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Sample Ballot Inside Page 6 • Election April 6th



Frank Vincent Actor



Frank Cullotta Mobster

Boone County and the Chicago Outfit

By David Larson

During prohibition Sam Giancana, a.k.a. “Momo,” was an up-and-coming bootlegger connected with Al Capone. He was arrested in Boone County’s Spring Township and sent to prison. He later became the head of the Chicago Outfit from 1957 to 1966. He is also famous having an affair with Judith Exner, while President John F. Kennedy had a similar relationship with Miss Exner during his presidency. He was also an associate and boss of Frank Cullotta.

Who is Frank Cullotta?

Frank Cullotta, a Chicago gangster, who appeared in the original *Belvidere Daily Republican’s* story “Pacemaker Hearing Today” in September 1, 1968, was one of three men who robbed the Belvidere Pacemaker on September 1, 1967. The story read:

“Three men convicted of robbing Pacemaker Supermarket on Sept. 1, 1967 are scheduled to appear in Circuit Court here today for a probation hearing.

The hearing for Michael Swiatek, Vincent Moscatello and Frank Cullotta had to reschedule from Aug. 30 because they were indicted in Chicago last week on charges of hijacking a truck loaded with television sets. Swiatek was injured in a gun battle with Chicago police at the time of the arrest.

In 1968, Cullotta was convicted of burglary in

Chicago and served 4 and a half years.

About 30 years later in Hollywood, Frank Cullotta, who died last August, sat in a chair next to Martin Scorsese functioning as technical advisor for the movie *Casino*. Cullotta had a minor role in the movie as a mobster. With an 8th grade education, he followed in his father foot steps in a life of crime. In 1962, at the age of 24, he murdered two individuals, one by putting the victim’s head in a vice in the same way Nicky Santoro killed someone he was extorting information from in the movie *Casino*.

Frank Cullotta became a member of Anthony “Tony the Ant” Spilotro’s “Hole in the Wall Gang” that operated in Las Vegas robbing, stealing, loan sharking and extorting. Tony Spilotro was the inspiration for the fictional character, Nicky Santoro (played by Joe Pesci) in the movie *Casino*. Frank Cullotta’s character was Frank Marino, Nicky’s underboss, played by Frank Vincent, a mobster regular in Hollywood films including *The Sopranos’* and *Goodfellows*.

Spilotro managed the Chicago Outfit’s illegal casino profits (the “skim”) when four of the casinos: the Stardust, the Fremont, the Hacienda, and the Marina, were managed by Frank Rosenthal. Rosenthal replaced the Chicago Outfit’s Johnny Roselli in Las Vegas. Roselli had been running Hollywood and Las Vegas.

Cullotta joined Tony Spilotro in Las Vegas in 1979. By 1981 he was arrested during the gang’s robbery of the Bertha’s Gifts & Home Furnishings robbery. Tony “the Ant” Spilotro was recorded in an FBI wire tap giving an order to have Cullotta killed: “having to clean our laundry,” said Tony

Spilotro in the conversation.

Cullotta agreed to enter the witness protection program after the recording was shared with him. In Cullotta’s 1983 trial, he admitted to 4 murders, and over 300 other crimes. He testified against Tony “the Ant” but Tony walked anyway. Cullotta was given immunity for his crimes, but was sentenced to 8 years in prison. In two years, he was paroled under an assumed name.

Cullotta has co-authored two books on organized crime. In his later years, he worked as a tour guide and speaker for The Mob Museum in Las Vegas. Just before his death, he opened a YouTube channel called “Coffee with Cullotta”.

Illinois Auto Dealers Sue Jesse White’s Office, Electric Vehicle Companies

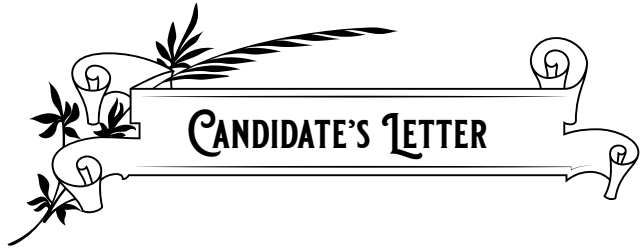
Suit challenges whether manufacturers can also be dealers

by Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Automobile Dealers Association has filed a lawsuit against Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White’s office, alleging that White is allowing unlicensed, unregulated dealers to operate in Illinois, in violation of state law.

At issue in the case is whether automobile manufacturers should be allowed to own and op-

Continued on Page 4



I am 56 years old and happily married to the love of my life, my only wife Lisa Sattler. I have 2 boys Brandon who is 20 and Josh who is 19. I grew up in Milwaukee and have an Associate's Degree in Industrial Electronics from Milwaukee Area Technical College and a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Milwaukee School of Engineering. I have been an Engineer for 29 years designing automation and controls in many positions from Manufacturing to Commercial Buildings. I moved to Illinois in 1992 after college and met my wife in 1995 and got married in 1996 and we will celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary this May. We moved to Poplar Grove in 1996 for a nice rural community.

I have been a registered republican and consider myself an independent that does not follow group think party politics which has become a large problem. I believe character matters which ever party you belong to. That is very important these days. A small town like Poplar Grove has

no D's or R's. It is non-partisan, as small towns should be. We all want a safe quiet and dry place to live with streets that are not crumbling, utilities that are maintained to function correctly, a safe water supply, safe sewer systems, and keep our properties safe from flooding or sewer back up.

The primary reason I am running for president is we need to restore transparency, integrity, and ethics to local government. My opponent has had a dishonest history for the past 25 years. See my Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PoplarGrovePresident.Sattler, my YouTube page at www.youtube.com/channel/UCDhK0PzTKlMeAmioRpZJMvg, or www.EdgarCounty-WatchDogs.com for details. Mr. Costanza's record is public information which the voters are entitled to evaluate.

Secondly, we need to video broadcast village meetings. We need to fix our village infrastructure and streets, maintain our existing parks, hire professional village management who is not involved with daily politics, and who can focus on daily village management to help the residents, and not play favors to special interests that donate money to them. I want to return the 100% Presidents pay hike, and other elected officials pay hikes to the tax payers, that they gave themselves in the middle of a pandemic. Reduce the Presidents expense account, too. We need to protect our schools and property taxes by not giving away the impact fees that once protected us from uncontrolled real-estate growth that severely impacted us like we saw pre 2008 that has slammed our property taxes in the past several years. We also need to have a pleasant atmosphere to encourage business to relocate to Boone County to provide jobs for local residents.

The most pressing challenge is the over spending for a village that has remained about 5000 people in size for a decade. The village spent money on their raises, remodeling Village Hall, and 1.5 Million on a new building, but do not address infrastructure problems. We have serious flooding issues in 2 areas of the village that have not been addressed since design about 20 years ago. Since the areas were built out by the developers, the village has never gone back and reviewed what is wrong with the storm water management systems. We need a periodic maintenance program to clean out sediment, growth, and restrictions to the original designs. We also need to review if the actual designs were followed, besides maintained. A technical leader and engineer of 29 years, like myself, can help greatly with these problems. I have personal experience with these problems where I have lived. I suffered from poor development and oversight by our village 15 years ago, and had to make the village and developer correct it in my subdivision Concorde Crossing back then. I will fight for everyone's rights in poplar grove to not be flooded out or have sewers back up due to a village more interested in helping themselves.

Top priority is ethics, transparency, and to video broadcast village meetings, place village budgets in a search-able database online, examine village budgets and redirect unnecessary spending, and begin a major infrastructure evaluation to repair flooding problems, sewer problems, and fix crumbling streets.

**Sincerely, Donald G. Sattler
For Village President Poplar Grove**

Dear Voters,

I decided to run for Mayor when our current Mayor, after collecting tens of thousands of dollars in out-of-town special interest money, voted in return to subsidize them with your tax money by eliminating impact fees. Furthermore, he presented and advocated to abate developer property taxes for 4 years and waive all permit/inspection fees. In doing so, he knew this precedent would become policy for any future residential development. This precedent would then excuse future growth from paying for itself, making certain hardworking taxpayers would pay

these costs instead. This simply places THEIR profits ahead of YOUR interests. That is nothing more than cronyism and "pay to play" and it is simply wrong. I have offered to debate our current Mayor on these issues and more and he has decided to hide. He has tried to fool voters with a barrage of ads that say nothing and only prove special interests have placed a huge investment in him and it will prove at your expense. They have invested in him for a reason - we deserve better.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who trusted and helped me in this Mayoral election: Those who offered to contribute campaign funds (which I have declined); talked with me outside or in your home or business; requested a yard sign; placed an ad of support in the Boone County Shopper and Boone County Journal; sent letters to the Editors; passed out campaign literature and talked with your family and friends. You have given to me some of the best assistance I have ever seen and way beyond what I could have hoped for. You are exactly why I began my campaign in the first place. I've always believed the Mayor exists for taxpayers instead of taxpayers existing for him. Your generous support has made that clear.

VOTE TAXPAYERS FIRST, FOR A CHANGE. Sincerely, Clint Morris



To the Voters of Belvidere,

I think we need to be asking ourselves some questions. Have you noticed the sign on North State Street for the New Car Wash coming soon. Signs been up for a while now and still no car wash. Whatever happened to the Coal Yard fine dining cafe that we were going to get? Or even the pop up grilled cheese restaurant? Have you ever wondered why we have Chevrolet police cars and not Chrysler. Shouldn't we be supporting one of our main factories in Belvidere?

