

Independence Day Approaches

By Bob Evans Rockford University

On this day we celebrate not only our birth as a nation; we also renew our commitment to the fundamental social contract proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence. We define ourselves as a people and as a nation by our belief in equality, and by our mutual pledge to respect the “right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”

Most nations are defined in a variety of other ways. They are defined by ethnicity, religion, or an ancestral historical place or culture. Not us. Not Americans. Americans define themselves by an idea or belief. The belief is the belief that the Declaration expresses accurately the proper relationship between government and its citizens.

Government is limited government, limited

to the protection of our rights. In order to be an American all one has to do is to commit to and profess the principles of the Declaration. America is the “creedal” nation.

Have we always honored our commitment to these fundamental principles? Of course not. If only we had. How much happier we would be. The author of our sacred social contract, and several other signers, enslaved fellow Americans who in fact possessed these same rights. The trail of our history is littered with violations of our deepest fundamental principles.

But still the basic commitment remains, as it must remain. We must continue to attempt to redeem our historical pledge to ourselves and each other. We must try always to honor our original commitment to the principles of the Declaration. We must strive finally to become what Lincoln termed “the last, best hope of mankind”.

Inside Illinois’ Efforts to Court the Emerging Quantum Technology

*Japanese business delegation visits
Chicago, local research park breaking
ground ‘soon’*

By Andrew Adams Capitol News Illinois

Just over one year ago, the Illinois legislature approved spending more than \$700 million to attract and support a new industry: quantum technology.

Now, representatives of other countries, federal research labs and a network of private organizations with ties to the state are beginning to ink deals and make agreements to bring specific quantum companies to Illinois — and boost the startups that are already here.

Illinois state officials are interested in attracting the nascent industry because of its potential for economic growth and positioning Illinois as a high-tech leader in the coming decades.

Quantum technology is an emerging field of research and business that creates specialized machinery and computers that use the laws of quantum mechanics to solve problems and behave in ways that would be out of reach for traditional machines.

Last week, two events in Chicagoland offered a glimpse inside the world of quantum businesses and the layers of public and private funding going into the industry.

The Japan External Trade Organization — an economic development organization affiliated with the government of Japan — sponsored a two-day “delegation” of business representatives to Chicago.

At an early meeting of the delegation, representatives of the state and economic development agencies pitched the region — and Illinois’ state backing — as unique in the world.

“This is not a state government that is following trends but really setting the trends,” Intersect Illinois Chief Quantum Officer Preeti Chalsani told the delegation. “When I go to conferences, I hear about other states and countries who are

thinking of doing something like Illinois. That really makes me proud.”

Intersect Illinois is a private nonprofit organization with ties to the state. It’s led by Christy George, a former Pritzker administration official who helped plan the Democratic National Convention in Chicago last summer. The organization also plays a prominent role in the state Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity’s five-year plan for attracting business to Illinois.

“This is a state that is constantly on a mission to constantly build and expand our business environment,” George said at the event.

What is quantum tech?

Researchers and entrepreneurs are developing computers and other systems using the principles of quantum mechanics to achieve things that would be impossible with traditional computers. Current quantum computers can perform benchmark tests more than 1 billion times faster than traditional computers. Quantum technology can also be used to decode encrypted messages, posing serious questions for the cybersecurity industry. Other applications include simulations, sensor technology and communications.

World Business Chicago, an economic development organization backed by the city of Chicago, estimates the industry could generate tens of billions of dollars in Chicagoland and create more than 100,000 jobs.

Representatives of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, World Business Chicago and the University of Chicago also participated in the event.

The visit mirrored Gov. JB Pritzker’s and Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson’s visits to Japan where both men, along with sizable entourages of economic development leaders and businesspeople, met with Japanese officials.

Both visits, and especially Pritzker’s in October 2024, built hype in the Asian nation about Illinois’ role in the developing quantum technology sector.

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State Highway Cameras Could be Used to Investigate Human Trafficking

Images obtained by ISP would not be accessible by FOIA

By Jade Aubrey Capitol News Illinois

A bill passed in this year’s legislative session would rewrite the definition of a “forcible felony” to allow Illinois State Police to use images obtained from automatic license plate readers in cases involving human trafficking and involuntary servitude.

Automatic license plate readers are cameras that capture images of vehicle license plates. After obtaining pictures captured by ALPRs, state police software runs the license plate numbers through other law enforcement databases — including the National Crime Information Center, the Department of Homeland Security, the Illinois Secretary of State and National Amber Alerts. The software then alerts ISP officials when a license plate number matches one in the databases.

Current law allows ISP to use the cameras for the investigation of cases involving vehicular hijacking, aggravated vehicular hijacking, terrorism, motor vehicle theft, or any forcible felony, which includes treason, first- and second-degree murder, sexual assault, robbery, burglary, arson, kidnapping, aggravated battery resulting in great bodily harm.

House Bill 3339, sponsored by Rep. Thaddeus Jones, D-Calumet City, would add the offenses of human trafficking and involuntary servitude to the definition of forcible felony in that section of law.

“It’s very focused on specific types of crime,” ISP Director Brendan Kelly said in a committee hearing on the bill in March. “It’s not for speeding, it’s not for traffic enforcement, this is for serious offenses, and we use it in a limited and focused way and in a highly effective way.”

The bill is an initiative of ISP that acts as an expansion to the Tamara Clayton Expressway Camera Act passed in 2020, which granted ISP the funds to purchase and install automatic license plate readers along highways in Cook County. The act was in response to the expressway shooting of Tamara Clayton, a postal worker who was shot and killed on Interstate 57 on her way to work in 2019. ISP was ultimately unable to obtain any images of the shooting, and the investigation on her case is still ongoing.

