

## Beloit International Film Festival Returns to In Person Screenings

By Charles Herbst

The Beloit International Film Festival is back in person for its 17th Season. The schedule of 136 films has been announced, and is posted on the Festival's website at [www.beloitfilmfest.org](http://www.beloitfilmfest.org).

There's always a special excitement at a live film festival, with filmmakers in attendance, the chance to ask questions, and to experience the power of film. This year, the Festival takes place from Friday, February 25 through Sunday, March 6.

While film festivals have proliferated in recent years, BIFF continues to be ranked among the world's top 100 film festivals and is consistently highly regarded among independent filmmakers for its enthusiastic, informed audiences and warm hospitality. The Festival focuses on the work of filmmakers from Wisconsin and Illinois, and also presents a diverse international selection of films. Each film at the Festival is locally and carefully screened to offer a wide variety of high-quality comedy, drama, shorts, and documentaries each year to the Greater Beloit community.

A few changes have been made for this year's festival.

Tickets will no longer be sold at the door. Tickets may either be purchased online at [www.beloitfilmfest.org](http://www.beloitfilmfest.org) or in person at the Festival Box Office, 437 E. Grand Ave., telephone (608) 466 9693. If you have a gift certificate, known as a "Bifficate," you need to exchange it for a ticket either online or at the box office. Ticket prices remain a very modest \$10 for adults, and \$5 for students with identification.

Some new venues are being used to screen films, but all of this year's venues (except the Eclipse Center) are in Downtown Beloit and are walkable from each other. Of course, there is plenty of free parking available at each venue.

Masks are required this year at all BIFF screenings, regardless of venue. Masks have been generously donated and will be available at the door of each venue.

Last year, like many film festivals, BIFF was online. The Festival has decided to try a hybrid model this year. Many, but not all, of the films on offer will also be available online for viewing during the Festival, Feb. 25 through Mar. 6. Each film is \$10 and can be viewed once. For those who are unable to travel to Downtown Beloit or have health concerns, this will be an opportunity to see the films at the Festival from home.

In addition to the changes, some things will remain the same: Many local eating and drinking establishments in Beloit will be offering special BIFF After Dark activities and entertainment.

The BIFF Sing-a-Long at The Castle, 501 Prospect Ave, will take place on Sat., Feb. 26th at 7:30PM, with doors opening at 6:30. This year, it's classic tunes from *Daydream Believers: The Monkees' Story*. Admission is \$10, students \$5. A cash bar is available. Costumes are encouraged.

This year's classic film, *ET: The Extra Terrestrial*, will be shown at the Eclipse Center on March 6th at 2:30PM. Admission is free.

*Film reviews begin on Page 2*

## Changes to Cupcake Law Opens Doors for Small Buisness

by Mars Rinaldi

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic forced many Americans to find creative ways to supplement their income—or lack thereof. Some turned to the digital, "gig" economy, some joined the ranks of delivery services like Doordash and Instacart, and others channeled their creative energy into crafting and selling their wares at vendor events. For home-based food producers, also known as Cottage Food producers, things weren't so simple.

Prior to January 1, 2022, anyone wishing to sell home-made food items in Boone County was required to navigate a slew of restrictions regarding where and how their food could be produced. This was the result of the county board's rejection of the 2018 "Cupcake Law," which allowed home-

based bakeries, with a cap on how much they could earn, and no requirements for inspection or education. Like most counties who similarly rejected the measure, the decision was ostensibly based around concerns for food safety; though there was heavy opposition from established commercial food services who thought it unfair that home bakers were not subject to inspection and certification. Boone County required that home-based bakers either rent existing commercial kitchen space, or have their own commercial-grade kitchen on their property that was separate from their home kitchen and fully inspected by the county. Additionally, aspiring Cottage Food producers were required to acquire a Certified Food Protection Manager license, or a Food Handlers license.

These restrictions were highly preventative for most, effectively paralyzing Cottage Food operations. Bakers found that commercial kitchen space was limited, and came at a high price; though not as high as building and maintaining a separate kitchen in home. This also meant that many home bakers, who had been providing homemade birthday cakes and treats for neighbors for years, were operating outside of local law.



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## Belvidere Approves Agreement with NextSite

By David Larson

Belvidere City Council, seeking outside investments for the city beyond the efforts of Growth Dimensions, has entered into a contract with NextSite.

NextSite is a division of Nicor Gas, which provides marketing to outside investors to expand retail, real estate, and other commercial enterprises in client communities. NextSite began operation in 2015, and has since produced \$6.7 billion of capital investment in a wide variety of developments. NextSite's development process is data-driven, and is based upon analytics available from Belvidere's digital environment, which is used to persuade investment. According to the NextSite website, by vetting the local market against 500+ retailers, restaurants and service providers, using analytical tools, NextSite identifies markets that present development opportunities to a network of development partners it has cultivated.

Gina Delrose, Belvidere Community Development Planner explained to the City Council at the January 24 Committee-of-the-Whole that NextSite has a minimum service

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# The 17th Annual Beloit International Film Festival

By Charles Herbst

It's always difficult to choose among over 100 good films, but I've identified several that I believe are both enjoyable and noteworthy. This year, the documentaries seem particularly strong.

If any of these are sold out, check with the Festival. Additional screenings are generally added so as to give everyone a chance to see the film. Tickets may be purchased at the box office or online, but, unlike prior years, will not be sold at the door. Seating is open on a first-come-first-served basis.

## BIFF Venues

This year, all of the venues are in or near Downtown Beloit. There are several new ones this year. Everything is in walking distance from each other. Free parking is everywhere.

Box Office: 437 E. Grand Ave. 608 466 9693

Website: [www.beloitfilmfest.org](http://www.beloitfilmfest.org)

Bagels & More: 324 State St.

Domenico's: 547 E. Grand Ave.

Downtown Beloit Association: 557 E. Grand Ave.

IronTek: 635 3rd St.

La Casa Grande: 618 Fourth St.

Visit Beloit: 656 Pleasant St.

The Castle: 501 Prospect St.

## Amuka

**Rated PG. Directed by Antonio Spano**

Belgium French and Swahili with subtitles.

We don't think very often about the Congo, yet this huge country in the middle of Africa contains 70 percent of the world's cobalt, a material that is essential to making a battery for an electric car.



Crawford, George, 68, Belvidere, February 11  
Farel, Norman Jr., 67, Belvidere, February 8  
Humphry, Susan, 63, Belvidere, February 11  
McManus, Robert, Belvidere  
Suhr, Edward, 90, Belvidere, February 13

Formerly a Belgian colony, the Belgian Congo became the Republic of the Congo when it became independent in 1960. After a change in government, it became known as Zaire in 1971. In another change in 1997, it became known as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This larger country is often confused with the Republic of the Congo, a smaller, former French colony to its northwest.

The Congo has suffered from political instability, corruption and a lack of infrastructure, despite being extremely rich in natural resources. With the country's rich soils, the Congo could feed 50 percent of the entire world's population.

In this documentary, director Antonio Spano introduces us to several subsistence farmers from various parts of the country, telling us their stories and about their lives. These farmers are credible and empathetic. Spano points out that farmers represent 70 percent of the Congolese population, yet half the population suffers from moderate acute malnutrition.