Mayor Mike says he has brought 40 new businesses to Belvidere. We definitely have more slot places, more nail and hair salons and tattoo parlors. Each of these businesses employ 2 to 3 people.

These are all questions we should be directing to Mayor Mike. He does not have Belvidere's best interest in mind. He has a pension for himself in mind, which we all pay for.

Clint Morris wants to help Belvidere with real businesses and improve the lives of the people of Belvidere. Let's vote out tax hike Mike and bring in a mayor who looks out for the tax payers best interest, not his own.

**VOTE FOR CLINT MORRIS
Sincerely, Jim Bean**

Dear Editor,

I have the pleasure of working closely with Chris Gardner at the Boone County Museum of History. She is a tremendous asset to our organization, and to our community as a whole.

In all the time I have worked with her, I have found Chris to be extremely professional, responsible and a great team player. Chris has experience working with numbers, she works well with others and she's a person who's not afraid to ask the tough questions and is willing to do the research to come up with solutions to any problem, big or small. Her experience and passion will be a great addition to the Belvidere City Council. Please vote for Chris Gardner to represent Ward 5 on April 6.

**Sincerely, Anna Pivoras
Boone County Museum of History
Executive Director**

Quidnunc




**Don't forget
Vote
April 6th**



Ruth Sullivan - Clay, 77, Punta Gorda, FL March 25
Crull, Linda, 67, Formerly of Belvidere, March 26





REAL JOURNALISM FOR A REAL DEMOCRACY

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OP-ED

Let The Shell Games Begin in the Illinois General Assembly

by Roger Eddy

Recently seated members of the 102nd General Assembly had introduced 6,950 bills as of March 22. That is correct, it is not a typo and you did not misread. Almost 7,000 proposals of some variety have been introduced. In addition, 180 Senate resolutions, 162 House resolutions, 10 Senate joint resolutions, 26 House joint resolutions, 10 Senate joint resolution constitutional amendments, and 32 House resolutions constitutional amendments have been filed. If you add in these 335 various types of resolutions to the 6,950 bills filed, you have a grand total of 7,285 initiatives filed by 177 elected officials (118 House and 59 Senate members). That is an average of just more than 41 proposals per member of the General Assembly. Your senator or representative might have filed an above or below average number of proposals. For the record, that does not make them above average or below average lawmakers.

If these numbers seem astounding, stop to consider the fact that this year is only the first year of a two-year General Assembly cycle. There will be many more proposals brought forward before the 102nd G.A. adjourns in January 2023. This also does not take into consideration the number of Amendments that will be filed to alter these original proposals.

There will likely be thousands of amendments filed. Some of these bills are known as "shell" bills, which are simply pieces of filed legislation that have no real content and will be amended, filled later with some type of content that is still being developed. In some cases, the content might be ready, but the sponsor wants to wait as long as possible to reveal the contents in order to avoid controversy or opposition.

One example of a "shell" bill is Senate Bill 12. This one amends something called the Medical Patient Rights Act. The synopsis of the legislative proposal simply states that it, "Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the purpose of the Act." Nothing specific at all about what that change might be is included. The proposal as filed simply strikes one word and does not replace that word with anything specific at all. Thus, the term "shell". It appears that the first 39 bills filed in the Senate this session are these type of shell bills.

This same is true in the House, where there are tons of these shell bills. House Bills 501 through 544 all appear to be shells. There are literally hundreds of these shell bills available in the House and Senate which still need to be amended with specifics. You can easily see this for yourself if you go to the General Assembly website and do some investigating. Go to www.ilga.gov and click on the link for Bills & Resolutions in the top left corner. It is easy to identify shell bills from the lists of the hundreds of bills filed in both the Senate and House. Just look for a bill that contains the word "TECH" at the end. Click on that bill number link, then click on "full text", and read the text of the bill. HB514 is another good example. In the synopsis of this proposal, it is stated that this bill, "Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act." However, there is absolutely no description of how the Illinois Income Tax Act would be amended. You might be surprised at how fun this shell

Continued on Page 4



I have worked with the last five Mayors of Belvidere, four of them while Director of Buildings for the City of Belvidere. When I first met Mike, he was an Alderman. He was organizing a group of Belvidere High School Varsity Baseball players to paint over graffiti sprayed on the old St. Joseph Hospital utility building. The building is on the corner of Julien street and Andrews Drive. I offered to help clean up the building, along with my grandson Matt's baseball team and Mike. We painted over the graffiti and picked up debris around the building making that part of the neighborhood a lot cleaner. This is just one example of the pride that Mike Chamberlain takes in making Belvidere a better place to live. I know Mike Chamberlain, and I know he is the best choice for the City of Belvidere.

Steve Schabacker
Boone County Board Member
Boone Council on Aging Board of Directors

Paid for by Steve Schabacker

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CLINT MORRIS

Candidate For Mayor
Fighting For Belvidere Taxpayers

Pledge 4 - Public Service vs Self Service

Dear Voter,


Since no one has ever given you the courtesy of asking permission, are you happy to be paying for this Mayor's pension for the rest of his life? You will be if he is re-elected! A politician's "term" is not a "career" & does not justify a lifetime taxpayer funded pension. Moody's reports Illinois Pension debt has ballooned over \$300 billion now consuming over 30% of the state budget. A 500% increase over the past 20 years. Our politicians are not vested in fixing that disaster, because they are vested instead in getting their own piece of the pension pie.

- Who gave them their pensions to start with? No one - they helped themselves!
- Where else do temporary employees help themselves to permanent, lifetime payments? Nowhere - They have stretched an elected "term" into a lifetime!

As politicians presided over the destruction of our middle class, jobs that paid pensions have been killed off. Politicians alone are keeping their "Golden Parachutes", with IRA & 401Ks for you, if you are lucky. Mike Chamberlain would like you to pay HIS pension for life in addition to your own 401K. Name one Illinois politician who refuses this pension scam & thinks politicians need to show sincerity for reform, by ending this pension abuse of taxpayers? Vote Clint Morris for Belvidere Mayor, I will END PENSION FLEECING! No more Pensions for Belvidere Mayors. Taxpayers first, because pensions must reward careers & not elections, for a change.


- PROGRESS, FOR A CHANGE -

Paid for by Clint Morris, 815-544-2505, 1214 9th Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008. Independent Candidate for Mayor.



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CHARLES HERBST, J.D., LL.M.
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Auto Dealers *continued from page 1*

erate their own dealerships rather than contracting with independent dealership franchises, which has been the case in Illinois and most other states for decades.

But in recent years, there has been a growing trend of “vertical integration” within the industry, especially within the electric car industry where manufacturers like Tesla and others have insisted that they have a right to sell their own products directly to customers.

“We have no choice but to file this lawsuit, both to protect consumers as well as the hundreds of franchised dealers across the state who contribute to the local economy,” IADA president Pete Sander said in a statement. “We warned the Secretary of State’s office that consumers will be the losers if it does not enforce the laws it is required to enforce.”

Specifically, the lawsuit challenges the operations of two electric vehicle manufacturers, Rivian and Lucid Motors, which the lawsuit says are both taking online orders for sales directly to the public in Illinois.

In their complaint, filed in Cook County Circuit Court, IADA, along with several local dealer associations and numerous individual auto dealers, argue that under a decades-old Illinois law, no one is allowed to engage in the business of selling new vehicles unless they are a licensed dealer, and the only way to become a licensed dealer is to have a contract with a manufacturer establishing a franchise agreement.

The plaintiffs argue that such laws protect consumers because dealers maintain service centers that can perform required recall work and they maintain an inventory of replacement parts and provide service work. Plaintiffs also argue that dealers provide price competition within local markets and that as established businesses in their communities, they are a source of local jobs and tax revenue.

Nontraditional manufacturers like Tesla, Rivian and Lucid have come onto the market using a different business model in which they sell directly to consumers over the internet, although Tesla does operate dealerships as well.

According to the complaint, White’s office, which is responsible for administering the state’s vehicle laws, first granted Tesla permission to sell new vehicles directly to consumers in 2009. The office also granted a dealership license to Tesla founder and president Elon Musk, even though Musk owned more than 1 percent of the shares in the manufacturing company, Tesla Motors.

IADA began registering its objections with White’s office in 2012, and a lengthy chain of correspondence ensued between IADA, White’s office and Tesla Motors. By January 2017, White’s office informed Tesla that it would not issue any more dealership licenses or renew any existing ones until the company came into compliance with state laws.

Tesla, however, filed for an administrative review on that decision, and in May 2019, all the parties entered into an administrative consent order that limited Tesla to no more than 13 dealerships in the state at any one time.

While all that was happening, two new manufacturers came onto the scene – Rivian, which specializes in electric pickup trucks and has opened a manufacturing plant in the Bloomington-Normal area; and Lucid Motors, which has opened a showroom in Oak Brook and whose website indicates it is now accepting online orders for vehicles. Both companies market their vehicles directly to consumers online.

In 2020, White’s office asked for an informal legal opinion from Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul’s office, asking whether the state’s Motor Vehicle Franchise Act prohibits manufacturers from selling directly to consumers or whether they had to sell through franchise dealerships.

In July of that year, Raoul’s office responded,

saying the act does not specifically require newly established manufacturers to sell vehicles through franchises, nor does it prohibit them from selling online directly to customers.

But IADA and the other plaintiffs challenged that conclusion, arguing that a separate law, the Illinois Vehicle Code, requires that new vehicles be sold through licensed dealerships, and the only way to become a licensed dealer is through a franchise contract.

