Thursday • December 19, 2024 Vol. 29, Issue 34 • No. 1490



## **FREE**

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## **Daytripping**

## **Christmas in Janesville**

By Charles Herbst

A lot of holiday light shows are big-budget extravaganzas staged by professional organizations and corporate sponsorships. But, since 1996, the Rotary Botanical Gardens Holiday Light Show in Janesville has remained a home-grown production. The show represents the hard work of many volunteers and is an important fundraiser for the Gardens.

Every year, the show has grown. The garden's first light show had about 5000 lights in the formal gardens. This year, it will be a 1.6 million light extravaganza for the 50,000 visitors expected to visit the park over the holiday season.

Formerly a quarry, Janesville's Rotary Botanical Gardens were established in 1988. Today, it is one of the most scenic and beloved spots in the region, and the most popular tourist attraction in Rock County.

Larry Holterman is the park's electrical specialist. He graciously gave me a behind-the-scenes tour and showed me what goes into making the show a crowd pleaser.

Over the years, Holterman and his mostly-volunteer crew have refined their skills and developed some unique decorating skills. For example, Janesville not only wraps the trunks of prominent trees in the park, but also the branches.

Many local visitors have taken annual pictures of their children in the gazebo as they grow older.

While some things are kept the same, there's a big effort to make sure each year's show is fresh and different. Large showy trees are trimmed in a different color each year. Gradually, the lights have been replaced with LED bulbs. The 40-foot Tunnel of Light now features programmable colored lights. When I visited, there was an enthused battery of volunteers building and painting penguins, polar bears, and many other new displays for this year's show.

Rotary Gardens has developed many of their own decorating techniques. One of the most interesting is "light archery." Suspending a string of lights from a 50-foot-tall branch is quite a challenge. While an electrical contractor is able to hang lights along the main roads in the gardens, many of the pathways are too narrow for large trucks.

John Janes, the great-great-nephew of Janesville founder, Henry Janes, came up with a pretty great solution, and it's fun to watch.

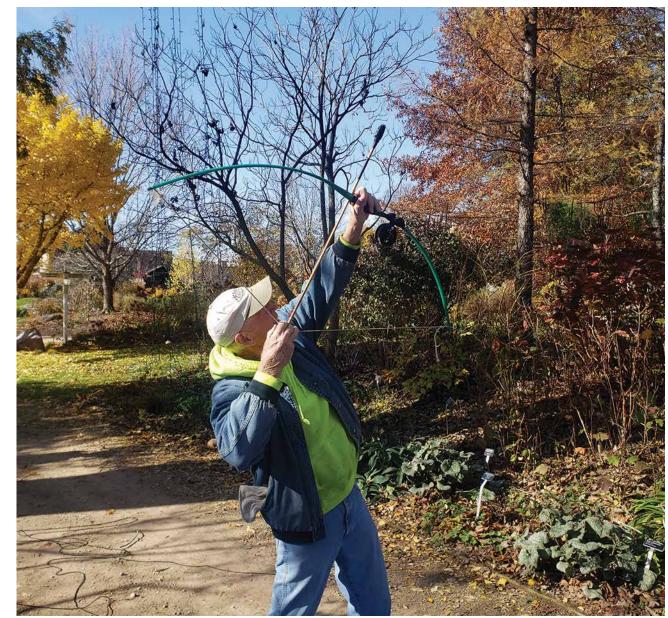
Janes fires an arrow over a tree branch using a crossbow. Attached to the arrow is a fishing line. Once the fishing line is draped over the branch, a parachute cord is attached to the end of the line. By tugging on the line, the parachute cord is threaded over the branch. Once the parachute cord is in place, the fishing line is removed and used for the next shoot.

The next phase involves tying a wooden frame to the end of the parachute cord. Tied to the wooden frame are multiple strings of lights (about 9) that are hoisted to the height of the branch. It takes four volunteers and a lot of care to keep the strings of lights from becoming tangled. After the lights are hoisted in place, the parachute cord is tied off and ends of the light strings are staked in the ground. When it comes time to take down the lights, the parachute cord is used to lower the strings back to earth.

The work starts in August. To avoid disrupting the gardens as much as possible, decorating starts in the Japanese Garden. Care is taken to avoid disturbing potential wedding venues or damaging blooming flowers. Preparations continue until the show opens in November. After the show is over in January, the show is dismantled as weather permits through March. During the off season, volunteers test each string of lights and repair them as needed.

The show uses 11-1/2 miles of extension cords which have to be kept

Continued on page 8



John Janes, great-great-great-nephew of Janesville founder, Henry James



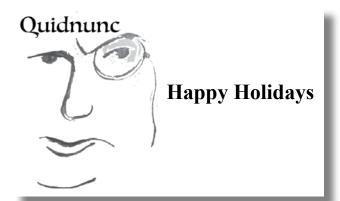
Showing the results of "light archery"



Japanese Garden

Dorothy M. Rhodes 5/9/1937- 12/11/2024

Dorothy M.(Seegers) Rhodes passed away peacefully on 12/11/24. She was 87. She leaves behind 5 children, David, Laura (Steve) Pitts, Casey, Richard, Michael (Melinda), 4 grandchildren, Casey Pitts, Alexa Pitts, Kayla Rhodes, Ben Rhodes, 2 great grandchildren, Javarious Pitts & Zaire Pitts, her twin sister Myrtle Frischmann and her Brother Arnold (Eloise) Seegers. She was predeceased by her husband Richard (2007) and her brother Paul Seegers . Her service will be held Friday 12/20/24 from 12-2 at Schneider, Leucht, Merwin & Cooney in Woodstock, Illinois. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.





