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FREE

Boone County Fair Queen 2026 — Isabelle Rose Bahenabeing



John Henninger, Fair President, recognized Sharyn Geske for her 17 years as Director of the Boone County Queen Pageant.



Isabelle Rose Bahena, Boone County Fair Queen 2026



Boone County Fair Little Miss 2026 Raelynn Jade Ortgiesen

Jozlyn Elisamay Mundy, First Runner-up; Isabelle Rose Bahena, Queen; Raelynn Jade Ortgiesen Little Miss; Kate Marie Henninger Second Runner-up



Boone County Fair Queen contestants



Isabelle Rose Bahena dancing with two Little Miss contestants at the Pageant

School Funding Stretched as Costs Rise, Revenue Shrinks

Despite \$350M funding increases, overall 'adequacy gap' grows for 3rd straight year

Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

Despite a \$350 million increase in base funding for public schools this year, Illinois is falling further behind in its quest to bring all school districts up to adequate funding levels.

That's according to new data from the Illinois State Board of Education, which announced Friday the details of how it will distribute \$9.3 billion in Evidence-Based Funding dollars for public schools.

For the third consecutive year, the number of districts being funded at or above 90% of their "adequacy target" will fall while the overall "ade-

quacy gap" — the amount of additional money it would take to bring all districts up to full adequacy — will increase.

According to the new distribution figures, only 292 of the state's 850 elementary, high school and unit school districts will be funded at 90% or more of their adequacy target in fiscal year 2027, down from a peak of 327 in fiscal year 2024.

And the overall adequacy gap this year will total \$6.8 billion, up from \$4.8 billion three years ago.

State Superintendent of Education Tony Sanders said that's primarily due to three factors: rising costs; a decline in one source of corporate tax revenue; and an increase in the number of students identified as "low-income."

Those factors aside, however, Sanders insisted the Evidence-Based Funding formula is serving its purpose.

"Every school district has received more school funding each year since EBF was enacted," he said Friday during a media briefing about the numbers. "In other words, EBF is working."

Outside factors

Sanders said one of the biggest factors affecting school funding is a rapid decline since 2024 in a revenue stream known as "corporate and personal property replacement tax," or CPPRT. That's a tax the state began levying in 1979 on certain business entities. It replaced a tax on personal property such as machinery and equipment that was phased out under the 1970 Constitution.

The revenue is collected by the state but distributed to local units of government, including school districts, that used to receive personal

continued on page 8

Kim Cooley

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THE MAKING OF A CHAMPION

Story and photos by Charles Herbst



The best pig. The best pie. The best plate of peppers. With 4,723 different competitions, The Fair is a celebration of excellence in Boone County.

For those who have won, the only thing better than winning a blue ribbon is a best in show rosette.

What's the difference between a champ and a chump? The Boone County Journal takes a look at a few of the champions and tells you what makes them the best.

Here are some of the best of the 2026 Boone County Fair and what the judges had to say about them:

Boone County Fair Champions 2026



Wood Turning Bowl

Don West, Poplar Grove

Very well done, color looks like marble, very attractive spatting (black mineral streaks) makes the piece look very pretty.



Pencil Drawing—Junior

Lucas Ramon

Parkville, Missouri



Black/White Photography – Best of Show Wild Animals – B/W “The Royal Stare” Robert Woods, Rockford

Nice light on face, little bit in foreground makes it look like the lion is in his natural habitat, Adorable.



Painted Wood Items

William West, Poplar Grove

Very clean work, boxes on stagecoach well done, good use of colors



Drawing – Best of Show

Figure or Portrait, Color

Shelby Carlsson, Rockford



Color Photography – Best of Show Wild Animals – Color

“I like to move it, move it” Robert Woods, Rockford

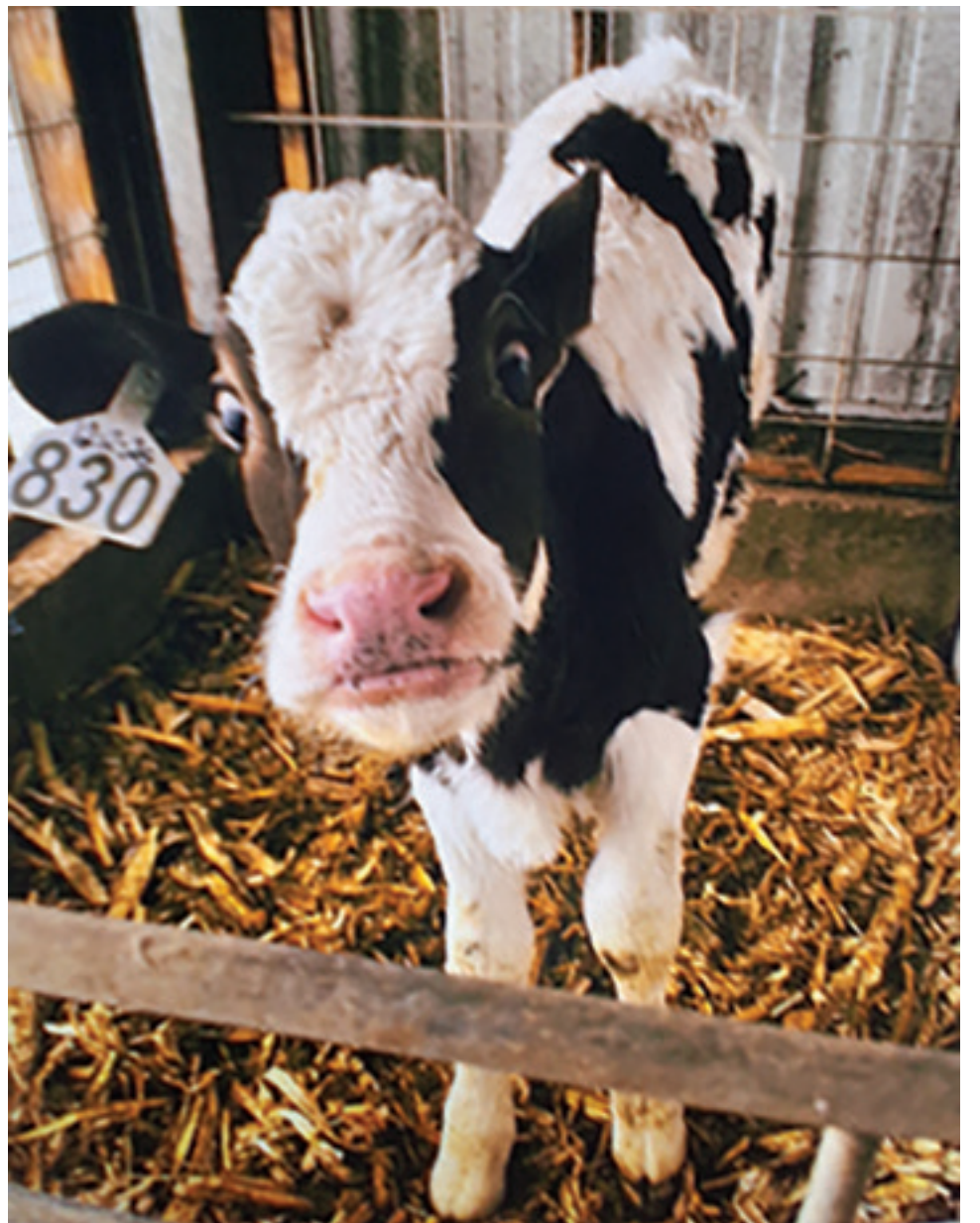
White on animal is beautiful, things are sharp, the light illuminates the highlights the colors on the fur, etc contact, well done