*Amuka* is a fine introduction to a country many of us know little about, yet it is a country increasingly critical to our well-being and advanced lifestyle.

**Fri., Feb. 25, 5PM, IronTek**

**Sun., Feb. 27, 2:30PM, Visit Beloit**

## Americanish

**Rated PG-13. Directed by Iman Zawahry**

This romantic comedy takes place in Jackson Heights, Queens where two sisters and their newly-arrived cousin from Pakistan are looking for husbands. Through their adventures, they try to stay in the good graces of the family matriarch, Khala (Lillete Dubey).

In this coming-of-age story, three young women do a good job of balancing American identity with old-world cultural expectations and values.

In making the film, director Iman Zawahry wanted to address the American Muslim perspective, and specifically break down the stereotype that Muslim equals Foreign.

What makes this film valuable is a very relaxed, cross-cultural flavor that's artfully blended with funny situations and laughs. The film gently calls out prejudice without being preachy or alienating the viewer. Zawahry briefly touches on workplace discrimination and the right of a woman to pursue her own career independent of her husband. She makes a convincing case.

Credible performances by the cast, good cinematography and good writing make this film enjoyable to watch. Zawahry wraps it all in positivity and succeeds with this film.

**Fri., Feb. 25, 7:30PM, IronTek**

**Fri., Mar. 4, 7:30PM, Domenico's**

**Sat., Mar. 5, 7:30PM La Casa Grande**

## Operation Wolf Patrol

**Rated PG-13. Directed by Joe Brown**

*Operation Wolf Patrol* is a film about the controversial activities in Northern Wisconsin of Rod Coronado, an activist who wants to end wolf hunting in the US. The film also shows bear hunting in Wisconsin and the treatment of hunting dogs by their owners.

Hunting is a popular pastime in Wisconsin. At the same time, many believe it inhumane and oppose it. One of the techniques employed by Coronado has been to film hunters while they hunt on public lands. This has led to legislation in the form of "hunter harassment laws" that prohibit photography of the hunters on public land. It is questionable whether such a law is Constitutional.

The film shows several confrontations in which the film crew (and the crew for this film) has had contentious interactions with hunting parties. With tempers, hunting dogs and firearms involved, some of these incidents have become dangerous. Often, law enforcement has been in the middle of these confrontations.

Regardless of your position on wolf and bear hunting in Wisconsin, this documentary does a good job of recording the controversy and larger

societal cultural gap.

**Fri., Feb. 25, 7:30PM, Downtown Beloit Asso.**

**Sun., Feb. 27, 5PM, Bagels & More**

## Transmission

**Rated PG. Directed by Noah Meister**

Barney (Nate Taylor) is a young man with a dull life that is spent watching television in his "Serling Estates" apartment complex. Unbeknownst to him, his activities are being directed by aliens. Barney discovers a hidden surveillance camera and attempts to escape. We learn that the aliens are attempting to learn about human behavior so that they can infiltrate our planet.

This short film is only 9 minutes long, and uses a rather primitive set, somewhat reminiscent of the early *Dr. Who* episodes. Despite the film's rather prosaic premise, *Transmission* captures the viewer's attention. This film draws you into its story nicely, and we think the director shows promise.

*Transmission* is a good, early attempt from a young filmmaker from Verona, Wisconsin. Meister's previous work has been shown at the Milwaukee Short Film Festival and the Grindhouse Film Festival in the UK.

**Part of WI/IL Shorts (1)**

**Fri., Feb. 25, 5PM, Domenico's**

**Sat., Mar. 6, 2:30PM, Downtown Beloit Asso.**

## The Humongous Fungus Among Us

**Rated PG. Directed by Logan Hall**

While this title suggests science fiction, the fungus is quite real. Located near Copper Falls, Michigan, it is arguably one of the largest and oldest living things in the world. The subject of many news reports when it was discovered, it is believed to be over 32 acres in size and still growing underground. The only visible sign of the fungus are occasional clumps of mushrooms found for a few weeks in the fall.

Three affable, if quite-serious scientists have been studying the fungus for years. Using DNA and similar tests, they have been able to determine that this humongous fungus is actually a single organism. A professional paper they published in the 90s on the fungus drew the attention of international news media.

Like many small Upper Peninsula towns, Copper Falls has lost much of its industry. The fungus has been the impetus for an annual Fungus Festival that's held in the autumn. The Fungus Festival features a giant mushroom pizza, a Mr. Fun-gi contest, and similar fare. Local merchants have distributed t-shirts and other paraphernalia, with a local restaurant featuring a giant fungus burger.

The film divides its time between the silly goings on in Copper Falls and a more serious explanation of the fungus. It has a rather dry, humorous aspect, and BIFF has paired the film as a double feature along with *Sin Rock--The Story of Johnny Bazooka*, a comedic mockumentary based in LaCrosse.

Expect to learn something about the fungi along with a few laughs.

**This film will be screened along with *Sin Rock*, see below for times**

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**REAL JOURNALISM FOR A REAL DEMOCRACY**

Publisher/Editor Senior Writer/Editorial Photography	David C. Larson Charles Herbst Susan Moran
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David Grimm April 1938 - Dec. 2000  
Richelle Kingsbury Aug. 1955 - June 2013

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Each week, the Journal seeks to present a variety of voices.  
**Letters.** Every attempt will be made to print all letters received with the exception of those that are libelous or obscene. Letters should be signed and include an ID or phone number, so that we can contact the author prior to publication to verify authenticity.  
**Guest columns.** Community leaders are encouraged to submit guest columns consistent with our editorial guidelines for possible inclusion in the Journal.  
**Opinions.** The opinions expressed in the Journal are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Boone County Journal management or ownership.

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## Sin Rock— The Story of Johnny Bazooka

Rated PG. Directed by Sean Klaus

This short mockumentary tells of a LaCrosse rock and roll guitar legend; An orphan who raised himself, Johnny was born with one hand twice the size of the other. Despite being having been a huge star, amazingly, no pictures of him or recordings of his music have survived.

This Wisconsin tall tale goes on for about half an hour. If you enjoy irony, you'll love this classic Sconnie humor. Paired with *The Humongous Fungus Among Us*, the two films will provide an hour and a half of chuckling, if not laughing out loud. Of course, with a room full of Wisconsinites watching the film, lines like "Of course alcohol was involved, this is Wisconsin," are sure to resonate.

For fans of dry humor and dramatic hyperbole, this film will be a favorite.

Sat., Feb. 26, 5PM, La Casa Grande

Sun., Feb. 27, 12 Noon, Downtown Beloit Asso.

## Darking Way

Rated PG-13. Directed by Zsolt Pozsgai

Hungary. Hungarian and Russian with subtitles.

This film, based upon a true story, takes place after the failed Hungarian War of Independence in 1848. The leaders of the revolution were sentenced to death and Haynau, one of the leaders of the victorious forces, refuses to grant clemency, despite the entreaties of European royalty and Austria's key ally, the Russian Tsar. The complex history of the period could probably consume a couple of film reels of its own, but knowing the historical nuances of the period isn't necessary to enjoy and follow the story.