“This is not just an effective deterrent, it’s also an effective program, in terms of our ability to solve cases,” Kelly said. “In 2023, for every expressway homicide that occurred in Cook County, 100% of those homicide cases were charged. Not solved, not cleared, charged. And every single one of those cases included license plate reader evidence.”

“That type of solve rate is not something you see very often in any category of crime,” Kelly said. “But is a result of this very effective tool.”

After the passage of the Expressway Camera Act, ISP installed approximately 100 ALPRs along I-94 in 2021 and by the end of 2022, 289 ALPRs were installed in the Chicago area.

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Challenges Persist for Women, Minorities Breaking into Illinois’ Skilled Trades

Over the past 10 years, women have held fewer than one in 10 construction jobs

By Maggie Dougherty
Medill Illinois News Bureau

For 60 years, SkillsUSA Illinois has held workforce development competitions for young people entering the trades. For 60 years, there has never been an all-female team competing in the architecture and construction team competition.

Until now, that is.

This April, students competed at the Peoria Civic Center in a bid to showcase their trades work skills, from barbering and cosmetics to house building and fixing cars. First-place winners in the Illinois competition earned eligibility to travel to Atlanta to compete in the national SkillsUSA Championships this week.

Amid the fanfare and cheer, however, the state competition highlighted some of the persistent challenges facing the Illinois workforce. As employers continue searching for skilled tradespeople to combat national worker shortages, entry into fields like construction remains strikingly low for women and people of color, particularly in higher paying and leadership positions.

SkillsUSA Illinois’ first all-girls team — Aubrey



Jesus Berreles, 76, Belvidere, June 20
Cornelius “Casey” Dirx, 81, Harvard, June 17
Gerald Hansen, 83, Belvidere, June 15

Brian Wilson, 82, Belvidere Hills, June 11
Harris Yulin, 87, New York, NY, June 10
Sly Stone, 82, Los Angeles, June 9
Loretta Swit, 87, New York, NY, May 30

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Levin, Kayhl Miles, Catelin Wesley and team captain Amyla Walls — did not know they were breaking boundaries until after they had finished their competition this spring in Peoria.

The team from the Bloomington Area Career Center reacted to the news with shocked laughter, followed by near immediate dread as they anticipated the heightened expectations and scrutiny of their work this title would bring.

“They’re going to be like, ‘You’re the first all-female team,’ and I’m going to be like, ‘Please don’t look at my electrical,’” Levin said, half laughing.

Although it may seem late for the existence of the first all-female team, it is consistent with the construction industry demographic trends in Illinois. Over the past 10 years, women have held fewer than one in 10 construction jobs. Prior to 2021, fewer than 5% of new construction apprentices in Illinois were women, according to data from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The problem is a national one. Although 2020 saw the largest number of women working in trades, only one in 20 U.S. construction workers was a woman, according to a report from the Institute for Women’s Policy Research.

Male construction workers were also better compensated than female construction workers in 2024, even for entry-level apprenticeship positions. New male apprentices earned an average wage of \$23.76 per hour, 36 cents more than the average pay for their female counterparts.

The discrepancy grew for those who completed their apprenticeships, with an average hourly gender pay gap of \$1.41.

Participation rates for workers of color also remained low, with white apprentices accounting for over three quarters of new registered apprenticeships in 2024.

Apprentices of color earn less on average than white apprentices, both at entry and completion. In 2024, newly registered Black apprentices earned on average 36 cents less in hourly wages than their white counterparts. For those who completed apprenticeships, the gap grew to almost \$4 per hour.

As limited as the progress is, much of it has come in the last few years, according to Jayne Vellinga, executive director of the non-profit Chicago Women in Trades.

Vellinga attributes the momentum to “a perfect storm” of an expected construction boom and worker shortage, infrastructure investment and federal leadership on diversity initiatives.

“It did get people to think sort of outside the box in terms of how they were going to recruit a sufficient workforce to meet a large number of projects projected to come to the area and the retirement of experienced workers,” Vellinga said.

Since 2021, the state has invested heavily in the Illinois Works pre-apprenticeship program, which seeks to create a “qualified talent pipeline of diverse candidates in the construction and building trades.” Gov. JB Pritzker’s office announced an additional \$19 million funding allocation to the program in April.

However, Vellinga said she is seeing a rollback in progress, pointing to President Donald Trump’s decision to rescind an executive order that had been in place since enacted by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965, which prohibited federal contractors from engaging in employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin.

“I don’t know how it’s going to impact opportunities for women, but there is definitely a change in narrative also at the federal level, from ‘we need diversity on publicly funded projects’ to ‘don’t engage in diversity, equity and inclusion activities,’” Vellinga said.

In addition to outright hiring discrimination, Vellinga said many women’s careers are limited by gender stereotypes and harassment on job sites.

“Some women are doing well and are having an opportunity to move up, and other women do face discrimination, are unable to cobble together enough work during the year to make it a viable career, or perhaps the works site is so hostile that they walk away from it,” Vellinga said.

The hostility is something that the team of high schoolers was already familiar with.

As SkillsUSA Illinois’ first all-girls team spent two days using their carpentry, roofing, electrical and plumbing skills to build a small house, they were subjected to disparaging, gender-based comments, which the team diplomatically referred to as “construction language.”

It is not something unique to this competition, they said. Levin recalled asking women in the construction unions about their advice on entering tradework. They told her she would need to have thick skin.

“Even now?” Levin asked. Especially now, they replied.

The team described their male peers making jokes with double meanings, and then getting irritated if the girls did not laugh.

“You’re like a bad person for not laughing at a really bad joke,” Miles said.

One such joke came at Levin’s expense, while she was standing on a ladder and trying not to cry from pain after being hit in the back by something on site. A team nearby pointed and laughed at her, she said. A teacher walked by and told Levin to let it out if she needed to.

“Not here,” Levin said. “You can’t cry, because then you’re soft.”