Painting – Best of Show

Still Life

Natalie Smith, Janesville



Junior Photography – Best of Show Animals

“Hello Little Moo” Lillian Bunda, Belvidere

Who doesn't like a baby cow? Expression is one of being caught doing something. Sharp. Composition on face is nice, represents the heart of the fair

Champions continue on page 13

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OBITUARIES

Kaye Abolins, 81, Belvidere, July 26
Margaret Brown, 92, Belvidere, August 4
Thomas Cooper, 75, Belvidere, July 26
Mary Cordray, 90, Garden Prairie, August 5
Jeffrey Eau Claire, 75, Belvidere, July 31
Carol (Joseph) Fernandez, 77, Marengo, July 28
Eleanor Gable, 95, Belvidere, August 3
Marie Garrett, 100, Formerly of Belvidere, July 26
Nancy Gustafson (Holtfreter), 89, Belvidere, August 1
Michael "Mike" La Scola, 79, Belvidere, July 23
Benjamin Macias, 57, Belvidere, August 1
John Mulvenna, 76, Formerly of Harvard, July 30
John Ralph, 75, Caledonia, August 2
Richard Rohda, 79, Formerly of Belvidere, July 31
Coty Steurer, 38, Marengo, August 1
Charlene Stefko, 79, Formerly of Belvidere, July 30
Rosa Susong, 108, Belvidere, August 1
James "Pete" Weaver, 92, Belvidere, August 2



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David C. Larson
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Bethany Staniec
Susan Moran
Amanda Nelson

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

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

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

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

Passenger Rail to Rockford? Taxpayers Beware False Promises And High Costs

By John M. Cabello
State Representative, 90th District

Illinois politicians have been promising to restore passenger train service to Rockford for nearly a quarter century. In 2002, then-candidate Rod Blagojevich pledged to bring passenger rail back to Rockford when elected Governor. I don't need to tell you that the pledge was not fulfilled.

In 2010, Governor Pat Quinn visited Rockford to announce \$60 million in state capital funds to re-establish passenger rail service between Chicago and Rockford. In 2012, Quinn allocated an additional \$3 million to design and engineer a new multi-modal station near downtown Rockford. Then in 2014, Quinn announced a \$223 million project to bring Amtrak back to Rockford. At the time, service was projected to begin in 2015, but was subsequently put on hold by Governor Bruce Rauner.

Then in 2019, the Rebuild Illinois capital program included \$275 million to bring passenger rail service back to Rockford. Now more than seven years later, we're told that service will be operational by the end of 2027 and operated by Metra. Future operation of the Chicago to Rockford service must be included in annual appropriations from the State's budget each year, but many important questions remain unanswered.

First and foremost, what will the cost be, and who will foot the bill? After more than seven years of new promises, millions of tax dollars spent, and little progress to show for it, Governor JB Pritzker is setting taxpayers up for yet another blow.

When the current IDOT funding runs out, will the State continue to fund passenger rail operations between Rockford and Chicago, or pass the burden onto local taxpayers? No one knows for sure.

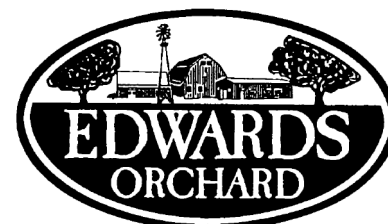
If the State fails to provide funding, the County Boards in Winnebago and Boone Counties could vote to join the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) soon to become Northern Illinois Transit Authority (NITA) to maintain rail service, but that would mean imposing the RTA/NITA's sales tax of 1% on general merchandise and qualifying food, drugs, and medical appliances

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(which goes up a quarter-percent every time more money is needed); on top of the state and local sales taxes we already pay.

What would the ticket price be for a round-trip fare from Rockford to Chicago? Officials cannot say. How many passengers would be expected to utilize it, and would enough money be made in fares to maintain service? Nobody can answer that either. We do know a one-way trip would take approximately two hours, with two round-trips per day offered.

With so many unanswered questions, no long-term funding plan, and unknown costs regarding fares and higher taxes, families in Winnebago and Boone Counties would be right to question whether the State's promise to bring passenger rail service to Rockford is yet another ill-fated boondoggle we cannot afford; and realistically would not even last much beyond a few years.



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Rep. Foster Urge Continued Funding For Broadband

Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL) who represents Belvidere led 50 of his colleagues in demanding continued support of the E-Rate program from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to fund broadband for low-income schools and libraries.

E-Rate provides libraries and schools with discounts of 20 to 90% on telecommunications services and equipment. It has helped libraries and schools afford broadband connectivity since its creation in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, when only 14% of libraries and schools had internet access. Today, that figure is nearly 100%, and the program supports over 12,500 libraries and 106,000 schools nationwide.

The letter comes in response to recent statements from the FCC indicating that they may consider terminating E-Rate, or limiting eligibility exclusively to rural areas, citing concerns about excessive screentime for students. Limiting E-Rate would imperil funding for essential services like internet access at low-income schools and libraries across the country.

In the letter to FCC Chairman Brendan Carr, the Members wrote:

"The FCC has overseen the E-Rate program through both Democratic and Republican administrations, and the program has historically enjoyed broad bipartisan support. The FCC itself has acknowledged E-Rate's importance, calling it an "extraordinary success as the federal government's largest education technology program."

"Cuts to E-Rate would place significant financial strain on schools across the country, particularly those serving low-income communities. As such, we respectfully urge the Commission to preserve the E-Rate program and address any concerns regarding student screen time through policies that do not undermine the digital infrastructure on which libraries and schools depend."

"I Have A Dream" Speech Resonates Six Decades Later

*Anniversary is Monday, Aug. 28;
Many Believe Much Work is Left*

Tom Emery

Many of its words were improvised, and some were not even original. But Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech summarized the struggles of millions and inspired people of all backgrounds, then and now.

August 28 marks the anniversary of the speech, an eighteen-minute oration from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial that remains a seminal moment in American history.

The March on Washington, which was not solely organized by King, was intended as a peaceful demonstration for "jobs and freedom" for all Americans. It also served as a mass call for passage of civil rights legislation introduced by President Kennedy two months before.

Organizers feared a low turnout, but an estimated 250,000 demonstrators, about a third of them white, showed up in Washington to hear an array of celebrities, activists, and performers.

In the crowd that day was Bill Gluba, a college student who served as the mayor of Davenport, Iowa from 2008-16, as well as Henry Brockington, who went on to a long teaching career at Palmer College of Chiropractic.

"I was active in civil rights in the Washington area," said Brockington, then a 23-year-old Howard University student. "I did a number of sit-ins and went into neighborhoods in Washington and the surrounding areas."

Headlining the event was the 34-year-old King, who used about half of a prepared speech that opened with a reference to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. He followed with a comparison of the signing of the Constitution and Declaration of Independence as a "promissory note" guaranteeing "inalienable rights."

But King declared that "America has defaulted on this promissory note," giving "the Negro people a bad check which has come back marked 'insufficient funds.'"

Though his words were well-received, after ten minutes, he sensed an opportunity. He laid aside his text and spoke from the heart, invoking the words "I have a dream," though it was not the first time he used that phrase in a speech; he had actually spoken it several times before.

But on this day, the words rang as never before. He repeated them seven more times to growing cheers, referencing the Declaration of Independence, the racial struggles of the South, and his hopes for his four children. His concluding passage of "free at last, free at last" was from his original text and met with thunderous applause.