Waiting to be executed, General Ignác Török, was never married and had a one-time lover, Charlotte. Charlotte arrives on the orders of the emperor, along with her husband, Sternberg, on the eve of Török's execution, to try to save him. Sternberg himself is a high-ranking official of the Imperial Court. Haynau refuses to spare Török. Haynau has the daughter of Charlotte and Török brought to the castle and introduced to Török for the first time. Because Charlotte was already married to Sternberg at the time the daughter was born, the daughter was raised in a boarding school of ill repute. The meeting does not go well, and the episode causes Török to die of a heart attack. His corpse is hung the following morning.

For those who are looking for a complicated plot, lots of passion, and a touch of history in their films, this will be as rich a treat as any Hungarian dessert. The film held my interest and left me curious to learn more about the historical background of the time.

Sat., Feb. 26, 12 Noon, Domenico's

Sun., Feb. 27, 2:30PM, Downtown Beloit Asso.

## The Alternate

Rated PG-13. Directed by Alrik Bursell

We have all wondered if the grass was greener on the other side, and this science fiction film gives us a chance to imagine the possibilities. The film

has a relatively simple premise and is not weighted down with complexity.

Filmmaker Jake (Ed Gonzalez Moreno) is frustrated working as a freelance videographer, trying to write the screenplay for his film, *Space Drive*. To support them, his wife, Kris (Natalia Dominguez), works in an optical shop, with her dreams of being an eyeglass designer on hold. One night, while doing a bit of film editing, Jake discovers a portal that allows him to enter an alternate reality.

The alternate reality is one where Jake is a quite-successful filmmaker, and has a young daughter. His wife is a successful eyeglass designer. Struggling Jake sneaks around and gets to observe Successful Jake and his family. Ultimately, Struggling Jake tries to trade places. Initially, our sympathies are toward Struggling Jake, but gradually we come to appreciate that Successful Jake is really the good guy.

Director Alrik Bursell worked on this film for eight years, and it shows. This is a well-written, well-made film from an experienced director. It should appeal not only to sci-fi buffs, but also to others. *The Alternate* allows us to reflect on our own character and ponder what we would do in such circumstances. Entitlement and shortcuts often come at a price.

Fri., Mar. 4, 7:30PM, La Casa Grande

Sat., Mar. 5, 7:30PM, Domenico's

Sun., Mar. 6, 2:30PM, Visit Beloit

## Fish and Puddle

Rated PG. Directed by Ali Barati

Iran. Persian with subtitles.

Ali (Amir Reza Faramarzi) is brilliant, mischievous and inventive 12-year-old boy born into a poor family. He makes mistakes, and his daydreaming and inventiveness get him expelled from the best school in town.

Ali, despite setbacks, continues to persevere. At 18, the teenage Ali (Baset Razaee) attends a camp for elite students. This time, he is arrested for one of his mistakes, and he loses his place in the elite group. His best girlfriend, Mahboubeh (Mahsa Hashem) helps him from afar as he seeks to build and fly the gyroplane that he designed. With a day job as a clerk, he works on the plane in an abandoned silo and ultimately triumphs over adversity.

While the film was otherwise well-done, details in the film were sometimes a bit hard to follow in English. The message, however, was clear. Children should be encouraged and offered the best education possible. It should be ok to fail, and one's station in life shouldn't preordain destiny. (A point that should not be lost in our local community as well.) By encouraging geniuses, who knows what could be possible.

Sun., Feb. 27, 12 Noon, IronTek

Tues., Mar. 1, 5:30PM, Domenico's

## NextSite

from page 1

agreement of \$15,000 per year for 3 years, plus set commissions based upon performance. The cost of purchasing the software and training to do this type of analytics, she pointed out, far exceeds the cost of this service agreement. In addition, Nicor/NextSite has the business contacts that would require time and establishing an experienced team if Belvidere were to do this on its own.

The motion to approve the contract was unanimously approved.

## Bill Seeks Pay Raise for Tipped Workers

Sponsor says it is a step out of poverty for millions of working families

By Beth Hundsdorfer Capitol News Illinois

A bill in the Illinois House would do away with the sub-minimum wage paid to waitresses, bartenders and other tipped service workers.

Rep. Camille Lilly, D-Chicago, introduced House Bill 5139 last month. If the bill becomes law, workers who supplement their wages with tips will receive the state's minimum wage starting on Jan. 1, 2025, in addition to their tips.

Its passage may be a tall order, however, as the Illinois Restaurant Association successfully lobbied when lawmakers overhauled the minimum wage schedule in 2019 to allow businesses to continue to pay less than minimum wage to employees who earn tips.

Lilly's bill has currently not received a full committee assignment and has no cosponsors.

In 2019, Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker signed legislation into law providing a path to increase Illinois' minimum wage rate to \$15 per hour and \$9 for tipped workers by 2025. Servers and bartenders who receive tips are currently subject to a \$7.20 an hour minimum wage.

At a bill signing for that 2019 law, Sam Toia, president of the Restaurant Association, appeared alongside Pritzker and praised the law for maintaining the credit which allows employers to pay tipped workers 60 percent of the minimum wage if tips make up the other 40 percent.

The IRA did not respond to a request for comment as of this publication.

But Lilly, in a news conference Monday, noted that Valentine's Day is the highest grossing day of the year for restaurants, making the announcement of the effort to eliminate the sub-minimum wage in Illinois poetic.

"This work comes from the heart," Lilly said during a Monday news conference. "This is the beginning of addressing poverty for each and every worker across the state of Illinois."

"Two years ago, we raised the minimum wage, but we left tip workers out," Lilly said. "This is a way to address that."

Since 2020, more than a million workers have left the hospitality industry nationwide. In Illinois, about 90,000 workers have left the industry since 2020, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The bureau reported that a record 4.5 million Americans quit their jobs in November, but the quit rate in the hospitality and leisure

Continued on Page 4

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# OP-ED

industry was 6.4 percent – more than double the average of all the combined industries.

The virtual news conference on Monday was hosted by the organization One Fair Wage, based in New York.

Attendees said the hot job market led many in the hospitality industry to find higher paying jobs in other sectors.

The added challenges for restaurant workers included enforcing COVID-19 mandates, as well as exposing themselves to the virus by those who refused to comply with mitigation efforts. Also, sexual harassment is often tolerated because waitresses and bartenders depend on tips to supplement their hourly income.

In 2019, women made up 51 percent of workforce in the hospitality industry.

Tabina Gibson, of Chicago, worked in the hospitality industry for 20 years. Gibson, who attended the news conference with Lilly, is the mother of five and grandmother to two.

When the pandemic hit and she was laid off, she said she found she made too little in wages to collect unemployment. She used a grant and started a small business with her daughter selling lip gloss and other personal care items.

Gibson isn't alone. In March 2020, one in four people in Illinois who lost their jobs was in the restaurant industry, but two-thirds of restaurant workers reported they couldn't access unemployment benefits because their subminimum wage was too low to qualify for benefits.

Victor Love owns Josephine's Southern Cooking in Chicago. He said he has challenges. His restaurant survived the pandemic and the violence that occurs in the neighborhood. Despite the challenges, Love said he supports higher wages for his employees.

One of his employees has worked for his restaurant for 30 years, Love noted. That kind of loyalty, Love said, provides stability.

"Give and it shall be given back to you," he said.

Love's daughter, Grace, is a waitress at her father's restaurant. She currently gets paid \$9 an hour plus tips.

