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Swinging, Swaying, And a Curve At Rainbow Gardens

By David Larson

Rainbow Gardens, originally an idyllic park called Horseshoe Park along the Kishwaukee River, attracted club and church social gatherings, or family and friends picnicking on the bank. Its owner in 1925, Ralph Dahlstrand would rent it for the Belvidere High School Homecomings and other banquets and social events. Dahlstrand produced dances in the park with music provided by his dance band, the Dahlstrand Orchestra. The cost to attend these events was 25 cents for the ladies and 50 cents for the gents. Its popularity grew wildly from Dahlstrand's band with a cement slab serving as a dance floor. With phenomenal, regional success by May 1925, the dance floor was enclosed (see photo). Rainbow Gardens became a music venue and as you will see made a name for itself, a fond memory for a generation that fought World War II.

For a generation Rainbow Gardens, like the Rumpus Room in Belvidere in the 1960s, stimulated the imagination, romantic or otherwise, to inspire and achieved the rare quality of "The Good Life."

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Belvidere's Sanitary System Rehabilitaton

A new solution to an ancient problem

By David Larson

Under Belvidere is a system of sewers dating back into the 19th Century. In the *Boone County Journal* lobby, there is a map created by John Alvord, a Chicago hydraulic and sanitary engineer in 1895. It shows plans for an early stage of Belvidere's underground sewers. Belvidere in 1895 was contained within approximately East Avenue, Harrison Street, and 8th Avenue. The population of Belvidere in 1895 was about 5,400. Belvidere's population nearly doubled between 1890 and 1900.

Sanitary sewers removed waste from inside homes, as opposed to the storm sewer, which removes water runoff from outside the home. These underground sewers are an essential infrastructure in civilization.

The deterioration of some of these decades-old sewers will be the beneficiary of a new technology, according to Brent Anderson, Director of Public Works. In the June 10th Belvidere City Council Committee of the Whole, Anderson put forth three bid proposals to use the new technology on Belvidere's aging sanitary sewer system. The total cost of all three came to \$94,938. Approval of all three passed in the June 17 City Council Meeting.

Anderson's department identified 10 of the worst man holes in the sanitary sewer system in Belvidere. These were originally constructed from

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DANCE HALL - RAINBOW GARDENS
BELVIDERE, ILL.



RAINBOW GARDENS DANCE PAVILION and gasoline station located 1 mile east of Belvidere on RT20. *(Old Grant Highway) Photo 1936

Stateville May Close Early Under Pritzker's Prison Plan

Department of Corrections officials lay out closure, rebuild timeline to lawmakers

By Hannah Meisel Capitol News Illinois

Stateville Correctional Center could close as early as September under a plan laid out by Gov. JB Pritzker's administration on Friday.

Top officials with the Illinois Department of Corrections testified in front of a key panel of state lawmakers. The 12 members on the General Assembly's Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability face a mid-June deadline to make a recommendation on the

governor's plan to close and rebuild a pair of prisons in central Illinois and in Chicago's south suburbs.

But no matter what the panel decides, the Pritzker administration can go ahead with its plans so long as money is built into the state's next budget.

"I want everybody to understand that (any) recommendation that comes from this commission here is advisory," COGFA Co-Chair Dave Koehler, a Democratic state senator from Peoria, said after 1 ½ hours of testimony on the matter in front of his panel Friday.

"Yes sir, I do understand that," replied Mike Newman, the deputy director of AFSCME Council 31, the union that represents some 80,000 state workers – including most employees within the Department of Corrections.

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Potawatomi Hope to Finalize Land Transfer When Lawmakers Return in the Fall

Bill to grant tribe 1,500-acre state park stalled in final hours of spring session

By Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The leader of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation says he believes Illinois lawmakers will eventually pass a bill granting the tribe title to a 1,500-acre park in DeKalb County, but it may take a few more months.

Chairman Joseph “Zeke” Rupnick said in a statement this week that a bill granting the tribe ownership of Shabbona Lake and State Park outside of Aurora had bipartisan support in both

Quidnunc



The Republican Party under the banner of Lincoln ended the Legality of Slavery in 1863.

OBITUARIES

Linda Anderson, Belvidere, June 10
Mickey Brei, 82, Belvidere, June 10
Charlene Cross, 60, Belvidere, June 6
Patricia Grist Freeman, 84, Belvidere, June 11
Thomas Kehoe, 83, Belvidere, June 13
Vera Sandberg, 82, Belvidere, June 14
Jacquelyn Shanks, 74, Garden Prairie, June 16
Akiko Soellner, 58, Harvard, June 10
Muriel “Judy” Walter, 88, Capron, June 11



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chambers, but lawmakers simply ran out of time before giving it final passage.

“Although we ran out of time, we’re seeing Illinois position itself on the right side of history in a milestone that would transcend politics, bureaucracy and fear,” Rupnick said in a text message statement to Capitol News Illinois. “We’re looking forward to getting this across the finish line the next time the legislature reconvenes.”

Lawmakers will meet again this fall for their annual veto session. Exact dates for that session have not yet been announced.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi are now headquartered in northeast Kansas. But they once had a reservation in what is now Dekalb County, a reservation that officials now agree was illegally sold out from under them in 1850.

Shabbona Lake and State Park overlaps part of the land that once made up the original Potawatomi reservation. Other parts of the original reservation now include county-owned land and about 30 private homes, the titles to which are said to be clouded by the tribe’s legal claims to the land.

The proposed land transfer legislation, Senate Bill 867, would make up one part of a larger plan the tribe has to settle its legal claims and reestablish its presence in northern Illinois.

In exchange for title to the park land, Rupnick has said, the tribe has said it is pursuing federal legislation that would clear up titles to the remainder of the original reservation, with an understanding that the tribe would have a right of first refusal to buy those properties at fair market value if they ever come up for sale.

Meanwhile, the tribe has already acquired 130-acre tract in the area that the U.S. Department of the Interior recently took into trust, making it the only federally recognized tribal reservation in Illinois.

The bill that is still pending in the General Assembly would add another 1,500 acres to the tribe’s holdings, land that the federal government could then add to the reservation.

It would also authorize the Department of Natural Resources to deed the park property to the tribe for \$1. It also calls on the department to enter into a land management agreement with the tribe, which has said it intends to keep the park open for public use, at least until it develops a long-term plan for the property.

Although the bill passed out of the Senate with bipartisan support, Republicans in the House indicated they had significant concerns about the deal. Among those was the fact that the state acquired the park land in the 1970s using federal grant dollars that came with a stipulation that the land be used for conservation.

