some modest tax relief

starting Friday when the state's new fiscal year begins.

That includes some income tax rebates, property tax rebates, a suspension of the state's 1 percent tax on groceries, and a six-month pause on the scheduled inflationary increase in the state's motor fuel tax.

Gov. JB Pritzker and legislative Democrats held a news conference publicizing those tax breaks as consumers grappled with 8.6 percent inflation, the highest rate in nearly 40 years.

"We're sending \$1.8 billion in tax relief to Illinois families, and we are able to do that because Democrats balanced the budget, eliminated the bill backlog, and state government is now running a surplus," Pritzker said at a news conference in Chicago.

The news conference came just two days after the state's primary elections, marking the kick-off to the general election cycle in which Pritzker and Democrats, who control both chambers of

Continued on Page 2

## Justices Urge Lawmakers to Allow More Public Access to Rivers

Access now limited to rivers with commercial traffic

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Supreme Court has ruled that the public has no right to boat, fish or swim in small rivers that flow across private property, but two justices are urging the General Assembly to change that law.

"The legislature should redefine navigability to be more inclusive because that would promote the State's interest in recreational uses of waterways for all citizens of the State of Illinois," Justice P. Scott Neville, joined by Chief Justice Anne Burke, wrote in a separate opinion to a

Continued on Page 3

## Daytripping

# A Golden Opportunity to See Chicago

By Charles Herbst

Chicago attracts 57 million visitors every year. It is one of the top travel destinations in America, and it is only a few miles down the road. The city has over 70 museums, fantastic neighborhoods, friendly people, free concerts, incredible shopping and places to eat, all in the midst of unrivaled, world-class architecture.

I believe the Summer of 2022 is a Golden Opportunity to visit Chicago.

This year, despite high gasoline prices and runaway inflation, getting to Chicago and getting around the city is a real bargain. Because of ridership declines caused by the pandemic, both the CTA and Metra have lost riders, and they are eager to welcome them back with special deals.

For those in Boone and Winnebago Counties, I think the most economical and practical way to

get to Chicago this summer is to take Metra trains from the Woodstock Station, located at 90 Church Street. Unlike other stations, there is free trackside parking and, for most readers, it's probably the Metra station requiring the shortest driving distance. There are 10 trains daily from Woodstock to Chicago, so consult the timetable at metra.com or the Ventra app for train times. There is a 24-hour parking limit in Woodstock.

To encourage ridership this summer, Metra is capping fares at \$10 per weekday, \$7 per weekend day, or \$10 for the entire weekend. This not only includes a round trip to Chicago, but free travel on any Metra line. This means you can take the train into Chicago, and take another branch, (such as the BNSF line to Brookfield Zoo or the Metra Electric to Hyde Park) for no additional fare! *To take advantage of this offer, you must download and use the free Ventra app on your smartphone.* Children ride Metra free through Labor Day and on weekends.

CTA has its share of bargains, too. This summer, a 1-day, unlimited-ride CTA pass is available for only \$5 at any rapid transit station. The pass is good on both CTA buses and trains. You can load the pass onto a Ventra card or your personal contactless bankcard, or you can buy a disposable 1-day Ventra ticket. Children pay reduced fares. The customer assistants will help you out.

Both Metra and CTA offer reduced or free travel for seniors. Unfortunately, this requires getting a special ID card and is more complicated and time-consuming than it should be.

You may have always been going to go to Chicago—someday—to see the sights, but perhaps, quite frankly, you have been too intimidated by Chicago's size to follow through. You've probably heard the melodramatic crime stories pumped out by local television stations, politicians, and newspapers and wondered if it really is safe.

Ask yourself, if 57 million people from all over the world are visiting Chicago voluntarily, would they still come if the city really was unsafe or all that hard to get around?

Seize the day and don't be bashful! To visit the city, you don't have to become an expert in Chicago geography or a transit maven. Directions to any destination are available online from Google or the CTA at transitchicago.com. Or you can call 312/836 7000 for RTA travel information. There are customer assistants at every rapid transit station as well. You'll have no trouble finding detailed directions to get you where you are going.

With gasoline prices reaching five and six dollars, this just doesn't seem like a good year to take a family driving vacation to California, or anywhere distant, for that matter. Yet it's summertime, and many of us are itching to go on vacation. That's Chicago calling you home!

### How to get to the El from Metra.

As you explore Chicago, you'll often want to take CTA Rapid Transit (the El) to destinations beyond Downtown. Chicago has four different downtown commuter stations and CTA trains don't connect to any of them. Fortunately, if you are riding the train from Woodstock, unlike other Metra lines, you do have a couple of convenient options.

Probably the easiest way is to leave the Metra train at the Jefferson Park Station on the Northwest Side. There is a direct, in-station connection to the CTA Blue Line. Follow the signs downstairs. Go-

ing west, CTA trains run directly into the passenger terminal at O'Hare Airport. In the opposite direction, trains marked "Forest Park" go to the Chicago Loop. There is a transfer at the Clark and Lake Station for all other lines except the Red Line. Transfer to the Red Line at Washington or Jackson.

Another option is to sit near the fourth car of the Metra train. When you get to Ogilvie Station, take the stairway on the platform down to the Metra Market. Exit through the Clinton Street doors and turn right. The Clinton and Lake El Station is 1-1/2 blocks ahead of you. Take the Green (or Pink) Line trains one stop east (toward the Loop) to Clark and Lake. Transfer there to all lines except the Red Line. For the Red Line, transfer at the next station, State and Lake, or at Roosevelt.

Remember, every CTA Rapid Transit station has customer assistants to help you pay fares, get directions or other information. Metra conductors are often another good source of information on this topic.

### Going to the Cubs Game.

If you are going to Wrigley Field, get off the Metra Train at the Irving Park Station. Follow the crowd and take CTA bus 80 east on Irving Park Road. Use your contactless bankcard to pay the bus fare. Get off at Clark Street and walk 3 blocks south. With free parking at Woodstock and reduced Metra fares, you've saved almost enough on gas, parking, and tolls to pay for your admission ticket!

## Quidnunc



Ukrainians fight for their independence, we celebrate ours.



