

To be notified of new issues online, register at [www.boonecountyjournal.com](http://www.boonecountyjournal.com)

# President Biden Comes to Belvidere

By David Larson

On Thursday, November 9, Belvidere received a visit from the President of the United States, Joe Biden. We have the United Auto Workers to thank.

We started the week noticing signs around town, posting no parking between 8am and 5pm on Thursday, but no one knew exactly why. In two days, the whole community knew why. President Biden, the first President to walk a picket line, came to Belvidere to celebrate settling the strike between the UAW and Stellantis. A key provision of that agreement was to reopen the Belvidere Assembly Plant. This will include a new vehicle for the assembly plant, a electric vehicle battery plant, and a parts distribution center. At these facilities, Stellantis is expected to employ about 5,000 union workers.

Last year when the plant closed, it seemed likely that auto manufacturing had permanently come to an end in Belvidere, and the best Belvidere could hope for was to become a parts distribution center, if that.

Coming on the heels of General Mills and Walmart distribution centers locating in the southwest portion of the city, the return of the assembly plant, a battery manufacturing plant, and a parts distribution center make 2023 a banner year in economic development for Belvidere.

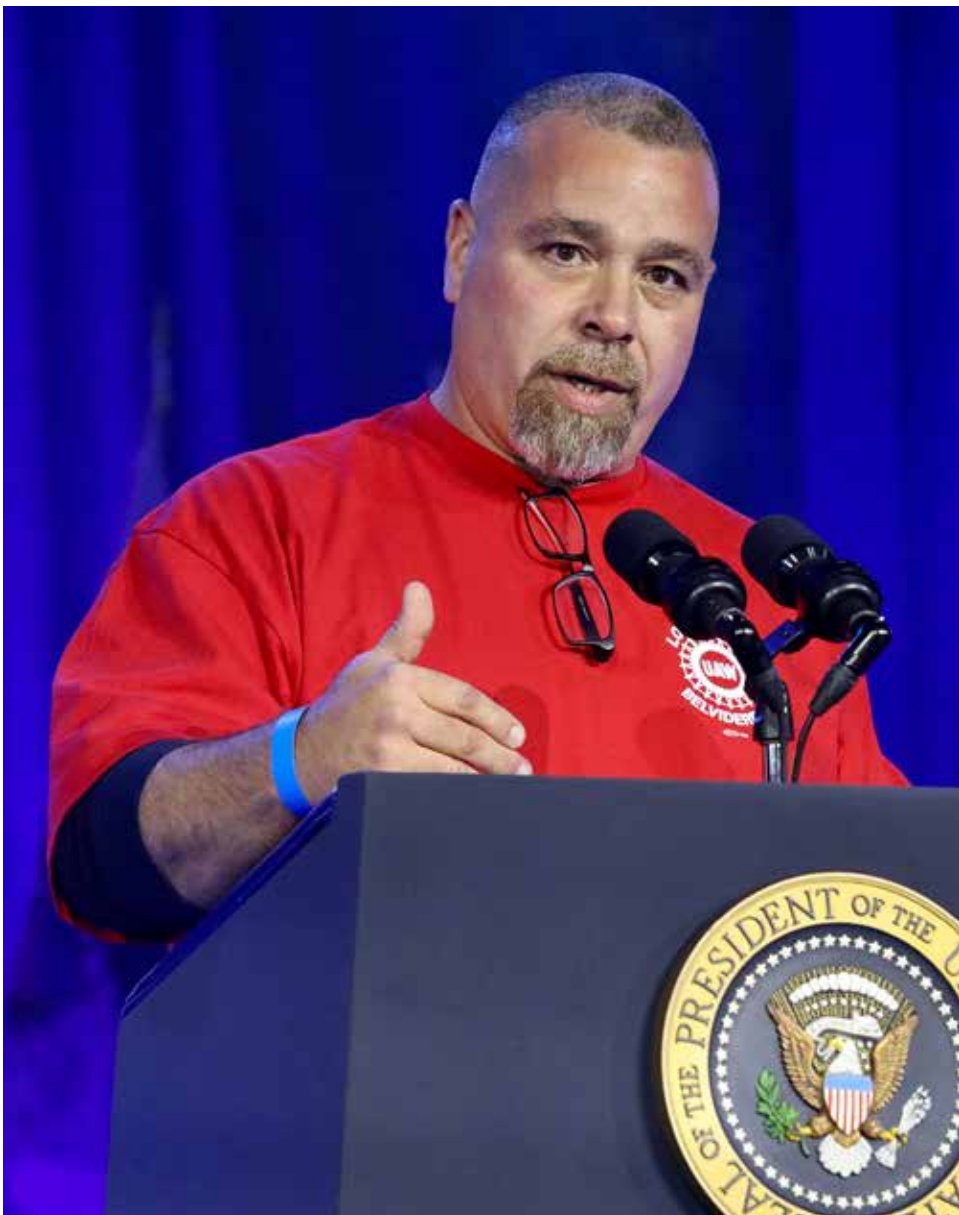
Despite reduced local property taxes and

*Continued on page 4*



President of the United States of America Joe Biden

Moran



Illinois Govenor J.B. Pritzker

Moran

*UAW local 1268 President Matt Franzen introducing President Joe Biden to national news media and a standing room only crowd at the Community Building of Boone County Moran*

# State Pauses Enrollment in Health Care for Immigrant Seniors as Spending Outpaces Estimates

*Latest numbers show costs exceeding budget as implementation of cost-sharing measures lags*

By Jerry Nowicki Capitol News Illinois

Gov. JB Pritzker's administration paused enrollment in a state-funded health care program for certain immigrants aged 65 and older beginning Nov. 6 – the fulfillment of a previously announced plan to cap spending on the program.

It's an expected move that the administration announced in June to control the rising costs of

a program that has proven more expensive than its initial estimates since it became law in 2020. While no new enrollees will be accepted for the time being, those already in the program will not see any changes to their current benefits.

The Health Benefits for Immigrant Seniors program provides state-funded Medicaid-like benefits to individuals who would qualify for the federal program based on their income levels if not for their immigration status. That includes individuals in the U.S. without legal permission and those who have obtained a green card but not yet completed a five-year waiting period making them eligible for federal benefits. An associated state program – Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults – provides similar benefits to noncitizens aged 42-64.

But unlike traditional Medicaid, which is jointly funded with state and federal money, the immigrant health care programs are funded almost entirely with state dollars due to federal reimbursement limitations for noncitizens.