If the tribe were to convert the land to some other purpose such as a casino or hotel development, Republicans argued, the state could be forced to repay the federal government a large percentage of the land’s present value, last appraised at \$14.25 million.

Read more: Prairie Band Potawatomi land deal clears Senate, will head back to House

Tribal officials insisted they had no plans to develop a casino, noting there is already a casino in Aurora, less than an hour away. Democrats, meanwhile, argued that the tribe would need to enter into a gaming compact with the state and obtain legislative approval before it could develop a casino.

Rep. Will Guzzardi, D-Chicago, the lead House sponsor of the bill, said in an interview

he was confident the bill had enough support to pass the House. But for procedural reasons, the House could not take a final vote on the bill until after midnight Wednesday morning, the same time House members were struggling to pass a budget package for the upcoming fiscal year.

That budget package included a revenue bill that the House voted on three times before it finally passed, by which time Guzzardi said members were too exhausted to vote on the Potawatomi land transfer legislation.

He said the bill now needs only one final vote in the House before it can be sent to Gov. JB Pritzker for his signature, and he said he was “very confident” there is sufficient support in the House to pass the bill when lawmakers return for the fall veto session.

Stalled Bills:

‘Dignity In Pay Act,’ Prisoner Review Board Changes Fail To Move

While more than 460 measures passed, several highly publicized bills stalled

By Alex Abbeduto, Cole Longcor & Dilpreet Raju Capitol News Illinois

A bill eliminating the subminimum wage for workers with disabilities failed to pass the General Assembly ahead of its May adjournment, although sponsors say they hope to pass it when lawmakers return in the fall.

The federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 established minimum wage law, but created an exemption for businesses, rehabilitation and residential care facilities to pay workers with disabilities less than minimum wage if they obtain a special certificate permitted in Section 14(c) of the law. The measure would have given providers more than 5 years to stop using 14(c) certificates in Illinois.

Although the bill ultimately advanced out of the House 78-30 with bipartisan support, it was never called for a vote in the Senate.

In a written statement for Capitol News Illinois, bill sponsor Sen. Cristina Castro, D-Elgin, said she is continuing conversations with House colleagues and advocates of the measure. She said 14(c) certificates leave behind workers with disabilities.

“Other states have recognized this and put an end to the practice,” Castro said. “It’s time we join them.”

The measure could come for a vote during the veto or lame duck session later this year.

The measure has been negotiated for more than 5 years, and late amendments were added to it in an effort to draw bipartisan support.

“I think that, you know, the process is ongoing, and we just have to be patient,” bill sponsor Rep. Theresa Mah, D-Chicago, said following the measure stalling. It followed a similar arc last year, stalling in the final stretch after sponsors announced they had an agreement.

Continued on Page 3



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Bills from page 2

This year’s measure would have codified a transition grant program aimed at providing financial aid to organizations shifting away from 14(c) sheltered workshops. The Illinois Department of Human Services budget included \$2 million for the current fiscal year, and another \$2 million was to be allocated moving forward as well.

It also would have included more 14(c) certificate holders and representatives from the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities on an existing task force aimed at ensuring a smooth transition for certificate holders.

The Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities advocated in favor of the amended legislation this year after initially opposing ending 14(c) participation in Illinois. Advocates, including Mah, said eliminating the certificates would build upon rights for people with disabilities by removing one barrier they face when entering the workforce and seeking higher-paying and more rewarding employment.

But opponents said eliminating the certificates without enough of a ramp could force those with high support needs out of the workforce entirely.

Prisoner Review Board changes

Changes to the state’s Prisoner Review Board seemed well on the way to Gov. JB Pritzker’s desk until an early-morning scramble to pass a budget-related bill on the House’s final day of session preempted a vote in that chamber.

“We as leaders and lawmakers had an obligation to take action,” bill sponsor Rep. Kelly Cassidy, D-Chicago, wrote to Capitol News Illinois after the bill failed to pass. “Instead, we abandoned victims, once again.”

House Bill 681 was brought to the Statehouse following a pair of resignations from the PRB, which faced criticism after the board approved early release of Crosetti Brand – who then fatally stabbed 11-year-old Jayden Perkins while attacking his former partner and Perkins’ mother, Laterria Smith.

The measure would have subjected PRB case hearings to open meetings laws, mandated more training and created a task force to oversee the board. It also would have required the board to publish information on its website to direct survivors of violent crimes on how to submit an oral or written victim impact statement.

HB 681, which passed previous legislative hurdles without opposition, would also require the PRB to inform survivors of an individual’s early release within 24 hours, should the survivor have an order of protection or request to be notified.

Cassidy said during a committee hearing that the governor’s office expressed concern that a late Senate amendment went too far in requiring livestreaming of certain meetings. At a news conference the morning after session adjourned, Pritzker said he was fine with parts of the bill but still had serious pause.

“Some aspects of it, frankly, are just unacceptable,” he said. “It’s not about transparency, to be honest with you. It’s about what’s actually possible, what’s doable.”

He also was concerned about how funding was absent from the bill.

Cassidy wrote the bill’s creation of an almost 30-person task force to oversee the PRB could have helped address the concerns the governor shared.

The task force would be comprised of state agency directors and representatives, domestic and gender-based violence advocates, and four members of the Illinois General Assembly – chosen by majority and minority leaders in both chambers.

“We should be convening that task force this summer and doing the detailed work that two weeks at the end of session can’t accomplish,” she wrote. “Instead, we have to wait until we reconvene in the fall to try again to make meaningful and lasting change that will actually make us safer.”

Medical release hearings

House Bill 5396, which would change how the Prisoner Review Board handles medical release hearings, made it through the House but didn’t pass the Senate before adjournment Sunday.

The bill would amend the Joe Coleman Medical Release Act, which took effect in 2022, clarifying a petitioner’s rights during medical release hearings and requiring the PRB to publish a decision letter outlining their reasons for denial.

The bill previously passed the House 72-34 in April but was never assigned to a substantive committee in the Senate.

Karina’s Bill, homicide reporting

Lawmakers once again declined to pass a measure known as “Karina’s Bill,” which would change the state’s order of protection laws.

The bill is named after Karina Gonzalez, who was killed along with her daughter in Chicago in 2023. Gonzalez’s husband, Jose Alvarez, allegedly shot them while having an order of protection against him for a previous domestic violence incident.

Karina’s Bill would require law enforcement to confiscate firearms when an emergency order of protection is granted with a firearm remedy. It would also require a judge to issue a search warrant in cases where the remedy is granted, provided the judge finds there is probable cause that the individual possesses a firearm and is a threat to the victim.

The proposal would also prohibit gun owners from transferring firearms to another individual instead of surrendering them to law enforcement along with their Firearm Owner’s Identification, or FOID, card.