- Acerbi, Patricia, 63, Belvidere, June 30
- Ainsworth, Roger, 89, Belvidere, July 5
- Brenz, Jenna, 79, Belvidere, June 23
- Budke, John, 73, Belvidere, July 5
- Fabish, Adella, 93, Belvidere, July 3
- Rowe, Louie, 80, Poplar Grove, June 30
- Wingren, Anthony, 52, Belvidere, June 26
- Wood, Janet, 76, Belvidere, June 27



### 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

### THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

419 S. STATE ST • BELVIDERE, IL 61008  
PHONE: (815) 544-4430 FAX: 544-4330  
WWW.BOONECOUNTYJOURNAL.COM  
NEWS@BOONECOUNTYJOURNAL.COM

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.

## Tax Relief

from page 1

the General Assembly, will be touting their fiscal management of the state.

"Fiscal responsibility means Illinois taxpayers are no longer required to pay hundreds of millions of dollars in needless interest payments," Pritzker said. "Instead, we are able to better fund education,

Continued on Page 3

Get instant cash for your GOLD

**WE PAY HIGHEST PRICES**

**Belvidere Collectible Coins**

880 Belvidere Rd.  
Belvidere, IL  
815-547-7111

Additional 10% off Jewelry with this ad  
Mon-Fri 10am - 5pm  
Sat 10am - 2pm

Visit us Online at [www.goldsilverjewelrycoin.com](http://www.goldsilverjewelrycoin.com)

**Received a notice from the IRS?**  
**Haven't filed for several years?**  
**Can't afford to pay your taxes?**



You have a serious legal problem. You must take action. The IRS is not going to go away.

There are deadlines. Miss those deadlines and you'll lose your rights to appeal, have your case heard, and pay more interest and penalties.

I can help. As a tax attorney, I am trained to analyze the law, minimize your tax bill, and protect your legal rights. Wouldn't you rather speak with someone locally that you can trust?

You can overcome your tax problems. I use a variety of approaches, often more than one, to solve a tax problem. Each client's situation is different.

Let's work through your IRS matter and get you back to enjoying The Good Life.



**CHARLES HERBST, J.D., LL.M.**  
LAW, PLANNING AND TAX

Belvidere and Rockford • 815 484 9482 • [taxviking.com](http://taxviking.com)

## Tax Relief

from page 2

rebuild our roads, make our neighborhoods safer, attract new businesses to Illinois, and connect workers with good paying jobs. And starting tomorrow (Friday), every Illinoisan will get tax relief on essentials, gas, groceries and your home.”

The tax relief measures were included in the \$46 billion budget lawmakers passed for the fiscal year that begins Friday. They include:

- An income tax rebate of \$50 per individual with income below \$200,000 a year, or \$100 for couples filing jointly with income below \$400,000 a year, plus \$100 per dependent child, up to three children.
- A suspension of the 1 percent sales tax on groceries through June 2023.
- A suspension of the scheduled inflationary increase in the motor fuel tax through Dec. 31, which has been estimated at 2.2 cents per gallon. Instead, the motor fuel tax will increase twice at the rate of inflation next calendar year.
- A sales tax holiday on back-to-school items, to run from Aug. 5 to Aug. 14, when the rate will be imposed at 1.25 percent instead of the regular 6.25 percent.
- And an additional property tax rebate of up to \$300 for homeowners who were eligible to claim the property tax credit on their 2021 state tax returns. The rebate is available to joint filers earning \$500,000 or less and single filers earning \$250,000 or less.

In addition, the tax relief package included a permanent expansion of the state’s earned income tax credit, or EITC, to 20 percent of the federal EITC while also extending eligibility for that credit to noncitizens who file taxes using an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number instead of a Social Security Number.

Republicans criticized that package as an election-year gimmick, noting that the rebate checks would show up in people’s mailboxes or bank accounts before Election Day, while motor fuel tax suspension would disappear soon after Election Day.

They also criticized some of the tax breaks as too small or for not being permanent; noting that the grocery tax suspension would only save consumers \$1 on a \$100 grocery bill, and the motor fuel tax savings would save only 22 cents on a 10-gallon tank of gas.

They proposed an alternative, which would have suspended or capped the state’s 6.25-percent sales tax on motor fuels, which they say has been producing a windfall for the state as gasoline prices have soared to record levels.

According to AAA, the average price of gasoline in Illinois stood at \$5.39 on Thursday. That includes 37 cents of sales tax.

But Democrats pushed back against that criticism, arguing that they have passed balanced budgets each of the last four years that have resulted in two credit upgrades each from all three major rating agencies and eliminated the bill backlog while also making investments in important state services.

“The reality is we are making fiscally responsible decisions,” state Sen. Elgie Sims, D-Chicago, said at the news conference. “We are investing in the issues that will help our communities grow and be stronger. We’re investing in education. We’re investing in health care. We’re investing in public safety. We’re

investing in a brighter future for Illinoisans.”

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.*

## Rivers

from page 1

recent case. “It is incumbent upon the legislature to realize that there is an increasing social and economic need that riparian rights be restricted for public recreational purposes.”

That was part of a concurring opinion in a recent decision involving a dispute between two landowners who own property along the Mazon River in Grundy County.

A portion of that river flows through a fossil-rich area known as the Mazon Creek Fossil Beds, a national historic landmark near the river’s confluence with the Illinois River, and both parties in the case operate fossil-hunting businesses.

Adam Holm and his family own two separate parcels of property, one of which is landlocked and only accessible from the river. To get to that parcel, he would launch a kayak from his other property and row down the river, taking him across property owned by Peter Kodat and others.

Kodat complained, accusing Holm of trespassing on his property, but Holm claimed that as the owner of property along the river, he had a right to access all parts of the river.

The case centered around an Illinois law that gives property owners the right to control access to waters along their property, unless the waters are classified as “navigable,” which, according to an earlier Supreme Court decision, means “of sufficient depth to afford a channel for use for commerce.”

In other words, unless a body of water is deep enough to carry barge or ship traffic, property owners along that water have a right to bar public access to it.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources is the agency that determines whether or not a lake, river or stream is navigable. It currently lists 48 bodies of water, including Lake Michigan and six branches of the Chicago River, as falling in that category.

Thus, in a unanimous decision, the court said Kodat had the right to prohibit Holm from kayaking on the portion of the river that flows across his property.