The plaintiffs are seeking an order directing White’s office to enforce the state’s Vehicle Code and stop Rivian, Lucid and other car dealerships from directly selling vehicles in-state. They also are seeking an injunction against Rivian and Lucid to prevent the ongoing sale of vehicles to Illinoisans until a decision is reached.

“We welcome new manufacturers to Illinois, especially those who are building innovative vehicles,” David Sloan, president of the Chicago Automobile Trade Association, said in a statement. “Our franchised members already sell dozens of electric and hybrid vehicles. We ask that manufacturers sell them in Illinois according to state law. We’re not demanding they cease operations in the state, just that they franchise a dealer.”

A spokesman for Secretary White’s office declined to comment on the case Monday, saying his office had not yet been officially served with the lawsuit.

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

Shell Game *continued from page 3*

game can be.

There are two important deadlines when a bill must pass from one House to the other, House bills to Senate or vice versa, to meet constitutional requirements. No worries, though, hundreds of shell bills are passed from one House of the General Assembly to the other routinely, without any additional details, to meet these deadlines.

The Illinois budget is always attached to one of these “shells” much later in the session. It is almost impossible to identify which shell bills will eventually contain the state budget and the budget implementation bills that accompany the budget. It could be a Senate shell or a House shell. The actual language of the enacted budget, along with the appropriation amounts to fund the budget, are added much later in the process. These details about how your tax dollars are to be spent are not revealed to those asked to vote on passage until the final days of session. Even then, very few, if any, really know everything that is in the final version.

Things should not work this way. We need to demand better.

Let the shell games begin!

Roger Eddy is a retired member of the Illinois House and served on the Special Investigative Committee on the impeachment of Rod Blagojevich. He served the 109th District as a Republican from 2003 to 2012. Recently, he authored a book highlighting the impeachment of Blagojevich. The book, “A Front Row Seat - The Impeachment of Rod Blagojevich,” is available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Mayoral Campaign Itemized Finance Report

7/1/2020 thru 3/31/2021

“We Like Mike” Citizens to Elect Mike Chamberlain Contributions:

• Becan Construction Company of Illinois, Inc. 2260 Southwind Blvd. Bartlett, IL	\$2,500
• Pearl Street Investment 2260 Southwind Blvd. Bartlett, IL	\$2,500
• Benchmark Construction Co., Inc. Chicago, IL	\$2,500
• Plote Construction Inc. Hoffman Estates, IL	\$2,000
• I.O.U.E Local 150 Political Action Committee Countryside, IL	\$1,000
• Laborers’ INTL Union of NA Local 32 P A C Account Cherry Valley, IL	\$1,000
• Northwestern Illinois Building Trades Rockford, IL	\$2,500
• Plumbers & Pipefitters UA Local 23 P A C Rockford, IL	\$5,000
• Sheet Metal Workers Local 219 PAC Fund Rockford, IL	\$1,000
• Swedish American Health Management Corp Rockford, IL	\$500
• NICA Rockford, IL	\$1,500
• Boone County Republican Central Committee Belvidere, IL	\$3,000
• Rockford Regional Good Government, NFP Rockford, IL	\$1,000
• Mr. Goodwater, Inc. Belvidere, IL	\$1,000
• Corrugated Metals, Inc. Belvidere, IL	\$2,500
• Logan, Lorayne Rockford, IL	\$500
• Schabacker, Steve and Judy Belvidere, IL	\$200
Total	\$30,200

Clint Morris for Mayor Self-Funded - \$7,500

Expansion of Vote by Mail, Curbside Voting Will Head to Governor

Bill makes permanent changes from 2020 election

by Sarah Mansur Capitol News Illinois

A bill to expand the use of vote-by-mail and curbside voting in future elections passed the Illinois Senate Thursday, meaning it needs only a signature from the governor to become law.

House Bill 1871, which was approved by the House last week, would revise the state election code to make permanent some of the changes that were widely adopted across Illinois for the 2020 general election in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If the bill is sent to the governor and signed quickly enough, it would take effect immediately, possibly in time for the April 6 elections.

The changes include allowing election authorities to install drop box sites where voters can submit mail-in ballots without postage during and on Election Day. The bill also permits curbside voting where people can fill out ballots outside the polling place during early voting and on Election Day.

The bill, sponsored by Democratic Sen. Julie Morrison of Lake Forest, would also require election authorities to accept mail-in ballots with insufficient or no postage.

The bill states that ballots turned in after the close of business “shall be dated as delivered the



next day, with the exception of ballots delivered on election day, which shall be dated as received on election day.”

Thomas Bride, executive director at Peoria County Election Commission, said this provision was carried out in his county by installing a locked cover on the drop box by 7 p.m. on election night.

“At that point, the drop box was locked and any (ballots) that were deposited before 7 p.m. were counted, and then it stopped the ability to leave (ballots) in the drop box after 7 p.m.,” Bride said during the Senate Executive Committee on Wednesday.

The bill passed out of that committee on partisan lines Wednesday and advanced to the Senate floor for a vote, where it was approved on a bipartisan roll call with 48 votes in favor and seven against.

Drop box use for April 6 election

The law authorizing ballot drop boxes and curbside voting for the 2020 election expired on Jan. 1, 2021. But some election authorities, including Cook County, have continued to use drop boxes for the February primary election and the upcoming April 6 consolidated election.

Sangamon County, which did not have a February primary, is using one drop box that is located on the premises of the county building for the April election. The second drop box in Sangamon County that was available during 2020 outside of the county Regional Office of Education is not being used for the upcoming election.

Matt Dietrich, spokesperson for the state Board of Elections, said the Election Code is silent on drop boxes, as it is currently written. He said drop boxes were specifically authorized in the election bill for the 2020 general election.

“When that law expired on Jan. 1, there was no specific prohibition on their use nor was there any authorization for their use,” Dietrich said in an email.

Sangamon County Clerk Don Gray said his office is treating the single drop box outside the county building as an extension of the election office. The state’s election code allows voters to return their mail-in ballots to the election authority office, which is the county election office in Sangamon County.

“I can’t stress enough how universally popular and successful this resource was in the November general election,” Gray said in a phone interview.

Sangamon County voters from both parties “utilized it often, and resoundingly praised it as a service,” Gray said of the two drop boxes.

“We don’t want to confuse voters,” he said, by taking away a resource that was available to voters in November.

“There’s risks in anything but, you know, we believe this to be an accommodation of an extension of our office for people to return their ballots in this unique challenging environment of COVID-19, including for the consolidated

(April) election,” Gray said.

Larry Suffredin, an election attorney and Cook County Board Commissioner, said he didn’t think any legal challenge would be brought over the ballots returned to the drop boxes on county clerk’s office premises because those ballots remain under the care and control of the clerk’s office.

“[County clerks] control the lockbox, they control the access to the lockbox and the law says that your mail in ballot is to be returned to the clerk. So I don’t think that you have a legal issue with what’s going on right now,” Suffredin said.

But, given that the April election is expected to have lower turnout compared to presidential elections, the number of ballots being challenged “would be very limited,” Suffredin said.

“(The challenge) would not have much impact, but I don’t see where they would have a claim,” he said.

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

Bill to End Qualified Immunity Advances Out of Committee

Bad Apples in Law Enforcement Accountability Act aims to remove legal defense for officers

by **Tim Kirsininkas Capitol News Illinois**

A measure to end qualified immunity as a legal defense for law enforcement officers advanced out of the House Restorative Justice Committee at a Thursday hearing.

House Bill 1727, introduced by Rep. Curtis Tarver, D-Chicago, would create the Bad Apples in Law Enforcement Accountability Act. It aims to remove the court doctrine of qualified immunity for officers, opening them up to civil litigation if they participate in the “deprivation of any individual rights” guaranteed in the Illinois Constitution. The liability is created even for officers who fail to intervene if such a deprivation is otherwise occurring.

The bill would also require local municipalities to disclose information about settlements with law enforcement officers.

Tarver and proponents of the legislation said the concept of qualified immunity emboldens some officers to make reckless decisions that could cost lives, as in the case of George Floyd’s killing in Minneapolis last year.

“Qualified immunity is one defense in a host of defenses that law enforcement has,” Tarver said. “Someone putting their knee on someone’s neck for nine minutes when they’ve already surrendered, that’s not a split-second decision.”

Peter Hanna from ACLU of Illinois told the committee on Thursday that the legislation is an effort to hold “bad apples” in police ranks accountable for their actions.

“We can no longer just accept the presence of bad apples in law enforcement as an inevitable truth,” Hanna said. “No reform, no matter how well intentioned, can be effective until we add real police accountability.”

Opponents argued the bill would contribute to ongoing problems with retaining and recruiting police officers who have cited recent changes to state law as reasons to not enter the law enforcement field in Illinois.

“We have the membership rolls, we see the outcome, we know we’re losing membership,” said Andrew Bodewes of the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police. “We’re concerned that a change like this would further complicate that.”

“We don’t believe that changes in qualified immunity are the correct tool to just solve the problem. Obviously we always want to talk about bettering law enforcement, (we) always want to have that conversation, but we just don’t see the value of using this tool,” Bodewes added.

Jim Kaitschuk of the Illinois Sheriffs Association told the committee the legislation could also result in complicating an officer’s decision-making process when arriving on a scene.

“The bill goes a lot further than just eliminating qualified immunity,” Kaitschuk said. “I have a duty to intervene, at the same time, if I do intervene and I didn’t act and based on the information that I have in front of me, I’m going to be held liable if somebody else made a mistake or if I detain someone.”

Tarver argued that if law enforcement officers leave the field as a result of the proposed legislation, they did not belong in the field to begin with.