#### REAL JOURNALISM FOR A REAL DEMOCRACY

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

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

#### THE BOONE COUNTY JOURNAL

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Each week, the Journal seeks to present a variety of

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

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

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



## Deborah "Deb" Fetterolf 8/13/1961 - 12/12/2024

Deborah "Deb" Fetterolf, 63, of Belvidere, IL passed away on December 12, 2024, following a short illness. She was born August 13, 1961, to parents Berkley and Barbara Fetterolf.

Deborah graduated from Mt. Carroll High School and pursued a degree in Psychology from Illinois State University. She worked for over 30 years as a caseworker for the State of Illinois. She enjoyed traveling. Deb was especially thrilled to have the opportunities to visit Paris, Australia, and New Zealand. She and her sister enjoyed local adventures together, such as theater trips to Chicago and quiet afternoons along the water at Lake Geneva, WI. Those who knew Deb enjoyed her kind heart and quick wit.

Deborah had a deep love for her dogs, especially Oreo & Alvin. The family was especially grateful to the staff at Glory Bound Rescue Ranch in Marengo, IL for their help finding a wonderful new home for Alvin at the time of Deborah's illness. A memorial has been established at the Glory Bound Rescue Ranch in Deborah's honor.

Deborah will be greatly missed by her sister; Tamarah (Richard) Bahling; her aunts, Dodie Fetterolf and Evelyn Hanson; her uncle, Neil Decker; along with numerous cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents; her aunts, Betty Nissen, Beverly Voss, Irma Decker, and Ilene Snyder; Uncles, Rodney Fetterolf, Delbert Nissen, Gene Voss, Dayle Snyder, and L. Dale Hanson; as well as numerous cousins.

The family would like to thank Northern Illinois Hospice for their compassionate care they provided to Deb during her brief illness. They also wish to thank the wonderful doctors, outstanding nurses, and dedicated staff that cared for her with such kindness at UW Health in Rockford.

A celebration of her life will be held on Friday, December 20, 2024, at Anderson Funeral and Cremation Services, located at 218 W. Hurlbut Ave, Belvidere, IL, 61008. Visitation will take place at 10am followed by a memorial service at 11am, officiated by Pastor Pam Rossmiller.

Due to a medical sensitivity, the family has respectfully requested for no live flowers or floral arrangements to be brought to the visitation.

## The Journal

has old newspapers free for picking up from time to time. Call to see if any are available



Virginia Biavati, 86, Formerly of Pop Gr., Nov. 14
Robert Borth, 82, Formerly of Harvard, Nov. 30
Joan Bowdish, 81, Harvard, Dec. 11
Patricia Deneen-Hawkins, 87, Marengo, Dec. 12
Deborah "Deb" Fetterolf, 63, Belvidere, Dec. 12
Leonard Harris, 86, Capron, Dec. 11
Constance Harrison, 84, Formerly of Bel., Dec. 11
Chester Heidbrink, 77, Belvidere, Dec. 12
Bonnie Pearson, 76, Belvidere, Dec. 11
Sergio Sanchez-Vazquez, 26, Harvard, Dec. 14
Gale Vaandering, 73, Belvidere, Dec. 12
Gayle Yerk, 71, Marengo, Dec. 12



# Christmas Eve Message of Apollo 8 Thrilled Those on Earth in 1968

Astronauts Read Aloud from Genesis While Orbiting Moon, Inspiring Hundreds of Millions Worldwide

#### **By Tom Emery**

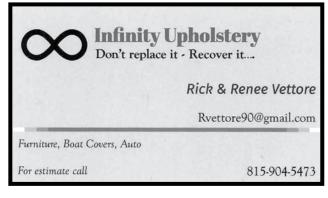
It was an otherworldly postscript – literally and figuratively – on a tumultuous year.

The reading of Genesis by the astronauts of Apollo 8 while orbiting the moon was a moment that thrilled and inspired hundreds of millions around the world. The exhilarating event on Christmas Eve 1968 is considered one of the hallmarks of America's race to the moon.

"Everyone was just in awe of it," said Karen Beach, 73, who was a high school junior in Virginia at the time. "It was a time of thinking that anything was possible. We all felt like, if the astronauts can do that, we can do anything."

Apollo 8, which launched at 7:51 a.m. Eastern time on Dec. 21, 1968, was the first human spaceflight to reach the moon, and the first in lunar orbit. Ironically, the backup crew for Apollo 8 included Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, who would become the first

Continued on page 3







#### 3

## Apollo 8 from page 2

men on the moon with Apollo 11 seven months later.

The Apollo 8 mission was commanded by Frank Borman, who was in his second and last spaceflight. He was joined by James Lovell, the command module

He was joined by James Lovell, the command module pilot and a veteran of two previous spaceflights. Lovell had replaced Michael Collins, the command module pilot on Apollo 11, who had undergone disc surgery in July 1968.

In April 1970, Lovell would command the ill-fated Apollo 13 mission, which limped back to Earth in harrowing fashion after a damaging explosion. William Anders, the lunar module pilot on Apollo 8, was in the lone spaceflight of his career.