“In our view, the legislature is the best venue to consider plaintiffs’ request for the creation of a new public policy on riparian rights for nonnavigable rivers and streams in Illinois, which constitute the majority of waterways in this state,” Justice Robert L. Carter wrote for the majority.

But writing in what’s known as a “special concurrence” – in which a justice agrees with the outcome of a case but not the opinion – Neville wrote that he thinks it is time to change the law.

Neville argued that the doctrine used in Illinois, known as the “Riparian Doctrine,” that gives property owners the right to control access to rivers and streams that flow across their property is “archaic and anachronistic” and should be replaced with one that recognizes the public’s right to use those resources for recreation.

He also argued that the riparian doctrine has hindered Illinois from developing more recreational use of waterways, noting that there are “more than 87,000 miles of rivers and streams within its borders, but only 32 rivers and streams are classified as navigable.”

“There is no question that the adoption of the recreational navigation doctrine is supported by Illinois public policy favoring the use of waterways for recreational purposes,” Neville wrote, citing a 1976 case in which the court blocked the sale of a portion of Lake Michigan in Chicago to U.S. Steel Corp. for the purpose of developing a steel plant there. “According to this court, it is appropriate to observe that there has developed a strong, though belated, interest in conserving natural resources and in protecting and improving our physical environment.”

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.*

## Pritzker Says Balanced Budget, ‘Big Things’ Remain Priority Ahead of Second Term

*Progressive incumbent set for general election battle with conservative challenger Bailey*

By Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Inflation, crime, pandemic response, abortion rights and Donald Trump are all set to be major issues in the 2022 race for Illinois governor, if the winning candidates’ election night speeches are any guide.

“(Gov. JB) Pritzker doesn’t understand how skyrocketing gas prices and soaring food prices make everyday life harder for Illinois families like you and I,” Darren Bailey, the Republican nominee for governor, said in an election night victory speech.

A farmer and state senator from downstate Xenia who acknowledged to the Chicago Sun-Times this week that he is a millionaire, Bailey received the endorsement of former President Donald Trump and coasted to an election night victory with 57 percent of the vote, compared to about 15 percent for each of the next two closest competitors.

“He doesn’t understand how his and Joe Biden’s extreme national agenda helps fuel inflation and increases utility bills for families like us across Illinois,” Bailey added of the governor. “He doesn’t understand the damage that his lockdowns did to small businesses, schools, mental health and working families all across this state. He doesn’t understand that his war on police has fueled the war on our streets, making our neighborhoods dangerous all across this state.”

Bailey also said in his speech that he entered politics because he was displeased with his local representatives’ votes to end a historic two-year budget impasse in 2017 by raising the income tax rate to 4.95 percent, a level slightly lower than it was when the impasse began two years prior.

The income tax vote was part of the budget package that saw Democrats and Republicans come together to override the veto of former Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner.

Pritzker, meanwhile, considers it part of his first-term legacy that Illinois has left the politics of the impasse behind it and taken strides to balance the budget each year and pay down old debt.

The governor sat for an interview with Capitol News Illinois Thursday amid a two-day blitz in which he spoke with political reporters from across the state.

He said fiscal prudence – along with pandemic-era revenue spikes that were seen nationwide for many reasons – allowed him and lawmakers to pass \$1.8 billion in tax relief this budget year, some of which took effect July 1.

It included a one-year suspension of the 1 percent grocery tax, a six-month delay on a 2-cent motor fuel tax hike, a 10-day partial sales tax holiday on back-to-school items from Aug. 5-14, a permanent expansion of the earned income tax credit, an additional \$300 in property tax credit, and direct payments to Illinoisans at \$50 per person and \$100 per dependent child.

“Those are all things that we Democrats did and were able to do because Democrats balanced the budget, Democrats eliminated the bill backlog, Democrats got the credit upgrades for the state,” he said, referring to double upgrades the state has received from the three New York bond rating agencies in the past year.

“You can’t do any of those items of tax relief if you don’t have the dollars to do it,” he added. “And we had surpluses and what did we do? We provided relief to working family. And we’re gonna look to do that going forward. I might add, if you keep on the path that Democrats have set, that I’ve set, balancing budgets and having

Continued on Page 4

### FREE BIBLE

We are offering free of charge an easy-to-read Bible. It’s the GOOD NEWS BIBLE in today’s English. The volumes we distribute contain the Old & New Testaments, maps, and helpful features to assist the reader. If you would like to receive a copy, simply write to us at the address below. This is a free offer. There will be no follow-up correspondence. We do not ask for money.

Gift Of The Word  
P.O. Box 307  
Avon, NY 14414

**Pritzker** *from page 3*  
surpluses, we can do much more.”

He said he’s hopeful to continue balancing the books even though the state expects revenues to slow as pandemic-driven spikes normalize.

Pritzker touted the state’s use of unexpected revenues for one-time purposes, such as putting \$1 billion in the budget stabilization fund, funding pensions \$500 million above what is required in law and paying down old health insurance bills amounting to about \$900 million.

He also noted the state has, under his watch, increased investments in the Illinois State Police, crime labs, expressway cameras, and youth violence intervention programs.

The one-term incumbent who unseated Rauner with a 16-point victory in 2018 also touched on his spending in the Republican primary in recent months.

While he spent money through his own campaign committee, the Democratic Party of Illinois and the Democratic Governors Association to knock Bailey’s chief primary rival, Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin, he downplayed the role his money played in that election.

Irvin’s camp has pegged the combined spending of those entities in the GOP primary at roughly \$36 million.

“My message is a general election message against all of the Republicans,” he said. “You know, we had messages about the candidate who was talking about corruption in Illinois, when he himself was involved in corruption. We had messages about the candidate who is truly extreme on every issue, including choice. And, you know, we’re fighting the Republicans, this is about Democrats beating Republicans.”

In the coming days, Pritzker said he will call lawmakers back to Springfield for a special session to secure abortion rights, which could include increasing the number of medical professionals who can perform abortions. It will not include providing state aid for people traveling to Illinois to receive an abortion, he said.

In terms of a second-term agenda, Pritzker said continuing the fiscal practices of his first term, as well as increasing subsidies for education and child care are among his priorities.

“But I think that looking back at my first term in office, gives you an idea that we’re gonna get more big things done, and they’re going to be about lifting up working families,” he said.