Advocates for victims of domestic violence have long been calling for the change, which this year was contained in House Bill 4469 and Senate Bill 2633.

Neither bill cleared a substantive committee this year, signifying they were never close to passage.

Eliminating the tip wage credit

House Bill 5345, a proposal to eliminate the tip wage credit at the state level, was sent back to the Rules Committee in the House – a procedural step indicating it wasn’t close to passage.

Under current law, the minimum wage is \$14 per hour but a tipped employee can be paid \$8.40 an hour if their tips bring them to \$14. If they do not receive enough tips then their employer is required to make up the difference.

Proponents, including the One Fair Wage advocacy organization and several legislators, have said that eliminating the tip wage credit will help solve systemic issues of poverty and harassment. Opponents such as the Illinois Restaurant Association say that repealing the tip credit will force owners to raise prices, cut hours and benefits, and potentially lay off staff.

Bill sponsor Rep. Elizabeth “Lisa” Hernandez, D-Cicero, said at a news conference in May that she will continue to work on the bill in the coming months.

Threats to libraries

House Bill 4567, an initiative of Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias, who under law also serves as state librarian, would treat threats made against libraries the same as a threat made to schools.

The measure also would have made clear that state library grants can be used for safety upgrades.

People found guilty of threatening libraries could face a disorderly conduct charge under the bill, which cleared the House 89-20 in late May. Although the Senate did not consider the measure before adjourning, it could still take up the bill when lawmakers return in the fall.

Giannoulias said in an April news release that it was spurred by several bomb threats made to libraries in Illinois.

Junk fees

The Junk Fee Ban Act, proposed in House Bill 4629, passed the House 71-35 in April and later cleared a Senate committee unanimously, but it never made it to the floor for a vote.

The bill would remove back-end hidden fees by requiring companies to show customers the full price of any goods or services. Bill sponsor Rep. Bob Morgan, D-Deerfield, previously described junk fees as “hidden, deceptive, predatory fees.”

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Rainbow Gardens from page 1

On May 21, 1925, the Dahlstrand Orchestra, for example drew several thousand attendees, with an estimated 700 cars parked in the lot to listen to the music. Parking on the highway was prohibited. Rainbow Gardens was open three nights a week: Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The summer evenings were hot and steamy like so many nights during the dog-days of summer, but nobody cared. The air in the room was so thick it could have been cut with a butcher knife, but nobody cared because of the dance music. The dozens of couples swinging and swaying through the hot summer nights did not mind. They were with their sweethearts or their lovers listening to the sounds of top bands at the Rainbow Gardens year after year. Outside Belvidere in a bucolic river setting. In the 1920s and later, barkers stood before audiences and announced into a hand-held megaphone, “Yow-sir, Yow-sir, Yow-sir isn’t this great ladies and gentlemen, the salubrious sounds of the Sammy Kaye Orchestra here at Rainbow Gardens for your dancing pleasure and they are also going to be here tomorrow night so get your rest and come back refreshed for another night of swing.”

The Rainbow Gardens dance hall was a popular destination for decades and with BelMar Country Club next door, it anchored the East Side of Belvidere just outside of town on Route 20. In those days, Route 20 was the route west from Chicago through Rockford and across the nation. Before the 1950s, there was not an Interstate Highway System. Route 20 was like Route 66, crossing the country.

During the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, swing music and dancing was how people enjoyed an evening out. Rainbow Gardens was one of a number of sites in and out of Chicago where people flocked every weekend. The music, the style of entertainment, socializing at that time of life when meeting that girl or a boy was all that mattered, and the opportunity to swill a beer was what Rainbow Gardens was all about.

It was the Jazz Age and Swing was the music of the day.

Rainbow Gardens offered primarily dance band music through those decades. Such groups as Sammy Kaye, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, and Woody Herman came through Belvidere and played at the Rainbow Garden. Singing groups such as The Flamingos from Chicago, the Hi-Lo’s, the Cab Calloway Orchestra, the Ink Spots, and the Andrews Sisters all played gigs at Rainbow Gardens in Belvidere.

These groups came through Belvidere and entertained in an age when radio and newspapers were the primary forms of mass media that was available. With the advent and popularity of television for the masses, the interest of many to go out for a night of dancing at Rainbow Gardens began to fade. In its final decade, the crowd had changed, and the once special experience became marred with fatal traffic accidents and fist fights.

On May 1, 1963, it was announced in the *Belvidere Daily Republican* that Rainbow Gardens would be torn down. The crowds that once flocked to the site were gone. The era of big-time dance bands touring the nation disappeared soon after the end of World War II. It was announced in that newspaper that the owner of the site, S.L. Cashman of Beloit, Wisconsin ordered the old Rainbow Garden be torn down. The article also announced that Mr. Cashman had no immediate plans for the site other than to demolish the old entertainment venue. Today nothing remains but abandoned pavement where a curve in the road once went by Rainbow Gardens. But, the energy of Rainbow Gardens remains yet today as a part of the legacy of Boone County.

Sewer from page 1

brick, which is today falling apart. The traditional solution would be to dig up the manholes and replace them with new brick or concrete fabrications. Instead, at a cost of about \$4,000 per manhole, a sprayed chemical in layers will create a fiberglass-like lining. The brick will serve as a mold for the synthetic material. The brick will be allowed to continue to decompose, which will not harm the integrity of the manhole.

Anderson stated that the finished product will be structurally hard and sound like a new manhole. The Mayor applauded the cost savings to Belvidere. This part of the project will be done by Advance Rehabilitation Technology of Bryan, Ohio for \$41,238, and be paid for from Belvidere’s sewer capital fund.

Phase two of the operation will line 470 feet of 8-inch main trunk sanitary sewer at a cost of \$39,950, or \$85 a foot, by Innovative Underground of Plano. Anderson explained how this operation will occur underground in real time without opening the earth and replacing pipe.

A sock-like material from manhole to manhole will be installed. Once installed, a chemical is injected into the line which will cause the sock to expand like a stent, transforming into a new pipe inside the old pipe. When completely cured, technologically-guided cutting tools open pathways where service or secondary line openings are required to connect to this main trunk line, which has been lined with the synthetic material.

In the final phase, two 6-inch service lines will be lined from the sidewalk to the main trunk line, as was similarly done in phase two. This work will also be done by Innovative Underground at a cost of \$13,750, paid for from Belvidere’s sewer capital fund.

Anderson reported to the council that he sees more of this rehabilitation work coming as the system ages, fortunately at a much less disruptive and expensive cost than digging and replacing pipe.