They would become the first humans outside the low Earth orbit. Throughout the space race, American astronauts had always seemed to say the right thing, finding the words to inspire the billions who watched from below. Apollo 8 would be no exception.

Prior to the flight, Borman had been advised by NASA that a Christmas Eve broadcast was being scheduled. After consulting with a couple of friends and associates, Borman was advised that a few verses from Genesis would be appropriate. Lovell and Anders agreed with Borman, and the passages were typed on fireproof paper for inclusion in the flight plan.

The message was a calming voice to end the unsettling year of 1968. The assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy had gripped the United States, while the Vietnam War dragged on with heavy casualties amid widespread protest.

The bloody chaos of the Democratic National Convention that August in Chicago further shook the nation's core, and the Soviet takeover of Czechoslovakia that summer heightened the Cold War.

As Apollo 8 raced to the moon in the days before Christmas, it seemed the nation was adrift and hopelessly divided. The craft reached the moon in sixty-eight hours, and circled in lunar orbit ten times.

The fourth orbit brought a titillating moment of its own. As Borman tilted the nose of the spacecraft toward Earth, the crew was awestruck by the spectacle of the bright blue Earth, rising above the dark of the endless horizon above the gray lunar surface.

"Look at that picture over there!" exclaimed Anders. "Here's the Earth coming up. Wow, is that pretty!" He called to Lovell to hand him some color film, and snapped a photo later titled "Earthrise."

The image became synonymous not only with the beauty of our planet, but also the hope and inspiration of space exploration. *Life Magazine* later included Earthrise in its top one hundred photos of the twentieth century.

"That photo of Earth is one of the things about Apollo 8 that I remember most," said Peter Oswald, 70, who was an Iowa teenager at the time. "That was so impressive, and it has really stayed with me. Seeing the image of the Earth in that way is something I'll never forget."

The ninth orbit fell on Christmas Eve. The fourth of six scheduled broadcasts from the crew began at 9:30, and each of the astronauts relayed their thoughts as the camera showed the surface of moon. Borman said the moon was "a vast, lonely, forbidding-type existence," while Lovell noted "the vast loneliness up here of the moon is awe-inspiring, and it makes you realize just what you have back there on Earth." Anders used the words "forbidding" and "foreboding."

Anders then opened the seminal moment. "We are now approaching lunar sunrise," he said, "For all the people back on Earth, the crew of Apollo 8 have a message that we would like to send to you."

He proceeded by reading verses 1-4 of Genesis, starting with "In the beginning God created the heaven and the Earth." Lovell followed with verses 5-8, while Borman closed with verses 9-10.

Borman then added the words that have also defined the moment. "And from the crew of Apollo 8," he said, "we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas, and God bless all of you – all of you on the good Earth."

Five and a half decades later, Oswald is still moved by the words from Apollo 8. "At the time, it all made sense," said Oswald, an active member of

his local church. "To me, the reference to the creation story showed us the awe and vastness of it all. The astronauts were experiencing something that no one had ever done before, and their words were humble and reverent."

"It was a monumental event," remarked Oswald. "Every one of the space flights brought something new, and people paid such attention to each of them. But Apollo 8 was just remarkable."

Dan Brannan, 64, remembers watching the transmission on a black-and-white television set with his father in Carrollton, Ill.

"My dad would always stay up and watch the news, particularly events with NASA," said Brannan. "I was fascinated with space myself as a boy.

"I was just eight years old at the time (of Apollo 8)," remarked Brannan, "but even though I was so young, I knew how impactful that message would be."

Teasel Muir-Harmony, the curator of the Smithsonian and an acclaimed space historian, estimates that one in four people on the globe heard the reading. The words were broadcast live in 64 countries, while another 30 nations heard a recorded version by the next day. Even in Cuba, then a nation hostile to the U.S., Radio Havana called the mission "a total success."

Borman, who died in November 2023, received over 100,000 letters of support for the broadcast. Anders also died recently, as he perished from a crash while flying his private plane in June 2024.

Apollo 8 returned to Earth with a splashdown in the Pacific at 10:51 a.m. EST on December 27. *Time Magazine* honored the Apollo 8 crew as its Men of the Year in 1968. Collins later said that "Eight's momentous historic significance was foremost." Fifty-six years later, the astronauts' words of Genesis, broadcast from a part of the universe previously unseen, still linger as a symbol of humility and peace.

support for the research and innovation driving this technology, especially at our national laboratories

"While this report is an important first step, there is a great deal of work that lies before us. I look forward to continuing to work across the aisle in the new Congress to turn the report's findings into meaningful AI legislation, ensuring our nation is able to both harness the potential of AI and protect against the national security and societal dangers this technology poses."



#### **Letter to the Editor:**

My name is John Albertini. I am running for Mayor of the City of Belvidere, IL. I am currently an Alderman in Belvidere. And have some new and fresh ideas, I think would change the future of Belvidere. 39% of this City is made up of Hispanic people that I feel are not properly represented. I would like to change that. I also would like to bring new housing development to Belvidere, I would like to repair the sidewalks at a minimal cost to the taxpayers, which would include cleaning up areas of overgrown weeds and debris. If you feel I would make a good Mayor, please ask your readers to endorse me on April 1st at the polls.