You can listen to the full episode of Capitol Cast here.

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.*

## Timeline Unclear for Special Session on Abortion Rights

*Lawmakers to work ‘remainder of the summer’ on response to overturning of Roe v. Wade*

*By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois*

Gov. JB Pritzker and top Democratic leaders in the Illinois General Assembly said Tuesday that while they still plan to call a special session this year to strengthen abortion rights, they expect to take the “remainder of the summer” to craft policies before lawmakers return to the Capitol.

Pritzker first announced his plan for a special session on June 24, the same day the U.S. Supreme Court released a decision overturning Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 case that legalized abortion nationwide.

While the governor said at the time he would call the special session with support from Senate President

Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, and House Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch, D-Hillside, he did not set a specific date for lawmakers to return. He said only he would call the session “in the coming weeks.”

In a joint statement Tuesday, the three leaders indicated the return to Springfield could come as late as the fall.

“In the coming weeks, as the ripples of the decision to overturn Roe are felt throughout the nation, we expect to get an acute sense of our needs and how Illinois can play an even more vital role in standing up for reproductive freedom,” the statement read. “We plan to work closely together for the remainder of the summer to assess every possibility of what we can do and convene a special session in the coming months.”

Illinois already has among the most permissive laws in the country regarding abortion.

In 2019, Pritzker signed the sweeping Reproductive Health Act which, among other things, declares access to abortion services a “fundamental right” in Illinois. And in December, he signed a law making it legal to perform an abortion on a minor without notifying the minor’s parents.

Illinois also allows public funding of abortion services for people enrolled in the state’s Medicaid program, the result of a 2017 law signed by then-Gov. Bruce Rauner, a Republican.

However, as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, more restrictive laws have automatically taken effect through so-called “trigger laws” in some of Illinois’ neighboring states, including Missouri, Wisconsin and Kentucky.

That has led many to anticipate that Illinois could see a large influx of residents from those states coming to Illinois for abortion services.

During a June 30 interview with Capitol News Illinois, Pritzker suggested one response might be to expand segments of the state’s health care workforce to take on greater demand.

“Again, this is about securing access, making sure we have capacity to handle the needs of people to get procedures,” he said. “We need hospital personnel, health care personnel. Other states, for example, allow certain kinds of professionals to perform these procedures that Illinois doesn’t allow. So we’re going to look at expanding who can do the procedures.”

During that interview, Pritzker also said the state would not consider providing aid for out-of-state travel to Illinois for abortions.

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.*



**Milos Dental Care**  
Dr. Jamie Lynn Milos

129 S. Phelps Ave. Suite 307, Rockford, IL 61108

 (815) 315-4200  
*Call now for an appointment!!*

[www.milosdentalcare.com](http://www.milosdentalcare.com)

## COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

### Boone County Master Gardeners are Ready to Answer Your Call:

Boone County Master Gardeners offers a free service answering garden questions at their Horticulture Help Desk. The Help Desk is open 1-4 p.m., Monday thru Thursday throughout the growing season (April – Sept.) Master Gardeners are volunteers who have trained by University of Illinois Extension educators to provide research-based answers to your home horticulture questions. Topics include insects, trees, shrubs, plants, vegetables, fruits, gardens, lawns, and more. The Master Gardeners can be reached by calling 815-544-3710, emailing in your question to [u-emg-boone@illinois.edu](mailto:u-emg-boone@illinois.edu), or by stopping at the office at 205 Cadillac Court, Suite 3 in Belvidere during help desk hours.

### Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Outing:

Monday, July 11, 2022. Registration and warm breakfast at 8:00 A.M. Shotgun start at 9:00 A.M. Lunch available from 11:30 – 1:00 P.M. call (815) 544-4357 for registration and for further information.

### Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden now hosting Sean Kenney’s Nature Connects made with Lego® bricks:

Sean Kenney’s Nature Connects Made with LEGO® Bricks, an award-winning and family friendly exhibition that uses beautiful works of art made from simple toy blocks to explore animal endangerment, the balance of ecosystems, and mankind’s relationship with nature, is now on display for public viewing at Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden in Rockford.

The public is invited to explore the beauty and wonder of Sean Kenney’s Nature Connects Made with LEGO® Bricks, open daily to the public from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for a limited engagement now through September 11, 2022. Daily admission rates are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children and seniors, and children ages 3 and under are free. Plan your visit today!

More information about Sean Kenney’s Nature Connects Made with LEGO® Bricks can be found on Klehm’s website: [www.klehm.org/nature-connects](http://www.klehm.org/nature-connects)

**Community Garden Tour Day:** The cost of food is on the rise. Access to fresh produce may

*Continued on Page 5*

O Holy St Jude!

Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, faithful intercessor for all who invoke you, special patron in time of need; to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart, and humbly beg you, to whom God has given such great power, to come to my assistance; help me now in my urgent need and grand my earnest petition. I will never forget thy graces and favors you obtain for me and I will do my utmost to spread devotion to you. Amen.

St. Jude, pray for us and all who honor thee and invoke thy aid.  
(Say 3 Our Father’s, 3 Hail Mary’s, and 3 Glory Be’s after this.)

# Boone County License & Title

# Stickers - Titles - Plates

# We Are OPEN

M-F 9-5  
Sat 9-1

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

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



**News**

*from page 4*

become an issue for those who can't afford it. Community gardens help to feed the hungry by putting fresh produce into the hands of those in need.

Belvidere is fortunate to have four community gardens that work to provide fresh produce for the community. Two of the gardens provide food for local food pantries as well as educational/volunteer opportunities for youth in 4-H programs and life skills with the Belvidere NASR groups.

On Saturday, July 16 from 10 a.m. to noon, the community is welcome to attend this year's Community Garden Tour Day. Stop by one or stop by all four and learn how the gardens got started, how they function in the community and how you can get involved. Volunteers will be at each site to help answer any questions you may have.