On the other hand, if they got mad, Levin said, a male peer would inevitably ask, “What, are you on your period or something?”

The girls said they are held to a higher standard, as any sign of emotion will be used to prove that they are incapable of matching their male peers. If they stop for a second, they will be called lazy or asked whether they broke a nail, the team said. The job requires a strong poker face, Miles added.

And, Walls said, their judgment is constantly called into question. She recounted a male peer repeatedly correcting her and speaking to her like a child, before eventually concluding she was correct all along.

A national survey of women exiting the trades found that the most common reason women left the trades was due to harassment and lack of respect; nearly half of those who left or had strong intentions to leave marked this as their reason for doing so. Over a quarter of women in the study also indicated that they frequently or always saw sexually explicit and racist graffiti; a fifth responded the same for anti-semitic graffiti.

The second most common reason for exiting, selected by over 40% of those with strong intentions to leave, was a lack of prospects for promotion and

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Adams And Jefferson Died Exactly 50 Years After Independence

Death Date of July 4, 1826 a Remarkable American Coincidence

By Tom Emery

Few dates in American history have been so profound.

On July 4, 1826, as the nation celebrated the 50th anniversary of its independence, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died. The loss of two of the first three Presidents, as well as two of its founding fathers, is one of the most remarkable coincidences in the history of the nation.

The two men are inextricably linked to the Revolution. Both were among the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence, and Adams and Jefferson were on the Continental Congress’ Committee of Five to compose the document.

Both debated who should take the lead, and Adams finally persuaded Jefferson, claiming that a Virginian “ought to appear at the head of this business.”

Adams also assessed himself as “obnoxious, suspected, and unpopular,” while adding that Jefferson “can write ten times better than I can.” Jefferson then drafted the document.

Despite their mutual efforts for independence, Adams and Jefferson later became political rivals. The short-tempered, prickly Adams clashed with Jefferson’s laid-back approach, and Adams’ Federalist devotion was also at odds with Jefferson, who believed the states should have more power.

The two former friends met in the 1796 Presidential election, which became a mud-slinging affair of polarizing political views, largely on foreign affairs. The outcome, however, was razor-thin, as Adams edged Jefferson in electoral votes, 71-68.

As was custom in the day, the loser became the Vice-President, and Jefferson soon opposed Adams on a host of issues. Among them was the controversial Alien and Sedition Act of 1798, which induced Jefferson to forego Washington in favor of his Monticello home.

They again squared off in the 1800 Presidential election, and this time, Federalism vs. states’ rights was the dominant theme.

The rematch was even more bitter than the 1796 campaign, and is considered one of the dirtiest elections in American history. Jefferson tied Aaron Burr with 73 electoral votes, while Adams, with 65, went down in defeat.

Adams, stung by the loss, proceeded to reel off a succession of “midnight appointments” of Federalists to judicial offices and in his last hours in office, designed to leave his mark against Jefferson. He then slipped out of town early in the morning of the inauguration, choosing not to welcome the incoming President, as is tradition.

The relationship remained frigid for many years until intervention by a mutual friend, Benjamin Rush, a Philadelphia doctor who had also signed the Declaration.

Though Adams was noncommittal to Rush’s efforts, he took the initiative, and on Jan. 1, 1812, wrote a note with well-wishes to Jefferson.

On January 21, Jefferson responded in kind, recalling when “we were fellow laborers in the same cause” of independence and extending “my sincere esteem for you...I salute you with unchanged affections and respect.”

Thus renewed a friendship of decades past, and Adams and Jefferson continued to send respectful, thoughtful letters to each other, a source of great mutual satisfaction.

Jefferson, who suffered from rheumatism and an enlarged prostate, was forced to decline an offer to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations

that July 4 in Washington. By July 2, he was barely lucid, and died at Monticello around 12:50 on the Fourth.

At his Quincy, Mass. home, Adams had also declined an invitation to a 50th anniversary extravaganza in Boston due to poor health. Early on July 4, he lost consciousness.

He recovered slightly near mid-day, and according to most accounts, his final words were some form of the words “Thomas Jefferson still

Advocates Await Action on Bill Protecting Rights of Immigrant Students In Illinois

Bill would ensure right to free public K-12 education regardless of immigration status

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Immigration rights advocates in Illinois are anxiously awaiting the governor’s signature on legislation aimed at protecting K-12 students who may be in the country without legal authorization from being denied access to a free public education.

House Bill 3247, known as the “Safe Schools for All Act,” passed both chambers of the General Assembly in the final days of the spring session. It would prohibit schools from denying any child access to a free public education based on their actual or perceived immigration status, or that of their parents.

It would also prohibit schools from disclosing, or threatening to disclose, information about a student’s immigration status or the status of a person associated with the child. And it would require schools to develop procedures for reviewing and authorizing requests from law enforcement agents attempting to enter a school or school facility.

The bill is intended to buffer K-12 students in Illinois from efforts by the Trump administration to launch mass deportations of noncitizens living in the United States without legal authorization.

Speaking at a May 7 rally outside the Statehouse, where Democratic lawmakers and immigration rights advocates protested an appearance in Springfield that day of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, state Sen. Karina Villa, D-West Chicago, the chief Senate sponsor of the bill, vowed that

Illinois would remain defiant of Trump’s political agenda.

“We are also going to protect our children,” she told the crowd gathered around a statue of Abraham Lincoln. “We’re going to make them feel safe in our schools by passing HB 3247. We are going to unite and we are going to get that done.”

On Jan. 20, the first day of the new administration, the Department of Homeland Security rescinded a Biden-era policy that prevented federal agents from conducting immigration enforcement actions in

survives.”

The irony is that Jefferson had just died, though modern researchers cite no proof that Adams made such an utterance. He died around 6 p.m. that evening.