"It was a very historic moment," said Gluba. "You could just sense it, with the sheer number of people of all ethnic backgrounds, all coming together. It was probably the largest peaceful demonstration ever in Washington, and it was kind of overwhelming."

Brockington still remembers where he was standing. "I was by a tree on the right-hand side of the reflecting pool," he said. "I still call it 'my tree.'"

"It was the most fulfilling speech I had heard in my lifetime to that point," recalled Brockington. "It was the most exhilarating, most promising experience, because I felt I was needed. I saw what I had to do to help others. For the first time in my life, I really felt like an American, not just an Afro-American, because of the mass of people of many different races."

King's words were heard nationwide, as all three networks pre-empted regular programming to broadcast the speech live. The speech remains one of the most recognizable moments of the era.

Coretta Scott King later recalled her husband's words as coming "from some higher place." The *Los Angeles Times* lauded the speech as "matchless eloquence," a sentiment shared by most observers.

In addition to its historic impact, the speech is also considered a model of rhetoric. King's historical and Biblical allusions and use of repetition hammered home his message, creating a timeless quality to his words that still resonates to many today.

"Dr. King was the most powerful orator I've ever heard," said Gluba. "And I've heard a lot of presidents, senators, and other leaders."

However, within a few years the speech had faded from view, partly due to subsequent events. Three weeks after the March on Washington, a Baptist church in Birmingham was bombed, killing four young girls and tempering the optimism that flowed from King's words.

The Kennedy assassination that November, coupled with the Vietnam War and other hallmarks in the civil rights struggle, also overshadowed the speech.

As the March on Washington intended, the Civil Rights Act was signed in July 1964 and legally banned discrimination in jobs, voting, and public facilities. Other landmark advancements in civil rights followed, but the struggle was hardly over. In 1965, a disappointed King declared that his "dream" had become a "nightmare."

King's assassination on April 4, 1968 revived interest in "I Have a Dream," and it has since taken its place among the greatest orations in American history. A 1999 poll of scholars by the University of Wisconsin ranked "I Have a Dream" as the top American speech of the twentieth century.

In 1986, King's birthday became a national holiday, and the speech is a common theme of its celebrations. Its words have been repeated worldwide, including by Nelson Mandela and during the Tiananmen Square protests of June 1989.

Still, many Americans believe King's dream is not yet reached. A Pew Research Center poll released around the 50th anniversary of the speech in 2013 revealed that 49 percent think "a lot more" needs to be done to realize King's vision. Since then, other events have further demonstrated the racial divide.

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King

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"I think if Dr. King were here today, he'd be disappointed and saddened," remarked Gluba. "There's still a tremendous lack of civil equality and economic justice, and in many ways, we've regressed from the strides we made after the civil rights movement.

"African-Americans are still struggling, in some ways worse now than then," continued Gluba. "There's been such a breakdown of families, crime is a problem, and jobs are an issue. There's still a lot to do to make Dr. King's dream a reality."

Brockington, who like Gluba has remained a civil rights activist, agrees. "Has progress been made since then? Yes," said Brockington. "Am I satisfied with the progress that has been made? No. I'm not totally satisfied with everything that has been accomplished, because there is still work that must be done."

Pritzker Pens Letter To Trump, Seeking Tariff Refunds for Illinois Families

Feds issued \$100 Billion in refunds to corporations, but there is no reprieve for consumers who paid higher prices

Maggie Dougherty Capitol News Illinois

After the U.S. Treasury paid out \$100 billion in tariff refunds to corporations at the end of last month, Gov. JB Pritzker wants to know where Illinois' cut is.

In a letter sent to President Donald Trump on Thursday, Pritzker asked the president to send direct payments of \$1,700 to Illinois families. He also encouraged Trump to stop seeking new ways to enforce tariffs and to support legislation that would require corporations to pass refund relief

back to consumers.

"There is no portal to request a refund for a mother in Rockford buying groceries for her children," Pritzker wrote. "There is no trade attorney representing a retiree in Carbondale paying off their mortgage. There is no check coming in for the farmer in Champaign who had to pay more for his equip-

ment."

Read the letter (PDF).

The money reimbursed as of July was about 60% of the total \$166 billion owed to U.S. companies after the Supreme Court struck down the Trump administration's use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, or IEEPA, in February, finding that the law did not authorize the president to unilaterally impose tariffs.

The refunds for the unconstitutionally collected tariffs have so far reportedly included \$2.2 billion to Apple and \$600 million to Amazon, and Walmart says it is owed an estimated \$2.4 billion in refunds.

Those companies have made pledges to either issue partial refunds to customers who paid higher prices as a result of the tariffs, to generally cut prices, or to "reinvest" the money into U.S. manufacturing, but there is no mechanism to ensure that the higher costs passed on to consumers are routed back to them.

Pritzker encouraged Trump to support the Tariff Relief for Consumers Act, a bill that would require companies receiving refunds to lower prices paid by consumers on household goods that were affected by the illegal tariffs.

However, the bill has seen no movement in Congress since it was introduced in March, and the process for determining the costs incurred by consumers would be made nearly impossible due to the multiple rounds and intermittent nature of the tariffs.

Trump himself said on social media late last year that "A dividend of at least \$2000 a person (not including high-income people!) will be paid

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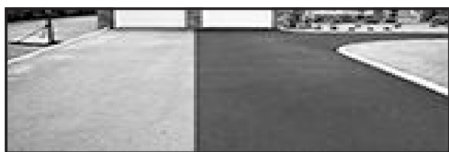
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property tax revenue. It is used in the EBF formula to calculate how much revenue a district is able to raise on its own and, thus, how close it is to meeting its adequacy target.

CPPRT revenue spiked between 2022 and 2024 amid the hyperinflation that occurred immediately following the COVID-19 pandemic, which was a boon for school districts that receive that money. But it has dropped precipitously since then, resulting in many districts moving further away from their adequacy target, Sanders said.

He also cited rising labor costs as another factor affecting schools. That includes increases both in the salaries teachers are paid and the number of teachers employed in Illinois schools.

"This data demonstrates that in Illinois we are paying our teachers better, which we need to be doing," he said. "The increases in salary costs, though, do push districts further away from adequacy."

Finally, Sanders said, the state started using a new method this year of counting low-income students in each district. That matters under the EBF formula, he said, because students from low-income households typically need more resources and therefore cost more to educate.

Moving target

Sanders said the EBF formula is designed to take into account changing circumstances like rising costs and demographic shifts. As a result, each district's adequacy target is always a moving figure.

The net effect of all the changes this year, he said, is that most districts moved further away from their adequacy target, as did the state as a whole.

According to the data, the total statewide adequacy target this year — the total of all local, state and federal revenue it would take to adequately fund all schools in Illinois — grew \$2.4 billion this year, to \$31.5 billion.

"Let me reemphasize, though, that this is how EBF is designed to work," Sanders said. "It is responsive to changing resources and increasing student needs."

Robin Steans, executive director of Advance Illinois, an education advocacy group

that pushed for passage of the EBF formula in 2017, agreed that the formula is working and that schools are still far ahead of where they were before the adoption of EBF.

"There is still more dollars available, particularly for all districts and for districts that are in the most need," she said. "And we're closing equity gaps as we go. It's just we got an artificial bump (from CCPRT) and now that artificial bump is going away."

But Stacy Davis Gates, president of the Illinois Federation of Teachers and the Chicago Teachers Union, said in a statement that the figures show lawmakers need to put more money into the formula above the minimum \$300 million per year called for in the statute just to keep up with rising costs.