Prison from page 1

Newman, along with several members of the panel, expressed strong reservations about Pritzker’s plan to close Stateville Correctional Center in Crest Hill and Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln.

The governor announced the plan in March, and late last month his administration provided more details on the plan, revealing Logan Correctional Center – one of only two women’s prisons in Illinois – may be rebuilt on the grounds of Stateville, which would expand the state’s current operations into a multi-functional campus.

Local elected officials have joined organized labor in pushing back against the plan for Logan CC, citing economic impact on the rural area north of Springfield.

Asked about that pushback this week, Pritzker said state and local officials should focus more on “attracting great new private sector jobs” like those in the new Ferrero Rocher factory in Bloomington, where the governor traveled Tuesday for a ribbon cutting.

“And I think that really is the future for most places across the state, to not rely upon a state-run facility that’s a prison,” he said. “That can’t be a great economic growth strategy for the area.”

The governor announced the prison closure plan in March, 10 months after the administration

received a report it had commissioned on the deferred maintenance of state prisons.

The report detailed deteriorating buildings, compromised water supplies, infestations and all manner of recommended repairs and upgrades – including to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The total price tag to fully address those deficiencies would cost an estimated \$2.5 billion to fully address, according to the report by Atlanta-based CGL Companies, a consulting firm that specializes in buildings and maintenance.

“The costly repairs needed to remedy all of the issues identified by the CGL report and the structural engineering survey still will not resolve the design deficiencies present in the 1920s structure,” IDOC Acting Director Latoya Hughes said of Stateville during testimony to the panel Friday.

Hughes and her deputies did not dispute lawmakers’ assertions that the agency is aiming to close Stateville in September, though they did acknowledge the five-year timeline to fully phase out the dilapidated prisons could be in flux.

Logan Correctional Center, meanwhile, would be kept open as long as possible, Hughes said, in order to accommodate both current inmates and staff.

When inmates are moved out of their current facilities – whenever that might be – IDOC will have to spend nearly \$7 million to place them elsewhere, according to a report the agency filed recently.

“We want to be clear that the department will not reclassify the security level of individuals in custody,” Hughes told the panel Friday. “Rather, we will look at their medical, mental health, programmatic and educational needs, along with their security level, to identify a proper placement for them in a facility that security designation.”

AFSCME has pushed back on the plan since it was announced in March, and Friday was no different. Newman, the union’s deputy director, repeatedly cast doubt on IDOC’s internal estimates of both costs and jobs.

He threw cold water on the agency’s assurances that current prison employees would be guaranteed job transfers with minimal disruption to their lives, citing the long distances some may need to drive to a new facility.

“And even if there are vacancies at facilities like Sheridan or Pontiac, those are very likely too difficult a commute for Stateville employees, given especially that many are already traveling from Chicago and its suburbs, that most are frequently working overtime, which can make their workday as long as 16 hours,” he said.

Koehler told both IDOC and AFSCME representatives that he would be seeking an extension for convening a pair of legally mandated community hearings on the closures.

Under state law, COGFA would be required to organize those hearings by June – a nearly impossible task, Koehler said, given the General Assembly’s typical end-of-May adjournment for its spring legislative session.

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Rep. Sosnowski is Disappointed and Votes “No” To Closing Prisons

Press Release

State Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer (R-Murrayville) and Sen. Donald DeWitte (R-West Dundee) met this morning as members of the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability (COGFA) for the purpose of taking official action on a whether to close two correctional facilities being proposed by the Governor. The future of the Stateville Correctional Center, a maximum facility for men in Crest Hill, and the Logan Correctional Center for women in Lincoln is still uncertain with no official vote taken for lack of a quorum of commission members.

“This week COGFA met as part of our responsibility to review and vote whether or not to support Governor Pritzker’s plans for the closure of both Stateville and Logan Correctional Facilities, as well as their plans to rebuild both on the grounds at Stateville,” commented COGFA Co-Chairman Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer. “Our community meetings were well attended and the broad ideas of the Department of Corrections were not supported by many. The reality is that the IDOC’s lack of maintenance has led to the need for new facilities. However, the administration and Department only provided the basic idea of closure and replacement, not an actual plan. The lives of both those employed at or incarcerated in these facilities seems to have been left out of the discussions. In the case of Logan, it only makes sense to have a centrally located facility that covers incarcerated women from throughout the state with higher level offenses.”

Under the State Facility Closure Act, public hearings must be held to consider all perspectives of closing a state facility and the impact it would have on the staffing, budget, and the local community. No remote option was permitted for this meeting to allow for more participation and establish a quorum.

“I have been disappointed with this entire process. The issue of possibly closing one or more of our correctional centers is extremely important and should have been taken care of while we were still in session,” added Sen. DeWitte. “We’re also talking about a prison population that is shrinking, and plans to rebuild and add even more space at Crest Hill? Those numbers just don’t make sense.”

Commission Member Rep. Joe Sosnowski (R-Machesney Park) said, “I cannot support any of these closures at this time with so many unanswered questions on specific plans for each facility. The people of Illinois deserve real transparency, clarification and information from a Pritzker administration.”

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Advocates Underscore Need for Statewide Reentry Programs

Several proposed changes to criminal justice system have stalled

By Dilpreet Raju Capitol News Illinois

Illinois legislators this week approved a bill to restructure an oversight board in charge of distributing state money to courts that provide prison alternatives, while other criminal justice measures introduced throughout the session remain stalled.

House Bill 4409 would change the makeup of the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board to include 20 members, including two individuals who have previously participated in an Adult Redeploy program. Currently, it is comprised of state officials and probation officers, but no board members have the experience of being a participant in a diversion court program.

Under current law, the board provides formula-based funding to dozens of diversion programs in courts around the state, but the bill would change that to a grant-based program that’s subject to appropriation in future budgets. It would also give the board authority to penalize courts for not meeting agreed-upon goals for reducing the number of probation-eligible individuals who are transferred to state correctional facilities. The governor’s office proposed spending \$14.6 million on the Adult Redeploy Illinois program in the upcoming fiscal year, roughly level from the current year.

The measure also changes the term for participants in the program from “offenders” to “justice-impacted individuals,” a new common practice with terminology in criminal justice legislation. It needs only a signature from the governor to become law.

Reentering Illinois

Over the last decade, Illinois’ prison population has declined from a high of nearly 50,000 in 2013 to a low of nearly half that at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated temporary relocation measures. More than 100,000 Illinoisans spent time on mandatory supervised release – a form of parole – in 2022, according to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

While criminal justice reform advocates have celebrated that trend, they also say Illinois needs to build a statewide reentry program, especially as almost 500 people return to society under a new sentence recalculation law and as Gov. JB Pritzker plans to close and rebuild two prisons.