Incredibly, Adams and Jefferson were not the only early Presidents to die on July 4. Five years later in 1831, James Monroe passed away at age 73, marking the third of the first five chief executives to die on the date of the nation’s birth.

One President, Calvin Coolidge, was born on the Fourth of July holiday in 1872, though most historians rate him among the weakest of chief executives, unlike Adams and Jefferson.

Belvidere fine for fireworks \$750

Foster Statement on Military Action In Iran and Escalating Nuclear Threat

Press Release

Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL), Congress’ only PhD physicist, issued the following statement:

“Make no mistake: We are in this situation because of President Trump’s careless decision to withdraw from the Iran Nuclear Deal during his first term. Under that agreement, we maintained adequate oversight over Iran’s nuclear program such that if they backed out, the U.S. and our allies would have at least a full year to respond militarily before Iran had enriched uranium for their first nuclear weapon. Because Trump pulled out of that agreement, Iran now has the ability to produce a weapon within weeks.

“In the period since Iran has stopped full cooperation with nuclear inspectors, there has been more than enough time for the Trump Administration to brief Congress on the situation and seek the permission Constitutionally required for military action. It is also inexcusable that Trump did not inform Congressional leadership before military action was taken.

“Now is the time for diplomacy that must include the return of Iran’s enriched uranium inventory to IAEA inspection. All parties must return to the negotiating table to ensure a safer future for the United States and the world.”

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Quantum from page 1

Pritzker is a self-professed “quantum geek” and his personal interest in the emerging industry contributes to the state’s interest in it.

Over the two days the Japanese delegation was in Chicago, they toured several local quantum businesses, including qBraid, InfleQtion, and EeroQ among other locations around the city. The DCEO and Intersect Illinois also hosted a reception for the Japanese delegation.

The efforts from state and industry boosters appear to be interesting to at least a few in the cutting-edge industry.

At a pitch and networking event capping off the Japanese visit last week, several Chicago-based and Japan-based companies discussed their business models and strategies.

One of the Japanese delegation members who pitched at the event, Quantumdata founder Yuki Nagasako, told Capitol News Illinois the quantum industry in Chicago is “very hot,” especially compared to artificial intelligence tech hubs in California.

“When I say I work in quantum technology in the Bay area? Nobody knows. Nothing,” Nagasako said. “But in Chicago, here? Everybody.”

Nagasako, whose company has offices in California and is currently in a fundraising round, said he’s seriously considering expanding in Chicago.

That event also featured a closed-door meetings between Japanese companies and officials at PsiQuantum as well as other local companies.

State quantum park

PsiQuantum is one of the jewels of the state’s quantum crown. It is the “anchor tenant” of the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, or IQMP, a research park set to break ground later this year on Chicago’s South Side.

The California-based quantum computing company was raising \$750 million at a \$6 billion valuation earlier this year, according to reporting from Reuters. Its last official valuation was \$3.1 billion in 2021.

That park is being built with \$500 million in state funding, on top of \$200 million in tax breaks and other incentives going to PsiQuantum directly.

Harley Johnson, the University of Illinois professor who took over as the head of the IQMP late last year, said the “singular focus” of the research facility is to help scale up quantum computing technology.

“In some cases, it takes really specialized,

industrial-scale infrastructure,” Johnson said last week.

Johnson was speaking at an event at Argonne National Lab where federal researchers and state-level quantum advocates discussed the state’s future as the “Quantum Prairie” — a riff on California’s Silicon Valley.

There, he also laid the groundwork for what is expected to be a busy few months at the state’s quantum research park.

“There are a lot of exciting announcements,” Johnson said. “We’re going to break ground very soon.”

In addition to PsiQuantum, several other major groups have said they’ll set up shop at the research park. Six months ago, IBM announced it would build a quantum computer and research center at the park. About a year ago, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, announced it would base a quantum testing program at the park.

Two weeks ago, the IQMP also announced that Australian tech and quantum company Dirac intends to open a facility at the park.

“Dirac building and scaling their quantum operation at the IQMP is a testament to Illinois attracting the tech and security sectors,” Pritzker said in a statement at the time. “Dirac’s commitment further cements Illinois’ position as a global quantum leader and reflects the state’s commitment to fostering innovation and economic growth.”

Dirac is one of nearly 20 companies that is participating in the first stage of DARPA’s quantum testing program.

“We’ve got others that will be coming on board soon,” Johnson said in his speech last week.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Cameras

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Lawmakers expanded the program in 2022. In 2023, ISP installed 139 additional ALPRs in Champaign, Cook, Morgan, and St. Clair counties, and in 2024, ALPRs were installed in 19 counties and along with Lake Shore Drive in Chicago.

“Since it was put into place in 2021, we’ve seen a decrease in interstate shootings,” Jones said in

the March committee hearing on the bill. “A 31% decrease from 2023 to 2024, a 53% decrease from 2022 to 2024, and an 71% decrease from the initial year that we did this.”

If signed into law by Gov. JB Pritzker, the bill also would add cameras in Ogle, Lee and Whiteside counties to those regulated by the Expressway Camera Act. That means cameras in the counties would be subject to existing law’s prohibitions against using them to enforce petty offenses like speeding, and ISP would be allowed to run the licenses plate numbers captured by ALPRs through its software.

The measure also extended the expressway camera program for a second time, to 2028, after it was initially approved on a pilot basis.

Another aspect of the bill requires ISP to delete images obtained from the cameras from ISP databases within 120 days, with exceptions of images used for ongoing investigations or pending criminal trials. It also bars images obtained through the ALPRs from being accessible through the Freedom of Information Act, expanding on the existing expressway camera law.

“It’s also got protections so that someone can’t try to – if someone is in a divorce case and they want to know where their spouse has been all day, that information cannot be FOIA’d, it cannot be released to them, it cannot be subject to that type of activity either,” Kelly said about the bill. “It’s very limited and very focused.”