*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.*

## The Value of Being a Little Uncomfortable

By Scott Reeder

Phil Luciano, perhaps Illinois' best newspaper columnist, hung up his fedora at the Peoria Journal-Star and left the newspaper business.

I've known Phil for 35 years and have long admired his writing. We were once classmates in a graduate program at Sangamon State University back when "Big Jim" Thompson was in the Governor's Mansion and Ronald Reagan in the White House.

He's spent the last 34 years writing for the Peoria Journal-Star and now is working for the local public television affiliate. I'm happy for my friend but sad to see another columnist's byline disappear.

Phil left the paper about three weeks ago. Unfortunately, departures like his are all too common in the newspaper business. In the last year alone, the faces of Mary Schmich, Dahleen Glanton, Steve Chapman, Heidi Stevens, Eric Zorn and John Kass have disappeared from the Chicago Tribune.

In 2020, Bernie Schoenburg and Doug Finke retired from the State Journal-Register and Chuck Sweeney at the Rockford Register-Star died. In 2018, Bill Wundram ended his tenure at the Quad-City Times.

The financial troubles of daily newspapers are not a secret. Papers have had to cut back to stay afloat. Staff cuts are never pretty whether done with buyouts, layoffs or natural attrition.

"Newspaper editors, publishers -- whoever makes those decisions -- see columnists or columns as a luxury that they can't afford anymore. I think that that's unfortunate," Luciano said.

Local columnists are sinews that bind a community together and build loyalty with a newspaper's readers. But they are disappearing.

"We were the gravy on the mashed potatoes, and they don't need the gravy anymore. They're happy to just give the mashed potatoes," said Wundram, who wrote for the Quad-City Times and its predecessor newspapers for 74 years.

He was a master of his craft. He wrote seven columns a week for almost four decades. His name and face became synonymous with the newspaper. When I was a young reporter working with him, folks across the community would ask me if I knew Wundram.

Back in the day, his advice to young reporters like me was straight forward: "There is no news in the newsroom."

In an interview Feb. 13, Wundram added, "It's very difficult to get anything, just sitting at a desk. You have to work and talk to people: little people and big people. Funny people. All shapes and sizes. And I deal greatly with people."

And I should add a good columnist should occasionally make readers uncomfortable.

Wundram said he remembers standing by the graveside of a local soldier being buried during World War II. (He started at the newspaper in

1944.) No one else from the community showed up for the burial.

He wrote a piece shaming the community for failing to honor a local son who had made the ultimate sacrifice for his nation.

Peoria's Luciano said a columnist is in a position to make change.

"If you are going to bat for someone the goal shouldn't always be to raise a ruckus -- or blow things up. It should be about finding a way to help people. ... A columnist, if he is doing his job, should be out talking to ordinary Joes and Janes and be their advocate."

When I talked to my friends Phil and Bill, it was clear that column writing was their calling. It was what they were meant to do with their lives.

I've been writing a weekly newspaper column for about 20 years. At first, it wasn't something I really wanted to do. But Jerry Taylor the former publisher of The Daily Dispatch and Rock Island Argus was persistent. At first, he suggested I write a weekly column. I told him I wasn't interested. I liked writing straight news pieces and had no desire to write opinion. He kept needling me and I kept demurring. Finally, he ordered me to write a weekly column.

I didn't like writing it at first. But he was a good teacher and slowly what I once viewed as a chore became a favorite part of the job.

As a teenager, I loved reading Chicago newspaper columnist Mike Royko.

His newspaper columns dripped with sarcasm

*Continued on Page 5*

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**OP-ED**

from page 4

and wit. He was always fighting for the underdog and sticking it to those in power. His columns brought to light corruption in Chicago City Hall, the Illinois Capitol and various places across the map.

But the most important thing he did was give voice to the voiceless.

When I was in college, I remarked on how much I loved the Des Moines Register's opinion page and my father, who was a bit of a curmudgeon, huffed, "What's the point of an opinion page?"

I replied that it was to expose people to various points of view. To this day, I love reading columns from across the political spectrum. Why? Well, it's important to understand differing opinions and every once in a while I'll read something so well-reasoned that I decide to change my viewpoint.

We now live in a Fox News/MSNBC society where increasingly people are choosing to only pay attention to commentary they agree with.

What's the point of that?

I for one, love to read a newspaper opinion page with a variety of views. Good columnists may not get you to change your mind, but they can get you to think.

And in an increasingly thoughtless society, can we ask for anything more?

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at [sreeder@illinoistimes.com](mailto:sreeder@illinoistimes.com).

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**Shots Fired**

*Press Release*

On October 23, 2021 the Belvidere Police Department responded to the 400 block of Andrews Drive for a report of shots fired.

The caller reported the suspect fled on foot from the area.

Witnesses reported prior to the shots being fired the guests at the house escorted a Hispanic male from the property. A few minutes later 4-5 males returned and an unknown subject fired shots at the house striking a window on the front of the house.

On February 9, 2022 the Boone County States Attorney's Office petitioned a 16-year-old to juvenile court for Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm.

The juvenile remains in custody at this time.

The Belvidere Police Department encourages anyone with information pertaining to this Armed Robbery to contact the Belvidere Police Department at 815-547-6444 or to provide information anonymously contact Boone County Crimestoppers at 815-547-7867 or online at [boonecountycrimestoppers.com](http://boonecountycrimestoppers.com). Information leading to an arrest can be subject to a cash reward of up to \$1000.00.

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**Gas Companies Push Back Against Effort to Repeal Surcharge**

*Consumer advocates say fee is no longer needed*

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Natural gas utilities in Illinois warned of job losses and possible risks to public safety if state lawmakers repeal a law allowing them to add a surcharge on customer bills that consumer advocates say is being used to gouge customers.

"This provides around 500 good jobs annually and creates opportunity for diverse contractors," Eric Kozak, vice president of gas operations for Ameren Illinois, told a House committee Wednesday. "And modernizing the system sets the stage for the state of Illinois to become a leader at utilizing renewable natural gas, synthetic natural

gas, and even hydrogen, which can attract new businesses and retain industry."

At issue is a 2013 amendment to the Public Utilities Act that allows large natural gas utilities – those serving more than 700,000 customers – to add a surcharge onto customer bills to recover costs associated with investments in "qualifying infrastructure plant," or QIP.

Those include a return on investment and depreciation allowances related to things like replacing old, leaky gas lines and meters. Those surcharges are subject to review by the Illinois Commerce Commission, but only to determine whether they qualify under the statute.

The commission also has authority to review a company's actual expenses to determine whether customers were overcharged and are owed a refund.

That law is scheduled to sunset at the end of 2023, but House Bill 3941 would move that date up one year, to Dec. 31, 2022.

"Over the past decade, through formula rates and QIP, Illinois has stripped away regulatory protections, supercharging the utility incentive to spend money to make money and raise rates as fast as they can," said Abe Scarr, director of the consumer advocacy group Illinois PIRG. "The utilities have responded to these incentives with billions of dollars of wasteful spending. This is not surprising. It's exactly what we should expect. The question now is how will the General Assembly respond?"

As an example, Scarr pointed to the Naperville-based Nicor Gas, the state's largest natural gas distribution company, which he said has raised its rates 77 percent in the last four years. That came after Nicor's rates had risen only 28 percent over the previous 37 years.