Thank you, John Albertini



## Foster Statement on Bipartisan House Task Force Report on Artificial Intelligence

Congressman Bill Foster issued the following statement after the release of the Bipartisan House Task Force Report on Artificial Intelligence:

"As a PhD physicist and chip designer who first programmed neural networks at Fermi National

Accelerator Laboratory in the 1990s, I've been tracking the exponential growth of AI capabilities for decades, and I'm pleased Congress is beginning to take action on this issue.

"I'm proud of the bipartisan work we did on the Task Force under the leadership of Chairman Jay Obernolte and Co-Chair Ted Lieu. I'm especially pleased that the report included findings on the importance of a secure digital identity infrastructure, which is an essential element for protecting people against harmful deepfake impersonations. I'm also glad that the report recommaintaining mended

## **Charles Herbst**

2255 Rt. 173

Caledonia, IL 61011

Tax Attorney

#### Tax Practice:

- IRS Defense Tax Preparation
- Tax Planning
- Nonprofits

#### **Related Areas:**

- Wills, Trusts, Probate
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## T

### Education:

• LL.M. (Master in Tax Law) New York University

815-765-155

Fax: 815-765-0333

• B.S. Business; J.D. Law (cum laude) Indiana University

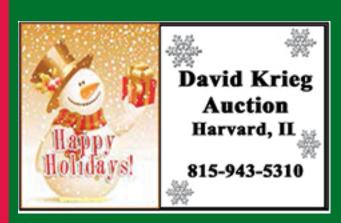
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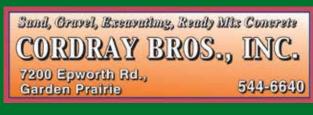
- International Tax Associates, Director of Federal Tax Research
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- Private Practice in the Rockford Area for over 20 years
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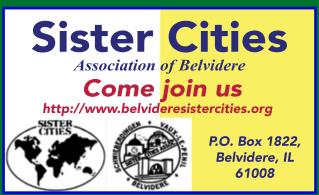


Danndi Storage 13511 Harvest Wy, Poplar Grove (815) 765-0904



## Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th Lessons & Carols Candlelight Service 4:30pm



Garden Prairie United Church of Christ

> 10990 US RTE 20 Garden Prairie 815-597-3451

Dec.24 Chirstmas Eve 5pm Candle Light Service

All Welcome Pastor Dina Lauman

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# Happy New Year!





## Nathan Noble

Attorney at Law

(815) 547-7700

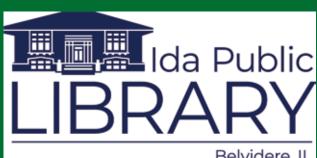
504 N. State St. Belvidere, IL 61008 www.attorneynoble.com





### Merry Christmas *Irene Auction Company*





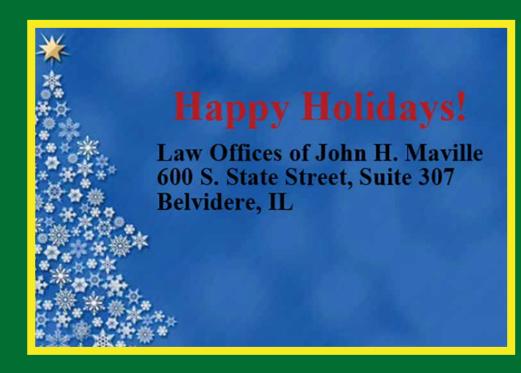
Belvidere, IL

"Season's Reading from Ida Public Library"



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In this holiday season we gratefully thank our friends and customers for their business and loyalty and wish all a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.



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PHYSICAL THERAPY OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Pingora Loan Servicing, LLC, Plaintiff,

-v.- 2023 FC 31 LINN PERKINS, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GARY RANDLE DRAHEIM, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; SHARON GAHLBECK; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JOHN DRAHEIM Defendants.

1504 -1506 MARYLAND COURT, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 10/16/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on 1/23/2025 located at 601 N Main

Action.com LLC Will at 12:00 PM on 1/23/2025 located at 001 N Main Street, Courthouse Steps, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

LOT THIRTY-ONE (31) AS DESIGNATED UPON THE PLAT OF APPLETON MEADOWS, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AND PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 27, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN DOCUMENT NO. 3920,

SITUATED IN BOONE COUNTY, STATE OF ILLINOIS. Commonly known as 1504 -1506 MARYLAND COURT, BELVIDERE,

Property Index No. 05-26-102-001 The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence. The judgment amount was \$39,876.28

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

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

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

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

Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).
IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information, contact Plaintiffs attorney: McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC (312) 346-9088 please refer to file number 23-14720IL.

Auction.com LLC

100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 – 872-225-4985

You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 23-14720IL

Case Number: 2023 FC 31

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

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 12, 19, 26, 2024 SW

TAX DEED NO.: 2024TX23 FILED: 11/21/2024 TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone Date Premises Sold: October 27, 2022

**Certificate No.: 2021-00002** 

Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2021
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment

Number: N/A
Warrant No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

Property Located at: 1392 Rockton Road, Caledonia, IL 61011

Legal Description or Property Index No.: 01-17-300-010

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 21, 2025.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Room 3, on June 10, 2025 at 10:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already

have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 21, 2025 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave., Suite 103 Belvidere, IL 61008 (815) 544-3103 Private Equity Group, LLC

Purchaser or Assignee November 25, 2024

Jim Helsell

Jim Helsell

William A. Hall, as Trustee u/t/a dated 7/31/2003 a/k/a The William A. Hall Declaration Trust Kathleen A. Hall, as Trustee u/t/a dated 7/31/2003 a/k/a The Kathleen A.