It also comes after a lawsuit from two Cook County residents in 2024 on the constitutionality of ALPRs. The residents alleged that the use of ALPRs to cross reference information stored in national databases amounted to a warrantless search of drivers.

On April 2, a U.S. District Judge ruled against the claim, saying that license plate numbers are not private information, and as such, do not fall under the Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable search and seizures.

HB3339 unanimously passed the House in April and passed the Senate on May 30 with only one no vote, by Sen. Jason Plummer, R-Edwardsville.

The bill is a part of a broader ISP initiative to crack down on human trafficking, as outlined in Senate Bill 2323, which also awaits approval from the governor before becoming law. That bill aims to better educate and coordinate officials across state agencies on how to identify and provide essential services to victims of human trafficking, with a specific focus on the Department of Children and Family Services.



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Trades

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advancement. The least selected option was that the work was too physically demanding.

The perception that women are less competent exacerbates other structural barriers to employment, according to Manny Rodriguez, executive director of the Chicago-based nonprofit Revolution Workshop, which offers workforce development programs targeted at communities of color who have been underrepresented in the trades.

Construction is a tough business for anyone, Rodriguez said. A recent paper by the RAND Corporation found that almost 40% of apprentices drop out of their programs before completion, regardless of race or gender, with almost half of those dropping out in the first six months.

Part of the issue is stability of work, such as making it through the cold season when opportunities for new construction projects dip, according to Rodriguez.

“In the wintertime, you can’t pour concrete. You can’t weld. If the structure is not already up, you pretty much got to wait until spring,” Rodriguez said.

Employer biases mean that women and people of color may be hired for jobs, but not retained for the next one, resulting in more instability

for those workers, Rodriguez said. As a result, apprenticeship completion rates for women and people of color are even lower.

In 2023, women accounted for 4.5% of U.S. construction apprentices, but 6% of cancellations, according to U.S. Department of Labor data. A study by The Institute for Construction Employment Research found that over the last two decades, around two-thirds of Black construction apprentices did not complete their programs.

Hispanic workers have maintained a high share of workforce participation in the construction industry, but often in lower paying, physically intensive roles, resulting in higher rates of both fatal and nonfatal injuries on the job.

“Latinos are represented in construction, but where?” Rodriguez asked. “I’m not the electrician, I’m not the plumber, I’m not the heavy equipment operator, I’m not the pipe fitter. So you got no problem breaking my brown body, but you’re not letting me do the other things.”

Many women and people of color who do make it in construction attribute their success, at least in part, to having others who look like them in the field.

In the survey of tradeswomen, almost two thirds of respondents identified mentorship from senior tradeswomen as important to their recruitment and advancement. It was something the all-girls team said was valuable as well.

“If we passed a construction site, and they were working, I always got excited when I saw a girl,” said Miles. “I was happy about it, because I’m like, I’m not the only one who actually enjoys this.” Other members of the team agreed.

But Walls, the only Black member of the team, sees fewer women in construction who look like her.

“I don’t see a lot of women, let alone Black women, doing construction,” Walls said. “I wish I had someone to relate to.”

That is part of the reason why breaking this barrier was important, for the girls on the team and for those who will come after them.

“It doesn’t matter if we win,” Wesley said. “The fact that we have taken a step like this for us, but also for other females in the trades, it’s a huge deal.”

Maggie Dougherty is a graduate student in journalism with Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications, and a fellow in its Medill Illinois News Bureau working in partnership with Capitol News Illinois.

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FREE EVENT!

McHENRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HERITAGE FAIR

39th Annual



The 2025 Heritage Fair at the McHenry County Historical Society & Museum is set to be a vibrant celebration of local history and community spirit.

FREE ADMISSION TO THE MUSEUM

GARDEN & LOG CABIN TOURS	PIE CONTEST	VINTAGE CARS
SCHOOL HOUSE TOURS	BAKE SALE	UNION FIRE TRUCK
BOUNCY HOUSE	50/50 RAFFLE	SHEEP SHED SPINNERS
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY-IN PROBATE
In the Matter of the Estate of WILLIAM G. BRONGE Deceased
Case: 2025-PR-31

CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of: WILLIAM G. BRONGE
BELVIDERE, IL
Letters of Office were issued on: 06/06/2025
Representative:
ANTHONY J. BRONGE
7731 BEL MAR DRIVE
BELVIDERE, IL 61008
whose attorney is:
MCKENNA LAW PC
30-B NORTH WILLIAMS ST.
CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014

Claims against the estate may be filed within six months from the date of first publication. Any claim not filed within six months from the date of first publication or claims not filed within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to Creditor, whichever is later, shall be barred.

Claims may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk, Boone County Circuit Clerk’s, Office, 17th Judicial Circuit Court, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to his attorney within ten days after it has been filed

Published in The Boone County Journal June 17, 24, July 1, 2025

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE
PROBATE DIVISION
IN RE THE ESTATE OF: CERES MAHURIN, Deceased.
CASE NO. 2024-PR-38)

CLAIM NOTICE
NOTICE is given of the death of CERES MAHURIN. A Petition for Letters of Office was filed on August 19, 2024 requesting Letters of Office to issue to Jessica McCord as Independent Administrator of the estate. Letters of Office were issued on September 11, 2024 naming Jessica McCord as Administrator of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Dennis G. Steeves on behalf of A Law Office of Crosby & Associates, P.C., 475 Executive Parkway, Rockford, IL 61107. Claims against the estate may be filed at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to Creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite time period as 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 St., Belvidere, Illinois, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

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

Dennis G. Steeves
Attorney for Administrator

PREPARED BY:
CROSBY LAW FIRM, P.C.
Dennis G. Steeves #6273683
475 Executive Parkway
Rockford, Illinois 61107
Phone: (815) 397-2006; Ext. 1106
Fax : (815) 316-0701
Email: dsteeves@thecrosbylawfirm.com // banderson@thecrosbylawfirm.com
Published in The Boone County Journal June 24, July 1 & 8, 2025