“If this leads to less police officers who are attracted to law enforcement because they know that they can demonize people and brutalize people, then I’m all for it,” Tarver said. “If this leads to attracting the right people, I’m all for it as well.”

Tarver said the legislation is not intended to target police officers unfairly, but rather is designed to hold all officers to a higher standard.

“It’s very simple, like everybody else in the private sector, control your employees, hire the best and the brightest, train them, provide the resources,” Tarver said. “If municipalities are concerned, all they have to do is follow that very basic guideline and I think we’d all be in better shape.”

Opponents on the committee, including Reps. Tony McCombie, R-Savanna, and Patrick Windhorst, R-Metropolis, argued the bill goes too far to target a legal defense that is rarely used in Illinois.

Windhorst said that a decertification bill that was signed into law earlier this year serves as a sufficient punishment to “bad apples” in law enforcement, and that the bill calls for a commission to study the effects of qualified immunity.

“We passed an expanded decertification law that’s now going to be law, where we actually say, ‘bad apple? You’re no longer a police officer. You violated somebody’s constitutional rights? You’re no longer a police officer. You broke the law? You’re no longer a police officer.’ That is the effective way to address the bad apples,” Windhorst said.

McCombie echoed concerns about officers leaving the field.

“This bill is going to have many unintended and intended consequences that I feel are going to put our very own public safety at risk,” McCombie said.

Representatives from ACLU of Illinois called the bill’s passage a “significant” response to “egregious police misconduct.”

“For too long, special protections like qualified immunity create an almost insurmountable barrier to justice for people whose constitutional rights have been violated by police,” Khadine Bennett, ACLU Illinois director of advocacy and intergovernmental affairs, said in a statement.

“HB 1727 changes that and provides the people of this state a chance to hold bad police officers accountable when they violate someone’s constitutional rights,” Bennett added.

The bill passed committee on a 4-2 partisan roll call, with support from only Democrats.

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

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**SPECIMEN BALLOT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CONSOLIDATED GENERAL ELECTION
APRIL 6, 2021**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS SPECIMEN BALLOT IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE OFFICES AND CANDIDATES TO BE VOTED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN BOONE COUNTY ON TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021.

Julie A. Bliss

JULIE A. BLISS, COUNTY CLERK
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

MUNICIPAL		
CITY OF BELVIDERE		
FOR MAYOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> MIKE CHAMBERLAIN	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
<input type="radio"/> CLINTON MORRIS	INDEPENDENT	
FOR CITY CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> SARAH TURNIPSEED	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
FOR CITY TREASURER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> CORY THORNTON	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
FOR ALDERMAN WARD ONE (VOTE FOR ONE)		
No Candidate	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
<input type="radio"/> THOMAS PORTER	INDEPENDENT	
FOR ALDERMAN WARD TWO (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> NATALIE MULHALL	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
<input type="radio"/> CATHERINE ROSE BARNES	INDEPENDENT	
FOR ALDERMAN WARD THREE (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> SHERYL PRATHER	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
FOR ALDERMAN WARD FOUR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> MATTHEW FLEURY	REPUBLICAN	
No Candidate	DEMOCRATIC	
<input type="radio"/> MARY VOLKEY	INDEPENDENT	
FOR ALDERMAN WARD FIVE (VOTE FOR ONE)		
No Candidate	REPUBLICAN	
<input type="radio"/> CHRISTINE E. GARDNER	DEMOCRATIC	
<input type="radio"/> MARSHA FREEMAN	INDEPENDENT	
CITY OF LOVES PARK		
FOR MAYOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> GREGORY JURY	INDEPENDENT	
FOR CITY CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> CLINT W. LITTLE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> BOB BURDEN	INDEPENDENT	
FOR CITY TREASURER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> JOHN DANIELSON	INDEPENDENT	
FOR ALDERMAN WARD FIVE (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> A. MARIE HOLMES	INDEPENDENT	
VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA		
FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> WILLIAM KOMERSKA		
FOR VILLAGE CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> BETSY KOMERSKA		

FOR VILLAGE TREASURER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> SUE PFAFFINGER		
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)		
<input type="radio"/> LORI AXTELL		
<input type="radio"/> HASSEL BYRD		
<input type="radio"/> KARL BEAM		
<input type="radio"/> CHRISTINA CASTILLO		
<input type="radio"/> JOANNE NICHOLSON		
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL HOOPENGARNER		
<input type="radio"/> TONYA REDDING		
<input type="radio"/> JAMIE HARISH		
VILLAGE OF CAPRON		
FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> STEVEN BANK	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> CONRAD LOBINSKY	INDEPENDENT	
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (For a 4-year term) (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE)		
<input type="radio"/> LINDA WOHLFARTH	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> JOSEPHINE A CAVALIERE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> RACHAEL AGEE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> RYAN WAKELEY	INDEPENDENT	
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (For an unexpired 2-year term) (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO)		
<input type="radio"/> JORDAN DEURKSEN	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> CAMILLE WILCOX	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> Write-in		
MUNICIPAL		
VILLAGE OF CHERRY VALLEY		
FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> JAMES E. CLAEYSSSEN	INDEPENDENT	
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (For a 4-year term) (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE)		
<input type="radio"/> LAWRENCE M. NEVILLE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> BRANDI N. PEARSE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> JANET DOYLE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> NANCY L. BELT	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> DIESTA DiFRANCESCO	INDEPENDENT	
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (For an unexpired 2-year term) (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> DAVID SCHROEDER	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> JAMES M. ALSBURY	INDEPENDENT	
VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE		
FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> OWEN COSTANZA	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> DONALD G. SATTLER	INDEPENDENT	
FOR VILLAGE CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> KARRI ANDERBERG	INDEPENDENT	
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE)		
<input type="radio"/> ERIC J. MILLER	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> DAVID ALLGOOD	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> JAMES R. WEHRLE	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> DAN CHEEK	INDEPENDENT	
VILLAGE OF TIMBERLANE		
FOR VILLAGE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> STEPHEN M. RAPP		
FOR VILLAGE CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> DEBRA K. MARNER		
FOR VILLAGE TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)		
<input type="radio"/> JONATHAN M. LIPSCOMB		
<input type="radio"/> DARCY HILLS		

TOWNSHIP		
BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP		
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> BILL J. ROBERTSON	REPUBLICAN	
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> JUDITH A. SCHABACKER	REPUBLICAN	
FOR TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL A. ST. ANGEL	REPUBLICAN	
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL T. DIXON	REPUBLICAN	
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)		
<input type="radio"/> ROBERT E. TURNER	REPUBLICAN	
<input type="radio"/> JIM CULVEY	REPUBLICAN	
<input type="radio"/> KATHY L. GROVER	REPUBLICAN	
<input type="radio"/> BERNARD O'MALLEY	REPUBLICAN	
BONUS TOWNSHIP		
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> DARREL W. DAVIS	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> SARAH OSTERBERG	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL KARLSON	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)		
<input type="radio"/> DAN MICKEY	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> BRAD PETERS	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> TODD WALBERG	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> RUSSELL HOUK	INDEPENDENT	
BOONE TOWNSHIP		
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> NORMAN STIMES	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> JESSICA SENG	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> GLEN GRATZ	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> SHANE MUNRO	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)		
<input type="radio"/> CHAD CUNNINGHAM	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> DAVID TINBERG	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> JASON HAGBERG	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> CARLO FERRETTI	INDEPENDENT	
TOWNSHIP		
CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP		
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> VALERIE ALT	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> THERESA BALK	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER (VOTE FOR ONE)		
<input type="radio"/> JEFFREY MORELOCK	INDEPENDENT	
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)		
<input type="radio"/> DONALD WARD	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> TRACY RANGEL	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> DENNIS LUCKEY	INDEPENDENT	
<input type="radio"/> GORDON GOTSCH	INDEPENDENT	

FLORA TOWNSHIP	
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> KENNETH E. FREEMAN	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> DONALD J. BANKS	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
No Candidate	
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL A. FRANK	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)	
<input type="radio"/> KERRY LEE	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> GARY BLAKE	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> DEBRA S. BUTENSCHOEN	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> TODD C. AVES	INDEPENDENT
LE ROY TOWNSHIP	
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> BRIAN VAN LAAR	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> JAMIE MURRAY	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> ROBERT DONLEY	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)	
<input type="radio"/> KAREN KENNEY	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> JAMES RICHARDSON	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> CHARLES KASTNING	INDEPENDENT
MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP	
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> TIMOTHY HALL	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> DALON BOYCE	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> WILLIAM J. SCHWARZBACH	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)	
<input type="radio"/> STANLEY A. ELLSWORTH	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> KEN HILDEBRANDT	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> JULIE MATTELG	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> RANDY WILLIAMS	INDEPENDENT
POPLAR GROVE TOWNSHIP	
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> BRIAN PISKIE	
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> ANDREA SOWERS	
FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL A. WARES	
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)	
<input type="radio"/> RANDY BROWN	
<input type="radio"/> VONNIE R. WARES	
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL OLIVER	
<input type="radio"/> MATTHEW BULLARD	
SPRING TOWNSHIP	
FOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> RYAN KUFALK	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP CLERK	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> KAREN L. SMILEY	INDEPENDENT