Hall Declaration Trust William A. Hall, as Trustee u/t/a dated 7/31/2003 a/k/a The William A.

Hall Declaration Trust

Kathleen A. Hall, as Trustee u/t/a dated 7/31/2003 a/k/a The Kathleen A. Hall Declaration Trust Occupant Joseph M. Cavallaro

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above

described as

'Unknown Owners'

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots" Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 5, 12, 19, 2024 FILED: 11/21/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Boone

Date Premises Sold: October 27, 2022

Certificate No.: 2021-00133
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2021
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment
Number: N/A
Warrant No.: N/A
Installment No.: N/A

THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

Property Located at: 129 West Madison Street, Belvidere, IL 61008 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 05-26-404-003 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for

delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 21, 2025. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the

date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with

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ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 21, 2025 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the

County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave., Suite 103

Belvidere, IL 61008 (815) 544-3103

Private Equity Group, LLC Purchaser or Assignee

November 25, 2024 Greta Denise March

Occupant Brenda L. Cwienkala

Joseph William Knaup II Terrell Demond Robinson

Maya G. Narch

Terrell Hanson
Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois

Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners"

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots"

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 5, 12, 19, 2024 SW

TAX DEED NO.: 2024TX25 FILED: 11/21/2024

TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone Date Premises Sold: October 27, 2022

Certificate No.: 2021-00134

Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2021 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment

Number: N/A
Warrant No.: N/A
Installment No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

Property Located at: 512 West Madison Street, Belvidere, IL 61008 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 05-26-405-004 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire

on May 21, 2025. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with

the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 21, 2025.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601

N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Room 3, on June 10, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already

have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 21, 2025 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the

ounty Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK 1212 Logan Ave.

Belvidere, IL 61008 815) 544-3103 Private Equity Group, LLC

Purchaser or Assignee November 25, 2024 Joyce M. Terpstra

Joyce M. Terpstra Bessie M. Schwebke

Karen L. Ford Karen L. Ford

Christina Morris

David Chesemore Occupant

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois

Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above

"Unknown Owners"

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots' Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 5, 12, 19, 2024 SW

TAX DEED NO.: 2024TX26 FILED: 11/21/2024 TAKE NOTICE County of Boone

Date Premises Sold: October 27, 2022 Certificate No.: 2021-00222

Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2021 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A

Installment No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at: 6006-6008 Welty Drive, Cherry Valley, IL 61016 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 07-06-126-018

This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 21, 2025.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.

This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 21, 2025. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601

N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, Room 3, on June 10, 2025 at 10:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already

have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY

Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 21, 2025 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the

ounty Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK

1212 Logan Ave., Suite 103

Belvidere, IL 61008 (815) 544-3103

Private Equity Group, LLC

Purchaser or Assignee November 25, 2024

Harrolle Properties Inc. Lisa A. Harrolle as President for Harrolle Properties, Inc. Anthony Harrolle as R/A for Harrolle Properties Inc

Lisa A. Harrolle as President for Harrolle Properties, Inc.

First Mid Bank & Trust N.A., as Successor to First Bank, bc First Mid Bank & Trust N.A., as Successor to First Bank, bc First Mid Bank & Trust N.A., as Successor to First Bank, bc

Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as

'Unknown Owners'

"Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots" 6088-948268

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 5, 12, 19, 2024 SW

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA, Plaintiff,

Case No. 22 FC 32 REBECAH M. ALLEN, BOTH INDIVIDUALLY AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER A TRUST AGREEMENT DATED FEBRUARY 6, 2003 AND KNOWN AS THE REBECAH M. ALLEN TRUST NO. 1, COUNTRYSIDE CONDOMINIUMS, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD LIEN CLAIMANTS, Defendants. NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure heretofore entered by said Court in the above entitled cause, SCOTT YUNK, Sheriff of Boone County, Illinois will on the 8th day of January, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Main Entrance of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash and all singular, the following described premises and real estate in said judgment mentioned, situated in the County and State of Illinois,

or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said judgment to wit: UNIT 19-4 IN COUNTRYSIDE CONDOMINIUMS AS DELINEATED ON A PLAT OF SURVEY OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE: PART OF LOT 18, LOT 19, AND LOT 20 AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT NO. 2 OF COUNTRYSIDE MALL SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE WEST HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 45 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NO. 2002R05940, IN ENVELOPE 267-B IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; ALL SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS; WHICH SURVEY IS RECORDED AS COUNTRYSIDE CONDOMINIUMS ADD-ON EXHIBIT "A" ON JULY 12, 2005 AS DOCUMENT NO. 2005R07847 IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP RECORDED APRIL 26, 2004 AS DOCUMENT NO. 2004R04777 AND AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMONS ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN SAID DECLARATION, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 13569 HARVEST WAY, POPLAR **GROVE, ILLINOIS 61065** 

PROPERTY INDEX NUMBER: 03-26-406-012 Together with all buildings and improvements thereon, and the

tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging. This property is commonly known as 13569 Harvest Way, Poplar Grove, IL 61065, Boone County, Illinois, and is residential property. This property will not be open for inspection. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act.

Terms of Sale: This real estate is being sold in an "As Is Condition" for cash and the successful bidder is required to deposit 10% of the bid amount at the time of the sale with the Boone County Sheriff and the balance to be paid within twenty-four hours of the sale.

