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**BOONE COUNTY**  
LOCAL NEWS, OPINION & HISTORY  
**JOURNAL**  
Real Journalism for a Real Democracy  
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**FREE**



*Homecoming Week around 1920 in Belvidere near the corner of South State Street and Pleasant Street*

## Homecoming a Century Ago

By David Larson

In October 1910, the Belvidere Commercial Club, a local organization of businessmen unaffiliated with any outside political lobbying group (unlike the Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce) and known to be innovators of public events, invented the Belvidere Homecoming Week. The Commercial Club was a homegrown club much like Belvidere's IOU Club, which produces the Halloween Parade, The Easter Egg Hunt in the Belvidere Park, and the First Grade Christmas Program.

The idea of the Commercial Club Homecoming was to create a social event that lasted a full week. It was billed in 1910 as a time when everyone who had a Belvidere connection should return to Belvidere to visit old friends. Businesses were encouraged to close in order to allow everyone the free time to attend the many planned social events during the Homecoming Week. Although many locally owned restaurants and other important local retailers had to remain open.

An advertisement in the local newspaper stated the following. "The value of an appointed home-coming week is that you will meet all of the former residents of Boone County with whom you were acquainted in 'ye olden time' who will come for the same purpose – to meet, to greet, to talk, to laugh, and to tell reminiscences." One must remember that, in 1910, Belvidere had only been incorporated for fewer than 30 years and the first settlers had arrived just 80

*Continued on Page 2*

## Governor had \$60 Million Cash on Hand Compared to \$363k for Bailey End of June

By Jerry Nowicki, Capitol News Illinois

A new poll from the firm Morning Consult showed Gov. JB Pritzker's approval rating at 51 percent among Illinois voters, or seven points "above water" in polling lingo.

It's the latest quarterly poll from the firm, and data included 14,258 registered voters polled from April 1 through June 30.

While it's a truism of polling that any poll is just a "snapshot in time," Pritzker's numbers have been remarkably consistent in the Morning Consult measurements since January 2021. His approval has ranged from 50 to 51 percent while disapproval ranged from 43 to 44 percent.

President Joe Biden's approval rating in Illinois as measured by the same firm, however, is an example of how quickly public sentiment can change.

Morning Consult distributed the polling results under the headline "Democratic Governors Facing Re-Election Are Resisting Biden's Drag Effect." The firm measured Biden's approval at 47 percent in Illinois while disapproval measured at 50 percent.

It was a major drop from one year prior for Biden, who logged a healthy 58-38 approval-disapproval rating in Illinois for the quarter ending in June 2021.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Illinois Jobless Rate Falls to Lowest Point Since Start of Pandemic

*Illinois' unemployment rate fell to 4.5 percent in June, but it remained higher than the national average.*

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois economy added 18,800 jobs during June as the unemployment rate fell to 4.5 percent, the lowest it has been since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

That is down one-tenth of a percentage point from May, and down two full percentage points from June 2021.

Preliminary numbers released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Illinois Department of Employment Security showed the sectors with the biggest gains during June were leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, construction, and educational and health services.

Slight declines were reported in the financial industry and the catch-all category "other services."

"With the statewide unemployment rate at its lowest since the onset of the pandemic, the data released (Thursday) is a further reflection of continued economic recovery and evidence of a strengthening Illinois labor market," Deputy Governor Andy Manar said in a statement.

Prior to the pandemic, Illinois had seen its lowest unemployment rate ever, at 3.5 percent in December 2019. It climbed to 4.9 percent in

*Continued on Page 3*

## Homecoming from page 1

years prior. These would have been individuals from a pre-automobile era for the most part. The 1910 population of Belvidere was about 7,000, and when it was incorporated, around 3,000 in 1881. Residents of Belvidere were very familiar with one another, and lived most of their lives in Belvidere. Belvidere by 1910 was equal in size to what Rockford was in 1860. Rockford had grown to over 45,000 by 1910, and continued to grow until 1970. When Belvidere's growth exploded in 1990 to 2010, Rockford's population declined.

There was an agricultural nature to the Homecoming week, which featured a produce show, displayed in the windows of the local merchants. It can be imagined to be similar to produce on display at the Boone County Fair.

A horse show was held. While automobiles were the latest thing--much like electric cars are today--horses were reliable hay eaters. Numerous free attractions were planned. With parades on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Live music, widely enjoyed in 1910 Belvidere, was performed by D'Urbano's Band and Singers

every day that week.

One would almost think it was the Boone County Fair!

In June of 1919, a welcome home event for the World War I troops took place in grand proportions. Homecoming Week persisted into the early 1920s, but after World War I, things changed in Belvidere, and in the mood of the country. The sense of diminished safety and the increased rhetoric of nationalism dulled the senses that create and preserve events like Homecoming Week.

Belvidere was changed by World War I, but in a different way than the Civil War. The old world that never seemed to change was now being replaced by a firmly-established global and technological one. It was a new, ultra-modern world where the sweet sentiments of the past didn't mean as much as they might have in earlier times. The radio allowed for a uniformity of thought in an information revolution, which newspapers were only precursors. The magnitude of the message was the reality.