"Today's report should serve as a wake-up call," she said. "A child entering kindergarten today will graduate from a high school that is still underfunded. Our students are about to report to crumbling buildings, without the food, special education support, and transportation that they need to meet the minimum of a functional school day, let alone the quality school day our students deserve."

Sanders, however, said he does not intend to ask lawmakers for larger annual increases.

"The state board of education's commitment has always been to request the \$300 million that statutorily requested for evidence-based funding," Sanders said. "It's really a function of the General Assembly and the governor to determine if there's additional resources that could be put towards public education. But we will continue our annual ask of \$300 million in tier funding every year."

The other \$50 million that's part of the annual increase goes to property tax relief grants.

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

Illinois Keeps Child Vaccine Guidelines

State follows recommendations from leading pediatric medical group

Ben Szalinski & Associated Press
Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Department of Public Health is not adopting new federal child vaccine guidelines and will continue following recommendations by a leading pediatric medical group.

President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Monday that calls for giving the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, better known as MMR, in three separate shots at three different appointments. It also lowers recommendations for several vaccines such as Hepatitis A and B, meningococcal disease, the flu and COVID-19 into recommend for "certain high-risk groups" or "based on shared clinical decision-making" rather than for all children.

It advises states to follow what Trump calls the "Gold Standard Childhood Vaccine Recommendations" and update laws to reflect it. Even as the order calls for revised recommendations, states, not the federal government, have the authority to require vaccinations for schoolchildren.

Gov. JB Pritzker said in a statement the executive order is a "thoughtless piece of paper" that "does not reverse decades of research and scientific evidence about protecting kids."

American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations

Instead, Illinois will continue following guidelines outlined by the American Academy of Pediatrics, which the state's Immunization Advisory Committee previously unanimously adopted in February.

"The Illinois Department of Public Health is committed to ensuring Illinois residents have reliable access to vaccines and guidance supported by the most up-to-date science," IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra said in a statement. "IDPH will continue to be guided by science and work closely with clinical and community leaders to provide recommendations that allow Illinoisians to make the best choices to keep themselves and their families safe and healthy."

Those guidelines recommend children receive the Hepatitis B series, at least one COVID-19 and flu shot, first dose of MMR and two doses of Hepatitis A by the time they turn 2. They recommend children receive a second MMR dose between ages 4 and 6 and receive annual flu and COVID shots after turning 2.

Vohra said he's especially concerned about the order calling for splitting the MMR vaccine into multiple visits, which he says is not supported by science.

Public health experts have raised concerns that spacing out shots like Trump suggests can lead to an increased risk that children become infected with a vaccine-preventable disease

continued on page 7

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Guidelines

from page 8

before returning for another visit. Childhood vaccines — and how and when to give them in combination — go through rigorous studies, and safety tracking continues for years as the shots are used.

Speaking about the order at the Oval Office on Monday, Trump repeatedly suggested the number or timing of vaccines could play a role in rising rates of autism spectrum disorder, even as scientific consensus and decades of studies have firmly concluded there is no link.

Several changes to the childhood vaccine schedule have already been attempted by the Trump administration but have been blocked by a federal judge.

Illinois-specific actions

Illinois has taken several steps since Trump and Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. took office and set their sights on changing the nation's vaccine policies to conform to their views.

Pritzker signed a new state law in December, which allows IDPH to create more of its own vaccine guidelines for Illinoisians. Pritzker signed a similar executive order in September.

The law also required state-regulated insurance companies to cover vaccines recommended by IDPH. Federal changes to stop recommending some vaccines made it more likely some insurance companies would stop covering certain shots for people who still wanted them.

Szalinski reported from Springfield on Illinois' actions. The Associated Press contributed reporting on the president's actions and news conference to this story.

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



Tariff Refund

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to everyone,” to return money collected from tariffs back to consumers, though no such checks materialized.

Tariffs ongoing

But even while his administration is paying out refunds from the illegal tariffs levied last year, the Trump administration is still looking for new ways to get the courts to accept his approach to tariffs.

The initial round of tariffs levied illegally under the IEEPA framework ranged from 10-50 percent on nearly all U.S. global trading partners. Before Trump, no U.S. president had previously attempted to use IEEPA — designed to give the president the power to regulate international commerce in response to national security emergencies — to impose tariffs.

Hours after the court declared those tariffs illegal, the administration imposed a new 10 percent tariff under Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974, a temporary, 150-day measure to be used in a balance-of-payments emergency, where the value of the U.S. dollar is at such a crisis level that the country cannot meet its international payment obligations.

The U.S. Court of International Trade in May ruled that Trump's use of Section 122 tariffs was also illegal, but declined to issue nationwide relief.

But despite the repeated rulings, the administration took a third swing at new tariffs after the Section 122 tariffs expired last month, this time saying the tariffs are necessary to combat forced labor in global trade.

Twenty-five states, including Illinois, sued the administration on Monday over the new round, which imposes tariffs of 10-12.5% on 60 economies that provide over 99% of American imports. The states called the invocation of forced labor a “pretext to continue its illegal tariff scheme.”

“For the third time, I stand with my colleagues across the country to fight the Trump administration's illegal tariffs,” Attorney General Kwame Raoul said in a statement announcing the lawsuit. “The Court of International Trade and the U.S. Supreme Court have already found the Trump tariffs to be unlawful, and we are confident we will prevail this third time.”

Acute pain in Illinois

A July report by the nonpartisan research Midwest Economic Policy Institute and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Project for Middle Class Renewal found even broader harms of the tariffs on six Mid-

west states, including Illinois.

The states make up 19 percent of U.S. manufacturing and 20 percent of agricultural outputs, making them particularly vulnerable to retaliatory tariffs from countries reacting to Trump's tariff regime.

In Illinois, that translated to an average \$2,200 increase in costs per household, 7,500 lost manufacturing jobs and a \$5 billion drop in GDP, according to the report.

That pain was felt most acutely by low-income households. For those in the bottom 10 percent of households by income — those making \$15,100 or less — the tariffs added an average \$800 in costs for the year, meaning the new tariffs ate up 5 percent of income for Illinois' poorest households.

Pritzker's letter to Trump this month followed an earlier one he sent in February after the Supreme Court ruled the tariffs illegal, attaching an invoice of \$8.6 million and instructing Trump to, “Cut the check.”

The invoice “was past-due then,” Pritzker wrote in Thursday's letter. “The invoice remains unpaid. Illinois families are still waiting.”

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

PULVERIZED TOPSOIL

PICK UP OR DELIVERY
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**SUPER
AGGREGATES**

Charles Herbst

Tax Attorney

Tax Practice:

- IRS Defense
- Tax Preparation
- Tax Planning
- Nonprofits

Related Areas:

- Wills, Trusts, Probate
- LLCs, Real Estate

Experience:

- International Tax Associates, Director of Federal Tax Research
- Ernst and Young LLP, Manager; Writer, Washington National Tax Writing Center
- Private Practice in the Rockford Area for over 20 years
- Former chairman of the publications committee, Indiana State Bar Association

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Education:

- LL.M. (Master in Tax Law)
New York University
- B.S. Business;
J.D. Law (cum laude)
Indiana University

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff
-v.- 2025 FC 3
BRAD SHERFINSKI, GINA SHERFINSKI, SECRETARY OF HOUS-
ING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, CANDLEWICK LAKE ASSOCI-
ATION, INC., BYRON BANK - PG, Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of
Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 20, 2026, an agent
for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on August 25, 2026,
at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan
Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the
highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT (176) ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX IN CANDLEWICK
LAKE UNIT NO. 7, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORD-
ED AS DOCUMENT NO. 72-2875 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE
OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF
BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Commonly known as 116 GABLES DR SW, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065
Property Index No. 03-28-229-009
The real estate is improved with a single-family residence.
The judgment amount was \$120,936.64.

Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 100% of the bid
amount shall be paid in certified funds immediately by the highest and best
bidder at the conclusion of the sale. The certified check must be made pay-
able to The Judicial Sales Corporation. 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" condi-
tion. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment
in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that
will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the
sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no
representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are
admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property
is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other
than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by
The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this
property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest commu-
nity, 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 FORE-
CLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driv-
er's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the
foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales
held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts
foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Johnny Dale Frevert, Jr., KELLEY KRONEN-
BERG, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 20 N CLARK STREET SUITE 1150,
CHICAGO, IL, 60602 (312) 216-8828.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-
SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a
7-day status report of pending sales.

Johnny Dale Frevert, Jr.
KELLEY KRONENBERG, P.A.
20 N CLARK STREET SUITE 1150
CHICAGO IL, 60602
312-216-8828
E-Mail: jfrevert@kelleykronenberg.com
Attorney ARDC No. 6305960
Case Number: 2025 FC 3
TJSC#: 46-1534
I3291156
Published in The Boone County Journal Aug 4, 13, 18, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SELF STORAGE AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that Boxed Up Self Storage, or its affiliates,
on behalf of the Owner of the facilities indicated below, intends to hold
its public sale to satisfy a lien by selling personal property belonging
to those individuals listed below for cash on August 19, 2026, at
approximately 7pm CST.

Boxed Up Self Storage – Poplar Grove
4431 IL Route 173, Poplar Grove, IL 61011-9754
Unit # - Tenant
#412 - Torres, Gardy

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.
com. See website for terms and conditions. Units will be available
for viewing prior to the sale on www.storage-treasures.com.
A buyer's premium up to 15% and a cleaning deposit will be charged
per unit. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at Boxed
Up Operations Center located at 1511 E Riverside Blvd, Loves Park, IL
61111 to complete the transaction. Boxed Up Self Storage may refuse
any bid and may rescind any purchase until the winning bidder takes
possession of the personal property. All sales are final.

Published in The Boone County Journal August 4 and 13, 2026

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

Jacqueline Gurrola
VS Case No. 2026-DC-000136
Justino de Jesus Vazquez-Torres

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given to you, Justino de Jesus Vazquez-Torres, Defendant
that this case has been commenced against you in this Court asking for
Dissolution of Marriage and other relief.

Unless you file your response or otherwise file your appearance in this
cause in the office of the Circuit Clerk of Kane County, on or before the 10th
day of August, 2026, a Judgment or other relief as prayed for by the Plaintiff
may be granted.

Dated: 07/28/2026

Published in The Boone County Journal July 28, August 4, 13, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, ILLINOIS
ESTATE OF MARJORIE P. BROWN, Deceased.
No.: 2026 PR 145

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of: MARJORIE P. BROWN of Rockton,
Illinois Letters of Office were issued on: 07/10/2026
Representative: FRANKS, GERKIN, PONITZ & GREELEY, P.C.
19333 East Grant Highway
P.O. Box 5
Marengo, IL 60152

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

Claims may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court at
the Winnebago County Courthouse, 400 West State Street, Rockford,
Illinois 61101, or with the representative or both.

Copies of claims field with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered
to the representative and to her attorney within ten (10) days after it
has been filed.

Thomas A. Klein
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Christopher T. Marx – ARDC#: 6291152
FRANKS, GERKIN, PONITZ & GREELEY, P.C.
Attorneys for Independent Co-Executors
19333 East Grant Highway
P.O. Box 5
Marengo, IL 60152
(815) 923-2107
pleadings@fgpglaw.com
Published in the Boone County Journal August 13, 18, 25, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF
ILLINOIS, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE
STATE OF ILLINOIS, Plaintiff

vs.
KELLEY WILLIAMSON COMPANY; ILLINOIS BANK &
TRUST; MCAM PROPERTIES, LLC, a Wisconsin limited
liability company;
JANESVILLE ACQUISITION, INC., d/b/a Bobcat of Rockford;
and UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS,
Defendants

Case #: 2026 ED 3
Condemnation
Parcel #: 2192011TE-A
2192011TE-B
Job #: R-92-019-20
JURY DEMAND

PUBLICATION NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown Owners and Non-Record
Claimants, defendants, that this case has been commenced in the Circuit
Court of Boone County against you and other defendants, asking for
Judgment as to the determination of just compensation for certain real
property legally described in Exhibit A and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your appearance in this case in the office of
the Boone County Circuit Clerk, at 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, IL
61008, within 30 days of the date of this publication, A JUDGMENT
OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR
THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, Plaintiff

By: /s/ Jeremiah Lewellen
Special Assistant Attorney General
Jeremiah Lewellen (ARDC: 6306437)
Special Assistant Attorneys General
CONKLIN & CONKLIN, LLC
125 S. Wacker Dr., Ste. 300
Chicago, IL 60606
Tel.: (312) 341-9500
JLewellen@conklinlawyers.com

EXHIBIT A

Owner Kelley Williamson Company
Route FAP 525 (US 20)
County Boone
Job No. R-92-019-20
Parcel No. 2192001 1TE
P.I.N. No. 07-05-100-028
Section (6.15.14)R&HBR
Station 57+50.00
Station 55+22.83

EASEMENT

21920011TE-A
That part of Lot 1 as designated on the Huntwood Business
Park, being a subdivision of part of the Northwest Quarter of
said Section 5, Township 43 North. Range 3 East of the Third
Principal Meridian. Boone County, Illinois. as recorded in the
Recorder's Office of Boone County, Illinois on April 6, 1999 in
envelope number 213A as Document Number 1999R03308, with
bearings and grid distances referenced to the Illinois State Plane
Coordinate System, East Zone NAO 83(2011). with a combined
scale factor of 0.99997273, described as follows: Beginning at
the northeast corner of said Lot 1; thence South 00 degrees 06
minutes 54 seconds West, on the east line of said Lot 1, a distance
of 10.56 feet; thence South 89 degrees 55 minutes
30 seconds West, 47.34 feet; thence North 86 degrees 14 minutes
26 seconds West, 125.83 feet to the north line of said Lot 1 and the
southerly right of way line of US 20; thence northeasterly on said
north line of Lot 1 and said southerly right of way line, 102.71
feet on a curve to the right, having a radius of 4,634.47 feet, the
chord of said curve bears North 88 degrees 57 minutes 27 seconds
East, 102. 70 feet; thence North 89 degrees 35 minutes 33 seconds
East on said north line of Lot 1 and said southerly right of way
line, 70.24 feel to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.0269 acre,
more or less (area based on ground distances). 2192001 HE-B
That part of Lots 1 and 2 as designated on the Huntwood Business

Park. being a subdivision of
part of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 5, Township 43
North. Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Boone
County, Illinois, as recorded in the Recorder's Office of Boone
County. Illinois on April 6, 1999 in envelope number 213A as
Document Number 1999R03308, with bearings and grid distances
referenced to the Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East
Zone
NAO 83(2011), with a combined scale factor of 0.99997273,
described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of said
Lot 1; thence South 00 degrees 10 minutes 59 seconds West, on
the west line of said Lot 1, a distance of 209.18 feet to the Point
of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning; thence South 89
degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds East. 23.59 feet;
thence South 00 degrees 41 minutes 52 seconds West, 85.00 feet;
thence North 89 degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds West, 22.83 feet
to the west line of said Lot 2; thence North 00 degrees 10 minutes
59 seconds East, on the west line of said Lot and Lot 1, a distance
of 85.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, containin9 0.0453 acre,
more or less (area based on ground distances). Said Parcels
21920011TE-A and 2192001 HE-B contain a total of 0.0722 acre,
more or less (area based on ground distances).
Published in The Boone County Journal August 13, 18, 25, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF
ILLINOIS, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE
STATE OF ILLINOIS, Plaintiff
vs.
GERALD C. COLE; AUDREY COLE; and UNKNOWN
OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Case #: 2026 ED 4
Condemnation
Parcel #: 20513005TE
Job #: R-92-005-13
JURY DEMAND