"Rate increases and utility profits are largely driven by capital spending," he said. "Nicor's capital spending sharply increased since it began using QIP in 2015. Since then, QIP has accounted for half of Nicor's capital spending, making it a major contributor to the company's massive rate hikes."

Consumer advocacy groups like Illinois PIRG have pushed for its repeal for years, to no avail. But this year, with rising natural gas prices across the board, and amid a global push to move away from fossil fuels to combat climate change, advocates think they have a better chance.

"Unless the General Assembly ends this unnecessary surcharge now, ratepayers will be stuck paying for stranded assets of a gas delivery system that will eventually become obsolete and not a part of the clean energy future that this legislature envisioned when it passed the Clean Energy Jobs Act and asked ratepayers and utility companies to move away from carbon- and methane-producing energy," said Karen Lusson, staff attorney at the National Consumer Law Center.

Utility executives, however, argued that rising global prices for natural gas, not the surcharges, are the primary source of rising customer bills.

"Ninety percent of the current high prices are being driven by global demand and prices, not this act," Kozak told the committee.

Patrick Evans, president of the Illinois Energy Association, recalled that the surcharges came about partially in response to a natural gas pipe explosion in San Bruno, California, in 2010 that killed eight people, left 58 injured and destroyed 38 homes.

"At the time, Illinois' own (former Congressman) Ray LaHood was Secretary of Transportation,"

Evans said. "And in response to this tragic incident, he actually issued a formal call to action, requesting that all natural gas utilities in the country begin to accelerate their pipeline replacement program to ensure that these incidents are minimized in the future."

He said that led to negotiations between the industry and lawmakers which resulted in an agreement to end what he called the "regulatory lag" between the time a company invests money for system improvements and the time when it recovers those investments.

"That term simply means that we get to recover our investments quicker than the traditional method, which requires us to go to the (Illinois Commerce) Commission first," he said. "It does not eliminate commission oversight. We will always have to prove up our investments at the commission. The standards have not been changed."

Patrick Whiteside, senior vice president of operations for Nicor Gas, said the surcharge has enabled the company to improve the safety and reliability of its entire system.

"Nicor Gas' system was able to support our customers and communities through the polar vortex of 2019, the single largest delivery of energy ever recorded on our system, without interruption to service or pressure situations for our customers," he said. "By replacing poorly performing materials, we are driving the rate trends down and reducing greenhouse gas emissions across the overall system."

But J.C. Kibbey, a clean energy advocate with the Natural Resources Defense Council, noted that his own personal gas bill from Peoples Gas in January had a \$15 surcharge, more than the company had previously said it would cost in a year, and that it had more than \$95 in total infrastructure charges.

"These big charges are worrying and so is what they pay for," he said. "They're building out a gas system to burn methane gas, fossil fuel, much of it in our homes. To be clear, this gas is no more natural than coal. Burning gas harms are health by releasing carbon monoxide and other pollutants in the air and our homes. This pollution disproportionately hurts underserved communities and people of color."

The committee did not take action on the bill, which was on the agenda for discussion only.

In a separate email, Illinois PIRG's Abe Scarr conceded that getting the bill through the General Assembly was a "long shot." But he said he hopes the concerns that his group and other advocates are raising will deter lawmakers from extending the surcharge past its current 2023 expiration date.

*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.*

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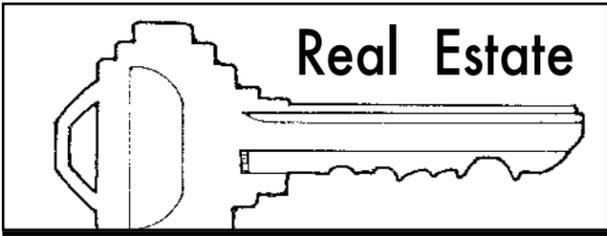
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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR ARGENT SECURITIES INC, ASSET-BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-W4 Plaintiff,

-v.- 2020 CH 48  
ROBERTO GOMEZ JR, MARIA R. BOBADILLA-GOMEZ, CANDLEWICK LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC, AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS, INC N/K/A ONEMAIN FINANCIAL OF ILLINOIS, INC, Defendant  
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 14, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on March 15, 2022, at the NLT Title L.L.C., 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 129 DREW COURT NE, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065

Property Index No. 03-22-253-007  
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.  
The judgment amount was \$147,323.22.

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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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, Alexander Potestivo, POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610, Chicago, IL, 60606 (312) 263-0003. Please refer to file number 111480.

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.

POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610  
Chicago IL, 60606  
312-263-0003

E-Mail: ilpleadings@potestivolaw.com  
Attorney File No. 111480  
Case Number: 2020 CH 48  
TJSC#: 42-9

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 # 2020 CH 48  
13186750

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 10, 17, 24, 2022.

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

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR SECURITIZED ASSET BACKED RECEIVABLES LLC TRUST 2006-WM4 Plaintiff,

-v.- 20 CH 58  
GREGORY ARMSTRONG A/K/A GREGORY A. ARMSTRONG, CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR CMLTI ASSET TRUST Defendant  
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 17, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on March 18, 2022, at the NLT Title L.L.C., 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

Commonly known as 1406 16TH AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008  
Property Index No. 05-35-303-016

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.  
The judgment amount was \$133,078.72.

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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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, The sales clerk, LOGS Legal Group LLP Plaintiff's Attorneys, 2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301, Bannockburn, IL, 60015 (847) 291-1717 For information call between the hours of 1pm - 3pm.. Please refer to file number 20-093986.

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.

LOGS Legal Group LLP  
2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301  
Bannockburn IL, 60015  
847-291-1717

E-Mail: ILNotices@logs.com  
Attorney File No. 20-093986  
Case Number: 20 CH 58  
TJSC#: 42-33

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.  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 17, 24, Mar 3

## LEGAL NOTICES

TAX DEED NO.: 2022TX5  
FILED: 1/24/2022

### TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone  
Date Premises Sold: October 31, 2019  
Certificate No.: 2018-00133

Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2018  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A

Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 926 Julien Street, Belvidere, IL 61008  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 05-25-408-013  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 20, 2022.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 20, 2022.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Room 3, on August 9, 2022 at 9:00 AM.

You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 20, 2022 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave., Suite 103  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
(815) 544-3103

Firm Assets, LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee, January 26, 2022  
Travis B Hardy Sr., Travis B. Hardy Sr.

**Occupant**  
Devin A. Gough, Elizabeth Vendermerwe, Trevor James Brewer, Joni Oglesby, Elizabeth Bruzan, Thomas Gough, Shawn Michael Roth  
State of Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement, State of Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement, State of Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement, Attorney General for the State of Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Enforcement, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"  
"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"  
6088-920670

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 3, 10, 17

TAX DEED NO.: 2022TX6  
FILED: 1/24/2022

### TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone  
Date Premises Sold: October 31, 2019  
Certificate No.: 2018-00021

Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2018  
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A

Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A  
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES  
Property Located at: 136 Columbia Street Northwest, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Legal Description or Property Index No.: 03-22-351-015  
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 20, 2022.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 20, 2022.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Room 3, on August 9, 2022 at 9:00 AM.