The new sentencing law required the Department of Corrections to recalculate sentences by accounting for a person’s time served in a local county jail before arriving in prison. Approximately 1,800 individuals had sentences recalculated with 475 being released from IDOC facilities earlier than they would have been as of May, according to IDOC spokesperson Naomi Puzzello.

Advocacy groups say change is also necessitated by the changing nature of Illinois’ prison population. Researchers from the Loyola University Chicago Center for Criminal Justice found significant change in the kinds of crimes people were serving time for over the past decade.

From 2010 to 2023, researchers found a 15 percent increase in the number of individuals exiting prison for illegal possession of a firearm while the percentage of people who were imprisoned for drug or property crime decreased. Almost 40 percent of people released in 2023 had served time for a violent crime.

But support systems for those returning to so-

ciety from prison are limited, with scant programming for housing, education and job placement.

In 2020, the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Great Cities Institute noted in a report on state reentry policies that Illinois “does not set aside specific funding” to support or provide housing for those reentering society.

The Great Cities report found the system fails to support those who leave it, increasing the likelihood of recidivism.

“Many people with criminal records find themselves deprived of certain rights and stripped of opportunities for housing, education, employment, social services, and other necessities,” the report – lead authored by Timothy Imeokparia, the institute’s associate director of research and planning – reads. “All of this increases the likelihood of return to criminal activity.”

Cook County has a limited time rental assistance program through November 2026 for people returning from prison, though it does not provide immediate placement or guarantee housing to enrollees.

But even as more states establish statewide reentry programs and councils to guide their efforts to reduce recidivism, Illinois has not adopted a comprehensive plan.

“Reentry starts on day one (of incarceration),” Jennifer Vollen-Katz, executive director of prison watchdog the John Howard Association said in an interview. “We are putting people in inhumane conditions. We are not treating them well. We are not, by and large, giving them opportunities to access treatment, programs, or education.”

Speaking at a recent conference on reentry in Chicago, Deanne Benos, former assistant director of the Illinois Department of Corrections and co-founder of the Women’s Justice Institute, said new policies are necessary to curb what she described as wasteful spending that is not helping people avoid criminal lifestyles.

“We have reduced the prison population (from 2013 highs) by almost 50 percent, the budget keeps going up. Why?” she said. “Because the ‘mega prison’ is a failed model, and it will keep sucking money and creating harm until we change it.”

The amount appropriated to IDOC in fiscal year 2024 surpassed \$2 billion for the first time ever. Pritzker’s fiscal year 2025 proposal decreases the allocation by \$10 million, although it would remain over \$2 billion.

Even without statewide reentry programs, the Center for Criminal Justice found serious recidivism rare. The three-year arrest rate for people exiting prison during the 2018 and 2019 fiscal years was just over 50 percent, though it was mostly due to technical infractions, rather than committing a separate offense, with murder being exceptionally rare.

“Less than 1 percent of people released from prison are subsequently arrested for murder,” said David Olson, professor and researcher at Loyola’s Center for Criminal Justice.

When questioned about the March stabbing and killing of 11-year-old Jayden Perkins by Crosetti Brand, a man who had been recently released from Stateville Correctional Center under orders of the state’s Prisoner Review Board, Olson wondered why few were asking how the system failed to rehabilitate Brand after years in prison.

“There’s a lot of examination of what individual people did in that case, but no one’s provided any scrutiny to what the system failed to do in that case,” he said. “What did (the system) fail to do, in terms of access to a therapeutic intervention while (Brand) was in custody and incarcerated for eight years?”

Continued on Page 8

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice

The following amount must be received in cash or money order at the office of H&H Mini Unit Storage LLC, 4760 IL Rt. 173, Ste. 3, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

or the contents of the below listed unit(s), located at 345 S. Wooster St., Capron, IL 61012 will be disposed of on or after 6/21/2024.

The following amount must be received in cash or money order at the office of H&H Mini Unit Storage LLC, 4760 IL Rt. 173, Ste. 3, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

or the contents of the below listed unit(s), located at 131 E. Main St., Capron, IL 61012 will be disposed of on or after 6/21/2024.

Elizabeth Cendejas, 9284 Centerville Road, Capron, IL 61012 for Unit CM019, \$940.00 plus the cost of postage and advertising.

Published in *The Boone County Journal* 6/13 and 6/20, 2024

TAKE NOTICE
CERTIFICATE NO. 2020-00141

TO:
Timothy J Blodgett
Occupant
Lorri Blair
Union Savings Bank
Union Savings Bank
Boone County Clerk
Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property;
Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of

BOONE County, IL as Case No. 2024TX6

The Property is located at:

1224 Union Ave., Belvidere, IL 61008

Property Index Number: 05-35-428-001

Said Property was sold on 10/28/2021 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2020.

The period of redemption will expire on 10/4/2024. On 10/22/2024 at 9:15 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

1095 Investments LLC, Petitioner

6088-943185

Published in the Boone County Journal 06/ 06,13,20

TAKE NOTICE
CERTIFICATE NO. 2020-00056

TO:
Mary Conklin
Mary Conklin
Occupant
Boone County Clerk
Spouse of Mary Conklin
Spouse of Mary Conklin
Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property;
Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots.

A Petition for Tax Deed on premise described below has been filed with the Circuit Clerk of

BOONE County, Ill. as Case No. 2024TX7

The Property is located at:

4.01 Acres W 17482 Burr Oak Rd, Capron, IL 61012

Property Index Number: 04-02-200-022

Said Property was sold on 10/28/2021 for Delinquent Real Estate Taxes and/or Special Assessments for the year 2020.

The period of redemption will expire on 10/4/2024. On 10/22/2024 at 9:15 AM the Petitioner will make application to such Court in said County for an Order for Issuance of a Tax Deed.

Ivy Jack, Inc, Petitioner

6088-943186

Published in the Boone County Journal 06/ 06,13,20

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE - PROBATE DIVISION
In the Matter of the Estate of MARLENE M. LITTLE, Deceased.
2024-PR-27

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of MARLENE M. LITTLE of Belvidere, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on May 28, 2024 to MIDLAND STATES BANK, as Independent Executor whose attorneys are WILLIAMS MCCARTHY LLP, 120 W. State St., P.O. Box 219, Rockford, IL 61105.