Together, lawmakers allocated \$550 million to fund those programs in fiscal year 2024, which began July 1. Lawmakers also gave the Pritzker administration authority to take action through the state's administrative rulemaking process to keep spending at those levels.

Wielding that authority shortly after signing the bill, Pritzker capped HBIA enrollees as of July 1 and announced a 16,500 cap on HBIS enrollees – a threshold the Department of Healthcare and Family Services expects to hit early next month.

Read more: Pritzker quickly wields expanded authority to freeze noncitizen health care enrollment

But the latest cost estimates from HFS show that those caps – combined with administrative delays in launching copay and co-insurance requirements for enrollees – have failed to control program spending.

An analysis dated September 2023 from the HFS website shows the program is expected to cost \$831 million in FY 2024, more than \$280 million beyond the allocated amount. That estimate was based on total program enrollment of nearly 69,000 individuals with a per-patient-per-month cost estimate provided by the actuarial firm Milliman, which contracts with the department.

While the latest estimate exceeds the budgeted amount, it's nearly \$300 million below a May estimate from the Pritzker administration that projected program cost could grow to \$1.1 billion without cost-saving measures.

Read more: Expected cost for Illinois' noncitizen health care program grows to \$1.1 billion

The advocates behind the push for the noncitizen health care programs – most notably the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus – have long argued that providing health care, especially preventative care, to immigrant populations would be cheaper than making them dependent on emergency room visits.

The Healthy Illinois Campaign – an advocacy coalition that's another main backer of the programs – has also long referred to health care as a human right. They took to social media Thursday to encourage eligible enrollees to apply for the program prior to the cap taking effect.

"While expected, today's announcement is still a disappointing step backwards from the collective progress our state has made around health care access," Healthy Illinois Campaign Director Tovia Siegel said in a statement. "The HBIS program provides vital, lifesaving health care services to thousands of vulnerable older

adults across Illinois."

She said the move will "significantly diminish the state's ability to care for its elderly residents" and urged the administration to "continue to work with advocates and community organizations to find fiscally responsible solutions" while protecting health care access for those enrolled in the program.

But the administration has noted that the costs are greater for new enrollees in the programs because they have often gone long periods without preventative care. While it is expected that individual patients' costs will level out as they receive routine care, growing enrollment means the expensive first-time costs continue to grow as well.

"Compared with the traditional Medicaid population, month-over-month enrollment has grown at a higher rate, and per-enrollee costs have tracked higher among the HBIA and HBIS-enrolled populations due to more prevalent, untreated chronic conditions and higher hospital costs, pushing the limit of the funds made available for these programs for the current fiscal year," HFS said in a statement.

Before a legislative rulemaking oversight committee earlier this week, HFS attorney Omar Shaker said the department remains in discussions with the federal government to implement copay and cost-sharing measures.

Initially scheduled to go live on July 1, the copays would have cost \$250 for inpatient hospitalizations and \$100 for an emergency room visit. Enrollees receiving certain outpatient services at hospitals or surgical centers would be subject to 10 percent coinsurance, which the department said at the time "could range from \$3.70 to \$202.95, depending on the service received."

But early last month, the administration paused those requirements to ensure they don't jeopardize federal matching dollars for services that are subject to reimbursement, such as emergency room care. Providers who had collected copays were instructed to return them.

Shaker told the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules this week that the department would like to reinstate the copay and coinsurance measures, possibly as early as Jan. 1. But he acknowledged that the new rules authorizing them might not be ready by that date.

As of Jan. 1, however, he said he did expect the department to begin a "coordinated effort" to involve managed care organizations in the provision of the health care program. That's a state system that involves private insurers in the Medicaid program, ensuring patients receive regular checkups and follow-up care.

Shaker said the department expects that move to further lower program costs.

*Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to hundreds of newspapers, radio and TV stations statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.*

## Quidnunc




Presidents who have visited Belvidere

- U.S. Grant
- Teddy Roosevelt
- Herbert Hoover
- Joe Biden



- Alice Casteel, 83, Belvidere, November 5
- Clara Daniels, 102, Formerly of Belvidere, Nov. 8
- Montana Doss, 30, Belvidere, November 6
- James Frommeyer III, 70, Harvard, November 10
- Gloria Greenhow-Mowers, 95, Belvidere, Nov. 7
- Kenneth "Ken" Olson, 96, Cherry Valley, Nov. 12
- Joyce Johnson, 91, Belvidere, November 8
- Cynthia "Cindy" Schultz, 95, Harvard, November 9
- Joan Waldo, 83, Capron, November 11



**REAL JOURNALISM FOR A REAL DEMOCRACY**

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

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

---

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

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

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

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

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

3:16

RIDE

TAXI AND DELIVERY

Owner- Boston Mike

PHONE: 608-814-0977  
SERVING  
BOONE AND  
WINNEBAGO COUNTIES

## Foster Statement on President Biden's Visit to Belvidere

### Press Release

Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL) released the following statement after President Biden's visit to Belvidere:

"I was honored to travel with President Biden and Congressman Eric Sorensen on Air Force One today, and I was extremely proud to welcome the President to Belvidere. This is a historic moment for the Belvidere area; not only is it the first presidential visit in decades, it marks an agreement that will bring billions of dollars of investment to the community.

"Today's celebration was the culmination of several months of hard work from federal, state, and local officials, and UAW workers across the country – each dedicated to securing a bright future for the Belvidere community. Of course, this outcome wouldn't have been possible without the focused leadership and ironclad support for unions and working families from President Biden and Governor Pritzker.

"While the idling of the Assembly Plant ten months ago was a body blow to Belvidere, we can all take pride in the way workers came together to make sure it would reopen and remain the beating heart of the entire community. This is their victory.

"While this tentative agreement is an immense reason to celebrate, our work is not done. I'm laser-focused on ensuring the Belvidere Assembly Plant and its adjoining battery plant qualify for every federal incentive possible and that Stellantis makes good on its commitment to Belvidere."

*Foster represents Belvidere as part of Illinois' 11th Congressional District.*

## Foster Introduces Bipartisan Payer State Transparency Act

### Press Release

Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL) reintroduced the bipartisan Payer State Transparency Act to help shed light on the "Payer State" problem, wherein certain states, including Illinois, pay more in federal taxes than they get back in federal spending. For every dollar Illinois gives the federal government, its residents only receive \$0.74 back. According to a 2020 report by the non-partisan Rockefeller Institute of Government, this resulted in \$5.6 billion leaving Illinois between 2015 and 2018.