You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 20, 2022

by applying to the County Clerk of Boone, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave.,  
Suite 103  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
(815) 544-3103

Equity One Investment Fund LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee

January 26, 2022

Matthew S See, Priscilla M See, Matthew S. See, Priscilla M. See, Priscilla M. See, Matthew S. See

**Occupant**  
Charles R. See, Lucas Yattone, Barb Lizer, Jake Yattone  
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois  
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"  
6088-920671

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 3, 10, 17

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ESTATE OF JOHN E. LAMMERSFELD, Deceased  
NO. 21 P 75

CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of: JOHN LAMMERSFELD of Capron, IL  
Letters of Office were issued on December 14, 2021

Representative Linda Lammersfeld  
155 Rainbow Drive, Capron, IL 61012

Whose attorney is: Law Office of Paula Rieghns, Ltd.

P.O. Box 205  
631 E. Grant Highway  
Marengo, IL 60152

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 of Creditor, whichever is later, shall be barred.

Claims may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Boone County, 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 or her attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

December 15, 2021 Kelly Boettger Pro Tempore  
Clerk of the Court

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 3, 10, 17

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

In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN T. WOLF, Deceased.  
CASE NO. 2022 PR 5

CLAIM NOTICE  
Notice is given of the death of JOHN T. WOLF. Letters of Office were issued on February 3, 2022, to AMY J. WILCOX, 9562 Lawrenceville Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038, who is the Independent Executor of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate is MICHAEL J. SCHAPPERT, HolmstromKennedyPC, 800 North Church Street, Rockford, Illinois 61103.

Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before August 10, 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 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 his attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: February 7, 2022.  
AMY J. WILCOX, Independent Executor of the Estate of JOHN T. WOLF, Deceased

HolmstromKennedyPC, Her Attorneys  
Attorney Michael J. Schappert  
HolmstromKennedyPC - ARDC #3128183

Attorney for Independent Executor  
800 N. Church Street  
Rockford, IL 61103  
(815) 962-7071

mjs@hkrockford.com  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 10, 17, 24, 2022.

Claims with notice to heirs (Will)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION.

ESTATE OF Marian Adamczyk, DECEASED. NO. 2021P82.

Notice is given of the death of the above named decedent. Letters of Office were issued to Gabriela Rozborksa, 1375 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 550, Schaumburg, IL 60173, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is WITAS, EDWARD J. (6298782), 1375 E WOODFIELD RD SUITE 510, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173.

Notice to Heirs and Legatees

Notice is given to Joanna Adamczyk; Sylvester Adamczyk; Evona Vasquez; Christopher Adamczyk; Piotr Adamczyk; Katarzyna Borysewicz; and Gabriela Rozborksa, as Trustee of the Marian Adamczyk Living Trust dated December 14, 2016, Most Recently Amended September 14, 2021; who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose names or addresses are also stated in the petition to admit the will to probate, that an order was entered by the court on 01/18/2022, admitting the will to probate.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in section 5/6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975 (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/6-21).

You also have the right under section 5/8-1 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk's Office 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the representative, or both, on or before July 21, 2022, or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered by the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited

exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>.  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 10, 17, 24, 2022.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR ARGENT SECURITIES INC, ASSET-BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-W4 Plaintiff,  
-v- 2020 CH 48  
ROBERTO GOMEZ JR, MARIA R. BOBADILLA-GOMEZ, CANDLEWICK LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC, AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS, INC N/K/A ONEMAIN FINANCIAL OF ILLINOIS, INC, Defendant  
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 14, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on March 15, 2022, at the NLT Title L.L.C, 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT 19 IN CANDLEWICK LANE UNIT NO. 11, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 73-2314 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Commonly known as 129 DREW COURT NE, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065

Property Index No. 03-22-253-007  
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.  
The judgment amount was \$147,323.22.

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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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, Alexander Potestivo, POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610, Chicago, IL, 60606 (312) 263-0003. Please refer to file number 111480.

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](http://www.tjsc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

POTESTIVO & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
223 WEST JACKSON BLVD, STE 610  
Chicago IL, 60606  
312-263-0003  
E-Mail: [ilpleadings@potestivolaw.com](mailto:ilpleadings@potestivolaw.com)  
Attorney File No. 111480  
Case Number: 2020 CH 48  
TJSC#: 42-9

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 # 2020 CH 48  
13186750  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 10, 17, 24, 2022.

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

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR SECURITIZED ASSET BACKED RECEIVABLES LLC TRUST 2006-WM4 Plaintiff,  
-v- 20 CH 58

GREGORY ARMSTRONG A/K/A GREGORY A. ARMSTRONG, CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR CMLTI ASSET TRUST Defendant  
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on December 17, 2021, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on March 18, 2022, at the NLT Title L.L.C, 530 S. State, Suite 201 (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT TWENTY-SEVEN (27) AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT NO. 2 OF SHEFFIELD HILLS, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THE PLAT OF WHICH WAS RECORDED JUNE 21, 1993 AS DOCUMENT NO. 93-5227 AND FILED IN PLAT INDEX FILE 128A IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.  
Commonly known as 1406 16TH AVENUE, BELVIDERE, IL 61008  
Property Index No. 05-35-303-016

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.  
The judgment amount was \$133,078.72.

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, including the Judicial Sale fee for the Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. No fee shall be paid by the mortgagee acquiring the residential real estate pursuant to its credit bid at the sale or by any mortgagee, judgment creditor, or other lienor acquiring the residential real estate whose rights in and to the residential real estate arose prior to the sale. 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, The sales clerk, LOGS Legal Group LLP Plaintiff's Attorneys, 2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301, Bannockburn, IL, 60015 (847) 291-1717 For information call between the hours of 1pm - 3pm.. Please refer to file number 20-093986.

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](http://www.tjsc.com) for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

LOGS Legal Group LLP  
2121 WAUKEGAN RD., SUITE 301  
Bannockburn IL, 60015  
847-291-1717  
E-Mail: [ILNotices@logs.com](mailto:ILNotices@logs.com)  
Attorney File No. 20-093986  
Case Number: 20 CH 58  
TJSC#: 42-33

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.

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 17, 24, Mar 3

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

Probate Division  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF (DECEDENT):

Name: Promise K. Slater  
Address: 127 W. 2nd St.  
City, State, Zip: Belvidere, IL 61008  
Date and Place of Death: 06/19/2021  
Case No. 2022 PR 9

PUBLICATION NOTICE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION TO: CREDITORS, CLAIMANTS, AND SHAWN SLATER,  
1. Notice is hereby given of the death of Promise K. Slater who died on 06/19/2021, a resident of Boone County, Illinois.

2. The Representative for the estate is: Amanda Slater, 1426 Douglas Court #381 Belvidere, IL 61008  
The Attorney for the estate is: Faviola Ramirez, 2275 Church Rd., Aurora, IL 60502

3. Claims against the estate may be filed on or before AUGUST 17, 2022. Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008 or with the Representative, or both 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 within 10 days after it has been filed.

4. On 02/10/2022 an Order Appointing the Representative was entered.

5. The estate will be administrated without Court supervision unless an interested party terminates independent administration by filing a petition to terminate under Article XXVIII 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4).