PUBLICATION NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown Owners and Non-Record
Claimants, defendants, that this case has been commenced in the Circuit
Court of Boone County against you and other defendants, asking for
Judgment as to the determination of just compensation for certain real
property legally described in Exhibit A and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your appearance in this case in the office of
the Boone County Circuit Clerk, at 601 N. Main Street, Belvidere, IL
61008, within 30 days of the date of this publication, A JUDGMENT
OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR
THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, Plaintiff

By: /s/ Jeremiah Lewellen
Special Assistant Attorney General
Jeremiah Lewellen (ARDC: 6306437)
Special Assistant Attorneys General
CONKLIN & CONKLIN, LLC
125 S. Wacker Dr., Ste. 300
Chicago, IL 60606
Tel.: (312) 341-9500
JLewellen@conklinlawyers.com

EXHIBIT A

Owner Gerald C. Cole and Audrey Cole, husband and wife, as joint tenants
Route F.A.P. 517 (US Bus Rte 20)
County Boone County
Job No. R-92-005-13
Parcel No. 20513005TE
P.I.N. No. 05-19-276-011
Section L-R-1
Station 56+20.85
Station 56+32.37

EASEMENT

That part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 19, Township 44
North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Boone
County, State of Illinois, with bearings and grid distances
referenced to the Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East
Zone NAD 83 (2011 ADJ), with a combined factor of 0.9999985,
described as follows: Commencing at a mag spike at the East
Quarter corner of said Section 19 per Monument
Record recorded June 25, 2020, as Document Number
2020R03495 in the Recorder's Office of Boone County; thence
North 00 degrees 37 minutes 35 seconds East, on the east line of
said Northeast Quarter, 191.48 feet to a perpendicular line; thence
North 89 degrees 22 minutes 25 seconds West, 60.00 feet to the
existing westerly right of way line of Olsen Avenue as described in
the Final Judgment Order recorded July 20, 1994 as Case No. 92-
ED-1 in said Recorder's Office and the Point of Beginning. From
said Point of Beginning; thence North 89 degrees 22 minutes 19
seconds West, 10.82 feet; thence North 00 degrees 39 minutes 14
seconds East, 45.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 22 minutes 19
seconds East, 10.80 feet to said existing westerly right
of way line; thence South 00 degrees 37 minutes 35 seconds West,
on said right of way line, 45.00 feet to the Point of Beginning,
containing 0.0112 acre, more or less (area based on ground
distances).
Published in The Boone County Journal August 13, 18, 25, 2026

29 Years of Experience
Publishing Legal Notices
815-544-4430

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FIRST MID BANK & TRUST, N.A. Plaintiff,
-v- 2025 FC 30
MICHAEL J. SCHMIDT, Defendant
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 10, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on September 15, 2026, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

LOT TEN (10) AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT OF WASHINGTON HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION NO. 1, BEING A PART OF OUTLOT "D" OF STARR'S THIRD ADDITION AND PART OF THE EAST HALF OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE 3RD P.M., THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN BOOK 5 OF PLATS ON PAGE 21 IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE, AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

Commonly known as 652 W. 8TH STREET, BELVIDERE, IL 61008
Property Index No. 05-35-408-001

The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$32,058.15.

Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

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

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are adm

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

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

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.

For information, contact Andrew Weiss, QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 141 W. JACKSON BOULEVARD SUITE 1575, CHICAGO, IL, 60604 (904) 354-5500. Please refer to file number IL-008916-25.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE

You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.

Andrew Weiss
QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A.
141 W. JACKSON BOULEVARD SUITE 1575
CHICAGO IL, 60604
904-354-5500
E-Mail: andrew.weiss@qpwbllaw.com
Attorney File No. IL-008916-25
Attorney ARDC No. 6284233
Case Number: 2025 FC 30
TJSC#: 46-1557

NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Case # 2025 FC 30
6088-968076
Published in the Boone County Journal August 13, 18, 25, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

August 10, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education of North Boone CUSD 200 in the County of Boone, State of Illinois, that a budget for said school district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the North Boone CUSD 200 District Office located at 6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, IL 61065, from and after 8:00 A.M. on the 11th day of August 2026.

NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:30 P.M. on the 15th day of September 2026 at the North Boone CUSD 200, District Office located at 6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, IL 61065. Final budget adoption is anticipated on the 15th day of September 2026 at the regular Board of Education meeting.

Dated this 10th day of August 2026, Board of Education of North Boone CUSD 200 in the County of Boone, State of Illinois
Russell O'Donnell, Secretary to the Board of Education

NOTICE OF PARK DISTRICT COMMISSIONER ELECTION

The Belvidere Park District will have three commissioner seats to be filled in the April 2027 Consolidated Election: two four-year terms and one two-year unexpired term.

Candidate petition packets will be available beginning Tuesday, August 25, 2026. Packets may be picked up at the Belvidere Park District Administration Office, 1006 West Lincoln Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Each packet includes information regarding candidacy for the office of park district commissioner, required forms, and applicable filing deadlines.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE
OF ILLINOIS, for and on behalf of the People of the State of
Illinois, Plaintiff
Parcel # 21920014TE
Job # R-92-005-13

CPG Investors, LLC; BMO Harris Bank, N.A.;
v. Case # 2026ED
US Small Business Administration; St. Charles Bank and Trust
Company; Washington State Bank; Unknown Owners and Non-
Record Claimants, Defendants.
JURY DEMAND

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, Non-Record Claimants and Unknown Owners, defendants in the above entitled suit, that the above named plaintiff has filed its Complaint in said Court in the Law Division thereof, for condemnation pursuant to the eminent domain laws of the State of Illinois, of the lands and premises in the Complaint

situated in Kankakee County, State of Illinois, to wit:

Owner	CPG Investors, LLC
Route	FAP 525 (US 20)
County	Boone
Job No.	R-92-019-20
Parcel No.	21920014TE
P.I.N. No.	05-32-300-026
Section	(6, 15, 14) R&HBR
Station	80+19.80
Station	82+68.97

EASEMENT

That part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Boone County, Illinois, with bearings and grid distances referenced to the Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone NAD 83(2011), with a combined scale factor of

0.99997273, described as follows:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Southwest Quarter; thence South 89 degrees 36 minutes 40 seconds West on the south line of said Southwest Quarter, 46.19 feet to the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 5 Township 43 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Boone County; thence South 89 degrees 34 minutes 05 seconds West on the north line of said Northwest Quarter, 203.81 feet, thence North 00 degrees 18 minutes 30 seconds East, 101.43 feet to the north right of way line of US 20, being the south line of a tract of land described in the Warranty Deed to 2009 Properties, LLC as recorded on July 18, 2013 as Document Number 2013R05714 in the Recorder's Office of Boone County, being the Point of Beginning.