FOR TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> CHAD HARBISON	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> TIMOTHY G. LEIN	INDEPENDENT
FOR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)	
<input type="radio"/> KIMBERLY BRAHMSTEDT	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> CURT FOWLER	INDEPENDENT
<input type="radio"/> MIKE PAULSON	INDEPENDENT
MULTI-TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR DISTRICT	
FOR MULTI-TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR (BONUS, SPRING, POPLAR GROVE AND CALEDONIA TOWNSHIPS)	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> KATHI HENDRICKSON	INDEPENDENT
FOR MULTI-TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR (LE ROY AND MANCHESTER TOWNSHIPS)	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> KRISTINA L. HALL	INDEPENDENT
PARK	
ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT	
FOR PARK COMMISSIONER	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO)	
<input type="radio"/> TYLER SMITH	
<input type="radio"/> MARTESHA BROWN	
BELVIDERE PARK DISTRICT	
FOR PARK COMMISSIONER (For a 4-year term)	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE)	
<input type="radio"/> JEAN TWYNING	
<input type="radio"/> AMY GRAFTON	
<input type="radio"/> DANIEL NOBLE	
FOR PARK COMMISSIONER (For an unexpired 2-year term)	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
<input type="radio"/> MARY MARQUARDT	
<input type="radio"/> MARK MUCCIANTI	
LIBRARY	
NORTH SUBURBAN PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT	
FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR)	
<input type="radio"/> MARCY L. MITCHELL	
<input type="radio"/> MELISSA S. LEUZINGER	
<input type="radio"/> JANE E. BURDEN	
<input type="radio"/> SARA PORTER	
CHERRY VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT	
FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE	
(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO)	
<input type="radio"/> JEAN BOUACHA	
<input type="radio"/> ANN MARIE JINKINS	
SCHOOLS	
BELVIDERE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 100	
Instructions to voter: Membership on the board of education is to consist of 4 members from the congressional township that has at least 75% but not more than 90% of the population, and 3 board members from the remaining congressional townships in the school district.	
ON THE BASIS OF EXISTING BOARD MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERS MAY BE ELECTED IN THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS FROM EACH CONGRESSIONAL TOWNSHIP.	

FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO SERVE A FULL 4-YEAR TERM	
3 shall be elected from Belvidere Township 44N Range 03E	
(VOTE FOR THREE)	
BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP 44N RANGE 03E	
<input type="radio"/> THOMAS J. BUCHER JR	
<input type="radio"/> CHARLES A. PARROVECHIO	
<input type="radio"/> ERIC J. MILLER	
<input type="radio"/> MATT ZICKERT	
<input type="radio"/> ROBERT C. TORBERT	
<input type="radio"/> KARLA M. MAVILLE	
<input type="radio"/> MICHELLE ROMANO HUBER	
<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL G. SCHULTZ	
FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO SERVE A FULL 4-YEAR TERM	
1 board members shall be elected from the remaining congressional townships.	
(VOTE FOR ONE)	
The remaining Congressional Townships	
<input type="radio"/> LISA WHITCOMB	
HARVARD COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 50	
Instructions to voter: Membership on the board of education is restricted to a maximum of 3 members from any congressional township.	
ON THE BASIS OF EXISTING BOARD MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERS MAY BE ELECTED IN THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS FROM EACH CONGRESSIONAL TOWNSHIP.	
NOT MORE THAN 2 MAY BE ELECTED FROM TOWNSHIP 45N RANGE 6E (HARTLAND)	
NOT MORE THAN 2 MAY BE ELECTED FROM TOWNSHIP 45N RANGE 5E (DUNHAM)	
NOT MORE THAN 2 MAY BE ELECTED FROM TOWNSHIP 46N RANGE 6E (CHEMUNG)	
NOT MORE THAN 3 MAY BE ELECTED FROM TOWNSHIP 46N RANGE 6E (ALDEN)	
NOT MORE THAN 3 MAY BE ELECTED FROM TOWNSHIP 46N RANGE 4E (LEROY)	
FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO SERVE A FULL 4-YEAR TERM	
(VOTE FOR A TOTAL OF FOUR)	
TOWNSHIP 46N RANGE 5E	
<input type="radio"/> KRISTINA DAWN DUBER	
<input type="radio"/> TODD ERNEST RAMBERG	
TOWNSHIP 45N RANGE 5E	
<input type="radio"/> MELINDA L. SHAFER	

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RENEWAL OF CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

DATE POSTED: March 26, 2021
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that a public hearing shall be conducted on April 12, 2021, at 6:15 p.m., before the Village Board of the Village of Poplar Grove, Boone County, Illinois ("Village"), on a proposed agreement to renew the cable television franchise between the Village and Comcast. The proposed franchise agreement has been in negotiation between the Village and Comcast and addresses a variety of issues, including, without limitation, the use of public rights-of-way, the payment of franchise fees, and programming services. This hearing provides the public with an opportunity to comment before the agreement is presented for final action by the Village Board.

The public hearing shall be held at Village Hall, 200 North Hill Street, Poplar Grove, Illinois. A copy of the proposed cable television franchise agreement will be available for inspection in the Village Clerk's Office at Village Hall and on the Village of Poplar Grove's website. The proposed agreement is subject to further revision.

The Village Board will hear public comments on the proposed cable television franchise agreement from all persons interested in being heard. Written submissions to be read as public comment must be received by the Clerk's Office no later than 4:00 p.m. April 12, 2021. After the close of the hearing, the Village Board may consider final action on the agreement or direct such further activities as may be appropriate with final action consideration on the agreement at a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Karri Anderberg, Village Clerk
Published in the Boone County Journal March 26 April 02

STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT BOONE COUNTY
PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT) Case No. 21-MR-34
REQUEST OF: ROBIN ANN CARROLL to change my name from: ROBIN ANN CARROLL; to the new name of: ROBIN ANN THOMPSON. The court date will be held: on April 20, 2021, at 9:15a.m., at 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL Boone County in Courtroom #3
Published in the Boone County Journal 03/26, 04/02, 09

LEGAL NOTICES

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Notice is hereby given to the legal voters, Residents of Poplar Grove Township, in the County of Boone and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. at Poplar Grove Township Office, 302 East Park Street, Poplar Grove, for the transaction of miscellaneous business of the said Town, and after a moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, comes before the meeting.
Dated March 28, 2021
Andrea Sowers, Poplar Grove Township Clerk
Published in *The Boone County Journal* April 2

LEGAL NOTICES

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA, ILLINOIS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Village of Caledonia, Illinois Zoning Committee will conduct a public hearing on April 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., electronically and telephonically via Zoom Video Conferencing, to consider the following agenda items:

1. A request that the Village of Caledonia adopt the Official Zoning Map; and
2. A proposed amendment to the Village of Caledonia's Zoning Ordinance amending Chapter 2, "Rules and Definitions", Chapter 6, "Urban Transitional District", Chapter 7, "Residential Districts", Chapter 8, "R-M Multi-Family Residential Districts", Chapter 9, "Commercial Districts", and Chapter 10, "I-Industrial Districts", to address solar energy systems and solar energy panels.

Members of the public are invited to attend this public hearing, at which time an opportunity will be given to address the members of the Zoning Committee. To appear and be heard telephonically or electronically, you must do the following:

To appear by video, use this internet address: <https://www.zoom.com/>. Then enter the meeting ID and password. The meeting ID for this meeting is 528 096 1226 and the password is T1HKf4.

To appear by telephone, call Village President Rod Fritz at (815) 670-7788.

The proposed Official Zoning Map, as well as the proposed amendments to the Village of Caledonia's Zoning Ordinance addressing solar energy systems and solar energy panels, can be accessed electronically via the Village of Caledonia's official website at www.villageofcaledonia.com.

Dated: March 30, 2021

/s/ Darron M. Burke, Village Attorney

Published in the Boone County Journal on or about April 2, 2021.

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

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF A REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT) Case No. 2021MR28
REQUEST OF YESENIA SANCHEZ to change name from YESENIA SANCHEZ; to the new name of: YESENIA VELASCO.
Published in the *Boone County Journal* 4/2, 4/9, 4/16

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOONE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that Boone County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday April 20, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. in the County Board Room, 1212 Logan Ave Belvidere, IL 61008 upon the following petitions:

The applicant, Boone County, 1212 Logan Ave. Belvidere, IL 61008, is requesting a Comprehensive Plan Amendment pursuant to Section 2.10 (Text and Map Amendments, Comprehensive Plan Amendments) Sub Section 2.10.3 (Procedure for County Comprehensive Plan Amendments) to make an amendment to Figure 10.15 in the Boone County Comprehensive Plan.

All persons interested may appear at the hearing and be heard at the stated time and place.

Philip Newhouse, Chair, Boone County Planning Commission
Published in the Boone County Journal on April 2, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

POPLAR GROVE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Poplar Grove Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the Village Board Room, 200 North Hill Street, Poplar Grove, Illinois, 61065 upon the following:

The applicant, The Village of Poplar Grove, 200 North Hill Street, Poplar Grove, IL 61065 is proposing an amendment to the Poplar Grove Zoning Ordinance pertaining to Sections 8-7-5-B Home Occupation applicability, 8-7-9-B Solar Energy minimum requirements, 8-8-4 Permitted Yard Exceptions, 8-10-8-B Lighting requirements in accordance with Section 8-5-4 Text Amendment. The request will remove references to the unfilled Village Administrator position, clarify inspection requirements for solar panels, add carpools and correct a typo for exterior lighting levels.

The proposed text amendment is available for public review at the Poplar Grove Planning Office (401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere) during regular business hours.

All persons interested in the petitions may attend and be heard at the stated time and place.