Belvidere's Homecoming Week clearly persists in the form of the Boone County Fair every year in August. Families plan vacations, and old friends and family return to Boone County to stroll the fair they have seen many times, but which to a child is new and exciting. The opportunity to make new friends and renew old ones is a credit to the legacy of the fair and a credit to those who tirelessly produce it every year from the planning to picking up the last paper cup discarded on the ground.

## Quidnunc



Will the Casino be built?



Espinoza, Rogelio, 84, Poplar Grove, July 20  
 Fabish, Adella, 93, Belvidere, July 3  
 Janik, Emily, 91, Belvidere, July 19  
 Kozielec Jr., Thaddeus, 61, Belvidere, July 25  
 Mackey, Frances, 87, Belvidere, July 9  
 Martenson, Margaret, 91, Belvidere, July 20  
 Van Landschoot, Patricia, 75, Belvidere, July 24

## Polls

from page 1

The discrepancies between the approval ratings of Biden and Democratic governors help explain the level of intrigue in national news outlets regarding Biden potentially being replaced atop the Democratic ticket in the 2024 election cycle.

Pritzker's name – along with California Gov. Gavin Newsom, who had a 53-40 approval split according to the poll – has been floated time and again in that conversation. Many news outlets, including Capitol News Illinois, have asked him about his plans should Democrats seek a new presidential candidate next time around.

He hasn't directly denied an interest in a presidential run, but he told me at the end of June that Illinois remains his focus.

"I'm not talking about running for president. I'm talking about running for governor," Pritzker told me in a one-on-one interview after the June 28 primary. "And it's what I'm focused on. I really do believe that, you know – I love this state – and I love the job that I have. I believe there's a lot more to get done. I mean, you wouldn't look at me and say that Illinois doesn't have more to get done."

The intrigue has also been largely stoked by the governor's recent speaking engagements.

In June he spoke at a gathering of Democrats in New Hampshire, normally one of the country's first states to hold a primary, and last weekend he spoke at Florida Democrats' Leadership Blue gala.

The Florida speech took an unapologetic tone, championing progressive policies passed in his first term in Illinois while also focusing on abortion rights and gun control.

It also included a faux "apology" from the governor to Floridians for defeating ex-Gov. Bruce Rauner by nearly 16 points in 2018, a win Pritzker said caused Rauner to move to Florida in "humiliation," according to prepared remarks reported by Politico.

Pritzker also mentioned Ken Griffin, the Republican megadonor and founder of the hedge fund Citadel, who spent \$50 million in an unsuccessful effort to nominate Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin in the GOP primary. Pritzker dedicated millions of his own personal fortune to attack Irvin.

Pritzker likened Griffin to a "spoiled rich kid" for announcing Citadel's move to Florida amid Irvin's primary struggles, and he attempted to tie the self-styled GOP moderate wing, as well as Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, to former President Donald Trump.

"The funny thing is that both Rauner and Griffin claim they don't come from the Donald Trump wing of the Republican Party," Pritzker said. "Instead they would say they're DeSantis Republicans – which is a little bit like saying you've never been a fan of Darth Vader but you support the Empire's political agenda."

Within days of returning home from Florida, Pritzker announced a positive test for COVID-19 Tuesday, and his team said he was experiencing mild symptoms. Prior to the Florida trip, he spent time at the White House last week and in Augusta, Maine, at a gathering of the National Governors Association.

State Sen. Darren Bailey, the Xenia farmer who gained the GOP nomination and has vowed not to be outworked in the race for governor, saw Pritzker's recent East Coast trip as a line of attack.

"Gov. JB Pritzker spent the weekend hobnobbing in Florida with wealthy liberals and fueling his presidential ambitions," Bailey's campaign said in a Monday news release. "Meanwhile in Illinois, rampant crime continued unabated. Seven people were killed over the weekend in Chicago, and eight carjackings terrorized Chicago neighborhoods in the span of just one hour."

Bailey's battle will be uphill on the fundraising front as he looks to knock off the incumbent, who is partial heir of the Hyatt hotel fortune and has a net worth of \$3-4 billion.

Pritzker's campaign fund had \$60.8 million cash on hand as of June 30, while Bailey's campaign fund had just \$363,918. Pritzker's campaign spent \$27 million from April to June, while Bailey's camp spent \$9.2 million.

Bailey's main financial backer has been Richard Uihlein, founder of the shipping supply company Uline, having donated \$9 million to the candidate and \$8 million to other political action committees working on Bailey's behalf during the primary. Uihlein gave another \$5 million to the pro-Bailey People Who Play By the Rule PAC on July 6.

Irvin's campaign ended June with \$763,515 cash on hand, having spent \$40.5 million.

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



### REAL JOURNALISM FOR A REAL DEMOCRACY

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Senior Writer/Editorial	Charles Herbst
Writer/ Sales	Mars Rinaldi
Photography	Susan Moran

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

### THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

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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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"Camden" Domestic medium hair, brown Tabby;

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# OP-ED

## Good Strategy or Poor Judgment

By Scott Reeder

Two of the biggest contributors to hard-core, Trump-supported candidates are not who you might guess: Gov. J.B. Pritzker and U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Pritzker and his allies spent \$30 million trying to help Sen. Darren Bailey, a Trump devotee, to be the Republican gubernatorial nominee. Pelosi worked hard to see that two Colorado Make America Great Again candidates won the Republican primary.

I'm not a fan of Pritzker, Pelosi or Trump.