The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Boone County Courthouse, 601 N. Main St, Belvidere, IL 61008 or with the representative, or both, on or before December 9, 2024, or within 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 Probate Act, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

MIDLAND STATES BANK
Independent Executor
Published in the Boone County Journal 06/ 06,13,20

IN THE COURT OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GITSIT SOLUTIONS LLC, Plaintiff,
-v.-
23 FC 68
UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHARON C. HAMPTON A/K/A SHARON COLLEEN HAMPTON, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, J.F. HECKINGER, P.C. A/K/A J.F. HECKINGER, LLC, TIME INVESTMENT COMPANY, INC., STEVEN HAMPTON, SHERRI PRUITT A/K/A SHERRILL PRUITT A/K/A SHERRI HAMPTON, STEPHANIE FOLEY A/K/A STEPHANIE HAMPTON, TIM MILLER AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
510 WEST 10TH STREET BELVIDERE, IL 61008
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 4/23/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on 7/25/2024 located at 601 N Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

LOT THIRTY-FIVE (35) AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT NO. 2 OF BEL-AIRE SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN BOOK 5 OF PLATS ON PAGE 18, IN THE RECORDER’S OFFICE OF

BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN BOONE COUNTY IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as 510 WEST 10TH STREET, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-35-478-003

The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.

The judgment amount was \$197,850.53

Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC, No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(l) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information, contact Plaintiffs attorney: Law Offices of Ira T. Nevel LLC, (312) 357-1125 please refer to file number 23-01920.

Auction.com LLC
100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 – 872-225-4985
You can also visit www.auction.com.
Attorney File No. 23-01920
Case Number: 23 FC 68

NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF’S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

6088-942589

Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 13, 20, 27

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
In The Interest of: IZEL RIVERA-TORRES, minor
No. 24-JA-6
Luis Aristud, All unknown fathers, and All whom it may concern
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on May 2nd , 2024, 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 Izel Rivera-Torres, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 1:30 P.M. central daylight time on 08/15/24; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing 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 THIS 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 PETTION 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 RIGHTS 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: June 4, 2024 Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK

Published in The Boone County Journal: 6/13, 6/20, 6/27– C

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
In The Interest of: JOHANNELYS LEANNA CORTES, minor
No. 24-JA-9
All unknown fathers and All whom it may concern
ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on May 7th, 2024, 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 Johannelys Leanna Cortes, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 1:30 P.M. central daylight time on 07/18/2024 and 08/01/24; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a hearing 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 THIS 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 PETTION 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 RIGHTS 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: June 4, 2024 Pamela Coduto, CIRCUIT CLERK

Published in The Boone County Journal: 6/13, 6/20, 6/27– C

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE - PROBATE DIVISION
In the Matter of the Estate of MARLENE M. LITTLE, Deceased.
2024-PR-27

NOTICE TO HEIRS

Notice is given to JANINE BARTLING, JANIS BARTLING, JO

ETTA TAYLER, MARK DAVIS, JULENE DAVIS, STEVE DAVIS, KIM DAVIS, JEFF DAVIS, JORDAN CARVER, GENNA CARVER, BRENT CARVER, LANCE CARVER, RUSSELL CARVER, JOYCE DUEY, ALLAN HUSE, WILLIAM GREENFIELD, JR., MAC BARRETT, PATTY WAHLMAN, LINDA HILL, DAWN RICHTSMEIER, DARLA OELMANN, DENISE HARDER, DOUG BLEEKER, and DAN BLEEKER who are an heir or legatee in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated in the petition to admit the will to probate, that an Order was entered by the court on May 28, 2024, admitting the will to probate.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open Court, or other evidence, as provided in Section 6-21 of the Probate Act 1975 (755 ILCS 5/6-21).

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit https://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.

You also have the right under Section 8-1 of the Probate Act 1975 (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after the admission of the Will to probate.

Attorney Adam M. Fleming
Williams McCarthy
Attorneys for Independent Executor
Published in the Boone County Journal 06/ 06,13,20

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON ANNEXATION AGREEMENT
BELVIDERE CITY COUNCIL
BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

On, July 1, 2024 at 6:00 P.M., a public hearing will be held by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Belvidere, in the City Council Chambers, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois, for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony as to an ordinance authorizing an Annexation Agreement relating to real property generally located South West of the intersection of Bus. U.S. Route 20 and Distillery Road and legally described as follows:

Tract A

The North ½ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 20, Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, excepting therefrom all that part lying northwesterly of the centerline of the Beaver Creek and further excepting therefrom the north 575.00 feet of the east 265.15 feet of said Southwest 1/4 . Subject to the rights of the public and the State of Illinois in and to those portions used, taken or dedicated for public road purposes, Situated in the County of Boone, and the State of Illinois.

Tract B

The north 575 feet of the east 265.15 feet of the North ½ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 20, Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian. Subject to the rights of the Public and the State of Illinois in and to those portions used, taken or dedicated for public road purposes. Situated in the County of Boone and the State of Illinois.

The proposed Annexation Agreement is available for review in the City Clerk’s office 401 Whitney Blvd. Belvidere Illinois.

By order of the Corporate Authorities of the City of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois.

Dated: June 10, 2024 Sarah Turnipseed, City Clerk

Published in *The Boone County Journal*: 6/13/24

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 SHIRLEY A. JACOBSON, Deceased.
No. 2024-PR-17
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Shirley A. Jacobson. Letters of Office were issued March 15, 2024 on to Rochelle Jacobson, 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 December 19, 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 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 Court-house, 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, Illinois 61008, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

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

Dated: June 12, 2024
Rochelle Jacobson, 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
Published in *The Boone County Journal* June 13, 20, 27

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Boone County Board will receive bids marked BCG-2024-06 for the purpose of purchasing aerial photography and digital orthoimagery to help support operations across all County departments.

Bid documents will be available on or after June 14, 2024. Those interested may visit the Boone County Website at https://www.boone-countyil.gov/businesses/bids__rfp_s.php for further details. Copies of the Bid Documents will be available for viewing in the Boone County Clerk’s Office located at 1212 Logan Avenue, Suite 103, Belvidere, IL 61008. Bids will be accepted at the Boone County Clerk’s Office until Monday, July 8th, 2024 at 12:00 P.M. Bids will be opened at 12 P.M. the same day in the Boone County Board Room located at 1212 Logan Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois 61008.

Boone County Government reserves the right to accept or reject all bids.

Published in the Boone County Journal 06/20/2024

The Journal

has old newspapers free

for picking up from time to time.