The Payer State Transparency Act would require the Office of Management and Budget, in conjunction with the Council of Economic Advisors and the Treasury Department, to produce annual assessments of net economic effect on individual states of all federal spending programs, and compare these figures against a model of state tax burdens developed by the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

"As a businessman who co-founded a manufacturing company, I understand the financial drag that federal Payer State policies put on companies that are committed to keeping good jobs in Illinois," said Foster. "I also recognize the burden the Payer State problem places on middle-class families here in Illinois, and the tragic underinvestment in physical and human capital that it drives. That's why I've introduced legislation to help us gain a better understanding of the problem and find ways to make sure Illinois taxpayers are getting their fair share of federal resources."

This legislation is cosponsored by Reps. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), Dean Phillips (D-MN), Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), and Christopher Smith (R-NJ).

## Foster Introduces Legislation to Lower Costs for Students

### Press Release

Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL) announced the introduction of the No Cost Educational Resources Act, legislation to help ease the financial burden on our nation's students.

By allowing existing grants to go towards free, online educational resources, this bill would expand access to the academic materials that are critical for a successful education in college and beyond. This is especially helpful for students pursuing a STEM education, who tend to face steep cost barriers for up-to-date materials.

"As we continue to work to lower costs for hard-working Americans, it's essential that we also address the rising costs that are creating barriers to higher education," said Foster. "This bill would directly help students save money by providing no-cost resources like textbooks, which are often too expensive for students to afford and not always covered by financial aid. These resources are especially important as our economy becomes increasingly STEM-based and will provide STEM students with the up-to-date materials they need to learn and fuel innovation."

## Inside Illinois' Youth Lockups, Children Go Without Basic Services And Face "Excessive" Punishments

*State audits point to troubling conditions in juvenile detention centers, but no agency has strong enough oversight to bring about change*

*By Molly Parker Capitol News Illinois*

In late December, a teenage boy with a broken arm was left to suffer alone in his cell at a youth lockup in rural southern Illinois. Staff were aware he'd been seriously injured; he told them he was in pain and asked to see a doctor. Two hours passed before staff took him to the hospital, during which they cooked and served dinner and took a group of kids for recreation, he claimed.

Almost everything had gone wrong that day, at a place where things went wrong a lot. Four months earlier, a state audit had called the Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center in rural Benton a "facility in crisis" because it was routinely keeping kids locked up for upwards of 24 hours at a time, a "significant violation" of state standards. It had failed to offer them much in the way of mental health or educational services, the audit said. An overwhelmed and undertrained staff routinely called on the sheriff's department to help keep the youth in line, even for seemingly minor behavioral disruptions, according to additional law enforcement records obtained by Capitol News Illinois.

All of that was evident on this particular day,

when the residents were told they'd get a rare treat, an hour or so inside the facility's gymnasium.

But once in the gym, the boy got into a shouting match with another youth and staff ordered him back to his room. Devastated to lose his rare gym time, he refused to go. Deputies from the sheriff's office across the street rushed in — several men who were much bigger than the teen, according to sworn statements that several youth provided for a federal lawsuit the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois filed against the detention center this summer.

The lawsuit alleges widespread failures, namely that the detention center had violated youths' constitutional rights by subjecting them to excessive forms of restraint and seclusion while denying them adequate education and mental health services. The children who are confined there are "uniquely vulnerable, many having already suffered harrowing abuse and trauma" — and instead of caring for them, the lawsuit claims, the facility subjected them to "inhumane conditions" known to cause lasting harm.

Melissa Morgan, chief judge of the 2nd Judicial Circuit Court of Illinois, whose office is ultimately charged with running the facility, did not return phone calls seeking comment, though an assistant confirmed she had received the messages. In a court filing last week, Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, who is representing the chief judge and other senior facility staff sued in federal court, denied the allegations of poor care leveled against the facility. The attorney general's office declined further comment. In a separate filing on Monday, Franklin County, which was also named in the lawsuit, denied the allegations as well.

Youth at the facility said in signed statements taken under oath that the deputies took the boy to the ground, breaking his arm in the process, a claim that is backed up by law enforcement records obtained by Capitol News Illinois and ProPublica.

"The officer asked me about my arm and I said 'You know it's broken. You heard it snap,'" the youth who was injured, identified only by his initials, A.B., said in his signed statement. A.B. is not a plaintiff in the suit, though his statement was included as evidence of the poor conditions alleged by the ACLU. The ACLU is seeking class-action status for the case, and that request is pending before a federal judge.

A month after the incident, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice returned to the detention center to see whether the "facility in crisis" had corrected any of the deficiencies cited in the August audit. It had made "some improvements" but "several" deficiencies remained and new ones were identified, the auditor wrote in a report on the visit. He also made note of the broken arm, saying that he could find no proof that anyone at the facility had conducted a review to determine whether staff or the deputies had acted appropriately. Franklin County Sheriff Kyle Bacon, who was among the law enforcement officers who restrained the youth that day, defended his department's actions but said he could not speak to whether the facility had conducted an internal review because the sheriff's office is not