From said Point of Beginning; thence continuing North 00 degrees 18 minutes 30 seconds East on the west line of said 2009 Properties tract, 227.39 feet; thence North 89 degrees 00 minutes 36 seconds East, 40.56 feet, thence South 00 degrees 54 minutes 34 seconds East, 210.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 15 minutes 10 seconds East, 85.88 feet to an existing building; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 41 seconds East, along said building, 10.12 feet; thence North 89 degrees 23 minutes 21 seconds East, along said building, 104.61 feet; thence North 71 degrees 29 minutes 25 seconds East, 15.27 feet to the east line of said 2009 Properties tract; thence South 00 degrees 18 minutes 27 seconds West on said east line, 13.19 feet to the north right of way line of US 20 and the south line of said 2009 Properties tract; thence South 89 degrees 34 minutes 05 seconds West on said north right of way line and said south line of said 2009 Properties tract, 250.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.2841 acres, more or less (area based on ground distances).

PIN:05-32-300-026; that summons was duly noticed out of the said Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. The said Complaint is for the ascertaining of the just compensation to be paid to the owner: CPG Investors, LLC; BMO Harris Bank, N.A.; US Small Business Administration; St. Charles Bank and Trust Company; Washington State Bank; CAI Customs Alloys, Inc.; Rockford Local Development Corporation; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Generally, for the fee taking and temporary easement acquisitions to the above described real property sought to be acquired for the purposes of widening a public highway

Now, therefore, unless you the said above named defendants, unknown owners and non-record claimants file your appearance in the said suit, in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Boone County, Law Division, Boone County Courthouse, Boone, Illinois, on or before __August 31, 2026 __, an order or default may be entered against you at any time after that day and judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Complaint.

Dated: Boone, Illinois

By: Clerk of the Circuit Court

Date:

Kwame Raoul, Attorney General, Vincent D. Pinelli, Special Assistant Attorney General Attorney for Plaintiff, 70 West Madison, Suite 4300, Chicago, IL 60602; Attorney No.3122437

Published in Boone County Journal 8/13, 8/18, 8/25/26

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT COLUMBIA COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION

BCG Equities, LLC
225 S. Executive Dr. Suite 200
Brookfield WI 53005
Plaintiff,
Case No.: 2026CV000186
Classification Code: 30301
The amount claimed is over \$10,000.
LELAND BISHOP
523 LOGAN AVE
BELVIDERE IL 61008
Defendant.

PUBLICATION SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, To the person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within 40 (forty) days after August 6, 2026, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 400 Dewitt Street, Portage, WI 53901 and to DLF Law Group, LLC (formerly Dobberstein Law Firm, LLC), the plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 225 S. Executive Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 (forty) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated this 3rd day of August, 2026.

DLF Law Group, LLC
(formerly DOBBERSTEIN LAW FIRM, LLC)

Attorneys for the plaintiff

by Tyler J. Glaser

Tyler J. Glaser

State Bar No. 1118674

MAILING ADDRESS:

225 S. Executive Dr.

Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 641-3715

Published in the Boone County Journal August 13, 18, 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Prairie Fields Accessible Recreation and Support Amenities Project

The Belvidere Park District will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, August 25, 2026, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Baltic Mill, 920 W. Lincoln Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois.

The public is invited to review and discuss the proposed Prairie Fields Accessible Recreation and Support Amenities Project. The project includes replacement of the existing front playground with a playground featuring universal amenities and poured-in-place accessible surfacing, construction of a standalone restroom support amenity containing two accessible single-user restrooms, and completion of the parking lot support amenity with accessible parking and connections.

The estimated project cost is \$520,000. The District intends to request \$260,000 through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant Program. The remaining project funding would consist of District capital funds and other grant contributions.

Conceptual plans and project information will be available for review. Members of the public are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and provide comments regarding the proposed improvements. Those unable to attend may submit comments by email to contactus@belviderepark.org.

Individuals requiring accommodations to participate should contact the Belvidere Park District at 815-547-5711.

ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. DBA4295 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a Selling of fresh fruits and veggies business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of SUSIE'S GARDEN PATCH that its location is or will be 10258 US HWY 20 in GARDEN PRAIRIE, IL 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: 815-597-3011

MARY SUE BRUBACH, 7525 LAWRENCEVILLE RD, GARDEN PRAIRIE, ILLINOIS 61038

KEVIN FORREST BRUBACH, 7525 LAWRENCEVILLE RD, GARDEN PRAIRIE, ILLINOIS 61038

I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: July 24, 2026

Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County

Published in Boone County Journal 07/28, 08/04, 08/11 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. DBA4294 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a FARM business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of FORGOTTEN OAKS HOMESTEAD that its location is or will be 21371 POPLAR GROVE ROAD in POPLAR GROVE, IL 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: 815-596-0553

GWENDOLYN W HIRST 21371 POPLAR GROVE ROAD
POPLAR GROVE, ILLINOIS 61065

I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: July 22, 2026

Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County

Published in Boone County Journal 7/28, 8/4, 8/11/26 - P

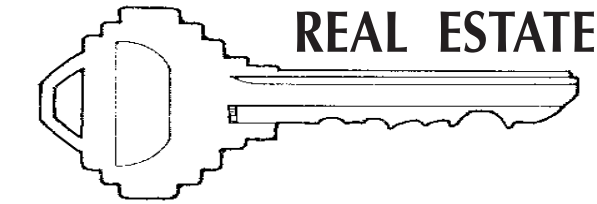
Continued on page 12

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. DBA4289 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of ALIEN EYES that its location is or will be 1668 PARKSIDE 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: 815-289-9545
COLIN J TOOHEY 1668 Parkside Drive
Belvidere, Illinois 61008

I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office.
Dated: July 9, 2026
Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County
Published in Boone County Journal 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 2026 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. DBA4296 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a FARM STAND business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of SCRAMBLE AND SPROUT that its location is or will be 152 N. CREEK ROAD in ROSCOE, IL 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: 815-243-0192
JEANIE MICHELLE RINALDI 152 N. CREEK ROAD
ROSCOE, ILLINOIS 61073
I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: August 3, 2026
Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County
Published in Boone County Journal 8/13, 8/18, 8/25/26 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY
ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION
No. DBA4296 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a FARM STAND business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of SCRAMBLE AND SPROUT that its location is or will be 152 N. CREEK ROAD in ROSCOE, IL 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: 815-243-0192
JEANIE MICHELLE RINALDI 152 N. CREEK ROAD
ROSCOE, ILLINOIS 61073
I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: August 3, 2026
Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County
Published in Boone County Journal 8/13, 8/18, 8/25/26 - P



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF Boone - Belvidere, ILLINOIS
The Huntington National Bank, Plaintiff
vs. 26 FC 3 CALENDAR
Armandina Romero; Foundation Finance Company LLC; U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of NRZ Recovery Trust, Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on September 3, 2026, at the hour 12:15 p.m., Outside the Circuit Clerk's Office in the Lobby of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell, in person, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:
P.I.N. 05-35-178-010.
Commonly known as 1203 WEST 5TH STREET, BELVIDERE, IL 61008.
The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection(g-1) of Section 189.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% (or 25% if so ordered in the Judgement of Foreclosure) down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property is sold AS IS subject to all liens or encumbrances. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the circuit court case record, property tax record and the title record to verify all information before bidding. IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(c) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, Manley Deas Kochalski LLC, One East Wacker Drive, Suite 1250, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (614) 220-5611. 25-026440
INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13291242
Published in The Boone County Journal Jul 28; Aug 4, 11, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff
-v.- 2025 FC 3
BRAD SHERFINSKI, GINA SHERFINSKI, SECRETARY OF HOUS-
ING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, CANDLEWICK LAKE ASSOCI-
ATION, INC., BYRON BANK - PG, Defendant
NOTICE OF SALE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 20, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on August 25, 2026, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 116 GABLES DR SW, POPLAR GROVE, IL 61065
Property Index No. 03-28-229-009
The real estate is improved with a single-family residence.
The judgment amount was \$120,936.64.
Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 100% of the bid amount shall be paid in certified funds immediately by the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the sale. The certified check must be made payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, contact Johnny Dale Frevert, Jr., KELLEY KRONENBERG, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 20 N CLARK STREET SUITE 1150, CHICAGO, IL, 60602 (312) 216-8828.
THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7-day status report of pending sales.
Johnny Dale Frevert, Jr.
KELLEY KRONENBERG, P.A.
20 N CLARK STREET SUITE 1150
CHICAGO IL, 60602
312-216-8828
E-Mail: jfrevert@kelleykronenberg.com
Attorney ARDC No. 6305960
Case Number: 2025 FC 3
TJSC#: 46-1534
13291156
Published in The Boone County Journal Aug 4, 13, 18, 2026