As New York Times columnist David Brooks pointed out June 30, the Democratic Party is behaving recklessly and unpatriotically.

They think far-right Trumpist candidates will be easier to beat in the general election than more moderate opponents. So, they are intervening in the other party's primary to ensure that voters have the worst possible choices.

It's not even a remotely patriotic thing to do. Folks who love their country ought to want the very best candidates to advance – not the worst.

But here is the problem, these far-right yahoos whom Democrats are supporting could end up winning.

A retired state lawmaker took me aside recently and gave his objection to this relatively new phenomena.

"You've heard because of redistricting that politicians are choosing their voters rather than voters choosing their politicians. Well, this is even worse. The politicians are choosing their opponents."

And there is the rub. Democracy is based on a vigorous competition of ideas.

When the system is rigged to deter competition and limit voter choices, we no longer have a democracy.

Some Democrats believe that the U.S. Supreme Court's decision overturning Roe v. Wade will motivate pro-choice voters to come out en masse to support their candidates.

Sigh. How often in a lifetime does the average voter contemplate whether to have an abortion? How often do they fill their car with gasoline or their shopping cart with groceries?

In a world of hyper-inflation voters will be voting their pocketbooks. And that does not bode well for Democrats, the party in power. It's also worth noting that the party controlling the White

House almost always loses seats during the mid-term elections.

The more the Democratic Party becomes a group of Prius-driving vegans intent on fighting cultural battles, the less they understand working-class voters. You know, those folks who bag our groceries, pick up our garbage and babysit our kids.

They are hurting. Escalating gas prices have made their drive to work expensive and skyrocketing food prices have made feeding their families difficult. And no, they don't want a handout from the government. They just want to make ends meet.

An unbelievable 83% of Americans believe the economy is poor or not so good, according to a May Wall Street Journal-NORC poll. And an equally staggering 83% of Americans are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country, according to a Gallup Poll.

And what kind of nonsense are we seeing debated? Whether mothers should be called child-bearers, and whether menstruators should be called "people with vaginas" rather than "female." Academics love such debates. But working-class folks find it off-putting. They see "mother" as a term of endearment, a point of pride -- not a word of exclusion.

When a centerist candidate, Bill Clinton, defeated George H.W. Bush, he did it with the campaign mantra: "It's about the economy, Stupid."

Increasingly, party elites have lost touch with this message.

And before you think I'm defending Republicans, I'm not. Increasingly, the GOP has descended into cult-like devotion to a man who seeks to divide and for at least one day posed a threat to democracy itself.

But that doesn't mean his disciples won't do well at the polls. Voters are angry and his politics of grievance will play well in November. If they win, Democrats like Pritzker and Pelosi, who donated to their campaigns, deserve the blame.

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

## Jobs

from page 1

March 2020, when the World Health Organization declared a pandemic existed, and reached a historic high of 17.4 percent in April 2020 after restaurants, bars, theaters and other "nonessential" businesses were ordered to close in an effort to contain the spread of the virus.

The state's jobless rate has since been on a continuous downward trend as businesses gradually reopened.

The trend in Illinois mirrors what has been happening nationally, although the state continues to lag behind the rest of the country in its recovery. The U.S. unemployment rate stood at 3.6 percent, unchanged from the month before but down from its peak of 14.7 percent in April 2020.

Illinois' unemployment rate also stood higher than all of its surrounding states. Indiana, Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin all had jobless rates below 3 percent while Kentucky stood at 3.7 percent. In fact, the 4.5 percent rate recorded in Illinois was the fifth highest in the nation. Pennsylvania and Delaware also were at 4.5 percent.

The economic recovery also has had its downside. Growing employment and rising wages have brought about increased consumer demand at the same time supply chains needed to satisfy that demand have remained bottlenecked, causing prices to spiral upward at an annual rate of 9.1 percent in June.

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Gov. JB Pritzker speaks at a news conference Tuesday in Chicago with members of the Democratic National Committee in an attempt to land the 2024 DNC convention for the city of Chicago. At the right is U.S. Rep Rob- in Kelly, who chairs the state's Democratic Party. (Credit: Chi.gov)

## Illinois Dems Stump for 2024 Chicago Convention

*GOP not focused on Kinzinger censure despite calls from Freedom Caucus*

By Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Illinois Democrats are vying to make Chicago the host city for the Democratic National Convention in 2024 while considering who will lead their party for the next four years.

Meanwhile, the state's Republican Party is hearing calls for a censure of one of its sitting congressmen.

Officials for the Democratic National Committee were in Chicago on Tuesday as state leaders, including Gov. JB Pritzker and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot, called a news conference to tout the city as a potential host for the Democrats' 2024 nominating convention.