*Continued on Page 5*



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

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

(815) 315-4200

*Call now for an appointment!!*

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

Get instant cash for your **GOLD**



**WE PAY HIGHEST PRICES**

**Belvidere Collectible Coins**

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

*Additional 10% off jewelry with this ad*

Mon-Fri 10am - 5pm  
Sat 10am - 2pm

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



President Biden putting on a UAW local 1268 Tee-shirt provided by Matt Franzen

Moran

**Biden** *from page 1*

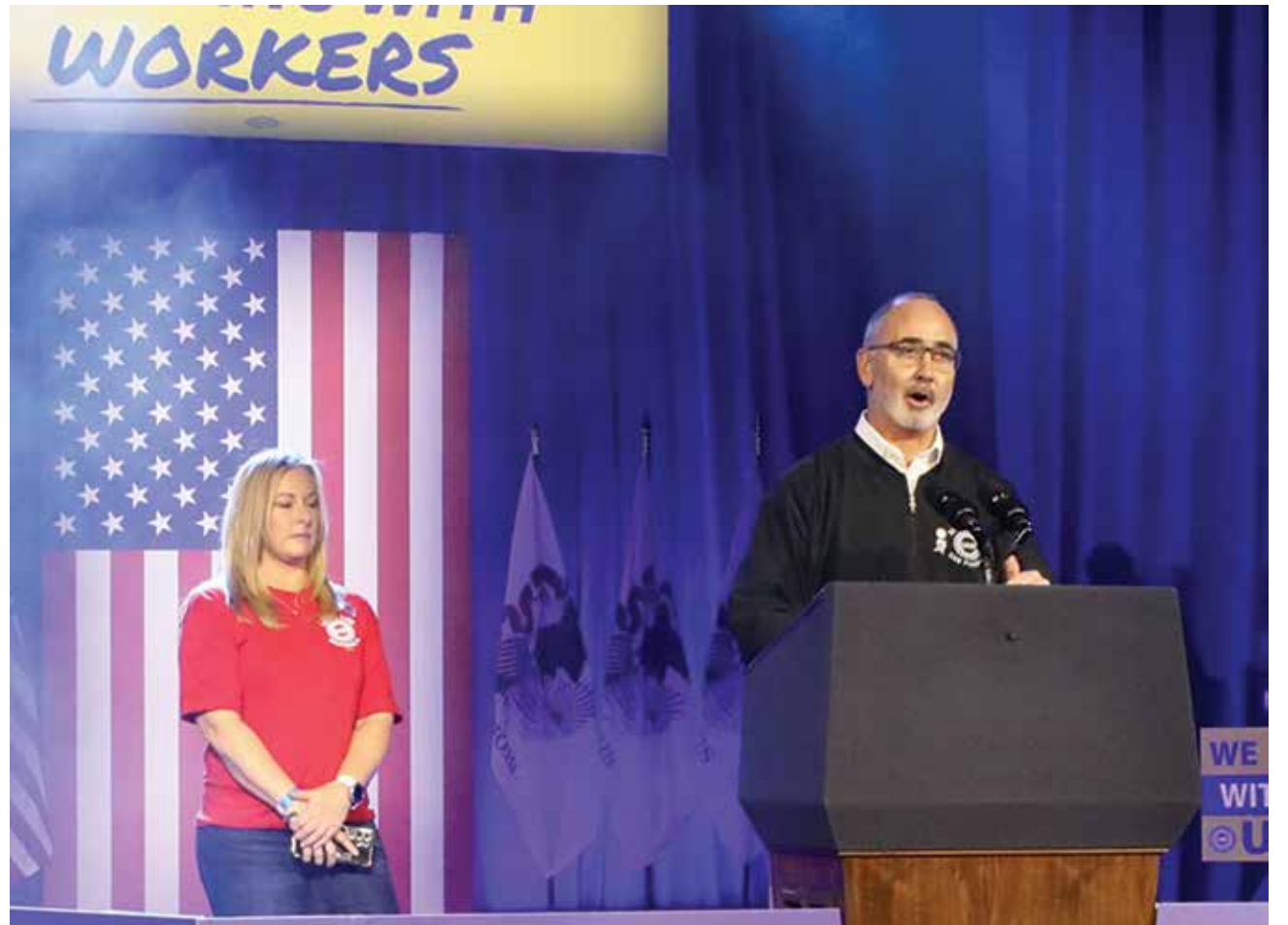
State of Illinois incentives for Stellantis, revenues should soon be dramatically increasing from these billions of dollars in private investment.

Illinois Governor J. B. Pritzker greeted the crowd and acknowledged the success of the UAW in securing the reopening of the Belvidere Assembly Plant.

Shawn Fain, President of the UAW, spoke prior to Biden's entrance. He delivered a strong message to those in attendance that the working class in America is on the ascent. His speech clearly went beyond the expected UAW rhetoric, expressing the sentiment that it is the working class—not just unions—that make prosperity.

Matt Frantzen, President of Belvidere Local 1268, rallied the crowd and shared the emotion of the Belvidere plant closure. Before introducing President Biden, he told how he received a surprise phone call from the White House, asking if he could meet with the President in Chicago regarding reopening the plant. He shared, upon introducing the President, how nervous he was being put in that situation on a moment's notice, and how he was made to feel comfortable by the President.

President Biden spoke at length on the devastation a community and families experience when a major manufacturing plant closes in a small community. Biden echoed Fain's remarks, saying that Wall Street produces nothing, but working people do. He expressed the need to rebuild the middle class in the United States through unions. Contrasting the ineffectiveness



UAW President, Shawn Fain appearing on stage with local UAW member Dawn Simms

Moran

of "trickle down economics" at benefitting middle class prosperity, Biden explained that the success of unions also pass success for nonunion workers and the economy in general.

Biden further commented on the unfairness of our tax code that eats away at middle America, while a small few benefit at the expense of labor. Biden concluded his remarks by stating that what is good for the middle class is good for America.

Many State and local political figures were in attendance including Belvidere Mayor Clint Morris, County Board Chairman Rodney Riley, Congressman Bill Foster, State Representatives Dave Vella and Maurice West, and State Senator Steve Stadelman.



**ACKERSON DOOR**  
**ads**  
**SALES**

"We give your garage closure"

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

Visit Our Showroom **CHADLER LiftMaster PROFESSIONAL**

**C.H.I.** 2255 Rt. 173 Caledonia, IL 61011

VISA 815-623-2616 815-765-1551

Fax: 815-765-0333

### Lockup

from page 3

involved in its administration. Nearly a year later, a spokesperson for IDJJ said the detention center has yet to provide one.

A new analysis by Capitol News Illinois and ProPublica suggests those failures were not unusual. A review of hundreds of pages of state audits, law enforcement records, a federal lawsuit, and reports by oversight and advocacy bodies point to troubling conditions inside many of the state’s 16 juvenile detention centers, which operate much like adult jails, detaining court-involved youth with open cases when a judge determines they are at risk of fleeing or reoffending. The facilities combined can house upwards of 1,200 youth as young as age 10, though they are rarely at capacity.

The records show that youth have been Tased, pepper sprayed and roughed up by staff and law enforcement officers; forced into isolation for days at a time; denied access to their psychotropic medications and mental health treatment; and received little or no schooling, despite state and federal laws mandating that the youth receive educational services while incarcerated. Nearly two-thirds of those who are detained are Black teens.

Poor conditions in juvenile lockups across the country have recently made headlines, bringing renewed calls for reform. What makes Illinois different from many of its state peers is that no independent agency licenses or certifies the youth detention centers. Even in some states that have been heavily scrutinized for problematic conditions inside their youth facilities, such as Louisiana, Tennessee, Michigan and Pennsylvania, a licensing process is in place that allows for sanctions up to closure.

Under state law, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice sets standards for county detention facilities that hold youth in custody and conducts audits of them. While the department has repeatedly cited several centers for failing to meet its standards, under state law, IDJJ cannot mandate corrective action plans, issue fines or shut down detention centers found in repeated violation of the rules. Instead, the IDJJ reports are sent back to the county detention facilities’ staff and to the chief judges of each judicial circuit, under whose authority they operate. Neither the staff nor the judges are obligated to respond.