The four garden locations are as follows:

- Boone County Health Department**  
(1204 Logan Ave. Belvidere – Behind the Administration Building)
- Buchanan Street Garden** (218 Buchanan Street – corner of Main St. and Buchanan Street)
- St. John's United Church of Christ**  
(401 N. Main Street)
- Ida Public Library** (320 N. State Street)
- Friends Of Beckman Mill's Annual Ice Cream Social & Artists in The Park:**

Summer is finally here, the season of ice cream, cake, and root beer floats! Everyone is invited to join the Friends of Beckman Mill for their Annual Ice Cream Social and Artists in the Park on Sunday July 17th. Enjoy food, art, and fun for the whole family from Noon until 4:00 p.m. Entrance to the park is FREE and there is so much to see and do!

Artists from around the region will display their works in a beautiful open-air gallery.

Kids are you ready to get creative? Budding artists are invited to paint – canvas and paints will be provided; you bring your artistic spirit.

For information call 608.751.1551 or check out the Friends of Beckman Mill website: [www.beckmanmill.org](http://www.beckmanmill.org)



**Government Tyranny**

It is heartbreaking for so many in this country to see the Supreme Court overturn Roe v. Wade. While the decision of the reactionary wing of the Supreme Court may split in the face of half a century of legal precedent, it is nonetheless essential for us to respect the decision. Even if that acceptance is through gritted teeth. Now the issue of abortion has been returned to the voters of this state and all other states in the Union. It now falls on the voters to educate themselves on the debate on abortion and the implications of this ruling. This humble observer would like to put it to every reader that the subsequent restrictions on bodily autonomy that will follow the ruling will be nothing less than government overreach. These laws will ensure that women are little more than cattle with a uterus that they have little control over.

Depending on the state you live in, the government now has the authority to force you to endure a difficult, and in some cases fatal, full-term pregnancy and birth. Missouri, Texas and Kentucky are just three of the states that have already banned all abortions with few or no exceptions. In the case of Kentucky, the law makes no exceptions for rape or incest (see Kentucky House Bill 148). To put that in perspective, the life of a victim of sexual assault has become less valuable than the fetus she did not consent to have. There are few things more disgusting than a government forcing victims of a heinous crime to give birth to and raise the child of their abuser.

With this gross showing of government control over bodily autonomy in the face of horrific crimes, it is worth it to considering how these restrictions square with rhetoric behind government's power. If a government sees no problem taking away your right to choose what happens to your own body, who is to say they wouldn't hesitate to take your property, money or firearms? That rhetoric might sound ironic to many readers given the all too familiar Republican arguments regarding government overreach and tyranny. However, it does show how being for a small government is diametrically opposed with being in favor of government infringement on a human's bodily autonomy. Consider it like this; if a burglar enters my house without my consent, I have a right to remove him or her either on my own initiative (with guns) or with assistance from a police officer. State governments have routinely passes and enforced protections of those who protect their property even through intemperate means. Yet those same governments do not apply the same logic to the human body despite the undeniable fact that it is deserving of higher protections than material property. It is contradictory to be in favor of the violent defense of one's private property but not in favor of what must be private medical decisions and procedures.

On the other hand, there is an argument to be made regarding the morality of abortion. I can say with no reservations that the only thing worse than forcing your morality on someone else is forcing someone to participate in something they see as immoral. Being "Pro-Choice" does not mean everyone must share the same opinion on the morality of abortion. I know many people who are "Pro-Life" on a personal level but do not want to infringe on the rights of others. The "Pro-Choice" viewpoint does not require people to personally subscribe to abortion's morality, or lack thereof. What it does is promise to leave the decision up to the woman and her healthcare professional. Within this decision-making process, a government has no place.

This is not to be a rebuke of the Supreme Court's decision; I am not qualified to write about my opinion on the constitutionally of abortion rights. My simple opinion on the matter is that any attempts to ban or restrict abortions by any government is a gross example of a government that has gone too far and become far too powerful.

*M.J. Hutchinson*

**Pritzker Signs Bills Protecting Sexual Assault Victims**

*New laws protect intoxicated victims; expand access to medical care*

*By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois*

Gov. JB Pritzker signed two bills into law Thursday aimed at protecting the victims of sexual assault.

One of those new laws allows victims to press charges, even if they were voluntarily intoxicated at the time of the attack. Another expands where survivors can access treatment and for how long, as well as requiring Federally Qualified Health Centers to provide medical forensic services by trained professionals.

"We cannot have a justice system that re-traumatizes the people who need to utilize it," Pritzker said at a bill signing ceremony in Chicago. "Yet that's been the reality for far too long."

House Bill 5441 closes what many people called a "loophole" in existing law that prevented victims from filing charges if they were intoxicated at the time of the attack but the intoxicating substance was not administered by the accused individual.

It inserts new language into the law that says a person is unable to knowingly give consent when intoxicated if they are "unconscious of the nature of the act, and this condition was known or reasonably should have been known by the

*Continued on Page 6*

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

**Cherry Valley LANDSCAPE CENTER**  
**STIHL®**

- Landscape Mulches • Natural Landscape Stone
- Unilock Pavers & Retaining Wall Systems
- Top Soil / Compost Blend • Propane Filling Station
- Lawn Mower & Outdoor Power Equipment, Repair & Service • Dealer for Scag, eXmark, Ferris & Hustler Lawn Mowers • Weather Guard Truck Tool Boxes

7711 Newburg Road • Rockford, IL 61108  
815-977-5268 [www.cherryvalleylandscape.com](http://www.cherryvalleylandscape.com)

**BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL**  
Est. 1996

*real journalism for a real democracy*

**Sweet Magnolia KITCHEN**

**CUSTOM CUPCAKES & CAKE POPS - CALL THE CUPCAKE LADY!**

*A perfect bite for everyone!*

815-276-5285

SWEETMAGNOLIATC@GMAIL.COM

**ACKERSON DOOR**

**ads SALES**

*"We give your garage closure"*

- Sales • Doors • Openers • Replacement Sections
- Service • Cables • Installations • Springs

**C.H.I. PROFESSIONAL** Visit Our Showroom **LiftMaster PROFESSIONAL**

2255 Rt. 173 **815-623-2616**  
Caledonia, IL 61011 **815-765-1551**  
**Fax: 815-765-0333**

# LEGAL NOTICES

## TAKE NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

CASE NO. 2022TX7

To: Susan Vole; Spouse of Susan Vole; Candlewick Lake Association, Inc.; Ronald Graham; Kelly Vole; Julie Bliss, Boone County Clerk; Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property, unknown owners or parties claiming any right, interest or title in the described real estate:

Property located at: 205 Gables Dr SW, Poplar Grove, IL  
Property Index No. 03-28-276-024  
Tax Sale Certificate No. 2018-00071

This property was sold on October 31, 2019 for delinquent general taxes for the year of 2018. A Petition for Tax Deed for this property was filed on April 18, 2022.