DNC Chair Jaime Harrison said at a Tuesday morning news conference in Chicago the committee was looking for a city that represents diversity, inclusion and opportunity. He said it will be the first big showcase for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, who didn't have a convention in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Continued on Page 7*

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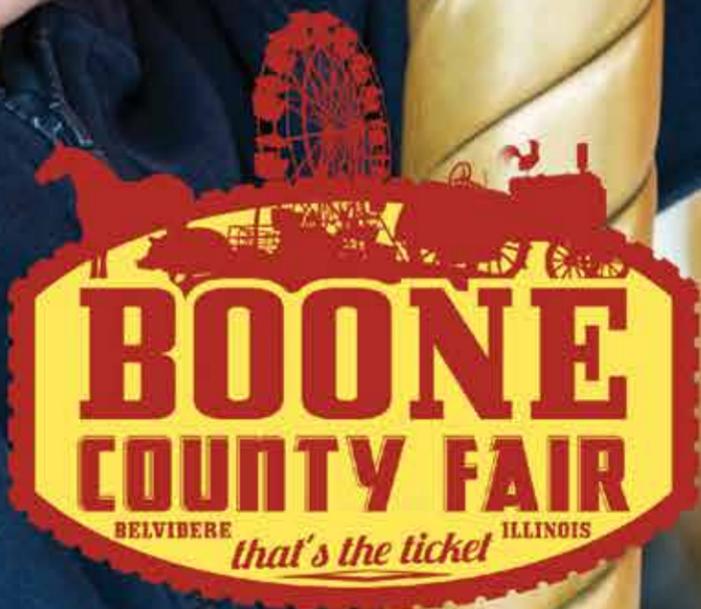
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# LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, PLAINTIFF,  
VS.  
22 FC 38

NANCY A LOVE; NANCY A. LOVE, AS TRUSTEE UTA DATED 08/21/2008 KNOWN AS THE NANCY A. LOVE DECLARATION OF TRUST; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE NANCY A. LOVE, AS TRUSTEE UTA DATED 08/21/2008 KNOWN AS THE NANCY A. LOVE DECLARATION OF TRUST; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, DEFENDANTS. 6370 BROADVIEW AVENUE BELVIDERE, IL 61008 JUDGE: PRESIDING JUDGE  
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU,  
Unknown Beneficiaries of the Nancy A. Love, as Trustee UTA dated 08/21/2008 known as the Nancy A. Love Declaration of Trust  
Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants  
defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:

LOT EIGHT (8) OF AL-GER SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 6370 Broadview Avenue Belvidere, IL 61008  
and which said Mortgage was made by,  
Nancy A Love and Nancy A. Love, as Trustee UTA dated 08/21/2008 known as the Nancy A. Love Declaration of Trust  
Mortgagor(s), to  
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Penny-Mac Loan Services, LLC

Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2018R04172; and for other relief.  
UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before August 22, 2022, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

E-filing is now mandatory 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> or talk with your local circuit clerk's office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit [www.illinoislegalaid.org](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org). If you are unable to pay your court fees, you can apply for a fee waiver. For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to [www.illinoislegalaid.org](http://www.illinoislegalaid.org). You can also ask your local circuit clerk's office for a fee waiver application.

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
1 N. Dearborn St. Suite 1200  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Ph. (312) 346-9088  
File No. 22-10118IL-798672  
13198881  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Jul 21, 28; Aug 4, 2022

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION  
In The Interest of: DAYANA VELAZQUEZ-GACIA, minor  
No. 20-JA-4  
Julian Velazquez-Marquez/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:  
Take notice that on MARCH 16, 2022, 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 Dayana Velazquez-Garcia, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 1:30 P.M. central daylight time on 7/28/2022; 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 amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

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

Dated: July 5, 2022 Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK  
Published in *The Boone County Journal*; July 14, 21, 28 - C

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF BOONE  
IN RE THE ESTATE OF: RICHARD KILKELLY, Deceased.  
CASE NO. 2022 PR 34

CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE is given of the death of RICHARD KILKELLY. Letters of Office were issued on July 5, 2022 to KIM MANSON, who is the Executor of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Mark D. Brynteson, 2969 Rolling Meadow Court, Belvidere, IL 61008. Claims against the estate may be filed on or before January 16, 2023, 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 755 ILCS 5/18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date as stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, Belvidere, Illinois, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

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

Mark D. Brynteson, Attorney for Executor  
Attorney Mark D. Brynteson #627884  
2969 Rolling Meadow Court  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
P: 815-569-4280  
F: 815-459-4075  
E: [mdb@bryntesonlaw.com](mailto:mdb@bryntesonlaw.com) PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT RULLE 11 FOR PLEADINGS ONLY  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* July 14, 21, 28

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022 - 02  
ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE BUDGET AND  
APPROPRIATIONS OF THE BOONE COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT #2  
BOONE, COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
BEGINNING MAY 1, 2022, AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2023**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Boone County Fire Protection District #2, Boone County, Illinois, caused to be prepared in tentative form a Budget and the Secretary of this Board has made the same conveniently available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to final action thereon; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Budget on the 25th day of July, 2022, and Notice of said hearing was given at least thirty (30) days prior thereto as required by law, and the Board having met all other applicable legal requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Boone County Fire Protection District #2, Boone County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: That the fiscal year of this Fire Protection District is hereby fixed to begin on May 1, 2022, and end on April 30, 2023.