IDJJ shares oversight of the youth detention centers with the Illinois Supreme Court. The high court’s administrative arm implemented its own set of standards for facilities in 2022 and started conducting reviews later that year. In its initial review of the detention centers, the court found that about a third did not meet its standards, and action plans were developed with them to address deficiencies. Christopher Bonjean, a spokesperson for the Illinois Supreme Court, declined to provide the full reviews or any of the ongoing progress reports for facilities requiring action plans, saying

that only its initial summary reports are made public. The judicial branch is not subject to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

Juvenile justice experts and advocates for incarcerated youth in Illinois say the weak oversight of these facilities needs the attention of lawmakers and policy experts.

And it’s the latest example the news organizations have revealed about the failures of Illinois officials to put an end to the poor treatment of vulnerable populations held in facilities, even when problems are well documented.

Capitol News Illinois spoke with six experts in the field of juvenile justice and youth development who said facilities that detain children should have robust oversight structures. This spring, Equip for Equality, Illinois’ federally designated legal aid organization for people with disabilities, called on policymakers to reform the oversight system “given the longstanding, serious and pervasive problems” inside facilities statewide.

“Would you want nursing homes operated without any oversight? I don’t want nursing homes operated without oversight. So to think we don’t have any kind of oversight and quality improvement for kids that are in custody in a facility, I don’t understand,” said Hunter Hurst, director of the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the research arm of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

IDJJ Director Heidi Mueller said in an interview that she agrees that the agency is limited in what it can do if a county’s chief judge can’t or won’t enforce compliance.

“I think a lot of folks would say that that oversight mechanism isn’t what you would call best practice,” Mueller said. Only the Illinois General Assembly has the authority to change the oversight structure, she said. Mueller stopped short of making a call for lawmakers to do so, saying that’s not her role as an agency leader.

#### Widespread Problems

Oversight entities have identified numerous problems in facilities across the state. In a March report, Equip for Equality found widespread problems at Chicago’s youth lockup — the state’s largest — including that it had utilized “unjust and excessive use of physical restraints and seclusion, often as punishment, with a wanton disregard of state law.”

In a letter addressed to Equip for Equality, Leonard Dixon, superintendent of the Chicago facility, rebutted the findings, saying that the youth facility follows state and federal laws and that the advocacy group’s claims about unlawful restraints were “unsupported” and that physical restraints are “never used as punishment.” Dixon noted to the news organizations in a statement that recent state audits found the facility to be in compliance with restraint standards.

Concerns about excessive use of force extended beyond Chicago. In April, a youth at the Mary Davis Home in Galesburg, in central Illinois, told an IDJJ auditor of a troubling physical restraint from the day before. After watching a video of the incident, the inspector was so alarmed that he reported it to the state’s child abuse hotline, although ultimately the Department of Children

and Family Services did not designate this as a case of abuse or neglect. No other governmental body is charged with reviewing whether administrative policies were properly followed in specific situations. The IDJJ audit noted that one of

the staff members involved had not received the training the facility utilizes to teach staff proper restraint techniques. Wendi Steck, superintendent of the Mary Davis Home, said the employee involved in the restraint incident no longer works there, but she declined to say whether his departure was related to this incident. “Any incidents of abuse of our clients are not tolerated and are dealt with swiftly,” she said. “All staff are trained in Handle with Care restraint and cannot be involved in any restraints until successfully trained.”

Perhaps nowhere are concerns as extensive as those documented at the 32-bed youth lockup in Benton, the only one that IDJJ labeled “in crisis.” The facility is the state’s southernmost detention center and houses youth from across 26 counties — the lower quarter of the state.

Among IDJJ’s findings in its August 2022 audit: Youth were confined to their rooms for upwards of 24 hours for behavioral infractions, though state standards limit the use of seclusion to four hours and allow it only if youths are at risk of harming themselves or others. In fact, because the facility was so short-staffed that IDJJ described the issue as “critical and unsustainable,” youth were kept in their rooms for most of their days there, even if they had not acted out. The facility has a gym and outdoor recreation area, but youth had not utilized either area for two years. The facility had no process for assessing youth to determine if they were at risk of sexual assault or of sexually assaulting a peer, a requirement of the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act. Mental health services were “minimal” and “there was an obvious lack of training” among the staff.

Staff at the Benton facility told the IDJJ auditor that at one time, it had utilized the Crisis Prevention Institute to train staff on how to try to calm situations before they escalate and how to properly use physical restraints if it can’t be avoided. But a supervisor acknowledged to the IDJJ inspector that such training had not been conducted in several years and that some newer employees may have never received it. “This poses a high risk for potential liability for the county,” IDJJ wrote in the audit.

Joseph A. Cervantez, the state’s attorney in Jackson County, one of the counties from which youth go to the Benton facility, said he was so alarmed when he read the report that he immediately stopped sending youth there. Without better services, he said, “I might as well just keep them out on the street.”

When IDJJ followed up in January, it found that many problems had not been corrected in the intervening five months. It also criticized the facility’s handling of the broken arm incident. Detention center staff told the auditor that its video system was faulty and didn’t record what happened. A senior official told the auditors that an internal review had been conducted but could produce no written record of it. While the standards do not stipulate the use of video cameras inside the facilities, any use of restraint or seclusion requires a full written report.

Bacon, the sheriff, said his office conducted an internal review consisting of a conversation between him and the chief deputy about what had transpired. “I was present and I was familiar with what was happening and the actions that we took, and there were no issues with those actions,” he said.