Gina DelRose
Community Development Planner
Published in the Boone County Journal on April 2, 2021

STATE OF ILLINOIS

CIRCUIT COURT

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)

Case No. 21-MR-221

REQUEST OF: NICOLE MARIE KIEFER to change name my name from: NICOLE MARIE KIEFER; to the new name of: NICOLE MARIE BURT. The court date will be held: on MAY 19, 2021, at 10:00a.m., at 400 W. STATE ST., ROCKFORD, IL WINNEBAGO County in Courtroom #426
Published in the Boone County Journal 4/2, 9, 16 WC

The Spring Township Cemetery Board will be having a meeting on Wednesday April 7th, 2021 at 11:00 am. The meeting will be held at the Spring Town Hall located at 3150 Shattuck Rd. Topics to be considered include the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget, Memorial Day service, and the development of the east side of the cemetery.
Published in *The Boone County Journal* Apr 2, 2021

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: Dakota Olinger minor
No. 21-JA-14

Todd Aasen/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on March 16, 2021, 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 Dakota Olinger, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 3:00 P.M. central daylight time on 04/29/2021; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an adjudicatory 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 THE PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A

GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHT TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amend petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

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

Dated: March 22, 2021 Linda J. Anderson, Circuit Clerk
Published in *The Boone County Journal*; April 02, 09, 16 c

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

BMO Harris Bank N.A. PLAINTIFF
Vs. No. 2019CH158

Elizabeth Yeast; Joshua Van Meter; Candace Van Meter; The Condominiums of Logan Square; Unknown Heirs and Legatees of William J. Van Meter; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants; Timothy A. Miller, as Special Representative for William J. Van Meter (Deceased) DEFENDANTS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU: Candace Van Meter Unknown Heirs and Legatees of William J. Van Meter Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit:

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2147 Derby Ln Belvidere, IL 61008 and which said Mortgage was made by: William J. Van Meter the Mortgagor(s), to Harris N.A., as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2010R08554; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Linda J Anderson

Clerk of the Circuit Court

601 North Main Street

Belvidere, IL 61008

on or before April 19, 2021, A DEFAULT

MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT

ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A

JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE

WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.

CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Attorneys for Plaintiff

15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100

Burr Ridge, IL 60527

(630) 794-5300

DuPage # 15170

Winnebago # 531

Our File No. 14-19-11531

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.

13165784

Published in *The Boone County Journal* Mar 19, 26; Apr 2, 2021

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

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

In The Interest of: Paige Dobbs minor
No. 21-JA-13

Chad Dobbs/ To whom it may concern/All unknown natural Fathers

ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Take notice that on March 2, 2021, 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 Paige Dobbs, minor; and that in the County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, at 3:30/3:00 P.M. central daylight time on 04/22/2021 & 05/13/2021; or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an adjudicatory 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 THE PROCEEDING TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH THE POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHT TO THE CHILD. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amend petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

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

Dated: March 22, 2021 Linda J. Anderson, Circuit Clerk
Published in *The Boone County Journal*; April 02, 09, 16 c

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY

PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATSY D. WARD, Deceased
CASE NO. 2021 P 17

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is given of the death of PATSY D. WARD, who died on February 21, 2021. Letters of Office were issued on March 22, 2021 to MELISSA DIEHL, 1010 Riverside Road, Belvidere, IL 61008, who is the Administrator of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Douglas R. Henry, of Barrick, Switzer, Long, Balsley & Van Evera, LLP, 6833 Stalter Drive, Rockford, Illinois 61108.

Claims against the Estate may be filed on or before October 2, 2021, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Winnebago County Circuit Clerk, Probate Division at the Winnebago County Courthouse, 400 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois, or with the Estate legal representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office, Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the Estate legal representative and to his attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Dated: March 22, 2021

/s/ Melissa Diehl, Administrator

DOUGLAS R. HENRY - #6229426

BARRICK, SWITZER, LONG,

BALSLEY & VAN EVERA, LLP

6833 Stalter Drive

Rockford, IL 61108

(815) 962-6611

dhenry@bslbv.com

Published in *The Boone County Journal* April 2, 9, 16

ASSUMED NAMES

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Rental Property business in said County and State under the name of Surf Song Resort Townhouse Unit # 343 at the following post office address: 902 Taylor Ridge, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Osama Badran & Suhaila Badran, 902 Taylor Ridge, Belvidere, IL 61008.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in the Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a roofing business in said County and State under the name of 3 Eagle Roofing at the following post office address: 7541 Lawrenceville Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Juan Almanza, 7541 Lawrenceville Road, Garden Prairie, IL 61038; phone #224-402-1970.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 17th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal March 19, 26, April 2

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a construction, welding, millwright, and repair services in said County and State under the name of J&E Millwright and Customs at the following post office address: 1625 Whitney Blvd., Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Jesus Flores, 1625 Whitney Blvd., Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #779-203-6300.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 26th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal April 2, 9, 16

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a internet sales business in said County and State under the name of woodvinesales at the following post office address: 3230 Whip Poor Will Lane, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Norman G. Nischan, 3230 Whip Poor Will Lane, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #815-708-4598.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 29th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal April 2, 9, 16

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Car Performance/Car Repair Shop business in said County and State under the name of Roewer's Speedshop at the following post office address: 9184 Beaver Valley Rd., Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Matthew Roewer, 9184 Beaver Valley Rd., Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #815-904-9690.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 24th day of February, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Giselle Lenover, Deputy

Published in Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact an Online Boutique business in said County and State under the name of Once Upon a Bowtique at the following post office address: 7852 Moore Hill Court, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Megan Nickles, 7852 Moore Hill Court, Belvidere, IL 61008.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Giselle Lenover, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a Pizza business in said County and State under the name of Sam's Pizza at the following post office address: 138 North State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Josephine Alfano, 138 North State Street, Belvidere, IL 61008.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 16th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Giselle Lenover, Deputy

Published in the Boone County Journal March 19, 26 April 02

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a MONEY TRANSFERS, PLANE TICKETS, BUS TICKETS SERVICES business in said County and State under the name of SERICIOS GUERRERO at the following post office address: 211 N STATE STREET, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: MANUELA GUERRERO, 6378 GARRETT LN, ROCKFORD, IL 61107; phone #815-544-2942.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 30TH day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal APRIL 02, 09, 16

ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE

This is to certify that the undersigned intend to conduct and transact a construction and remodeling business in said County and State under the name of Lariat Construction Company at the following post office address: 458 North Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with respective residence address of each, are as follows: Jesus E Perez-Romero, 458 North Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008; phone #779-300-7198.

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 29th day of March, A.D. 2021

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk

Published in Boone County Journal April 2, 9, 16

State Supreme Court to Hear Case Over Suburb's Assault Weapon Ban

A state appeals court found the ban was enacted legally

by Sarah Mansur Capitol News Illinois

Legal challenges against a ban on assault weapons in suburban Deerfield have reached the state's highest court.

Two consolidated lawsuits against the Lake County suburb were among the 14 total criminal and civil cases that the Illinois Supreme Court has agreed to hear on appeal.

Guns Save Life Inc., the Second Amendment Foundation and Illinois State Rifle Association sued Deerfield shortly after the village amended its assault weapon ordinances in June 2018 to ban the civilian use of assault weapons and large capacity magazines.

The groups argued that the ban violated amendments to the Concealed Carry Act and FOID Card Act that govern the processes for certain municipalities to impose limits on gun ownership beyond state laws.

When state lawmakers amended the FOID Card Act in 2013, they added a provision that allowed municipalities with a population of at least 25,000 to adopt stricter gun laws if the municipality passed an ordinance regulating gun ownership within 10 days of the law becoming effective on July 9, 2013.

Deerfield passed a new ordinance on July 1, 2013, that regulated the storage and transportation of assault weapons. The village's assault weapon ban in 2018 amended this 2013 ordinance.

The gun rights groups maintained the amendments to the FOID Card Act should be interpreted as preempting the authority of local municipalities to pass gun ordinances that are more restrictive than state laws.

The Lake County judge hearing the cases consolidated the lawsuits.

In 2019, the Lake County trial judge ruled in favor of the gun rights groups by finding that the FOID Card Act amendment in 2013 intended to create a 10-day window for municipalities to "ban ownership or possession of assault weapons," the judge found.

Since Deerfield only passed an ordinance in 2013 to regulate the storage and transportation of assault weapons, the village "lost its opportunity to do so and cannot later amend its ordinance to impose such a ban," the judge ruled.

The ruling permanently blocked Deerfield from enforcing its assault weapon and large capacity magazine ban.

Deerfield appealed this decision to the 2nd District Appellate Court, one of five appeals courts in the state which sit one level below the Illinois Supreme Court.

In December 2020, a majority of the appellate court reversed the trial judge's decision and found Deerfield's assault weapon ban did not violate the FOID Card Act.

The majority decided that, in amending the FOID Card Act in 2013, "the legislature created a hybrid balance of regulatory power between the State and local governments," where certain municipalities could "concurrently regulate assault weapons and others would not," the appellate court's 43-page opinion states.

"Deerfield preserved its power to regulate assault weapons concurrently with the State when it enacted

its 2013 ordinance. The legislature explicitly declared that [municipalities with at least 25,000 residents] that preserved their power to regulate assault weapons concurrently with the State could amend their ordinances," the opinion states. "Because Deerfield had the power to regulate assault weapons concurrently with the State, it was Deerfield's prerogative to ban such weapons, and there were no time limitations for doing so."

In order to show the General Assembly's intent, the appellate court's opinion includes a question that then-state Sen. Kwame Raoul asked on the floor of the state Senate in May 2013 when the FOID Card Act amendment was being discussed.

Raoul asked the bill's sponsor, "Can a municipality or home rule unit that has enacted a regulation or ordinance either before or within ten days of the effective date that regulates assault weapons amend that regulation or ordinance in the future?"