Section 2: That the following Budget containing an estimate of the revenues available and expenditures and the appropriations contained therein be and the same is hereby adopted as the Budget and Appropriations for this fire protection district for this fiscal year; and the following sums of money, or as much thereof as may be authorized by law, is hereby appropriated to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the Boone County Fire Protection District #2, for its fiscal year beginning May 1, 2022, and ending April 30, 2023, for the respective objects and purposes, as hereinafter set forth namely:

**GENERAL FUND  
ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND RECEIPTS**

Estimated Cash Balance on hand as of April 30, 2022	
Checking Account & Capitol Reserve	\$1,429,134.51
Anticipated Revenues and Receipts:	
Property Taxes to be received in FY 2022-2023	\$ 1,040,000.00
Illinois Replacement Tax	\$ 40,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 2,500.00
Non-Resident Billing	\$ 40,000.00
Illinois Municipal League	\$ 25,000.00
Grants	\$ 1,200.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 2.00
Total Anticipated Revenues and Receipts	\$1,148,702.00
Total Cash Balance May 1, 2022 and Anticipated Revenues & Receipts	\$2,577,836.51
Less Anticipated Expenditures May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023	\$1,666,375.00
Anticipated Cash Balance April 30, 2022	\$ 911,461.51

**GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION**  
The following amounts shall be tentatively budgeted and appropriated for the General Fund purposes of the Boone County Fire District #2 for the Fiscal Year May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023.

	BUDGETED	APPROPRIATED
<b>A. Administration:</b>		
1. Insurance	\$ 83,000.00	\$ 99,600.00
2. Office Operations	\$ 44,750.00	\$ 53,700.00
3. Professional Fees	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 15,600.00
4. Training	\$ 22,100.00	\$ 26,520.00
5. Trustee Compensation	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,800.00
6. Utilities	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
7. Volunteer Compensation	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 114,000.00
8. Labor	\$ 597,600.00	\$ 717,120.00
9. Miscellaneous/Contingency	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
10. Unemployment Fund	\$ 100.00	\$ 120.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION:	\$ 904,550.00	\$1,085,460.00
<b>B. Equipment</b>		
1. Repairs, Maintenance	\$ 20,850.00	\$ 25,020.00
2. Firefighters' Equipment	\$ 82,000.00	\$ 98,400.00
3. Other New Equipment Purchases	\$ 68,500.00	\$ 82,200.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	\$ 171,350.00	\$ 205,620.00
<b>C. Station Expenses</b>		
1. Building and Grounds	\$ 63,100.00	\$ 175,720.00
TOTAL STATION EXPENSES	\$ 63,100.00	\$ 175,720.00
<b>D. Apparatus Expense</b>		
1. Operation (Gas and Oil)	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 52,000.00
2. Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 107,100.00
TOTAL APPARATUS EXPENSE	\$ 103,000.00	\$ 159,100.00
<b>E. Capital Reserve</b>		
1. Apparatus Replacement	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 600,000.00
2. Apparatus Upgrades	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
3. Fire Station	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 140,000.00
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE EXPENSE	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 740,000.00
<b>RECAPITULATION</b>		
Total Administrative and Operating Expense	\$1,085,460.00	
Total Equipment Expense	\$ 205,620.00	
Total Station (Building) Expense	\$ 75,720.00	
Total Fire Apparatus Expense	\$ 159,100.00	
Capital Reserve Apparatus, Building	\$ 800,000.00	
TOTAL TENTATIVE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION-GENERAL FUND	\$2,325,900.00	

Todd L. Endress, Treasurer  
Board of Trustees BCFD # 2  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* July 28, 2022

**VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA, ILLINOIS**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Village of Caledonia, Illinois Committee of the Whole will conduct a public hearing on August 18, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., at Caledonia Congregational Church, 14730 Oak Street, Caledonia, IL 61011 to consider the following agenda item:

1. A request for a special use permit for the property described as 400 feet southeast of South Street and Clark Street, Caledonia, Illinois, including PIN #'s 03-21-179-013, 03-21-200-005, and 03-21-200-016, which is part of the property commonly known as 14770 Oak Street Caledonia, Illinois, pursuant to Section 6.4 of Chapter 6 of the Village of Caledonia's Zoning Ordinance, entitled "Urban Transitional District - Special Uses", for the proposed construction of a large-scale solar energy system which utilizes ground-mounted PV arrays (community solar garden).

Filed by USS Clark Solar, LLC  
Members of the public are invited to attend this public hearing, at which time an opportunity will be given to address the members of the Committee of the Whole.

Dated: July 26, 2022  
/s/ Darron M. Burke, Village Attorney  
To be published in the *Boone County Journal* on or about July 28, 2022.

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

In the Matter of the Estate of HUMBERTO C GUEVARA, Deceased(=)  
No. 2022-PR-33 =

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION AND CLAIMS  
NOTICE is given of the death of Humberto C Guevara. Letters of Office were issued July 25, 2022 on to Maria Guevara, Belvidere, Illinois who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Charles T. Sewell, 215 South State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before February 6, 2023, 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 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

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

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

Dated: July 27, 2022  
Maria Guevara, Independent Administrator  
Charles T. Sewell, L.L.C.  
Attorney at Law  
215 South State Street  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
Phone: 815-544-3118  
Email: [charlests1@aol.com](mailto:charlests1@aol.com)  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* July 28, Aug 4, 11

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

In the Matter of the Estate of IVA V. VENTURA, Deceased  
No. 2022-PR-29

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION AND CLAIMS  
NOTICE is given of the death of Iva V. Ventura. Letters of Office were issued July 25, 2022 on to Deno M. Ventura, Belvidere, Illinois who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Charles T. Sewell, 215 South State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before February 6, 2023, 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 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