Law Hesselbaum LLP  
Law Elder Law, a division of Law Hesselbaum  
Office of the Kane County Public Guardian & Administrator  
Office of the Kendall County Public Guardian & Administrator  
2275 Church Road, Aurora, IL 60502  
Phone: 630-585-5200  
Fax: 630-566-0811  
6088-921043  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 17, 24, Mar 3

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

Probate Division  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF (DECEDENT):

Name: Stanley R. Follis II  
Address: 127 W. 2nd St.  
City, State, Zip: Belvidere, IL 61008  
Date and Place of Death: 06/18/2021  
Case No. 2022 PR 8

PUBLICATION NOTICE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION TO: CREDITORS, CLAIMANTS, AND DAWN BREWER  
1. Notice is hereby given of the death of Stanley R. Follis II who died on 06/18/2021, a resident of Boone County, Illinois.

2. The Representative for the estate is: Tina Follis, 1324 Pearl St., Belvidere, IL 61008  
The Attorney for the estate is: Faviola Ramirez, 2275 Church Rd., Aurora, IL 60502

3. Claims against the estate may be filed on or before AUGUST 17, 2022. Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008 or with the Representative, or both 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 within 10 days after it has been filed.

4. On 02/10/2022 an Order Appointing the Representative was entered.

5. The estate will be administrated without Court supervision unless an interested party terminates independent administration by filing a petition to terminate under Article XXVIII 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4).

Law Hesselbaum LLP  
Law Elder Law, a division of Law Hesselbaum  
Office of the Kane County Public Guardian & Administrator  
Office of the Kendall County Public Guardian & Administrator  
2275 Church Road, Aurora, IL 60502  
Phone: 630-585-5200  
Fax: 630-566-0811  
6088-921042  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 17, 24, Mar 3

**Public Notice**

Garden Prairie Organics, located at 11887 US Route 20, Garden Prairie, Illinois in Boone County is submitting an application to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for a permit renewal to continue to operate an existing landscape waste compost facility. The facility will continue to accept landscape waste, such as leaves, grass clippings, and brush. Questions regarding the application can be directed to the Manager of Garden Prairie Organics, Michael DiMucci, at 815-597-1318. Written comments may be mailed to the IEPA at the address provided below. The deadline for submission of comments to the IEPA is March 24, 2022.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Permit Section, Division of Land Pollution Control  
1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276  
217-524-3300  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 17, 24, March 3

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

**DATE:** February 21, 2022  
**PROJECT:** Pavement Replacement Project at Various Schools for Belvidere CUSD #100  
Belvidere, Illinois  
**LOCATIONS:** Seth Whitman Elementary School  
8989 Beloit Road  
Belvidere, Illinois, 61008  
Belvidere North High School  
9393 Beloit Road  
Belvidere, Illinois, 61008  
**OWNER:** Belvidere Unit School District #100  
1201 5th Avenue  
Belvidere, Illinois 61008  
**ARCHITECT:** Richard L. Johnson Associates, Inc.  
4703 Charles Street  
Rockford, Illinois 61108  
Tel: 815/ 398-1231  
Fax: 815/ 398-1280

**SCOPE:** Bids will be received for a single contract for all Pavement Replacement Work.

**DATE DUE:** Sealed bids will be received until 2:00pm on Monday, March 14, 2022, at the office of the Business Manager, Belvidere Community Unit School District No. 100, 1201 Fifth Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois, and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time.

**PRE-BID MEETING:** All prospective contractors are urged to attend a pre-bid meeting at 10:00am on Monday, February 28, 2022, at the office of the Business Manager, Belvidere Community Unit School District No. 100, 1201 Fifth Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois.

**PRE-BID SITE VISIT:** Contractors are required to survey the existing conditions prior to bidding.

**ACCESS TO BIDDING** Bidding Documents are on file for reference at the following

**DOCUMENTS:** location:  
Office of the Architect  
Rockford, Illinois  
NIBCA (N. Ill. Bldg. Contractors Assn). Rockford, Illinois  
Bidding Documents may be secured from the office of the Architect. Plans and Specifications are available for download at [www.rljarch.com](http://www.rljarch.com) under "Contractors".

**DEPOSIT REQUIRED:** Bidders may secure up to two (2) sets of bidding documents by submitting a non-refundable check for \$50.00 per set, or \$60.00 per set if documents are to be mailed.

**BID FORM:** Bids shall be submitted in duplicate on forms issued by Architect.

**PERFORMANCE BOND:** A performance and payment bond for the full amount of the Contract will be required of the successful bidder. All costs associated with the bond shall be included in the bid amount.

**BID SECURITY:** Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of at least 5% of the total amount of the base bid and all additive alternate bids. This may be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, bank draft or bid bond, payable to the Owner as a guarantee that should the bidder be awarded the Work, the bidder will enter into a contract with the Owner and will furnish the proper performance and payment bond within the time limit set by the Owner. Bid securities will be returned to all other bidders when the successful bidder files a proper performance and payment bond and the contract is executed by the Owner. If the successful bidder fails to file such contract and performance and payment bond, the amount of his bid security shall be forfeited to the Owner as liquidated damages.

**WAGE RULES:** Each craft, type of worker and mechanic needed to execute the Contract shall be paid the prevailing wage rate for the locality in which the work is performed, in accordance with all federal laws and laws of the State as well as local ordinances and regulations applicable to the work hereunder and having force of law.

**RIGHTS RESERVED:** The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularities

**BY OWNER:** and/or reject any or all bids when, in the opinion of the Owner, such action will serve the best interests of the Owner.

**WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS:** No bid may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after the opening of bids without written consent of the Owner. By order of the Board of Education for Belvidere CUSD #100  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb 17, 2022

2022

**Election Results**

The 2022 election of Directors for the Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District Board was a general election held Wednesday February 2, 2022 at the District Office. Karrie Gustafson, Richard Nelson, and Jack Ratcliffe were elected for two year terms and will take office on the first Monday in March.

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION  
In The Interest of: Caiden Hendrix, minor No. 19-JA-19  
CLARISSA HEUBERGER/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers

**ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**  
Take notice that on September 19, 2019, a petition was filed under the JUVENILE COURT ACT by Atty, Tricia Smith, State's Attorney, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, in the Circuit Court of Boone County entitled "In the Interest of Clarissa Heuberger, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 1:30 P.M. central daylight time on 3/17/2022; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a termination of parental rights will be held upon the petition to have the child declared to be a ward of the Court under that Act. THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THE PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHT TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amend petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

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

Dated: February 8, 2022  
Patricia Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb. 17, 24, March 3 - C

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb. 17, 24, March 3 - C

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb. 17, 24, March 3 - C

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Feb. 17, 24, March 3 - C



ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE  
This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact

a window tinting business in said County and State under the name of VAZQUEZ WINDOW TINT at the following post office address: 1105 Logan Avenue, 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: Jaime Vazquez, 2133 Wynwood Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 997-4662.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 7th day of February, A.D. 2022  
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 02/10, 02/17, 02/24

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Federal firearms licenses business in said County and State under the name of R and C ARMS at the following post office address: 1443 South 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: James Joseph

Rocuskie, Jr., 105 Galahad Court SE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065; phone # (779) 771-3298.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 13th day of January, A.D. 2022  
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 1/20/22, 1/27/22, 2/3/22

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Wood working business in said County and State under the name of OGAN WOODWORKS at the following post office address: 16610 Capron Rd., Capron, IL 61012 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: BRADLEY OGAN, 16610 Capron Rd., Capron, IL 61012; phone # (815) 303-7243.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 28th day of January, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 02/ 03,10,17