While IDJJ’s reports cited extensive problems, claims made by five youth who provided statements for evidence as part of the ACLU’s lawsuit, filed in July, suggested even more dire

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

**ROCKFORD BUSINESS SYSTEMS**  
• Digital Color & Black & White  
• Multi Functional  
• Copy \* Print \* Fax \* Scan  
• Service • Supplies • Toner  
Sharp ~ Canon ~ Toshiba ~  
Lexmark ~ HP ~ Xerox ~ Ricoh  
Sales 815-608-1173      Service 815-282-4002

# LEGAL NOTICES

## STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT BOONE COUNTY

**DATE FOR REQUEST OF NAME CHANGE (ADULT):**  
JENNIFER ALEXANDRIA BRUMFIELD WASHINGTON  
Case No. 2023-MR-32  
There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from:  
JENNIFER ALEXANDRIA BRUMFIELD WASHINGTON to the new  
name of JENNIFER ALEXANDRIA BRUMFIELD. The court date will  
be held on 11/21/2023 at 9:15 a.m. at the Boone County Courthouse, 601  
N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008 in Courtroom #4  
Published in the Boone County Journal – 11/2, 9, 16 (B)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
BOONE COUNTY - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS  
**U.S. Bank National Association PLAINTIFF**  
**Vs. No. 2023FC74**  
**Pamela J. Bohlman; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants**  
**DEFENDANTS**

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**  
NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:  
Pamela J. Bohlman  
Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants  
That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other  
defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying  
the premises described as follows, to-wit:  
**COMMONLY KNOWN AS:**  
318 Kishwaukee St  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
and which said Mortgage was made by:  
Pamela J. Bohlman  
the Mortgagor(s), to First Federal Savings Bank, as Mortgagee, and re-  
corded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as  
Document No. 96-6646 modified with 2018R03790; and for other relief;  
that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided  
by law and that the said suit is now pending.  
NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file  
your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court,  
Pamela Coduto  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
601 North Main Street  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
on or before December 11, 2023, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED  
AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDG-  
MENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER  
OF SAID COMPLAINT.  
**CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
(630) 794-5300  
DuPage # 15170  
Winnebago # 531  
Our File No. 14-23-05937  
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.  
13232548  
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/9, 16, 23

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
BOONE, ILLINOIS PROBATE DIVISION  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: RENEE SHELTON,**  
**Deceased** **CASE NO. 2023PR41**  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

NOTICE is given of the death of RENEE SHELTON, who died on  
July 12, 2023. Letters of Office were issued on August 15, 2023, to Regan  
Gray, Belvidere, IL and Gail Gray, Belvidere, IL, as Co-Administrators.  
The attorney for the estate is J.F. Heckinger, LLC, 405 West State St.,  
Rockford, IL 61101.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before March 21, 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 Section 18-3 of the Illinois  
Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not  
filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Boone  
County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse,  
601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the representatives, or  
both.  
Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office, Probate  
Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate's legal representative  
and to their attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.  
Regan Gray & Gail Gray  
Co- Administrators  
By:  
J. F. HECKINGER, LLC  
Prepared by:  
J. F. HECKINGER, LLC #1169491  
405 West State Street  
P.O. Box 1492  
Rockford, IL 61105-1492  
815-965-2121  
jheckinger@yahoo.com  
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/9, 16, 23

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF BOONE PROBATE DIVISION  
**In the Matter of the Estate of:**  
**RUSSELL R. HUMPHREYS,**  
**Deceased.** **CASE NO. 2023-PR-54**  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

NOTICE is given of the death of RUSSELL R. HUMPHREYS.  
Letters of Office were issued on the 1st day of November, 2023 to Sherry  
Ann Humphreys, 144 E. Riverside Road, Rockford, Illinois 61114, who  
is the legal representative of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate is  
GEORGE P. HAMPILOS, of Hampilos & Associates, Ltd., 308 West  
State Street, Suite 210, Rockford, Illinois 61101.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before May 9, 2024, that  
date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or  
within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to  
creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois  
Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not  
filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.  
Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Boone  
County Circuit Clerk--Probate Division, at the Boone County Courthouse,  
601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the Estate's legal  
representative, or both.  
Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office--Probate  
Division, must be mailed or delivered to the Estate's legal representative  
and to their attorney within ten days after it has been filed.  
Dated: November 6, 2023  
By: /s/George P. Hampilos, Esq.  
George P. Hampilos, Esq.  
George P. Hampilos — ARDC #6210622

HAMPILOS & ASSOCIATES, LTD.  
308 West State Street, Suite 210  
Rockford, Illinois 61101  
Telephone: 815-962-0044  
Fax: 815-962-6250  
georgehamp@aol.com  
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/9, 16, 23

**Position Available:**  
Trustee for BCFD # 2 beginning immediately through April 2025.  
This is a volunteer position; Requirements: Reside in Boone County  
Fire Protection District # 2. If you are interested please email a letter  
of interest to tbecker@bcfd2.com. Deadline for Letter of Interest is  
11/20/2023.  
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/9, 16

**TAX DEED NO.: 2023TX23**  
**FILED: 11/9/2023**  
**TAKE NOTICE**  
**County of Boone**  
**Date Premises Sold: October 28, 2021**  
**Certificate No.: 2020-00174**  
**Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2020**  
**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: 1114 Irene Road, Cherry Valley, IL 61016  
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 07-29-400-008  
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 May 1, 2024.  
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 May 1, 2024.  
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in  
601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Room 3, on September 21, 2024 at  
10:30 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 May 1, 2024 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  
Myriad Capital LLC  
Purchaser or Assignee  
November 13, 2023  
Thomas A. Lee, Unknown Heirs & Devisees for the Estate of Clara L.  
Childson, Thomas A. Lee, Occupant, Blackhawk Bank, Blackhawk Bank,  
Blackhawk Bank  
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"  
6088-937487  
Published in The Boone County Journal Nov 16, 23, 30

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**  
**BOONE COUNTY B IN PROBATE**  
**In the Matter of the Estate of HARRY G SMITH Deceased**  
**Case No. 2023-PR-57**  
**CLAIM NOTICE**

NOTICE is given of the death of HARRY G SMITH of Belvidere,  
IL. Letters of Office as Independent Executor were issued on October 31,  
2023, to VALDIN CASSEM, 1536 Charles Street, LaCrosse, WI 54603,  
who is the legal representative of the Estate of HARRY G SMITH, whose  
attorney is Franks, Gerkin, Ponitz & Greeley, P.C., 19333 E. Grant Hwy.,  
P.O. Box 5, Marengo, IL 60152.  
Claims against the estate may be filed within 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 5/18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended,  
whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated  
above shall be barred.  
Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone  
County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse,  
601 N Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois, or with the estate legal  
representative, or both. When a claim is filed with the representative but  
not with the Court, the representative may file the claim with the Court  
but has no duty to do so.  
Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office-Probate  
Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative  
and his attorney within ten (10) days after said claim has been filed.  
Olivia P. Dirig (#6286043)  
Attorney for Independent Executor  
Franks, Gerkin, Ponitz & Greeley, P.C.  
Our File No.: 22046.000  
19333 E. Grant Hwy., P.O. Box 5  
Marengo, IL 60152  
(815) 923-2107  
pleadings@fpgplaw.com  
Published in The Boone County Journal Nov 16, 23, 30