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

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

Dated: July 27, 2022  
Deno M. Ventura, Independent Administrator  
Charles T. Sewell, L.L.C.  
Attorney at Law  
215 South State Street  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
Phone: 815-544-3118  
Email: [charlests1@aol.com](mailto:charlests1@aol.com)  
Published in *The Boone County Journal* July 28, Aug 4, 11

# Boone County License & Title

# Stickers - Titles - Plates

# We Are OPEN

M-F 9-5  
Sat 9-1

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

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

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

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a sporting goods, firearms, and ammunition business in said County and State under the name of J. ROC 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 S. Rocuskie Jr., 105 Galahad Court SE, Poplar Grove, IL 61065; phone # (815) 544-0767.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 12th day of July, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal 7/14, 7/21, 7/28 - p

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

In the Matter of the Estate of MIGUEL LOPEZ, Deceased.  
No. 2022-PR-25

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION AND CLAIMS**

NOTICE is given of the death of Miguel Lopez. Letters of Office were issued July 25, 2022 on to Maria Guadalupe Gomez Lopez, Belvidere, Illinois who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Charles T. Sewell, 215 South State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before February 6, 2023, 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 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

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

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

Dated: July 27, 2022

Maria Guadalupe Gomez Lopez, Independent Administrator

Charles T. Sewell, L.L.C.

Attorney at Law

215 South State Street

Belvidere, IL 61008

Phone: 815-544-3118

Email: charlest1@aol.com

Published in *The Boone County Journal* July 28, Aug 4, 11

**ASSUMED NAMES**

**ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION**

State of Illinois County of Boone) ss This is to certify that the undersigned intend...to conduct and transact a Roofing business in said County and State under the name of ANDERSON ROOFING at the following addresses 111 E 4th St., Belvidere IL, 61008 and that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with the respective residence address of each, are as follows: NAME AND ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE: MICHAEL BRUGGER, 111 E 4th St, Belvidere IL, 61008. Signed: Michael Brugger 07/12/22

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 12th day of July 2022.

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk,

By Cindy Wilcox, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal 07/14,21,28

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

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a eyelash extensions in said County and State under the name of YS BEAUTY at the following post office address: 2610 Francis 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: YAJAIRA SOTO, 2610 Francis Street, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 762-7180.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 22nd day of July, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal - 7/28, 8/4, 8/11 - p

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

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a motorcycle repair business in said County and State under the name of BONE BREAKE PERFORMANCE at the following post office address: 6545 Joan Drive, Unit C5, 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: Adam McCauley, 603 Constitution Drive SW, Poplar Grove, IL 61065; phone # (815) 209-6406.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 7th day of July, A.D. 2022 Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal 7/14, 7/21, 7/28 - p

**CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF  
BUSINESS PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Public Notice is hereby given that on July 12, A.D. 2022, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as J. ROC ARMS, located at 1443 South State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSUMED NAME.

Dated this 12th day of July, A.D. 2022

Julie A. Bliss

Boone County Clerk

Published in the Boone County Journal 7/14, 7/21, 7/28/22 - P

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

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact an evening/overnight daycare business in said County and State under the name of ANGELA'S FUNCARE at the following post office address: 1619 West Chrysler Drive (P.O. Box 163), 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: Angela Williams, 1619 West Chrysler Drive (P.O. Box 163), Belvidere, IL 61008; phone # (815) 980-8241.

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

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal 7/21, 7/28, 8/4 - p

**Chicago**

from page 4

Other finalist cities include New York City, Atlanta and Houston.

Pritzker, whose name has frequently been mentioned in the conversation as a potential replacement for Biden if he doesn't run in 2024, said he looks at the convention as an opportunity "to show off" the city, which "represents what Joe Biden and Kamala Harris represent."

"This is what it looks like when Americans vote for leaders who support hardworking families," Pritzker said, citing "policies of a fair minimum wage, expanding voting rights, protecting civil rights and human rights, and standing up for the right to choose."

Pritzker said the convention would bring "thousands of good-paying, labor-friendly jobs" and 50,000 visitors to the state. Lightfoot estimated it could generate \$150 million to \$200 million in spending in the local economy.

She also cited the city's familiarity with large-scale events, along with its infrastructure, location and the state's "unified leadership" as reasons Chicago should host the convention.

But the news conference came just four days before a contentious vote in which Democrats will choose the leader of the state party for the next four years. The post is currently held by Congresswoman Robin Kelly, of Matteson. She won that title in March 2021 over Pritzker's preferred candidate, Chicago Ald. Michelle Harris.

Kelly was elected to replace former state House Speaker Michael Madigan, who stepped down last year after failing to gain another term as House speaker. He was the state's party leader from April 1998 until February 2021.

The party's state central committee, made up of 17 men and 17 women from the state's congressional districts, is scheduled to vote Saturday in Springfield on whether Kelly would remain in charge of the party for another four-year term. Each committee person's vote is weighted based on the number of Democratic ballots cast in the congressional district.

Because Kelly is a sitting congresswoman, she is unable to raise money for candidates in state races, although she has no restrictions on fundraising for federal races. While the party created a fundraising committee for state races, the fundraising issue remains a key point of contention.

The latest campaign filings from the Democratic Party of Illinois' state fund show it raised \$1.72 million in the quarter ending June 30, \$1.5 million of which was transferred from Pritzker's campaign fund. The party's state fund expended \$10,424.47 for the quarter that ended June 30, excluding Pritzker-funded mailers. In the previous quarter, the DPI state fund spent \$11,240.06. Its balance as of June 30 was \$2.8 million.