FRANKS, GERKIN, PONITZ & GREELEY, P.C.

Attorney for Plaintiff 19333 É. Grant Highway Marengo, Illinois 60152

(815) 923-2107 Published in the Boone County Journal on Dec 5, 12, 19 2024.

#### Notice

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

Or the contents of the below listed units, located at 4760 IL Route 173, Poplar Grove, IL 61065 will be sold or otherwise disposed of on or after 12/27/2024.

Elizabeth A. Whalen, 938 N. Church St., Rockford, IL 61103 for Unit E10, \$1,275.00 plus the cost of postage and advertising.

Elizabeth A. Whalen, 938 N. Church St., Rockford, IL 61103 for Unit C41, \$2,702.85 plus the cost of postage and advertising. Total Due for both units is \$3,977.85

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 12, 19, 2024

CHANGE IN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP OF BUSINESS PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on DECEMBER 5, A.D. 2024, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois, concerning the business known as WILCOX FRONTIER SPORTING GOODS, located at 704 S. STATE ST., BELVIDERE, IL 61008, which certificate sets forth the following changes in the operation thereof: The business is dissolved.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

Dated this 05th day of December, A.D. 2024

Julie A. Bliss

Boone County Clerk Published in the Boone County Journal 12/12,19,26 (P)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL

BOONE COUNTY CARLOS ROJAS CEBALLOS, Plaintiff CASE # 2024-DN-67

EVA GONZALEZ ARIZMENDI, Defendant NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given to you, EVA GONZALEZ ARIZMENDI, Defendant that this cause has been commenced against you in this Court asking for DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE and other relief.

I have been separated from Eva Gonzalez Arizmendi for 30 years. I do not know her where-abouts in Mexico (Veracruz)

Dated: 11/26/2024 Pamela Coduto Clerk of the Circuit Court 17th Judicial Court

Boone County, Illinois Published in The Boone County Journal 12/19, 12/26/2024, 01/02/2025 (P)

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **BELVIDERE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Belvidere Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chamber, Belvidere City Hall, 401 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois 61008 upon the

Application of Joe Hamblock, 1800 N. Appleton Road, Belvidere, IL 61008 on behalf of the property owner, Peggy Wolf TR, 9562 Lawrenceville Road Garden Prairie, IL 61038 for a map amendment (rezoning) on approximately 2.5 acres commonly known as 230 N. Appleton Road and the adjacent vacant parcel from the SR-4, Single-family Residential-4 District to the GB, General Business District pursuant to the Belvidere Zoning Ordinance Section 150.903 Amendment to Official Zoning Map. The subject property is legally described as:

Parts of Southeast Quarter of Section 22, and parts of the Southwest Quarter of Section 23, in Township 44 North, Range 3 East of the Third Principal Meridian, Town of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois, described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the East line of Section 22, T. 44 N., R. 3 E. of the 3<sup>rd</sup> P.M., 3.12 chains North of the Southeast corner of said Section 22; thence North 89 degrees 52 minutes 30 seconds West parallel with the South line of Section 22, 347.82 feet to a point in the center line of the New Road (now called Sunset Avenue); thence North along said center line, 113.97 feet to an angle in said road; thence North 28 degrees 59 minutes 30 seconds East along the center line of the New Road, 106.12 feet; thence South 58 degrees 06 minutes 30 seconds East, parallel with the center line of the Rockford and Belvidere Road (now U.S. Highway 20), 393.07 feet; thence North 89 degrees 52 minutes 30 seconds West, parallel with the South line of Section 23, 37.43 feet to the place of the beginning, excepting therefrom the premises conveyed for highway purposes.

TRACT B Commencing at a point in the East line of Section 22, T. 44 N., R. 3 E. of the 3rd P.M., 3.12 chains North of the Southeast corner of said Section 22; thence South 89 degrees 52 minutes 30 seconds East, parallel with the South line of Section 23, 37.43 feet for the place of beginning; thence North 58 degrees 06 minutes 30 seconds West, parallel with the center line of the Rockford and Belvidere Road (now U.S. Highway 20), 393.07 feet to a point in the center line of the New Road (now called Sunset Avenue); thence North 28 degrees 59 minutes 30 seconds East along said center line, 164.60 feet; thence South 58 degrees 06 minutes 30 seconds East, parallel with and 8 chains distant from the center line of the Rockford and Belvidere Road (now U.S. Highway 20), 666.87 feet; thence North 89 degrees 52 minutes 30 seconds West, parallel with the South line of Section 23, 312.25 feet to the place of beginning, excepting therefrom the premises conveyed for highway purposes.

PINs: 05-22-479-002 and 05-22-479-003

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

Paul Engelman, Chairman,

Belvidere Planning and Zoning Commission

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec. 19, 2024

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - PROBATE DIVISION Estate of THOMAS J. HORVATH, Deceased

No. 24 PR 45

**CLAIM NOTICE** 

NOTICE is given of the death of THOMAS J. HORVATH of Poplar Grove, Illinois. Letters of Office as Independent Executor were issued on December 10, 2024, to TERRENCE M. HORVATH, 3116 South Amble Pass, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118, who is the legal representative of the Estate of THOMAS J. HORVATH, whose attorney is Franks, Gerkin, Ponitz & Greeley, P.C., 19333 East Grant Highway, P.O. Box 5, Marengo, IL 60152.