**Notice: City of Belvidere Requesting Proposals**  
**for radios and related equipment**  
This project is funded 90% by a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters  
Grant  
The City of Belvidere, on behalf of all fire departments in Boone  
County, is soliciting proposals for the following listed equipment:  
• 68 (sixty-eight) Portable Radios  
• 68 (sixty-eight) Radio Speaker Microphones  
• 16 (sixteen) Single Unit Chargers  
• 4 (four) - Six Bank Chargers  
Please submit proposals to:  
City of Belvidere  
401 Whitney Blvd.  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
Submissions must be postmarked on or before December 15th, 2023  
For all proposal requirements please go to our website:  
<https://www.belvidereil.gov/request-for-proposal/>  
Published in The Boone County Journal Nov 16, 2023

**NOTICE ON PUBLIC HEARING**  
**FOR BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET & ORDINANCE**  
THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT will hold a public  
hearing on the 28th day of  
November, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Historic  
Baltic Mill, 920 West Lincoln,  
Belvidere, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive  
public comments on the  
tentative operating budget and Ordinance No. 23-12-12A Annual  
Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for FY 2024. Action on the budget  
and ordinance will be taken on December 12, 2023, at the general board  
meeting. A copy of the operating budget and Ordinance No. 23-12-12A  
is available for viewing at the Administrative Office, located at 1006  
West Lincoln Avenue, Belvidere during regular business hours.  
Mary Marquardt  
Board Secretary  
Published in the Boone County Journal, November 16, 2023

STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT  
BOONE COUNTY  
DATE FOR REQUEST OF NAME CHANGE (ADULT): TYLER  
JOHN BRINKMEYER Case No. 2023-MR-38  
There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from:  
TYLER JOHN BRINKMEYER to the new name of TYLER JOHN  
McCORMICK. The court date will be held on 01/16/2024 at 9:45 a.m.  
at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008  
in Courtroom #3  
Published in the Boone County Journal – 11/16, 11/23, 11/30 (B)

# ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE COUNTY  
**ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION**  
No. DBA4173 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that  
a BUILDING ART AND MUSIC business is or is to be conducted or  
transacted under the name of SALLEY BUILDING COMPANY that its  
location is or will be 222 W. BOONE STREET, in Belvidere in the County  
of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of  
the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office  
address or address of said person(s) is shown below.  
Phone Number: 815-979-4427  
Rita Jan Salley, 222 W. Boone Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008  
  
I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the  
State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct  
copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: Monday,  
November 13, 2023  
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder  
Published in Boone County Journal 11/16, 11/23, 11/30 - P

**Lockup** *from page 5*  
conditions. The youth said they were locked inside  
"very small concrete boxes" covered in black  
mold and that they were forced to eat their meals  
alone in their cells next to their toilets and sleep  
on wet mattresses because the windows leaked.  
One youth said he was experiencing a mental  
health crisis and cut his arm with a broken colored  
pencil. "Instead of getting me any mental health  
treatment, they just gave me a paper towel to clean  
up the blood," he said.

The presence of law enforcement officers inside  
the facility is common, several of them said. "The  
crazy thing is the police don't even just come in  
for fights or big things, they come in just when a  
kid doesn't want to move and they do things that  
the staff should be doing," said another youth.

Law enforcement records obtained by Capitol  
News Illinois showed that staff called on sheriff's  
deputies 21 times between September 2021 and  
August 2023. Some of the calls were for seemingly  
minor incidents. For instance, on Aug. 1, staff  
requested backup because a youth had "stuffed  
snacks down his pants and won't give them back."

In some cases, the arrival of deputies resulted  
in more aggressive restraint techniques than are  
typical for — or allowed in — juvenile detention  
centers. In October 2022, detention center staff  
called for backup because a different youth had  
refused to return to his cell. When the deputies tried  
to force him back to his room, the youth assumed  
a fighting position, the responding deputy wrote in  
a report, so the deputy fired his Taser.

Staff in juvenile lockups are not allowed to use  
stun guns on youth, according to IDJJ.

Bacon said he believes the staff call on the  
sheriff's deputies because of their ability to utilize  
tools, such as stun guns, that the facility staff  
cannot.

He said that he and his staff are trained in  
deescalation techniques and use force only when  
necessary. "There are youth that can cause harm to

## Lockup

from page 6

you,” Bacon said. “And we want to use the least amount of force necessary, but at the same time we have to protect ourselves from being injured as well as the youth. That’s not our intention to hurt anyone.” He also said that as he understands the law, his office is not bound by IDJJ standards, even when officers are responding to an incident inside a facility that is under those rules.

In a statement, IDJJ said it does not consider calling for outside law enforcement alone to be a violation of any standards, though “the standards would apply to how force, if any, is used.”

The agency said it had not been aware of the stun gun incident until they were alerted to it when they returned for an audit in late September. That audit is not complete and has not yet been made public.

### Oversight Breakdown

Two years ago, IDJJ updated its standards for the operation of juvenile detention centers, incorporating language that emphasizes youths’ education and mental health and stresses appropriate use of restraint and seclusion. Its reports, available online, became more robust. But while they have helped bring problems to light, said Rachel Shapiro, a managing attorney with Equip for Equality, her agency is still identifying some “horrorific” conditions that never appear in IDJJ audits.

And although it can document problems it has identified, IDJJ’s authority to ensure they are fixed is limited.

The law does allow the state agency to petition a court to order a facility into compliance if it hasn’t fixed deficiencies within six months of receiving notice from IDJJ. But IDJJ said the agency is “not aware of any instances” of agency staff initiating such a process, in part because it would have to petition the very courts that run them.

The Illinois Supreme Court is also limited in what it can do. Its standards say that the court “shall” withhold 10% of the salary reimbursements it provides to any facility that remains out of compliance 90 days after receiving notice, and another 10% monthly thereafter. But it has not financially sanctioned any facilities.

Instead, Bonjean said, a special unit within the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts is closely monitoring any facilities that are still working through their corrective action plans.

The court spokesperson declined to provide the news organizations with the court’s full review of the Benton facility, its action plans or its progress reports. He confirmed that it remains out of compliance 14 months after the review but said that it is “making progress.” The county has approved funds for needed repairs and improvements to the facility, he said, but they will “take some time.” Reducing funding, he said, “could be problematic and could hinder the progress we are trying to achieve.”

John Albright, IDJJ’s chief of performance and innovation, who conducts the audits for the agency, said he also tries to work closely with facility staff to help them understand the standards and how to meet them.

“Some facilities have been working very hard to make changes, and others maybe not as much,” he said.