Your right to redeem the property from the sale will expire on October 18, 2022. If you fail to redeem by that date, the court may enter a judgment granting petitioner a tax deed.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Belvidere, Illinois on October 25, 2022 at 9:15 AM before Judge Barch via Zoom (Meeting ID: 963 9791 8024, Passcode: None), or whomever may be sitting in his or her stead.

JICTB, Inc., Petitioner  
Angela L. Tucker, Esq.  
JICTB, Inc.  
1701 Broadmoor Dr. Ste 100  
Champaign, IL 61821

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 23, 30, July 7 - P

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the operating purposes of Boone County Fire Protection District No. 2 in the County of Boone, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2022 and ending April 30, 2023 will be on file and available for public viewing during business hours

(8:00 AM – 5 PM) at the station at 1777 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere, IL.

Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday July 20th, 2022 at Boone County Fire Protection District at 1777 Henry Luckow Lane, Belvidere, IL. and that final hearing and action will be taken at that time.

Dated this 13th day of June, 2022

Brian Kunce, Fire Chief

Published in the Boone County Journal June 16, 23, 30th 2022

## TAKE NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

CASE NO. 2022TX8

To: Harrolle Properties, Inc.; Blackhawk Bank; AT&T Corporation; Kalpesh Patel; Julie Bliss, Boone County Clerk; Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property, unknown owners or parties claiming any right, interest or title in the described real estate:

Property located at: 6010 Welty Dr, Cherry Valley, IL  
Property Index No. 05-31-300-024  
Tax Sale Certificate No. 2018-00164

This property was sold on October 31, 2019 for delinquent general taxes for the year of 2018. A Petition for Tax Deed for this property was filed on April 18, 2022.

Your right to redeem the property from the sale will expire on October 18, 2022. If you fail to redeem by that date, the court may enter a judgment granting petitioner a tax deed.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Belvidere, Illinois on October 25, 2022 at 9:15 AM before Judge Barch via Zoom (Meeting ID: 963 9791 8024, Passcode: None), or whomever may be sitting in his or her stead.

JICTB, Inc., Petitioner  
Angela L. Tucker, Esq.  
JICTB, Inc.  
1701 Broadmoor Dr. Ste 100  
Champaign, IL 61821

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 23, 30, July 7 - P

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

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: MARY VITEK, Deceased.

Case No. 2022 PR 28

## PUBLICATION NOTICE

NOTICE is given of the death of MARY VITEK. Letters of Office were issued on the 2nd of June, 2022 to BARBARA GONZALEZ, 706 Cynthia Lane, Glendale Heights, IL 60139, who is the legal representative of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate is REBECCA A. LAHO, of Mulyk Laho Law, LLC, 45 S. Park Blvd., Suite 230, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137.

Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before December 16, 2022, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

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

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

Dated June 14, 2022  
By: /s/Rebecca A. Laho  
Rebecca A. Laho – ARDC #6275326  
MULYK LAHO LAW, LLC  
45 S. Park Blvd., Suite 230  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
Telephone: 630-852-1100  
Fax: 630-852-1128  
ralaho@mulyklaholaw.com

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 16, 23, 30

## STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL BOONE COUNTY

MARIA G. RIVERA, Plaintiff

-VS- CASE # 22DN29

NOE X. COSIMIO JR, Defendant

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given to you, NOE X. CASIMIRO JR., Defendant that this cause has been

commenced against you in this Court asking for DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

and other relief.

Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Boone County, Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, Illinois, 61008 on or before the 27th day of July 2022 a Judgment or other relief as prayed for by the Plaintiff may be granted.

Dated: 06-27-2022

Pamela Coduto, Clerk of the Circuit Court

17th Judicial Court, Boone County, Illinois

Published in *The Boone County Journal* 7/7, 7/14, 7/21 – P

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOONE COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, 1212 Logan Ave, Belvidere, IL 61008 upon the following petitions:

The applicant, Flora Meadows LLC., is seeking an expansion of a special use permit and rezoning for a mobile home park, to A-1, Agricultural Preservation District, pursuant to section 2.7 (Special Use and Section 3.16.1 Table of Permitted Uses) of Boone county Zoning Ordinance, in unincorporated Belvidere Township. PIN: 05-09-400-012.

The applicant, Prairie Central Solar LLC, is seeking a special use permit in the A-1, Agricultural Preservation District for a solar energy development pursuant to section 2.7 (Special Use) and Section 3.16.1 (Table of Permitted Uses) of Boone County Zoning Ordinance, in unincorporated Belvidere Township. PIN: 05-10-100-004, 200-005.

The applicant, Prairie North Solar LLC, is seeking a special use permit in the A-1, Agricultural Preservation District for a solar energy development pursuant to section 2.7 (Special Use and Section 3.16.1 (Table of Permitted Uses) of Boone County Zoning Ordinance, in unincorporated Poplar Grove Township. PIN: 03-02-300-002.

All persons interested may appear at the hearing and be heard at the stated time and place.

Tony Savino, Chair, Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals

Published in the *Boone County Journal* on July 7, 2022.

## STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT BOONE COUNTY

DATE FOR REQUEST OF NAME CHANGE (ADULT): ROBERT

NELSON FISH

Case No. 2022-MR-6

There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from:

ROBERT NELSON FISH to the new name of HANNAH RENEE FISH.