But the party also maintains a federal fund registered through the Federal Election Commission, and DPI spokesperson Jake Lewis said the party has raised over \$2 million since Kelly took over as party chair between the two funds, not including Pritzker's transfers.

"Under Robin Kelly's leadership, the Democratic Party of Illinois has been overhauled from top to bottom, with new staff and vendors, upgraded data and technology services, party organizers, an active communications shop, and more," he said in an email. "Chair Kelly's vision for the party is one that serves all Democrats across our state, beyond just one candidate or one caucus, and we will continue to move our party forward."

"We encourage Democrats to focus on the issues that matter to the people of this state, like defending our fundamental rights and defeating Republicans in the November," Lewis added.

Pritzker, meanwhile, is supporting state Rep. Lisa Hernandez, D-Cicero, an assistant majority leader in the state House who carried the recent congressional and state redistricting bills through the General Assembly.

House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch is supporting Hernandez as well.

"This means having a chair that can fundraise for all Democratic candidates," Welch said in a

statement.

Welch said Hernandez's "vision" would be to create a new role for Kelly as "federal chair."

"They can work in partnership to lead the party forward," he said in the statement. "This is how we have Democrats be more supported as we face two Supreme Court races, dozens of legislative campaigns, and other races up and down the ballot."

Welch said it is "critical" that the leader of the state party can raise and spend funds that support all Democratic candidates across the state.

"Right now, DPI does not and cannot do that. If a leadership change occurs, it will," he said.

The powerful AFL-CIO federation of labor unions issued a statement shortly after Welch's supporting Hernandez as well.

Kelly told NBC News she was "disappointed" in the lack of support from Pritzker, but she appeared alongside the governor and other members of Congress at the morning event Tuesday, and the governor downplayed intraparty tensions.

"Well, let's be clear: We're all standing here in unison standing up for a Democratic Convention for Chicago and for the state of Illinois," Pritzker said.

"And I think as the Chair (Kelly) said so eloquently, after Saturday, we're going to have a chair of the Democratic Party of Illinois, whoever that is, is going to serve a four-year term," he added, noting Democrats would rally around the chair for the next four years.

U.S. Sen Dick Durbin remains Kelly's most prominent backer.

Republicans, meanwhile, were dealing with intraparty tensions of their own as state lawmakers in the conservative Freedom Caucus called on the party to censure U.S. Rep. Adam Kinzinger, R-Channahon, for his role as an outspoken critic of President Donald Trump on the U.S. House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol.

State Reps. Chris Miller, Brad Halbrook, Dan Caulkins, Adam Niemerg, and Blaine Wilhour – some of GOP governor candidate Darren Bailey's closest allies in the Illinois General Assembly – called for the state party to censure Kinzinger and called the Jan. 6 hearings "a sham without any due process."

The state party issued a statement saying it was "focused on uniting the party to defeat Gov. Pritzker in November and make Illinois a safe and affordable place for people to live."

Bailey, at a news conference called to criticize the governor's handling of the state Department of Children and Family Services, didn't answer directly whether he thought Kinzinger should be censured.

"I have dealt with Adam Kinzinger on my own," he said. "I've made my statements. I don't agree with anything that Adam Kinzinger stands for. And I've made the statement."

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

**Illinois Acreage Shift  
Toward Soybeans  
Would be First in  
Nearly 40 Years**

By Daniel Grant  
*FarmWeek*

Illinois appears well positioned to maintain its recent run as the top soybean producing state in the nation.

While soybean plantings fell more than 2 million acres short of expectations in USDA's June 30 acreage report nationwide, the Ag Department raised soybean plantings by 200,000 acres in Illinois compared to the March estimate.

The current projections place Illinois plantings at 11.2 million acres of soybeans, up 600,000 from last year when it produced 672.6 million bushels –

*Continued on Page 8*

# COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

## The Sensations:

Sunday from 3:00 - 6:00pm will be preforming at the American Legion Boone Post 77 on Chrysler Drive in Belvidere for a fundraiser. **Boone County Master Gardeners are Ready to Answer Your Call:**

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

## Rockford Boxing Classic to Debut as Region's Premier Outdoor Boxing Event:

Rockford Patriots Boxing Club and Plus Seven Company announced the inaugural Rockford Boxing Classic (RBC) is set for Saturday, August 13, at Rockford City Market Pavilion. Sanctioned by USA Boxing, RBC is the Rockford region's premier outdoor boxing event and fundraiser for the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club. Gates open at 5 p.m. at City Market before youth bouts begin at 6 p.m., followed by police and fire bouts at approximately 8 p.m. The pavilion footprint will include music, food and beverages, and family friendly activities. Guests are encouraged to support the Club by purchasing a ring-side table of eight for \$250. In addition, free general admission will be permitted (bring your own lawn chairs). Visit [www.RockfordBoxingClassic.com](http://www.RockfordBoxingClassic.com) and follow the Rockford Patriots Boxing Club Facebook page for more information and updates.

## Rockford SBDC To Host 3D FDM Printing Certification Classes in August:

The Illinois SBDC at Rockford Chamber (Rockford SBDC) is hosting 3D FDM Printing Certification Classes starting with a Basics class on Monday, August 8 from 9 am to noon and an Intermediate class on Wednesday, August 10 from 9 am to noon at NIU Rockford, 8500 E. State St., Rockford.