To the question, the bill's sponsor responded, "Yes."

The appellate court also ruled that the village's ban on large capacity magazines, to the extent it regulated handgun ammunition, violated the FOID Card Act.

Because of this finding, the appellate court decided Deerfield's large capacity magazine ban, as it applied to handgun ammunition, could not be enforced for valid FOID card and Concealed Carry License holders.

Following this decision, the gun rights groups filed a petition with the Illinois Supreme Court that asked the court to hear their case.

Last week, the state Supreme Court accepted the consolidated cases, which are appealing the appellate court ruling from December 2020.

Officials from the village of Deerfield did not respond to a request for comment.

David Sigale, a sole practitioner in Wheaton, represents the Second Amendment Foundation and the Illinois State Rifle Association.

"We are very gratified that the Illinois Supreme Court has agreed to hear our claim, and we look forward to making our case, as the circuit court held, that the Village overstepped its authority in this matter," Sigale said in an email Tuesday.

New Data Tracker Shows Decline in Small Business as Lawsuits Proceed

Hospitality businesses experienced largest decrease

by Sarah Mansur Capitol News Illinois

Hospitality jobs in Illinois have declined nearly 52 percent since the pandemic began, according to new data, as lawsuits continue against the governor's orders to close nonessential businesses.

While leisure and hospitality jobs were hit the hardest, the number of small businesses open in Illinois overall has fallen by about 36.5 percent, as of March 20, compared to last January, based on data compiled by Opportunity Insights, a nonprofit group at Harvard University.

Opportunity Insights' data shows a significant number of closures following the governor's stay-at-home order which took effect in March and continued to the end of May. The percentage of small business closures in Illinois was about 5 percent in early March 2020, and reached more than 42 percent on March 29, according to the data.

The decline in Illinois' small businesses is similar to the national trend for the same time period.

Nationally, the number of small businesses decreased by about 34 percent, with about a 51 percent decline in leisure and hospitality jobs, according to the data.

The data is based on small business transactions and

revenues from Womply, "a company that aggregates data from several credit card processors to provide analytical insights to small businesses and other clients," according to the study.

The data also shows that small business revenue overall in Illinois fell by nearly 28 percent from January 2020 to March 20. The amount of total revenue from hospitality and leisure businesses specifically saw a 57.9 percent decrease in that time period.

Nationwide, small businesses overall experienced a 24 percent decrease in revenues, with revenues for leisure and hospitality businesses falling roughly 53.4 percent from January 2020 to March 20.

As the first COVID-19 cases were reported last March, Gov. JB Pritzker issued his first stay at home order March 20, ordering nonessential businesses — like restaurants and some retail stores — to close. The order was extended through the end of May, with some restrictions on in-person dining in bars and restaurants lifted in June.

In mid-May, a group of individuals and businesses — including a car repair shop, restaurant and pet groomer — sued Pritzker in federal district court in Chicago. They argued Pritzker's executive orders violated the 'takings' clause of the 5th Amendment, and violated their rights to due process.

The takings clause states the government is prohibited from taking private property for public use, without just compensation.

Based on these claims, they asked the court to award them monetary damages for lost revenue and profits.

Last week, a federal judge dismissed the case. Judge Franklin U. Valderrama found the businesses' claims were barred by the 11th Amendment, which provides general immunity to states from lawsuits by individuals.

Because state officials, like Pritzker, who are sued in their official capacities are considered the "state," Valderrama ruled that Pritzker is protected from the lawsuit's claims under the 11th Amendment.

A separate group of lawsuits were filed by restaurants and bars that were forced to close following Pritzker's reinstatement of the indoor dining ban in November. The businesses argued that Pritzker lacked the authority under the state law to impose an order forcing restaurants to close indoor dining.

One Kane County restaurant, FoxFire, has continued to pursue its lawsuit in Sangamon County court, and even appealed to the Illinois Supreme Court, which has not accepted the case.

Lawyers for FoxFire, which has remained open to indoor service despite the order, have asked the governor to produce discovery, or evidence, to support his ban on indoor dining.

The governor's lawyers have filed a motion to dismiss to FoxFire's lawsuit. A judge in Sangamon County heard arguments Tuesday on that motion. The judge said she expects to issue a ruling in that case within two weeks.

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\$7 Billion in New Federal Funding for K-12 Students

Belvidere CUSD 100 \$14,726,370
North Boone CUSD 200 \$2,931,171

Governor Pritzker today announced Illinois K-12 school districts are receiving \$7 billion in federal funding to support students as they return to the classroom after distance and hybrid learning due to COVID-19.

With this unprecedented level of funding, Governor Pritzker asked education experts to share best practices and recommendations to best support students, including academic and behavioral counseling; out-of-classroom experiences like high-value tutoring, after school programs and summer camps; and creating individualized student profiles to craft the best plans for all students.

Recommendations are available online through the P-20 Council's Learning Renewal Resource Guide, which is being released to all school districts today. The 180-page guide is filled with ideas from experts and stakeholders from across the state to help school districts renew learning and provide ongoing feedback.

The guide is a living document, designed with input from more than 300 stakeholders, to support school districts as they develop their own local ideas and homegrown initiatives for the unprecedented federal funding they will be receiving. The administration is committed to an ongoing dialogue with school administrators and local leaders across the state and encourages districts to invite teachers, students, community organizations, and especially parents to be a part

Continued on Page 12

CLINT MORRIS

Candidate For Mayor
Fighting For Belvidere Taxpayers



Where There's Smoke There's Fire

The many thousands of outside dollars being spent flooding your mailbox and the media with slick, color Mayor Chamberlain election ads should worry us all.

Taxpayers need to take note when such warning signs appear. Just as we would if one of our children came home with a shiny new bicycle, Xbox or other bling, we know with certainty they could not have afforded on their own. We would be concerned and we would not ignore it at their peril, or ours. We would ask:

- Who gave this to you?
- Why did they give it to you?
- What did they want from you?
- Did they want you to do something wrong?

The Mayor's campaign extravagance was funded by someone besides the Mayor. Whom? What do these donors want in return? More of his tax increases on us, to pay back promises to them? A new Rooftop Rainwater Tax? Eliminate Impact Fees? Sweetheart deals on property taxes? As parents and voters, we know no one gives you something for nothing.

Help rip the price tag off City Hall, for a CHANGE.

Vote April 6th
Clint Morris for Mayor

Paid for by Clint Morris, 815-544-2505, 1214 9th Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008. Independent Candidate for Mayor.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

In our 25th year publishing

Fire Protection District #1
1st Monday, May 2024
Term

Fire Protection District #5
1st Monday, May 2024
Term

Interested parties are asked to send a letter and/or resume expressing your interest and qualifications along with your contact information to Boone County Administration Office, Administration Campus, 1212 Logan Ave., Suite 102, Belvidere, IL 61008 or e-mail info@boonecountyil.org.

Extension webinar opportunities offered April 3 to April 13

Media outlets are encouraged to promote the following online educational opportunities or follow up with Extension professionals for related subject matter content. Click on the title to access more information about the webinar. Click on the presenter's name to arrange a media interview or for more information about this topic. If you need graphics for any of the releases, contact us @ extension@illinois.edu. Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportunities. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in programming, contact the presenter listed. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your needs. Judy Mae Bingman, Illinois Extension Marketing and Communications Manager, 217-300-2113, jmbingma@illinois.edu.

April 7 | 2 PM: Get Lost: How to Get Lost in the Back Country v% Have you considered navigating off-trail or wondered how to get back on track after getting lost, but didn't know where to start? Orient yourself

with this session on basic map-and-compass navigation and the mapping app for smart devices, Avenza Maps™. Outdoor enthusiasts will gain skills allowing them to adventure safely and how to navigate a safe return. Contact: Chris Evans

April 6 | 6 PM: Law Enforcement Safety for Individuals with ASD Individuals on the autism spectrum, as well as their caregivers, are invited to learn skills and techniques for safely interacting with law enforcement officers. The one-hour session provides participants an opportunity to apply learned skills to hypothetical situations.

April 7 | Noon: Stand Up Against Sitting Down: The Benefits of Sitting Less | Springtime Science Health Series

The Boone County Journal April 2, 2021 11

Have you been thinking about how much you've been sitting during this

April 3: Wee Naturalists: Earth Gifts Nature-loving children, families, and educators are invited to explore a different nature theme November 2020 until May 2021 through video stories and lessons. The pre-recorded hour-long sessions are appropriate for families with children ages 4 to 7 and pre-K to 2nd-grade educators. Program materials can be accessed starting on the first Saturday and viewed at any time. Contact: Peggy Doty

April 8 | 1 PM: Illinois Owls | Everyday Environment Webinars Owls are not only at the top of their food chain; they are at the top of their game. Owls have one of the most unique set of tools in their predator toolkit, from eyes that can penetrate the darkness, to rotating toes to pick up the smallest of rodents. Owls are also masters of illusion and silence. Peer into the world of Illinois owls in this free online webinar. Contact: Erin Garrett

Drive Thru Roast Beef Dinner Fundraiser: Flora Grange's Drive Thru Roast Beef Dinner is Sunday, April 11th, 11:00am to 1:30pm at Flora Grange Hall, 2105 Stone Quarry Rd, 3 miles south of Chrysler (Appleton Rd).

Dinners include tender roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, roll & butter. Enjoy for only \$12/plate. And only \$6/plate for children 8 & under.