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a bridal and formal wear alterations business in said County and State under the name of RYNN BRIDAL at the following post office address: 320 Church 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: Christine Seaver, 320 Church Street, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (414) 828-8531.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 14th day of February, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 2/17/22, 2/24/22, 3/3/22

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a quilting services business in said County and State under the name of JUDYBEEZ QUILTING at the following post office address: 9859 Little Lucy Lane, 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: Judith Bender, 9859 Little Lucy Lane, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 690-6938.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 7th day of February, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 02/10, 02/17, 02/24

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a landscaping services business in said County and State under the name of HR LANDSCAPING SERVICES at the following post office address: 1250 South Appleton Road, 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: Manuel Hernandez, 1250 South Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 914-9507.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 4th day of February, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 02/10, 02/17, 02/24

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION  
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a lawn care business in said County and State under the name of DOANE'S TURF CARE at the following post office address: 2523 Gustafson Road, 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: Kyle Doane, 2523 Gustafson Road, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 543-1929.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 11th day of February, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk  
Published in Boone County Journal 2/17/22, 2/24/22, 3/3/22

## Durbin: Lock and Dam Upgrades a 'Game Changer' for Illinois Farmers

By Timothy Eggert Farmweek

If farming is a school of patience, then securing federal funding for the agriculture industry is, too.

Just ask U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, who joined other Illinois legislators in finally harvesting their own 15-year infrastructure crop, yielding \$829 million from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to upgrade a pair of locks and dams on the upper Mississippi River.

"It's about time," Durbin said during a news conference from inside the lockhouse at the Peoria Lock and Dam on the Illinois River. "Today, it's the river. Tomorrow it's the highways. The day after, it's the bridges. You're going to hear a lot more about this."

In total, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will spend more than \$1.3 billion starting in fiscal year 2022 to upgrade inland waterway systems across Illinois.

A majority of those funds — \$732 million — will be used to build a new 1,200-foot lock chamber just north of the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, while \$97.1 million will cover a new fish passage at Lock and Dam 22.

Another \$50 million in various repairs will be split by Locks and Dams 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20 and 21, according to Corps plans.

Facilities along the Illinois River will also undergo \$83 million in improvements, including repairs to the Dresden, LaGrange, Lockport, Marseilles, Peoria and Starved Rock locks and dams.

"The monumental infrastructure package that we passed on to the Biden administration is what is making this happen," U.S. Rep. Cheri Bustos, D-East Moline, said during the January news conference. "You have to go back to the Eisenhower administration to see this kind of investment."

The work to land the funding for upgrades to Illinois' water infrastructure, however, started nearly two decades ago.

"We decided as a delegation to fight for, see if we could bring money in for locks and dams in the state of Illinois and in the Midwest," Durbin said. "And we frankly weren't getting anywhere."

The hang-up, Durbin said, was that cost-benefit ratio calculations to invest in locks and dams weren't appetizing enough — more tax dollars would be spent than economic advantages gained.

So, Durbin and Bustos tied infrastructure investments with ecosystem restorations through the Navigation Ecosystem Sustainability Program — and it worked.

"Spending less than a billion dollars on these locks and dams on the rivers, we're going to get a payback of \$72 billion," Durbin said. "How about that for cost benefit?"

Illinois farmers will especially experience those benefits, Durbin and Bustos said. Larger locks mean barges carrying corn and soybeans can move up and down the river faster, getting products to market more quickly and reducing transportation costs, they said.

"We've had record yields in corn and soybeans, so we've got to make sure that we have efficient ways to get these to market," Bustos said, noting how a modern 15-barge tow transports the equivalent of 950 bushels of corn.

When a barge approaches the current 600-foot chamber at Lock and Dam 25, it must decouple, a process that takes two to three hours. With the 1,200-foot chamber, a barge can pass in 30 to 45 minutes.

"The economic impact is a game changer for our farmers, (who are) more competitive now in the world than they've ever had to be," Durbin said. "They're going to get a boost and an opportunity in that regard."

Investments in the Upper Mississippi River locks and dams are also expected to generate thousands of new jobs and spread other economic benefits across the region.

The project, which is funded to completion, is expected to take five to six years.

Asked by FarmWeek if it will take another 15 years to receive funding for other lock and dam improvements along the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, Durbin said it's both a matter of "matching up the need, which is obvious, with the resources" and marrying economic and environmental goals.

"These barges and what they move, the alternative is a lot of trucks burning a lot of diesel fuel," Durbin

said. "And we have a much more efficient way to do it from an environmental viewpoint. When we put that combination together and sold the (Corps) on the project ... we started a long process. So, as fast as we can appropriate the money and they can get the work done, we're going to be moving forward with many more projects in the future."

## Cupcake

Continued page 1

Most were not particularly worried about the consequences, and several others didn't even know they were doing anything wrong. Sarah Haywood of Poplar Grove Floral said, "Our original business plan was going to be to sell cookies and roses. We were unaware that Boone County did not agree to the Cottage Law or Cupcake Law, so we are thankful we didn't spend a bunch of money before finding out it wouldn't be possible - and we went with straight flowers/gifts, etc. for our business." Some who did learn about the rejection of the Cupcake Law stopped operations completely. My own business Sweet Magnolia Treat Cakes, which markets custom-designed cupcakes with quick turn-around, was brought to a grinding halt for fear of being fined or otherwise sanctioned by the county.

In August of 2021, Governor Pritzker signed the "Home to Market Act," a law that did away with the restrictive, individual county mandates and opened the state of Illinois to Cottage Food operations. Beth Kregor, the director of the Institute for Justice (IJ) Clinic on Entrepreneurship at the University of Chicago Law School said, "We are glad to see Illinois recognize that cottage foods don't pose a threat to health and safety and instead represent a real opportunity for entrepreneurs to step into the food industry. This new law will help many in our state improve their lives by sharing their delicious creations with their communities."

The Home to Market Act strikes a balance that seems to appease both Cottage Food producers and local health department guidelines. The act removes the income cap for Cottage Food producers; allows sales through delivery, pickup, third-party sites, vendor events, and online sales; and frees producers to make and sell products previously deemed hazardous, such as buttercream frosting and cheesecakes. There are no requirements or restrictions for production facilities or equipment, but Cottage Food operators do have to take a few steps to be in compliance. Individuals must take a state approved Certified Food Protection Manager certification course and pass the exam and then register with their county as a Cottage Food Operation. The paperwork is minimal, but does require that operators agree to inspection of their kitchen in the event of a reported illness linked to their product.

The Home to Market Act went into effect on January 1, 2022. Overall, the response seems positive, especially given the requirement of following nationally established and practiced principles of food safety. Reactions to the law are mixed in Boone County. Some have expressed that they are now considering expanding their home-based businesses, and some don't want to jump through the hoops. Others, Sweet Magnolia Treat Cakes, took quick action to expand her operation. "As soon as I heard the law had passed, I signed up for the CFPM course. I already had plans to expand if I could ever afford it. Now that we are registered with the county, we have rebranded and established a partnership with a local business on State Street to sell from. This law is a massive win for me and others who want to market their goods."

*Sweet Magnolia*

KITCHEN

Order on Facebook!

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