Call to see if any are available

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
SERVBANK, SB, PLAINTIFF,
VS. NO. 2024 FC 31
LEAH MILLS; XAVIER MILLS; MARINER FINANCE, LLC;
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UN-
KNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
DEFENDANTS.
4116 CORNFLOWER ROAD
POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065
JUDGE PRESIDING JUDGE
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU,
Xavier Mills Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants defen-
dants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and
other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage convey-
ing the premises described as follows, to wit:
LOT ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SIX (146) AS DESIGNATED UPON
WEST GROVE SUBDIVISION PLAT NO. 2, BEING A SUBDIVISION
OF PART OF THE NORTH HALF (1/2) OF THE SOUTHEAST QUAR-
TER (1/4), PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF THE
SOUTHEAST QUARTER (1/4) AND PART OF THE SOUTHEAST
QUARTER (1/4) OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (1/4), ALL IN SEC-
TION 23, TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD
PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF
RECORDED AUGUST 25, 2005, AS DOCUMENT NO. 2005R09773
IN BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF
BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 4116 Cornflower Road
Poplar Grove, IL 61065
and which said Mortgage was made by,
Leah Mills and Xavier Mills
Mortgagor(s), to
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for First
Centennial Mortgage Corp.
Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone
County, Illinois, as Document No. 2017R06339; and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance
in this case, on or before July 22, 2024, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE
BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF
ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

You have been sued. To participate in the case, you MUST file an official
document with the court within the time stated on this Notice called an
“Appearance” and a document called an “Answer/Response”. The Answer/
Response is not required in small claims or eviction cases unless ordered
by the court. If you do not file an Appearance and Answer/Response on
time, the court may decide the case without hearing from you, and you
could be held in default and lose the case. After you fill out the necessary
documents, you need to electronically file (e-file) them with the court. To
e-file, you must create an account with an e-filing service provider. For
more information, go to ilcourts.info/efiling. If you cannot e-file, you can
get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. You may be
charged filing fees, but if you cannot pay them, you can file an Application
for Waiver of Court Fees. It is possible that the court will allow you to
attend the first court date in this case in-person or remotely by video or
phone. Contact the Circuit Court Clerk’s office or visit the Court’s web-
site to find out whether this is possible and, if so, how to do this. Need
help? Call or text Illinois Court Help at 833-411-1121 or go to ilcourthelp.gov
for information about going to court, including how to fill out and file
documents. You can also get free legal information and legal referrals at
illinoislegalaid.org. All documents referred to in this Notice can be found
at ilcourts.info/forms. Other documents may be available from your local
Circuit Court Clerk’s office or website. ¿Necesita ayuda? Llame o en-
víe un mensaje de texto a Illinois Court Help al 833-411- 1121, o visite
ilcourthelp.gov para obtener informaci>n sobre los casos de la corte y
c>mo completar y presentar formularios.

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT,
THE PLAINTIFF’S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COL-
LECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFOR-
MATION 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. 24-18154IL-1057857
13246209
Published in the Boone County Journal 06/20, 27, July 4, 2024

MANCHESTER RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #5 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that at 8:00 P.M. June 27, 2024
a Public Hearing will be held at Manchester Town Hall 20904 Grade
School Rd., for the purpose of considering the proposed budget, levy and
appropriation ordinances of the Manchester Rural fire Protection District
#5.

The proposed budget and ordinances will be on file, and conveniently
available to Public inspection at said hearing. Old and new business will
be discussed, a new treasurer will be appointed. The financial audit of
Fire District #5 will also be approved.

Joel Nussbaum
Secretary of Manchester
Rural Fire Protection District #5.
Published in the Boone County Journal 06/20

Elections Board Urged To Dismiss Complaint That Bailey Illegally Coordinated In 2022 Campaign

*Board of elections official finds thin
evidence for coordination claims, unclear
state law*

By Hannah Meisel Capitol News Illinois

A hearing officer is recommending the Illinois
State Board of Elections dismiss a complaint
that alleged conservative radio host and political
operative Dan Proft illegally coordinated with
former Republican state Sen. Darren Bailey during
his 2022 campaign for governor.

Proft, a one-time gubernatorial candidate
himself, is behind an independent expenditure
committee dubbed the “People Who Play By The

Rules PAC,” which received \$42 million from
GOP megadonor Richard Uihlein, and in turn spent
\$36 million during the 2022 campaign cycle.

The complaint, filed by a top Democratic party
official in the waning days of the campaign, claimed
Proft’s PAC coordinated campaign spending with
Bailey in violation of state law.

Read more: Election officials to weigh whether
Darren Bailey and GOP operative Dan Proft
illegally coordinated

Under Illinois election law, “independent
expenditure committees” like Proft’s PAC are
barred from making expenditures “in connection,
consultation, or concert with or at the request or
suggestion of” public officials or candidates for
office.

But in an opinion published this week ahead of
the election board’s next meeting Tuesday, hearing
officer James Tenuto agreed with Proft and Bailey’s
contention that the complaint actually relied on
federal law prohibiting independent expenditure
coordination and wrote that “Illinois has no laws or
rules governing independent expenditures.”

Though Tenuto recommended that the Board
of Elections adopt rules or the General Assembly
clarify state law about what is and isn’t allowed by
independent expenditure committees, his broader
take was that the evidence in the case didn’t support
the claims of Proft and Bailey’s illegal coordination.

In an April hearing on the matter, attorneys for
Democratic Party of Illinois Executive Director
Ben Hardin, who lodged the complaint, painted
a picture of illegal campaign coordination via a
secret meeting, use of Bailey’s campaign footage
in advertisements produced by Proft’s PAC, and
Bailey’s appearances on Proft’s AM radio show.

The day after Bailey won the four-way
Republican primary for governor in June of 2022,
he and his campaign manager flew via helicopter
to a Chicago-area country club for a meeting
requested by Proft.

At that meeting, Proft told Bailey that Uihlein
had agreed to provide \$20 million to Bailey’s
campaign – and allegedly presented Bailey with
an envelope containing a check to that effect – if
Bailey fired his campaign staff and Proft was given
the reins.

If not, Bailey was told, Uihlein would instead
direct the money to Proft’s PAC, according to
testimony during the April hearing. Bailey refused
to accept the deal, and

Proft’s PAC went on
to produce pro-Bailey
ads funded by Uihlein’s
millions.

Tenuto was
unconvinced by
Hardin’s contention
that because Bailey
refused the \$20 million,
he tacitly agreed to

The Boone County Journal June 20, 2024 7

Uihlein’s alternative plan to give Proft the money
in order to indirectly boost Bailey’s campaign.

Tenuto pointed out that Uihlein was free to
change his mind about the deal, and that “rather
than proving coordination,” Bailey’s refusal to fire
his staff “confirmed the desire for the Candidate and
Bailey for Illinois to maintain their independence
from Proft and the PAC.”

“Nevertheless, Bailey’s refusal to accept the
conditions was the result, but more significantly,
not the cause of the \$20 million contribution going
to the PAC,” he wrote. “Ultimately, the recipient
of the contribution was Uihlein’s decision. Bailey
never had any ‘control’ over the ultimate recipient
of the contribution.”