The court date will be held on 08/09/2022 at 9:30a.m. at the Boone

County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008 in Courtroom #3

Published in the Boone County Journal – 7/7, 7/14, 7/21 – P

## STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PENNY S. CHAMBERLIN, Deceased PROBATE No. 2022-PR-7

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION – CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the estate of PENNY S. CHAMBERLIN, of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on March 21st, 2022, to ROBB CHAMBERLIN, whose address is 157 Harvest Glenn Dr., Davis Junction, IL of Ogle County and whose attorney is Ashley Davis of Berger Law Firm LLC, 418 W. Blackhawk Dr., Suite 102, Byron, IL 61010.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the representative, or both, within (6) months from the date of first publication of this claim notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the Attorney with ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Attorney No.: 6326799

Attorney: Ashley Davis

Firm Berger Law Firm, LLC

Address: 418 W. Blackhawk Dr., Suite 102, Byron, IL 61010

Phone (815) 234-4950

Service Email office@bergerlawfirm.com

Published in the *Boone County Journal* 7/7, 7/14, 7/21

# ASSUMED NAMES

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

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a hair salon, providing hair braiding service, extensions installed, selling hair products, apparel and accessories business in said County and State under the name of BRAIDS BY KAY at the following post office address: 207 North State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Keryarea Price, 124 Fir Street, Michigan City, IN 46360; phone # (773) 531-8326.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 1st day of July, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal 7/7, 7/14, 7/21/22 - P

## Assault

from page 5

accused,” even if the accused individual did not administer the substance.

That language was inspired by a young woman, Kaylyn Anh, who spoke at the bill signing about how she was raped by someone she knew in July 2021 after she had voluntarily become intoxicated at a friend’s house.

Three months after the attack, she said, she reported it to police but was told that they would not investigate the incident because, under Illinois law, it did not qualify as rape.

“He told me there was absolutely no way the prosecutor would ever pick up my case,” she said. “When I asked him if there were any other legal options to pursue, he said, ‘The only thing you can do now is just try to not let it happen again and move on.’ This is my defiant refusal to do so.”

Senate Bill 3023 amends the Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act, which governs the health care that hospitals are required to provide to victims of sexual assault. It doubles the amount of time a victim can access care under the act to 180 days and guarantees that victims seeking treatment will have access to a trained medical forensic examiner as well as other medical staff trained to care for victims of sexual assault.

It also authorizes the Department of Public Health to designate up to six Federally Qualified Health Centers, located in geographically diverse areas of the state, to develop sexual assault treatment plans and to offer on-site services during their regular operating hours. It also requires them to employ a sexual assault nurse examiner coordinator.

“Survivors of sexual assault need the system to work a lot better for them to seek and receive health care services as they process the trauma they’ve been through,” state Sen. Mike Simmons,

*Continued on Page 7*



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

M-F 9-5  
Sat 9-1

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

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



**Assault**

from page 6

D-Chicago, one of the cosponsors of the bill, said in a statement. "This measure provides a significant improvement by removing costs, bills, and increases the timeline during which survivors can access treatment."

Both bills passed unanimously out of both chambers of the General Assembly earlier this year.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

students in seventh through 12th grade. Currently, more than 350 schools across the state have a FFA chapter.

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.

**IFB President: Sustainable Solutions Start In The Field**

By Richard Guebert Jr. Illinois Farm Bureau President

If you've ever planted a seed in your garden to watch it grow, you know how difficult it can be to create the right conditions to help it thrive. Maybe the plant needs more water, or has too much. Maybe the soil around your house isn't fertile enough, so you add potting soil.

Farmers make similar decisions while planting new crops each spring. Just like the choices you make from season to season impact how plants grow in your garden, the stewardship practices we use on our farms matter, too.

In agriculture, a sustainable future intertwines with environmental stewardship. Farmers improve soil health and water quality using innovative solutions on their farms. They support clean energy solutions that benefit air quality and produce more with fewer resources.

**Farmers invest in soil health, water quality**

One way Illinois farmers explore new crop production techniques is through work with researchers, universities and industry partners.

Each year, farmers host on-farm trials through the Illinois Farm Bureau Nutrient Stewardship Grant Program to develop new management practices that protect the land. These studies help growers in each county learn more about the production capabilities of soil in their regions.

In its seventh year, the program has committed over \$150,000 to support more than 20 projects across Illinois. Based on voluntary efforts, such as planting cover crops to replenish nutrients in the soil and reduce surface runoff, farmers continue to make increasingly positive impacts on our natural resources.

The goal is to balance maximum crop, and ultimately food and fuel, production with land management decisions that safeguard farmland for future generations of farm families.

Renewable fuels benefit consumers, environment

While stewardship is important, so is agriculture's contribution to cleaner energy solutions like biofuels.

Illinois farmers produce millions of gallons of corn-based ethanol and soy-based biodiesel annually. The supply of these alternative fuels is essential to a strong domestic fuel supply in the U.S., a fact highlighted by supply chain disruptions in recent years.

More biofuel production means more affordable, environmentally friendly solutions Americans can depend on.

**Growing a bright future with fewer resources**

Protecting the environment also means growing more food and raising more livestock with fewer resources than ever before.

Without the technological advancements and climate-smart practices used in modern agriculture, farmers in 1990 would require more than 100-million more acres to grow what we do today.

That's significant because the number of acres used in production agriculture decreases each year, while demand for food, fuel and fiber increases exponentially.

Livestock farmers have also found new ways to do more with less by improving barn construction and reimagining waste management.

Farmers who raise pigs, dairy and beef cattle often recycle the nutrients found in animal manure back into crop production on their farm. Many growers have also tapped into the benefits of using cover crops by using them to replenish their soils between corn and soybean rotations and repurposing them as forage for livestock.

**Agriculture, environmental needs are connected**

As Illinois farmers take to the fields to plant fresh crops this spring, it's only fitting that Earth Day is also right around the corner.

While this year's celebration officially takes place on April 22, farmers make decisions every day to balance the needs of crops and livestock on their farms. Their work supports a steady supply of ag products that people rely on and protects the integrity of farmland they hope to one day pass on to the next generation.

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.

**State Funding to Defray FFA Costs for Students**

By Kay Shipman FarmWeek

FFA membership offers students many educational and leadership benefits as well as career opportunities. Starting this fall, the cost to be long to FFA will no longer be a challenge for ag students in Illinois.

A state appropriation of \$550,000 will pay the FFA membership dues for every student taking agriculture classes in Illinois. The fee elimination makes Illinois an FFA-affiliation-membership state, ensuring every ag ed student will have FFA dues automatically paid.

Jesse Faber, agriculture teacher and FFA adviser at Pontiac Township High School, told an agriculture education advisory committee June 21, defraying the costs will help students and schools. Faber noted the costs for membership adds up for chapters.

Funding for dues and other required services, such as record-keeping services, added up to an extra \$1,000 to \$1,200 a year for his school.