You must preorder by 5:00pm, Friday, April 9th. To order call one of the following numbers: 815-543-2721, 630-605-6538 or 815-222-6173, or check out the Facebook Page 'Flora Grange #1762' for more information. Cash or check only when you pick up. The dinners will be brought to you in your car.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY CASA Program to Host Heritage Run: Rockford's oldest 10k is back for the 37th year! Winnebago County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program will host the Heritage Run on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Midway Village. To comply with Covid safety procedures, rolling starts will begin at 7:30 a.m. and there will be no registration on race day. Everyone who registers by April 18th will receive a commemorative race shirt.

For further information, or to register, please contact the CASA office at 815-319-6880 or visit WinnebagoCountyCASA.org.

Boone County is looking to fill a number of vacant board positions. Position information and length of term can be located at: https://cms8.revize.com/revize/booneil/government/couny_board/appointments.php

Commissioners of the Housing Authority	Term Expires	Length of Term
	January 1, 2025	(5) Year Term
	January 1, 2023	(5) Year Term

Fire Protection District #3	1st Monday, May 2021	Remainder of Term
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Regional Planning Commission	December 31, 2023	Remainder of Term
	December 31, 2021	Remainder of Term

Boone County Ethics Commission	June 30, 2021	Remainder of Term
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Boone County Zoning Board of Appeals	June 1, 2021	Remainder of Term
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Building Board of Appeal	June 1, 2024	(5) Year Term
	June 1, 2025	(5) Year Term

Capron Cemetery Association	February 1, 2027	(6) Year Term
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Boone County Conservation District	June 30, 2023	Remainder of Term
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Capron Rescue Squad	2nd Monday, December 2022	Remainder of Term
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Belvidere Cemetery Association	May 3, 2027	(6) Year Term
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Reported to Treasurer's Office 9/1/20 - 2/28/21	
Reports	14,360
Properties	984,758
Cash	\$205,224,849
Shares	6,889,186
Returned to Owners 9/1/20 - 2/28/21	
Number of paid claims	90,847
Cash and share value returned	\$102,685,244.21

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Union-Backed Coalition Outlines New Energy Plan

Climate Union Jobs Act is one among many energy overhaul proposals
 by Grace Barbic & Jerry Nowicki
 Capitol News Illinois

As the clean energy conversation in Illinois continues, a coalition of lawmakers and labor unions introduced another regulatory overhaul bill that focuses on employing union workers as the state begins to transition to a clean energy economy.

The Climate Union Jobs Act intends to put hundreds of union laborers to work on building new clean energy projects by mandating union labor on any project that receives state subsidies.

It also aims to expand subsidies for noncarbon-emitting electricity sources, likely through an increase in ratepayer funding for clean energy projects. That includes further subsidies for some Illinois nuclear plants, which are staffed by union workers, but all of which are also owned by Exelon, the parent company of scandal-ridden Commonwealth Edison.

Advocates said the legislation will also reset standard ratemaking procedures, subjecting proposed rate hikes to greater regulatory scrutiny.

Sponsors said the bill would be filed Monday as amendments to House Bill 1472 and Senate Bill 1100, but bill language was not available as of Monday afternoon, although advocates distributed a lengthy summary of its measures.

It's the latest measure filed of several that aim to overhaul the clean energy landscape, and its advocates – including the powerful AFL-CIO federation of labor unions – said its focus on union labor sets it apart from other proposals.

It also had bipartisan support from lawmakers who spoke at a Monday news conference, including Rep. Larry Walsh Jr., D-Elwood, Rep. Marcus Evans, D-Chicago, Rep. Jay Hoffman, D-Swansea, Sen. Michael Hastings, D-Frankfort, and Sen. Sue Rezin, R-Morris.

"This bill should be our starting point," Hoffman said at the news conference. "It should be the foundation for the future of legislation that we put together as we begin the negotiations. And it's because this bill puts people first, it creates jobs and economic opportunity it provides for clean energy, it provides a clean air and energy security."

The advocates said they have been in discussions with sponsors of the various other energy overhaul measures, such as the Clean Energy Jobs Act and the Path to 100 Act, as well as the governor's office, and all parties agree that negotiations are ongoing.

The Clean Energy Jobs Act, or CEJA, is an overhaul of the state's energy industry crafted with a focus on carbon reduction as well as social and environmental justice. Proponents of both measures cite goals of increasing accountability for utility companies as well.

Rep. Ann Williams, a Chicago Democrat and the chief sponsor of CEJA, said although all parties involved in the energy conversation may not fully agree,

CEJA should be the foundation of the conversation because of its equity-based approach and input from Illinois residents.

"At the end of the day, I think our goals are aligned [with CUJA]," Williams said in an interview. "We understand that you cannot pass, nor should you pass an energy bill without significant input from our labor partners, and I consider organized labor to be a critical part of developing the consensus to move the package forward."

CUJA sponsors emphasized the job creation aspect of their bill.

Hastings cited an article by *Vox* regarding wariness of the move to wind and solar jobs from some major unions. The article said that currently in the United States, there are 28 utility-scale farms being built and 21 of those projects are nonunion. On the solar side, 40 out of the 61 utility-scale solar projects being built are nonunion solar jobs.

"The bill we have introduced is going to transform those numbers to simple requirements," said Hastings. "If you use money from the state of Illinois for energy renewable projects, you should use a highly trained, highly qualified workforce. And I know that the men and women of organized labor are there to get the job done right. Especially after COVID, given all the issues that we have seen with unemployment, it's time to put people back to work."

Rezin said many of her constituents, and thousands of others, are employed by nuclear plants near their communities. She said that without these plants, state and local communities would lose millions of dollars in tax revenue that keeps schools, libraries and emergency services going.

The nuclear plant subsidies created by CUJA are necessary to preserve that tax base, advocates said.

"What makes this legislation different from other ideas out there, and yes we do share the same goals as many others, is that it puts working people first," said Rezin. "If we let the plants prematurely go offline...it would take 35 years to catch up and generate as much carbon free energy as we can."

Currently, two Exelon nuclear plants may receive zero emissions credits under law. CUJA would make four other plants eligible.

The legislation would also establish a Displaced Energy Workers Bill of Rights that would provide advance notice of power plant or coal mine closure, employment assistance, career services, full-tuition scholarships for Illinois institutions and trade schools, financial planning services and some insurance benefits.

CUJA would also create a state-run capacity market separate from those run through the PJM and MISO energy grids. This would allow the state to better target capacity payments to non-carbon-emitting sources, but there are still several details to work out as negotiations continue.

Advocates said CUJA would also set aside \$150 million in annual rate relief programs for low-income families.

The bill is proposing to double the budget of the Renewable Portfolio Standard, a requirement for utilities to source 25 percent of their electricity from renewables by 2025. That money is funded by a charge on ratepayer bills.

A quarter of the new renewable energy credits would be earmarked for a carbon-free schools program in an effort to equip most school buildings across the state with solar panels over a 10-year period.

Pat Devaney, secretary treasurer for Illinois AFL-CIO, said he believes that the benefits outweigh the costs and investments of the bill.

"If we're going to meet our renewable goals and our clean energy generation in our state, it's going to require keeping both our nuclear fleet going as it currently exists, as well as significant investments in renewables that match the load needs across the state," Devaney said.

K-12 Funding

Continued page 10

of this process.

"If you're a parent, I know you've spent most of this pandemic worried about how your kids are learning – with all the screens and Zooms, sometimes you're worried about whether they're learning at all," said Governor JB Pritzker. "My administration is taking a little bit of that worry off your plates. I'm committed to making sure that Illinois leads the nation in assisting schools to make this new \$7 billion count over the next several years to overcome the pandemic's effects on our students, parents and educators."

Working teams convened, representing over 300 different stakeholders, to develop the guide. The group also derived content for the guide from administrator, educator, student, and caregiver focus groups, as well as evidence-based research, survey responses, and feedback from agencies, teachers' unions, and other education organizations. The document will continue to evolve and includes a link to a feedback survey for anyone interested in providing input as well as additional resources and information on how to get involved in future focus groups.

In addition to the guide, Illinois state education agencies will focus on four major goals to support schools:

High-impact tutoring, with a focus on aligning tutoring with classroom instruction throughout the school year and during the summer.

Social and emotional learning community partnerships, including with the Center for Childhood Resilience (CCR), housed at Lurie Children's Hospital.

Interim assessment, intended solely for diagnostic purposes, to provide reliable measures for understanding the impact on student learning so educators can target their responses to students' needs.

Bridge/transition support, to encourage enrollment in both early childhood programs and higher education.

"The early years are a particularly vulnerable period for children," said Dr. Jamilah R. Jor'dan, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development. "Their academic and social-emotional skills are important components of their school readiness. The pandemic has highlighted the need for increased social and emotional supports that are accessible to the adults who care for Illinois' youngest children and families. The Learning Renewal Resource Guide provides an equitable framework for decision making and initiatives that will inform investments to strengthen Illinois' education system and allow us to move towards renewal."

"Now, more than ever, we have to do everything in our power to ensure our students have the support they need to stay the course to their college dreams," said IBHE Executive Director Ginger Ostro. "With its core focus on equity, this guide will help the higher education system achieve its strategic goals to close equity gaps and ensure students have the credentials for the jobs of the future. Thank you to the hundreds of people who contributed knowledge, expertise, and insight."

"Coupled with unprecedented federal support, community colleges can draw upon this guide to supplement their own efforts as they help students return to campus and renew their learning goals," said ICCB Executive Director Dr. Brian Durham. "It will inform colleges on best practices that, when coupled with their own herculean efforts, will ensure students excel in their chosen college coursework or career."



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