Claims against the estate may be filed within six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 5/18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act. 1975, as amended. whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, IL, or with the estate legal representative, or both. When a claim is filed with the representative but not with the Court, the representative may file the claim with the Court but has no duty to do so.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office-Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and his attorney within ten (10) days after said claim has been filed. PREPARED BY:

Christopher T. Marx – ARDC#: 6291152 FRANKS, GERKIN, PONITZ & GREELEY, P.C. Attorneys for Independent Executor Our File No.: 21889.175

19333 East Grant Highway, P.O. Box 5 Marengo, IL 60152

(815) 923-2107

pleadings@fgpglaw.com

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec. 19, 26, Jan 2

### **Legal Notice 2025 Meetings**

The North Boone Fire District # 3 at its Trustee's meeting held November 18th, 2024, determined that it will hold its Board of Trustees meetings on the Third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in person, when they occur, will be at the Poplar Grove Fire Station #1 in the back haul located at 305 W Grove St, Poplar Grove, IL 61065 as

January 21, 2025 Tuesday due to Martin Luther King Holiday February 18, 2025 Tuesday due to Presidents Day

March 17, 2025 April 21, 2025

May 19, 2025

June 16, 2025 July 21, 2025

August 18, 2025 September 15, 2025 October 20, 2025 November 17, 2025 December 15, 2025

Other dates including a hearing on the tentative budget and adoption of the Budget will be announced.

Leslev M. Ragland

Secretary

North Boone Fire District #3

P.O. Box 114

Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec. 19, 2024

## **ASSUMED NAMES**

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY of BOONE COUNTY ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION No. DBA4215 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a

NO. DBA4213 - The thicersigned person(s) do neterly certify that a BOOK PUBLISHING business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of HARMONY FLAVORS that its location is or will be 640 Candlewick Drive NE, in Poplar Grove, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning. conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.

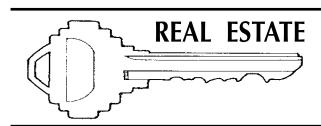
Phone Number: 773-614-3986

Lateesha Collins, 640 Candlewick Drive NE, Poplar Grove, Illinois

Harmony Brown, 640 Candlewick Drive NE, Poplar Grove, Illinois

I, Julie A. Bliss, County Clerk And Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do the hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office. Dated: November 30, 2024

Julie A Bliss, County Clerk and Recorder Published in Boone County Journal 12/05, 12/12, 12/19/24 - P



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

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA, Plaintiff, Case No. 22 FC 32

REBECAH M. ALLEN, BOTH INDIVIDUALLY AND AS TRUSTEE UNDER A TRUST AGREEMENT DATED FEBRUARY 6, 2003 AND KNOWN AS THE REBECAH M. ALLEN TRUST NO. 1, COUNTRYSIDE CONDOMINIUMS, UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD LIEN CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure herein entered, the Sheriff of Boone County, Belvidere, Illinois, or his deputy, will on the 8th day of January, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., at the Main Entrance of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder the property commonly known as 13569 Harvest Way, Poplar Grove, IL 61065, Boone County, Illinois.

The property is residential property. This property will not be open for inspection. Terms of Sale: This real estate is being sold in an "As Is Condition" for cash and the successful bidder is required to deposit 10% of the bid amount at the time of the sale with the Boone County Sheriff and the balance to be paid within twenty-four hours of the sale.

SCOTT YUNK

Sheriff of Boone County

FRANKS, GERKIN, PONITZ & GREELEY, P.C.,

Attorney for Plaintiff

19333 E. Grant Highway Marengo, Illinois 60152

Published in the Boone County Journal on Dec 5, 12, 19 2024.

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

Pingora Loan Servicing, LLC, Plaintiff,

-v.- 2023 FC 31 LINN PERKINS, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GARY RANDLE DRAHEIM, DECEASED; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; SHARON GAHLBECK; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND LEGATEES OF JOHN DRAHEIM Defendants.

1504 -1506 MARYLAND COURT. BELVIDERE, IL 61008

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 10/16/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on 1/23/2025 located at 601 N Main Street, Courthouse Steps, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

Commonly known as 1504 -1506 MARYLAND COURT, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-26-102-001

The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.

The judgment amount was \$39,876.28 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC, No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/or wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a

certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate

after confirmation of the sale.

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

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

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

For information, contact Plaintiffs attorney: McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC (312) 346-9088 please refer to file number 23-14720IL. Auction.com LLC 100 N LaSalle Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60606 – 872-225-4985

You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 23-14720IL Case Number: 2023 FC 31

NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 6088-947769

Published in The Boone County Journal Dec 12, 19, 26, 2024 SW

## **Illinois Rolls Out** First Phase of Plan To Modernize **Professional Licensing**

State regulators start with clinical psychologists, music therapists and nail technicians

By Nicole Jeanine Johnson Medill Illinois News Bureau For Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation launched a new online licensing system this fall, the first phase in a plan to modernize the management and licensing process for service providers across the state.

The system improvements are part of efforts to make doing business easier and more efficient for Illinois service providers, the department said in a statement.

The Comprehensive Online Regulatory Environment, or CORE, opened on Oct. 30, nearly a year after the Illinois General Assembly passed House Bill 2394, a measure authorizing the IDFPR to upgrade its antiquated system that had led to long waiting periods for licensing and

The new system will "eliminate the need for paper applications, give applicants more control over their application materials, and help prevent deficient applications from being submitted," according to a statement from IDFPR.