The complaint also alleged that Bailey’s
appearances on Proft’s radio show were tantamount
to message coordination that were later used in ads
paid for by the PAC. But Tenuto also dismissed
that theory, pointing out that Bailey and Proft were
simply amplifying a key GOP argument of the
2022 election cycle: crime.

“There was no need for Bailey to appear on
Proft’s radio show to signal to the PAC the message
he wanted to get out,” Tenuto wrote. “‘Crime is out
of control’ was a common theme for Republican
candidates.”

And though Hardin pointed out that Proft’s
pro-Bailey ads used B-roll footage created by the
Bailey campaign and posted on its website and
YouTube channel, Tenuto also didn’t buy that its
public posting was a clear sign of coordination.
He cited Proft’s testimony from the April hearing
that he was “solely...responsible” for the PAC ads
and “never had any conversation” with Bailey’s
campaign staff about the ads.

Bailey lost the general election to Gov. JB
Pritzker by 12.5 percentage points, and earlier this
year lost his primary challenge against Republican
U.S. Rep. Mike Bost.

The Board of Elections is scheduled to make a
final decision in the case at its June 18 meeting.

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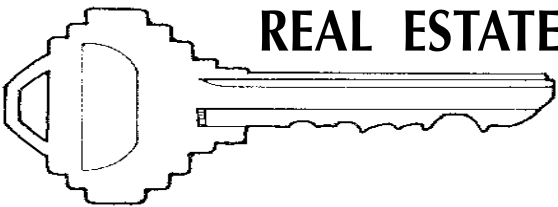
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ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
NO. DBA4196 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a NUICANCE WILDLIFE ANIMAL REMOVAL business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of ASAP WILDLIFE REMOVAL AND REPAIR that its location is or will be 10255 Shaw Road in Rockford, 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: 815-978-6063
William (Bill) Eric West
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: May 31, 2024
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 06/ 06,13,20 P.

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. DBA4197 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a EXCAVATING CONSTRUCTION business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of T-REX EXCAVATING INC. that its location is or will be 1217 AMERICAN HOUSE DRIVE, in Belvidere, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.
Phone Number: 815-319-2846
Francisco Sanchez Pasillas, 1217 American House Drive, Belvidere, Illinois 61008
Manuela Vidales Pasillas, 1217 American House Drive, Belvidere, Illinois 61008
I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: June 7, 2024
Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder
Published in Boone County Journal 6/13, 6/20, 6/27/24 - P



IN THE COURT OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GITSIT SOLUTIONS LLC, Plaintiff,
-v.- 23 FC 68
UNKNOWN HEIRS OF SHARON C. HAMPTON A/K/A SHARON COLLEEN HAMPTON, ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, J.F. HECKINGER, P.C. A/K/A J.F. HECKINGER, LLC, TIME INVESTMENT COMPANY, INC., STEVEN HAMPTON, SHERRI PRUITT A/K/A SHERRILL PRUITT A/K/A SHERRI HAMPTON, STEPHANIE FOLEY A/K/A STEPHANIE HAMPTON, TIM MILLER AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

510 WEST 10TH STREET BELVIDERE, IL 61008
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 4/23/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on 7/25/2024 located at 601 N Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.
Commonly known as 510 WEST 10TH STREET, BELVIDERE, IL 61008
Property Index No. 05-35-478-003
The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.
The judgment amount was \$197,850.53
Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.
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6088-942589
Published in The Boone County Journal June 13, 20, 27

Reentry from page 5

Olson noted IDOC has operated the way prison systems are designed to do.
“Before we start pointing to the Department of Corrections saying it’s all their fault, I would argue we’re getting out of prison what many people expect: it’s punitive and it incarcerates people for a set period of time,” Olson said. “That’s what it achieves with certainty.”
The Great Cities report echoed Olson’s findings.
“Even the most effective reentry programs will be largely marginal in their impact on the reentry problem until policing strategies and sentencing practices are reconsidered simultaneously,” the report states.

Stalled bills
Bills aimed at expanding support for people with criminal records have mostly stalled, some languishing for over a year, as the session nears its end.
One measure – House Bill 5219 – would eliminate mandatory minimum requirements. Illinois institutes those requirements through truth-in-sentencing policies – where people have to serve a given percentage of the sentence they received from Illinois courts – and give incarcerated people one day of sentence credit for one day served.

Right now, Illinois law limits the number of days an incarcerated person can earn to between 54 and 90 days of credit per year, meaning it takes an individual about four to seven years to earn one year of credit towards their sentence without any discretionary credit. The bill would require IDOC to recalculate sentences for the nearly 30,000 people in Illinois prisons.
House Bill 3373 would allow people who have served 35 years of a life sentence to seek earned reentry through Prisoner Review Board hearings.

One bill that has stalled in the Senate for over a year would create a pilot program to subsidize wages of people who served time in prison while establishing a tax credit for small businesses that hire people with a criminal conviction.
Through implementing local workforce navigators, House Bill 3418 would connect potential participants with businesses and be responsible for managing monthly subsidies (50 to 75 percent of an individual’s wages) with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.
Advocates said DCEO estimated costs for the pilot at about \$19 million to serve up to 500 participants per year through 2028.
Other measures, House Bill 5432 and Senate Bill 3680, seek to repeal ‘crime-free’ housing and nuisance property ordinances as ordered by local governments. Currently, counties and municipalities can craft and enforce ordinances to give landlords the power to fine or evict tenants for simply contacting police or emergency services.

The Illinois chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union found such ordinances are not only disproportionately enforced on Black people and people of color, but they may violate “the First Amendment right to petition the government, due process guarantees, and federal and state prohibitions against housing discrimination.”
Senate Bill 2158 would shrink ‘banishment zones,’ where people who have previously committed sex offenses are barred from living, from 500 feet to 250 feet. These zones exist around a variety of child care institutions, but advocates say the prohibited facilities outlined in the law are so ubiquitous, people are forced into homelessness when the 500-foot radius is applied.
A provision of the bill, which Chicago 400 Alliance organizer Laurie Jo Reynolds said was suggested by higher-ups at the Chicago Police Department, removes in-home day cares from the list of barred institutions as they, too, have become overly prevalent since the COVID-19 pandemic.

People who have served prison time are not able to hold public office in Illinois but Senate Bill 2347 seeks to change that. The bill denotes anyone who served time for official misconduct would still be disqualified from holding a public office but individuals who have served time for other offenses would be qualified for public office.
All of those measures, however, remain in some form of legislative limbo while awaiting substantial committee assignments as the spring session reaches its conclusion.
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