Classes are free. Registrations are required. Attendees must complete the Basics class to move on to the Intermediate class. Link to Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3d-fdm-printing-basics-class-88-and-intermediate-class-810-ticket-s-383508352807>

These two classes are the first of a series of three that teaches participants the fundamentals of 3D Printing using FDM printers. The training in these classes uses both presentation and hands-on participation. Laptops are required. As a partnership between the Rockford Chamber and the Illinois DCEO, it operates out of NIU-Rockford, 8500 E. State St., and maintains an office at the chamber's downtown location.

## Soybeans

from page 7

the most of any state in the nation. USDA estimates Illinois farmers planted 10.7 million acres of corn this season, down 300,000 from last year.

"If realized, it would be the first time since 1983 that soybean acres would be greater than corn acres in Illinois," said Illinois state statistician Mark Schleusener.

It not only would buck a longtime state trend, but the acreage shift in Illinois was the opposite of the national trend. The U.S. soybean planting estimate declined 2.6 million acres from March to June to just 88.3 million acres. The national corn acreage estimate increased 400,000 acres to 89.9 million last month.

University of Illinois Extension ag economists Scott Irwin and Joe Janzen discussed the shift during

a recent webinar hosted by farmdoc.

"With soybeans we had some delayed planting and less-than-ideal conditions this spring," Irwin said. "When push came to shove, farmers in the U.S. faded toward corn and away from soybeans.

"Illinois stood out as increasing soybean acres (from the March intentions to the June planted acreage reports) as did Kentucky."

Overall, the total of U.S. principal crop acreage decreased from 317.4 million in March to 316.3 million in June, which helps explain the soybean acreage decline outside of Illinois.

"It's not that the acreage pie shrunk. We moved a bit more than 1 million acres from principal crops into prevented plant," Irwin said. "That's primarily in North Dakota and to a lesser extent South Dakota and Minnesota."

Estimates suggest prevented plant acreage could grow from 4.2 million acres last year to 5.3 million nationwide this season. However, the first official data on prevented plant area won't be available until August.

Meanwhile, after a spring buildup, crop prices continued a downward trend following the June 30 report and the Independence Day holiday.

"We've seen some of the high price action drop off," Janzen said.

*This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit [FarmWeekNow.com](http://FarmWeekNow.com).*

## Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program returns

By Kay Shipman  
FarmWeek

A federal-state conservation program has returned with incentives and rental payments to improve water quality and wildlife and aquatic habitat.

On June 14, administrators of the two agencies involved announced Illinois farmers and landowners may again enroll in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) first opened CREP enrollment in the Illinois River Watershed in 1998 and expanded into the Kaskaskia River Watershed in 2010. In 2015, enrollment was suspended because the state lacked a budget and IDNR could not offer state options.

"CREP is one of our most flexible tools when it comes to voluntary, locally-led, partner-driven conservation efforts, and we're so glad that we're able to put it to work again in Illinois," said FSA State Director Scott Halpin.

"Programs like CREP provide critical support to private landowners who want to implement sound conservation practices on their property," IDNR Director Colleen Callahan said.

Enrollment opened June 15 in 68 counties where the entire county or portions are eligible. A total of 232,000 acres may be enrolled; however, 51,000 acres are currently enrolled under contracts signed before the 2015 suspension.

"We still have room to grow (enrolled acres)," said Jamie Diebal, FSA conservation program specialist. A landowner must enroll at least 3 acres.

One major change in the 2022 CREP program is a requirement that landowners must participate in

both the federal and state parts of the program – not just one, according to Diebal.

Under the program, a landowner would sign a 14- or a 15-year Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract with FSA. Once enrolled, the landowner would sign a 15-year

contract extension or a permanent conservation easement with IDNR.

"Once the 15-year (CRP contract) effort expires, it transfers to extend the conservation benefits," Diebal said. "Our CREP goals are to improve water quality and wildlife and fish habitat."

Eligible land must fall into one of two categories:

- Highly erodible riparian areas immediately adjacent to the 100-year floodplain of the Illinois or Kaskaskia rivers or

- Flooded or wetland riparian areas within the 100-year floodplain of the Illinois and Kaskaskia rivers and their tributaries.

Available conservation practices include planting of permanent native grasses, trees, filter strips, riparian buffers, wildlife food plots and permanent wildlife habitat.

Wetland restoration is another available practice. If a wetland is restored, it must be located in the watershed and either a farmed wetland, a prior converted wetland, or a wetland farmed under natural conditions.

Under CREP, a farmer would receive an annual rental payment based on the soil type. As a special CREP incentive, a farmer would also receive a 25%-per-acre annual payment. Diebal noted CREP payments, based on soil types, are not capped at \$300 per acre as are CRP payments.

In addition, FSA provides landowners with 50% cost share to establish eligible practices. IDNR will provide participants with another 50% cost share to establish approved practices and a one-time payment for either a 15-year contract or permanent easement.

Diebal advised interested farmers and landowners to contact their local FSA office to start the process. FSA staff will work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and IDNR. FSA handles

the contract and is the agency in charge for the first 15 years, she explained.

*This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit [FarmWeekNow.com](http://FarmWeekNow.com).*

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