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
GREENSPRING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, NOT IN ITS
INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF
RMH 2023-4 TRUST Plaintiff,
-v- 2025 FC 20
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF LAWRENCE B. WIRTH
(DECEASED), UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF DIANE M.
WIRTH (DECEASED), LORIA A. PERRY (OWNER), UNKNOWN
OWNERS-TENANTS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 18, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on July 31, 2025, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Lot Two (2) in Block Twelve (12) as designated upon the Plat of Sheffield Green No. 3, being a Subdivision of part of the South (1/2) of Section 35, Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, according to the Plat thereof recorded February 15, 1968 as Document No. 10982, in Boone County, Illinois, situated in Boone County, State of Illinois.
Commonly known as 1721 9TH AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008
Property Index No. 05-35-378-002
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$202,728.47.

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 NOONAN & LIEBERMAN Plaintiff’s Attorneys, 33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1150, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 431-1455. Please refer to file number 1889-475.

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.

NOONAN & LIEBERMAN
33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1150
Chicago IL., 60602
312-431-1455
E-Mail: intake@noonanandlieberman.com
Attorney File No. 1889-475
Case Number: 2025 FC 20
TJSC#: 45-1568

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 # 2025 FC 20 6088-955362
Published in Boone County Journal July 1, 8, 15, 2025 SW

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01
ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE BUDGET AND
APPROPRIATIONS OF THE NORTH BOONE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT #3
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING MAY 1, 2025, AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2026

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the North Boone Fire Protection District #3, Boone County, Illinois, caused to be prepared in tentative form a Budget and the Secretary of this Board has made the same conveniently available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to final action thereon; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Budget on the 16th day of June, 2025, and Notice of said hearing was given at least thirty (30) days prior thereto as required by law, and the Board having met all other applicable legal requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the North Boone Fire Protection District #3, Boone County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: That the fiscal year of this Fire Protection District is hereby fixed to begin on May 1, 2025, and end on April 30, 2026.

Section 2: That the following Budget containing an estimate of the revenues available and expenditures and the appropriations contained therein be and the same is hereby adopted as the Budget and Appropriations for this fire protection district for this fiscal year; and the following sums of money, or as much thereof as may be authorized by law, is hereby appropriated to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the North Boone Fire Protection District #3, for its fiscal year beginning May 1, 2025, and ending April 30, 2026, for the respective objects and purposes, as hereinafter set forth namely:

CORPORATE FUND		
Estimated Corporate Fund Revenues		
Cash on hand as of April 30, 2025	\$	55,005.00
Investments/Capital Reserve on hand	\$	483,469.00
Property Taxes to be received in FY 2025-2026	\$	993,367.00
Illinois Replacement Tax	\$	6,000.00
Foreign Fire Insurance Proceeds	\$	31,500.00
Fire Billing Reserve	\$	10,000.00
District #5 Contract	\$	40,000.00
Interest	\$	40,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$	17,500.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT AVAILABLE:	\$	1,676,841.00

Estimated Corporate Fund Expenditures and Appropriations		
BUDGETED APPROPRIATED		
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:		
Volunteer Firemen Compensation:	\$120,000	\$140,000
Chief Salary:	\$ 60,000	\$ 70,000
Trustee Salaries:	\$ 11,250	\$ 12,000
Training-Staff:	\$ 250	\$ 500
Training-Firemen:	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000
IT Services:	\$ 15,000	\$ 25,000
Fire Inspections:	\$ 14,400	\$ 15,600
Legal Ads:	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,200
Auditing/Accounting:	\$ 15,000	\$ 17,000
Administrative Payroll:	\$ 30,000	\$ 40,000
Legal Fees:	\$ 30,000	\$ 35,000
Uniforms:	\$ 15,000	\$ 18,000
Payroll Taxes:	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES:	\$341,900	\$419,300

I. OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Communications:	\$ 18,000	\$ 20,000
Fuel and Oil:	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,00
Vehicle Repairs:	\$120,000	\$144,000
Equipment Repair:	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000
Building Maintenance:	\$ 50,000	\$ 55,000
Utilities:	\$ 50,000	\$ 60,000
Insurance:	\$ 95,000	\$100,000
Supplies and Consumables:	\$ 12,000	\$ 14,400
Dues:	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,400
Miscellaneous Expense:	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES:	\$397,000	\$ 460,800

II. CAPITAL EXPENSES:		
Replace Protective Gear:	\$ 30,000	\$ 36,000
Truck/Equipment Purchase:	\$ 350,000	\$ 375,000
Ambulance Loan:	\$ 57,000	\$ 60,000
Building Expenses:	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000
Building Loan:	\$156,100	\$ 157,00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENSES:	\$ 603,100	\$ 648,000

III. RESERVE AND CONTINGENCY:		
Equipment Reserve Fund:	\$ 161,000	\$ 1 6 1 , 0 0 0
Contingency Fund:	\$ 50,000	\$ 5 0 , 0 0 0
Building/Capital Reserve:	\$ 123,000	\$ 123,000
TOTAL RESERVE AND CONTINGENCY:	\$ 334,000	\$ 334,000

TOTAL CORPORATE FUND ESTIMATED
EXPENDITURES AND APPROPRIATIONS:
\$1,676,000.00 \$1,862,100.00

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the general property tax for corporate purposes.