The agency calls CORE the first part of a multiphase approach by IDFPR to, over the next two years, ensure applications for more than 300 license types and records for more than 1.2 million professionals are properly transitioned.

The first professions to be licensed under the new system are clinical psychologists, music therapists and nail technicians.

"Everyone wanting to earn a living in Illinois in the 21st century should have tools of the times available so they can be licensed and get to work as soon as possible," IDFPR Secretary Mario Treto Jr., said in the statement.

#### **Music therapists**

On May 27, 2022, Gov. JB Pritzker signed Senate Bill 2243, which created a music therapy license for Illinois practitioners within the IDFPR.

Music therapy is a form of treatment that incorporates "clinical & evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship" according to the American Music Therapy Association

"We have been waiting for 2 1/2 years since our bill was passed for this new system to come," said Mia Iliopoulos Krings, president of the Illinois Association for Music Therapy, in an interview.

Instead of immediately allowing music therapists to apply for a license two years ago, Krings said that the department "didn't want to put us in the old system for us to just have to go into the new system."

Continued on page 8

## **Rotory Gardens**

from page 1

from page 7

untangled. Where necessary, cords are buried to avoid a tripping hazard.

This year's show runs through January 4. Hours are from 4:30 - 9. Allow about 30-45 minutes to see the show. The park has warming stations, indoor restrooms, and refreshments. Usually, it is less crowded earlier in the week and after 7:30.

Tickets are only available online at https://rbgholidaylightshow.com. Adults \$15, under 12, \$5. New this year, a \$20 ticket gets you a coupon for an additional visit to the park anytime between April and October 2025. This is a great bargain, as the Gardens are truly worth a visit during the growing season.

Rotary Gardens is located at 1455 Palmer Drive. It is an easy drive from Northern Illinois. Take the second exit off I-39/90 and head west to the first traffic signal. Turn left onto Palmer Drive.



Since the system's launch, Krings praised how easy and efficient it was to complete the application process.

"They have been working incredibly fast and efficiently in getting everything back to us. For example, I applied on Friday night on Nov. 1. I heard back by 8:30 a.m. Monday morning," Krings said.

She said that her fellow music therapists posted their issued licenses on Facebook and shared similar experiences of a rapid response.

Krings' experience now is vastly different from what many Illinois professionals experienced in the past.

Panache Perkins, director and an instructor of Your School of Beauty in Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood, said that before the digitization, the IDFPR was "still in 1997," with "old school" public servants stacking "pieces of paper applications into a 75-year-old filing system."

"They (IDFPR) lose paperwork all the time, because they don't have the right system," she

With new integrated software and technology services provided by Tyler Technologies, however, the department's CORE system will "notify prospective licensees directly within the system when applications are received, reviewed, and licenses are issued by the departmenteliminating the need for paper mail and email responses," according to IDFPR's statement.

## Financial barriers for business

The IDFPR's mission is "to protect the residents of Illinois" through licensing and regulating industries and professions that offer services to the public. But some say these licenses can serve as a financial barrier to doing business.

The initial music therapy license is \$400 and renewal costs \$300. In preparation for hardships, the Illinois Association for Music Therapists held a benefit concert to raise funds to help pay for the licenses for members in need.

Two years ago, state lawmakers created



Terri Behrend, Dave Thomas, Rick Marinaro, Al Davis

the Comprehensive Licensing Information to Minimize Barriers Task Force, or CLIMB, to "investigate how occupational licensing of low-to-moderate-income occupations relates to economic inequities in Illinois and to recommend reforms," according to a statement from the task force. Last month, CLIMB released a study of their two-year findings, and recommended easing licensing burdens for specific professions.

The study recommended that hair braiders, for example, should be exempt from having a license. CLIMB's research found that "requiring a license to braid hair does not enhance public safety but does disproportionately impact individuals from minority communities," according to the statement.

Perkins said she disagrees with that recommendation.

"People's addiction to social media has changed the (standard) that licensing set. Now everyone thinks they can do it," she said.

She also said that braiders may not know proper hair care, how to properly clean their tools or prevent traction alopecia – a type of hair loss caused by tension from tight hair styles.

There are 33 states that do not require a license for hair braiders; an increase of 21 from 2016. This includes Indiana, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, according to the CLIMB.

Perkins said she has been working in the beauty industry since she was 16 years old, noting, "my grandmother inspired me to go into cosmetology."

Perkins's grandmother, Mildred Dixon, opened Your School of Beauty 66 years ago to train men and women to begin their careers in the beauty

industry. Perkins said the beauty industry is among the most essential occupations and that it should be regulated accordingly.

"Cosmetologists closely work with products dermatologists prescribe recommend. We were also essential during



Patty Davis, Barb Converse

the pandemic," Perkins said.

However, she also acknowledged the state's antiquated licensing system impacts how cosmetologists are regarded and can run their businesses. She said she doesn't think licensing is a barrier.

"If you can do enough 'heads' to pay taxes on your work, then you can pay the money to get your license," she said, adding that this evokes a larger issue about how people see their futures. "If you're not trying to get your license," she said, "you're also not thinking about your (long-term) future."

Nicole Jeanine Johnson is a graduate student in journalism with Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications, and a Fellow in its Medill Illinois News Bureau working in partnership with Capitol News Illinois.

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



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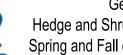
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