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FIRST MID BANK & TRUST, N.A. Plaintiff,
-v.- 2025 FC 30
MICHAEL J. SCHMIDT, Defendant
NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on June 10, 2026, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 1:00 PM on September 15, 2026, at the Advocus National Title Insurance, 530 S. State, Suite 201, (Logan Avenue entrance), Belvidere, IL, 61008, sell at public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate:
Commonly known as 652 W. 8TH STREET, BELVIDERE, IL 61008
Property Index No. 05-35-408-001
The real estate is improved with a single family residence.
The judgment amount was \$32,058.15.
Sale terms: If sold to anyone other than the Plaintiff, 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.
Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.
The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are adm
If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.
You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales.
For information, contact Andrew Weiss, QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 141 W. JACKSON BOULEVARD SUITE 1575, CHICAGO, IL, 60604 (904) 354-5500. Please refer to file number IL-008916-25.

THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE
You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales.
Andrew Weiss
QUINTAIROS, PRIETO, WOOD & BOYER, P.A.
141 W. JACKSON BOULEVARD SUITE 1575
CHICAGO IL, 60604
904-354-5500
E-Mail: andrew.weiss@qpwbllaw.com
Attorney File No. IL-008916-25
Attorney ARDC No. 6284233
Case Number: 2025 FC 30
TJSC#: 46-1557
NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Case # 2025 FC 30
6088-968076
Published in the Boone County Journal August 13, 18, 25, 2026

New Regulations on Intoxicating Hemp Are ‘Long Overdue,’ Pritzker Says

Sweeping new bill regulates hemp like cannabis, expands access to medical products
Ben Szalinski Capitol News Illinois

A wide-ranging new state law on hemp and other cannabis regulations was “long overdue,” Gov. JB Pritzker said Thursday at an event in Chicago to celebrate the new law he signed last month.

Senate Bill 3222 makes a variety of changes to the state’s cannabis laws but chiefly introduces new regulations for intoxicating hemp products. It immediately bans the sale of the previously unregulated products such as delta-8 to those under 21 and now regulates intoxicating hemp under the state’s existing cannabis laws.

“While our regulated cannabis market has been operating under those strict standards, using a federal loophole, an entirely separate market emerged for intoxicating hemp products, creating real risks to the public, especially for our kids,” Pritzker said. “Intoxicating hemp products have been sold over the counter without the safeguards consumers deserve, and until now without the protections needed to keep them out of the hands of young people.”

Intoxicating hemp products now must be sold in child-proof packages. It also bans what supporters of regulation call misleading advertising and packaging that is designed to appeal to children, such as packaging the products in a way designed to look like common snacks.

“These are not harmless products that carry real risks for young children and young people,” said Dr. Mark Butterly, the chief medical officer at Advocate Aurora Children’s Hospital. “These products can impair judgments, affecting the developing brain, and send children to our emergency departments.”

The law is years in the making after legislators debated how to regulate hemp. Proposals ranged from sweeping bans on hemp products to introducing an entirely new framework of regulations.

continued on page 16



Chocolate Cake Kristin Eberle, Freeport
Good flavor, color, texture, taste of cocoa shows it's homemade



Blueberry Pie
Randy Stalzman, Caledonia
Interesting appearance, tastes good



Cookies – Best of Show Collection of Cookies
“Mom’s Christmas Cookies”
Karen Englund, Belvidere

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Jerry Paulson, Caledonia



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Paula Wares, Poplar Grove

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Picture, miscellaneous
Mindy Erickson, Rockford
Wall hanging – paper pieced
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Jewelry – Best of Show
Jewelry, Pearl or Beads
Deborah Lee, Capron
Very nice, good taste



Diamond Art – Best of Show
Animal Nancy Cairns, Belvidere



Painted Rock – Best of Show
Figure/Portrait Character
Toni Baumann – Poplar Grove



Ceramics, Easter or Spring Item
Kimberly Krauss, Loves Park
Irresistibly cute!



Quilt – Best of Show
Lap Quilt Mindy Erickson, Rockford
Log cabin pattern, so much work!



Liberty Tree Arrangement
Ann Carrick, Belvidere



Diamond Art – Junior Edith Stark, Belvidere
Very clever idea



Ceramics – Best of Show Gloss Glazing
Roxann Dowell, Harvard



Champion Gladiolus
Tallest Blooming Gladiolus
George Weinrank, Belvidere
Perfect flowers—9 florets in full bloom!



Nature Craft -- Junior Fairy Garden
Alyssa Gilmore, Belvidere Amazing



Woodworking Best of Show
Intarsia – (using different color woods to provide color)
Marvin Cairns, Belvidere
Gorgeous, lots of work in a category that doesn't get entries often.



Woodcarving
Thomas Gengler,
Caledonia
Nice, rudimentary
hard wood carving,
can tell that it is a
bear with a fish, very
hard to carve.



Jams and Jellies Collection
Lisa Rogers, Caledonia
Judged on basis of display. Jars are nice and full, overall display is attractive. Followed the fair theme.



Decorated Cookies
Katie Garrity, Chicago

Regulations

from page 12

Reforms Pritzker supported stalled in early 2025 after fighting between Pritzker, Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson and House Democrats. The governor endorsed a Senate-passed bill, but the House declined to take it up after a big blow up in a private caucus meeting where Pritzker said members of his administration were verbally abused.

Johnson's team opposed the Pritzker-supported bill. Pritzker bashed the mayor afterward, saying he rarely reaches out to discuss issues with Pritzker, though the governor said he doubts Johnson's opposition stalled the measure.

But this spring, there was little fighting over hemp and cannabis reforms and the bill was introduced in the final days of session without drama.

Other reforms

Beginning Nov. 12, non-intoxicating CBD products with less than 0.4 milligrams of THC will be allowed to be sold outside the regulated market.

With more businesses that sell intoxicating products now subject to regulation, the law also allows the state to issue 45 unused infuser licenses to businesses in January to applicants with prior experience under the state's social equity laws and add 100 new

licenses in 2028.

"As industries evolve, our laws must also," Pritzker said. "Today, we are strengthening protections for children, we are expanding access for patients, we're advancing social equity even further, and we're making our regulatory system operate more efficiently and better for everyone."

The bill also made several changes to the state's existing cannabis laws.

All dispensaries in the state will be able to register as medical dispensaries, ending previous restrictions that distinguished between those that could sell medical products or only ones for recreational use. The new changes will also allow medical

patients to pick up cannabis curbside or through a drive-thru. More conditions will also qualify patients to receive a medical cannabis prescription.

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

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