ESTIMATED CORPORATE FUND BALANCE
AS OF APRIL 30, 2026: \$ 841.00

AMBULANCE FUND		
Estimated Ambulance Fund Revenues		
Cash on hand as of April 30, 2025	\$	485,957.00
Property Taxes to be received in FY 2025-2026	\$	461,221.00
Ambulance Revenue	\$	550,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$	3,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED AMOUNT AVAILABLE:	\$	1,500,178.00
Estimated Ambulance Fund Expenditures and Appropriations		

BUDGETED APPROPRIATED		
AMBULANCE EXPENSES:		
Ambulance Staffing/Payroll Taxes	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000
Contract Ambulance	\$ 1,400,000\$	\$1,420,000
Ambulance Supplies:	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,000
Billing Fees:	\$ 40,000	\$ 45,000
TOTAL AMBULANCE FUND ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES AND APPROPRIATIONS:	\$1,463,000.00	\$1,500,000.00

The foregoing appropriations are appropriated from the above revenue sources including the proceeds of a special property tax for ambulance purposes.

ESTIMATED AMBULANCE FUND BALANCE
AS OF APRIL 30, 2026: \$ 178

SUMMARY
TOTAL CORPORATE FUND APPROPRIATIONS \$ 1,862,100.00
TOTAL AMBULANCE FUND APPROPRIATIONS \$ 1,500,000.00
TOTAL ESTIMATED APPROPRIATIONS \$ 3,362,100.00

Section 3: That all unexpended balances of any item or items of any general appropriation in this Ordinance be expended in making up any insufficiency in any other item or items in the same general appropriation and for the same general purpose of any like appropriation made by this Ordinance.

Section 4: That the invalidity of any item or Section of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity of the whole or any other part hereof.

Section 5: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 16th day of June, 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows: AYES: 4 NAYS: None ABSENT: 1
APPROVED by me this 16th day of June, 2025.

/s/ Glen Guthrie, President, Board of Trustees, North Boone Fire Protection District #3

ATTEST: /s/ Susan Schmalen, Secretary, Board of Trustees, North Boone Fire Protection District #3
Published in Boone County Journal July 1, 2025

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 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, 1212 Logan Ave, Belvidere, IL 61008 upon the following petitions:

The applicant CCSIP Properties c/o Nathan Noble, is requesting a map amendment pursuant to Section 2.10 Map Amendment and 3.3 Agriculture Residence District of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance to rezone parcel 04-22-400-004, 94xx Edson Road, from A-1, Agricultural Preservation District to A-2, Agricultural Residential. Located in unin-corporated Boone Township, Boone County, IL.

The applicant, Chrystal Hansen, is seeking a special use permit in the A-1, Agriculture Zoning District for a commercial stable, pursuant to Section 2.7 (Special Uses), of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance at 16570 Caledonia Road,

PIN: 03-08-100-006, unincorporated Boone County, Caledonia Township.

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

Rick Schultz, Chair, Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals
Published in the Boone County Journal on Tuesday July 1, 2025.

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT BOONE COUNTYDATE
FOR REQUEST OF NAME CHANGE (ADULT): KELLSEY KATHERYN
MULKINS BIECK Case No. 2025-MR-21
There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from:
KELLSEY KATHERYN MULKINS BIECK to the new name of KELLSEY
KINS. The court date will be held on 07/22/2025 at 9:15 a.m. at the Boone
County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008.
Published in the Boone County Journal – 07/01, 07/08, 07/15/2025 (P)

ASSUMED NAMES

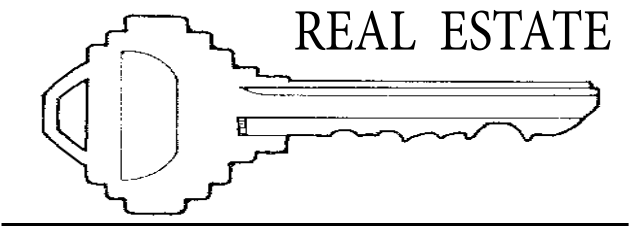
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. 4236 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a
FLOORING INSTALLATION business is or is to be conducted or transacted
under the name of FLOORING FORWARD that its location is or will be
152 BEACON DRIVE in BELVIDERE, in the County of Boone County,
State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning,
conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of
said person(s) is shown below.
Phone Number: 630-486-5367
LENNIE RAY WILLIAMS JR
152 BEACON DRIVE 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: June 12, 2025
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 6/17, 6/24, 07/01/25 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. 4235 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a LAWN
CARE AND LANDSCAPING business is or is to be conducted or transacted
under the name of M & K LAWN AND LANDSCAPE that its location is
or will be 210 BREE DRIVE in POPLAR GROVE, in the County of Boone
County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s)
owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or
address of said person(s) is shown below.
Phone Number: 815-871-4459
MATTHEW THOMAS DHAMER
210 BREE DRIVE POPLAR GROVE, ILLINOIS 61065
KYLE KEITH MEYERS 215 OAK LEAF
POPLAR GROVE, ILLINOIS 61065
I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the
State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy
of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: June 11, 2025
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 6/17, 6/24, 07/01/25 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. 4238 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a ONLINE
RETAIL business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name
of THE SUCCESS BUILDERS that its location is or will be 2424 W.
WINFIELD 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: 815-491-2792
DOMINIQUE BROWN 2424 W WINFIELD 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: June 17, 2025
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 06/24, 07/01,08 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. 4237 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a BAKING AND TREAT MAKER business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of SWEETS OF HONEY that its location is or will be 1517 7TH AVENUE in BELVIDERE, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.
Phone Number: 815-222-7336
RUBY ARTEAGA 1517 7TH AVE
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: June 16, 2025
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 6/24, 7/1, 7/08/25 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. 4239 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a ONLINE MERCHANDISE business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of ONFLUX OUTFITTERS that its location is or will be 10102 WANGE ROAD in CAPRON, 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: 815-345-6606
BRENDEN CHARLES CHINN
10102 WANGE ROAD CAPRON, ILLINOIS 61012
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: June 24, 2025
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 7/1, 7/08, 7/15/25 - P