When the oversight entities don’t compel action, the only option remaining for those who feel they were harmed by the system is a lawsuit, advocates say. Kevin Fee, an attorney with the ACLU of Illinois, said his organization is concerned about conditions across facilities. But those found in Benton were “far and away” the most troubling, he said.

“The Franklin County reports were pretty scathing, and we would have expected more action in response to those reports,” Fee said of the IDJJ audits. “But we didn’t see any, which is why we felt the need to bring the lawsuit.”

Jennifer Vollen-Katz, executive director of the John Howard Association of Illinois, an independent watchdog organization, agreed that even with the improved standards, there are still shortcomings with “system transparency and concerns about the treatment and conditions youth

experience while in detention.”

The weak enforcement mechanisms are “a real deficiency in the state of Illinois,” she said. “We have work to do so that we’re not just inspecting these facilities and reporting on the issues. There has to be some way of holding the detention centers accountable and responsible for the treatment of youth in their custody short of litigation.”

*This article was produced for ProPublica’s Local Reporting Network in partnership with Capitol News Illinois.*



## Boone County Community Foundation recipients 2023 holding a check for \$56,000

The Boone County Community Foundation (BCCF) hosted their annual community grant breakfast, on November 14, 2023. The Foundation highlighted, celebrated, and awarded grants to organizations that provide services to and help meet the needs of Boone County. The 2023 awards are part of the Community Grant Program which consists of generous gifts from the Melvin & Mildred Banks Funds, the Wilbur & William Cummings Fund, and individual donor advised funds. Over \$56,000.00 in community grants were awarded to 22 Boone County organizations.

### Grant Recipients/ Grant Amount/ Purpose

- Belvidere Family YMCA: \$5,000 -Y on the Fly Program at General Mills Park
- Belvidere High School Music & Performing Arts Booster: \$3,715- Collaborative with Rockford Symphony Orchestra
- Blackhawk Area Boy Scouts of America: \$750- Membership & Program Assistance
- Boone County Arts Council: \$3,000- 5th grade arts festival
- Boone County CASA: \$1,600 -Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Program
- Boone County Council on Aging: \$1,000 -Outreach to isolated seniors
- Boone County Fair Association & 4H: \$8,000- Upgrade to 4-H and Grange Stands
- Boone County Museum of History: \$7,500- Updates to Duxstad Pioneer Cabin/Native American Exhibits
- BraveHearts Therapeutic Riding & Educational Center: \$1,000 Equine-assisted services to Veterans
- Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project: \$1,000 -Outreach, Education, Financial Assistance
- First Step Day Care: \$3,000- Sheds for outside equipment and moveable bins
- Friends of the Ida Public Library: \$2,000 – Laptop program and Ozobot Evo Coding Kits
- Girl Scouts of America: \$750- First Aid/CPR training, Recruitment kits and event materials, translation
- Habitat for Humanity of Boone County: \$2,000- Home Construction Costs
- Northern Illinois Food Bank: \$5,000-Take 50 for four Boone County Member Agencies

- Parks & Conservation Foundation: \$2500 – Rec Mobile
- Regional Access & Mobilization Project: \$1,000- Youth Education & Advocacy Services
- Remedies Renewing Lives: \$1,500 – Create a teen Space and enhancements to current children’s space
- Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling \$1,000 -Free services for sexual assault/abuse survivors in Boone County
- Sister Cities Association of Belvidere: \$2000 – Summer exchange program
- The ARC of Winnebago, Boone, & Ogle Counties: \$2,000- Two future planning seminars in Boone County
- Zion Lutheran Church: \$1,000-Food Distribution

The Boone County Community Foundation exists to improve the quality of life in Boone County for today, tomorrow and the future by building a culture of giving in our community and by connecting donors. We are a tax exempt, non-profit, philanthropic organization with the long-term goal of building permanent, named funds for the broad-based charitable benefit of the residents in Boone County and to strengthen our community through philanthropy. We offer the best tax advantages for charitable donations operating as a 501(c)(3) organization of the internal revenue code. For more information visit [www.boonecountycf.org](http://www.boonecountycf.org).

## Be the first to Read the Journal

The Boone County Journal is available Online at no cost at [boonecountyjournal.com](http://boonecountyjournal.com) Leave your email and you will receive a notice whenever a new issue is posted on the website. (Emails are not shared by the Journal with anyone)



## From Your Local Independent Businesses

**Global Green**  
INSURANCE AGENCY  
An Independently Owned Franchise  
779-552-8421 • 6521 Joan Dr. Bel.



Law office of  
**Rene Hernandez**  
1625 E. State St. Rockford, IL  
(815) 387-0261  
*Experience Counts*

**JOIN OUR MANUFACTURING TEAM IN BELVIDERE!**  
**TEXT GENMILLS TO 97211**  
careers.GeneralMills.com

Sand, Gravel, Excavating, Ready Mix Concrete  
**CORDRAY BROS., INC.**  
7200 Epworth Rd., Garden Prairie 544-6640

**Lee**  
Auction Service  
For all your Auction needs  
ph 815-544-4811  
cell 815-988-0249  
www.leeauctionservice.com



**Boone County License & Title**  
419 S. State St. Bel.

**Nathan Noble**  
Attorney at Law  
(815) 547-7700  
504 N. State St. Belvidere, IL 61008  
www.attorneynoble.com

**NEED A JOB OR AN EMPLOYEE?**  
CALL US TODAY!  
(815) 560-0037




**FLANDERS**  
INSURANCE AGENCY  
WE ARE A FULL-LINE AGENCY READY TO HELP YOU  
**(815)226-1444**

**BELVIDERE CEMETERY**  
Cemetery Lots Grave Openings  
Remembrance Garden and Monument/Marker Sales  
1121 N. Main St., Belvidere • 815-547-7642

**TRI COUNTY DAIRY SUPPLY, INC.**  
608-757-2697

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

**A GRINNELL MUTUAL MEMBER**

Belvidere Mutual Insurance Company is offering a scholarship of up to \$500 to the children or grandchildren of current policyholders who are high school graduating seniors seeking higher education. Please email [nicolettel@belvideremutualinsurance.com](mailto:nicolettel@belvideremutualinsurance.com) or call 815/544-3861  
Application deadline April 28, 2023.



**Limited Lifetime Guarantee**

**Barnes Auto Body Inc.**  
"The Collision Experts"

- COLLISION REPAIR
- I-Car Certified
- Rust Repair
- Complete Paint

Stop In For A Free Estimate

Mon-Fri 8-5  
Sat. 9-12

740 W. Locust St., Belvidere  
815-547-4298