Gov. JB Pritzker said his priority is to make agricultural education more accessible.

In a statement, the governor said he was proud to implement a measure spearheaded by state Sen. Doris Turner, D-Springfield, to waive FFA membership fees for all Illinois ag students.

"The more bright minds we can bring in to help solve the agricultural problems of tomorrow, the better we all will be in the future," Turner said in a statement.

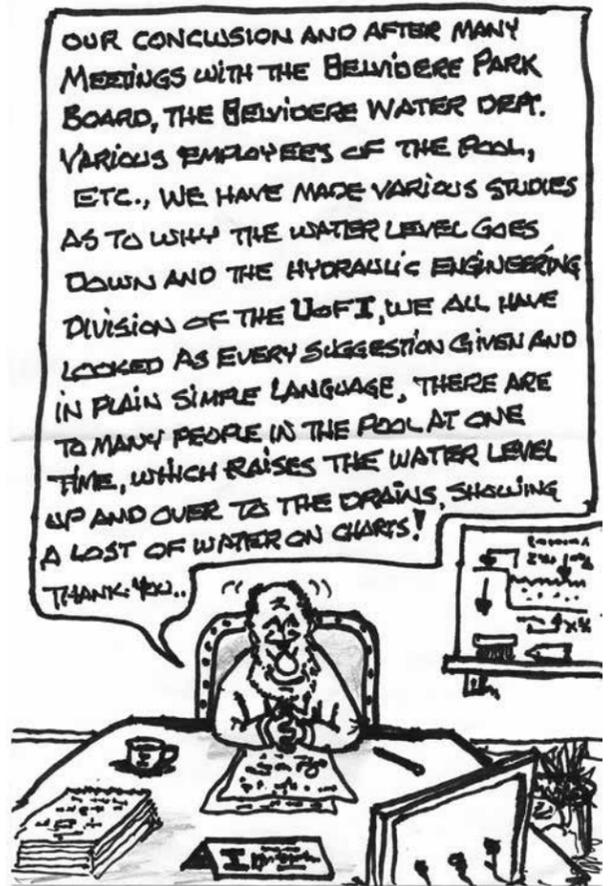
Illinois Agriculture Director Jerry Costello II noted nearly 37,000 students across the state took ag classes, but 23,000 belong to FFA.

"By removing the cost barrier, this opens up the doors for thousands more students to benefit from what FFA provides, which goes well beyond what can be taught in the classroom," Costello said.

The state also has strengthened ag education's position in curriculum.

In 2021, the General Assembly passed, and Pritzker signed two measures that added "agriculture education" to the list of acceptable electives qualifying students for admission to state universities and added "agricultural sciences" to the list of acceptable science courses for admission.

In Illinois, FFA membership is offered to



**Pro Tree Care & Landscaping**  
 Linda Johns owner  
 Over 30 years of service • 24 hr emergency service  
 General and Safety Pruning  
 Hedge and Shrub trimming • Tree and stump Removal  
 Spring and Fall cleanup • Firewood pickup and delivery

BBB Start With Trust

815-547-3345 jackoftrade81@mchsi.com

**ROCKFORD BUSINESS SYSTEMS**

- Digital Color & Black & White
- Multi Functional
- \* Copy \* Print \* Fax \* Scan
- \* Service • Supplies • Toner

Sharp ~ Canon ~ Toshiba ~ Lexmark ~ HP ~ Xerox ~ Ricoh

Sales Service  
 815-608-1173 815-282-4002

# BOONE COUNTY LICENSE & TITLE

## What WE Can Do For YOU!

Illinois License Plates & Stickers for

- Cars • Trucks • Motorcycles • Trailers • Boat Trailers
- Notary Public • Map Books

Ask us for details about our over the counter Plates and Sticker service.

- License & Title Services
- Plates, Stickers & Renewals  
(Get sticker same day)
- Flat Fee for Services
- No Long Lines
- Friendly Helpful Staff
- Fast Convenient Service

**Notary Public**



**No Long Lines!**

**(815) 544-2075**

Located on State Street at the **Journal**  
419 S. State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008

**Open 6 Days a Week**

Monday thru Friday - 9 am to 5 pm  
Saturday - 9 am to 1 pm



**JOIN OUR MANUFACTURING TEAM IN BELVIDERE!**

**TEXT GENMILLS TO 97211**

[careers.GeneralMills.com](http://careers.GeneralMills.com)

**BMI**  
BELVIDERE FARMERS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

BELVIDERE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY  
175 Cadillac Court, Suite 4  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
(815) 544-3861

A GRINNELL MUTUAL MEMBER

**Nathan Noble**  
Attorney at Law

(815) 547-7700  
504 N. State St. Belvidere, IL 61008  
[www.attornynoble.com](http://www.attornynoble.com)

**First Step Daycare**

**815-544-6560**  
FAX 815-544-0404

620 Logan Ave, Belvidere, IL 61008  
Monday - Friday 6:00 am to 5:30 pm  
Children ages 6 weeks through 11 years  
Frog Street Curriculum

We are a Non-Profit Agency participating in the Child Care Assistance Program. On-Site Approvals are available or you can go through the YMCA in Rockford  
Breakfast, Morning Snacks, Lunch, and Afternoon Snacks are provided at no cost

**Rockford HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**

1618 Magnolis St.  
Rockford, IL 61104  
**815-965-9494**  
Fax 815-965-4324  
Mark @rockfordheating.com  
[www.rockfordheating.com](http://www.rockfordheating.com)

Rock River Valley  
**BLOOD CENTER**  
Straight From the Heart

**Belvidere Cemetary**  
CREMATION GARDEN

1121 N. Main St.  
Belvidere  
**815-547-7642**

**BRS**  
BELVIDERE REHAB & SPORTS MEDICINE

1255 Logan Avenue  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
Phone: (815) 547-4733

**Public LIBRARY**  
320 N. State St.  
Belvidere  
**815-544-3838**

"The Earth laughs in flowers"  
Ralph Waldo Emerson  
Wishing you an Easter full of flowers!

**Law Office of John Maville**  
John H. Maville

**815-544-3165**  
600 S. State St., Suite 307, Belvidere  
[John@mavillelaw.com](mailto:John@mavillelaw.com)