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
GREENSPRING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC, NOT IN ITS
INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF
RMH 2023-4 TRUST Plaintiff,
-v- 2025 FC 20
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF LAWRENCE B. WIRTH
(DECEASED), UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF DIANE M.
WIRTH (DECEASED), LORI A. PERRY (OWNER), UNKNOWN
OWNERS-TENANTS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS
Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 18, 2025, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on July 31, 2025, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 1721 9TH AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008
Property Index No. 05-35-378-002
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$202,728.47.
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 NOONAN & LIEBERMAN Plaintiff's Attorneys, 33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1150, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 431-1455. Please refer to file number 1889-475.
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.
NOONAN & LIEBERMAN
33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1150
Chicago IL, 60602
312-431-1455
E-Mail: intake@noonanandlieberman.com
Attorney File No. 1889-475
Case Number: 2025 FC 20
TJSC#: 45-1568
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 # 2025 FC 20 6088-955362
Published in Boone County Journal July 1, 8, 15, 2025 SW

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has free, old newspapers
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Rights from page 3
certain “sensitive” areas, including schools, churches and hospitals.

Fred Tsao, an attorney for the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, said during an interview that the policy change has had a chilling effect on the immigrant community, making many afraid to even show up in school.

“We have seen a decline in student participation, particularly among heavily Latino schools after this inauguration,” he said. “So we want to make sure that schools are prepared in the events that federal agents, or for that matter other law enforcement, come to their door in a nonemergency situation.”

Tsao said advocates have also been concerned about possible changes in other legal protections for immigrant students that so far have only been expressed in judicial opinions.

In 1982, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Texas statute that authorized local school districts to either deny enrollment to children who had not been “legally admitted” to the United States, or to charge

them tuition, holding the law violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th amendment.

Tsao, however, said there have been attempts in other state legislatures, including earlier this year in Tennessee, to pass legislation that would challenge that 43-year-old ruling. And while the effort in the Tennessee legislature fell short this year, he said advocates in Illinois wanted to act now to make sure the rights of immigrant students are protected in state law, should the Supreme Court precedent ever be overturned.

“Fortunately, our counterparts in Tennessee, the immigrant advocacy organizations and community leaders, bombarded the General Assembly with advocacy work and were able to persuade a number of legislators to vote against this legislation when it came down to it,” he said. “But you know, that’s not to say that folks in Tennessee or folks in other states won’t try again.”

As of Wednesday, June 18, HB 3247 had not yet been sent to Gov. JB Pritzker.

prohibited the accused student from coming into contact with her daughter at school, which the order of protection already called for, and simply relocated him to another part of the school building.

“This safety plan was shared with the bus company, my daughter’s fifth grade teacher and office staff,” the mother said during a news conference in the Statehouse in January. “No one else knew of the assaults. No one else knew of the safety plan.”

During that news conference, Peden also said that after several meetings with the school board and multiple court orders, the student was removed from her daughter’s school and sent to an alternative school for the rest of the spring semester. However, in August, she received a phone call about the student’s reentry into her daughter’s school and again asked the school to remove her daughter’s perpetrator.

“We have laws where a student gets expelled for bringing a weapon on school grounds, but what about cases like this, when the student’s body is the weapon?” the mother said.

The parents attorney said the school district conducted what he called a “radically deficient” Title IX investigation. He alleged the school district was “more concerned with absolving the school district of responsibility” than of fleshing out what events took place when and where.

Title IX is a federal law enacted in 1972 that prohibits sexual discrimination in any education program or activity.

The court filing alleged that once the assaults were reported, the parents were informed about several other young victims in the community that the perpetrator had previously inappropriately touched.

The lawsuits also mentions a previous Illinois court case decision, which ruled that a school district is responsible for child abuse occurring on a school bus, alongside the section in the Taylorville School District’s Student Discipline Code that says student conduct on school buses, at extra-curricular activities, on any property within 1,000 feet of school grounds, and “prohibited conduct that is plainly visible to a person situated on school grounds even if the misconduct occurs off of school property” is enforceable.

The lawsuit also seeks compensatory damages for the cost of the girl’s psychological treatment and for her emotional distress, as well as the implementation of new policies that will “prevent future harassment and abuse.”

Parents of a 10-Year-Old Girl File Federal Lawsuit Against Taylorville School District for Alleged Assault

Parents say the district didn’t do enough to protect their daughter after learning of the alleged crime

By Jade Aubrey Capitol News Illinois

The parents of a 10-year-old girl who allegedly was assaulted repeatedly by a 14-year-old student in the Taylorville School District have filed a federal lawsuit against the school district and the school bus company.

The lawsuit, filed by a Chicago law firm, contains five counts against the Taylorville School District and Durham School Services, including violations of the victim’s Title IX rights, of her right to bodily integrity under the 14th Amendment, willful and wanton negligence, and infliction of emotional distress.

The victim is identified in the suit as Jane Doe, a minor. Her parents are named in the suit, but Capitol News Illinois is not using their names because it would identify the girl.

The victim’s mother said that over the course of a week between late January and early February 2024, her daughter was sexually assaulted by an older student on her daughter’s school bus and at her bus stop. The court filing alleges that the assaults ranged in severity from fondling to digital penetration, most often taking place on the school bus where the perpetrator cornered the girl.

On three separate instances, the perpetrator chased the girl away from a bus stop, held her down, and covered her mouth while he sexually assaulted her, according to the suit.

The lawsuit also alleged that the perpetrator told the girl that he would harm her and her family if she reported the abuse, and that “the perpetrator admitted that he did not even know (her) name when he repeatedly assaulted her.”

The girl is a special needs student living with autism and ADHD, according to the suit.

After reporting the incident, the mother said she obtained an emergency order of protection for her daughter and brought it to the principal of Taylorville Junior High School, who made a “safety plan” for her daughter. She said the plan

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