

Subject: News Headlines: 2-26-24

From: "Local Government News" <info@list.localgovnews.org>

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News Headlines: February 26, 2024

ASK ANCEL GLINK

Ancel Glink, P.C., a leading Illinois local government law firm, answers questions about local government law submitted by LocalGovNews.org readers. Responses posted weekly below the Quote of the Day. This service may constitute Advertising Material. The Question and Answer of the Week is generally written by Ancel Glink partner, Adam Simon. To submit questions, e-mail: asimon@ancelglink.com

EDUCATION

Social studies needs to be a first-class subject

<https://bit.ly/3ULF8j8>

Make sure your brain has a diverse portfolio too; Students find shelter from the AI storm by taking joint degrees that help make them adaptable to a shifting jobs market

<http://tinyurl.com/yc35w5ye>

Denver schools facing 'unprecedented challenge' with influx of migrant students; Denver's public school system has been taking in as many as 250 new students a week since the new year

<https://bit.ly/49Eai0c>

What kids lose without snow days; Virtual learning means missing out on a different kind of education

<https://bit.ly/3OVQWvp>

Electric school buses finally make headway, but hurdles still stand

<https://bit.ly/3SUVR0U>

Republicans blame botched student aid rollout on Biden loan forgiveness scheme

<http://tinyurl.com/3s9292vr>

Biden's Terrible Student-Loan Gamble; The president's latest betrayal of the working class is costly, irresponsible, unconstitutional, and ineffective

<http://tinyurl.com/2w7fp9m7>

The Emptiness of College Rankings; Beyond inputs and outcomes, something vital is missing

<https://bit.ly/4bQNSus>

Should Selective College Admissions be Test-Optional? A hundred years ago, the SAT expanded access to the Ivy League. Can history repeat itself?

<https://bit.ly/3wqZxzY>

Educators Turned Activists: Librarians Sound Alarm over Left-Wing Takeover of Profession

<https://bit.ly/3OU7hRj>

Judge temporarily blocks NCAA from enforcing NIL rules

<https://bit.ly/3SUrg3D>

Time's Up, Congress. Support Student-Athletes; Until we have uniformity and transparency in the NIL market, which can only come from a national standard, the vastly different NIL laws across dozens of states will continue making it a complicated environment to navigate

<https://bit.ly/49HbqR7>

College Athletes Becoming Employees Will Have Consequences

<https://bit.ly/42ZdpgI>

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Illinois Teachers' Retirement System, Springfield, is conducting an asset-liability study; The \$68.6B pension fund is conducting the study to "get a handle on liquidity and the needs of the fund"

<https://bit.ly/49qgh96>

Northwestern, universities settle \$166M financial aid lawsuit. The lawsuit alleges the schools colluded on the amount of financial aid awarded to students, while favoring applicants from wealthier families

<https://abc7.ws/3SVz5FU>

Northwestern University has agreed to pay \$43.5M to settle a lawsuit that accused NU and 16 other schools of colluding to determine students' financial aid packages

<https://bit.ly/3OVAH1f>

Tentative deal with ISU has small victories, via graduate student union member

<https://bit.ly/3uT8QYL>

Quincy JHS sees positive outcomes after six months of no phone policy

<https://bit.ly/49t5tXN>

Danville District 118 School Board members agreed this week to spend \$150K to send seventy-five educators to an AVID forum this summer in Dallas, Texas. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination

<https://bit.ly/4bOYtWI>

DACC Board Approves New Associate Degree for Speech-Language Pathologist Assistant

<https://bit.ly/3wxx6QP>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Welcome to the housing market's 'new normal' - 7% mortgage rates and all

<https://nbcnews.to/3wuDKrb>

Cities are leaving parking up to the market; Why major US cities are finally ditching parking mandates

<https://bit.ly/48u8RA4>

Texas launches new property tax incentive program to lure new businesses; The Jobs, Energy, Technology, and Innovation program cuts property taxes for new manufacturing, research and development facilities

<https://bit.ly/3Tb65eO>

Mercedes-Benz vs. Rivian: The Revenge of Legacy Auto; Results from carmakers show the advantages of having a combustion-engine business to fund-and hedge-the transition to electric

<https://on.wsj.com/42TZIFh>

Rivian shaping up as another example of why government shouldn't pick winners and losers

<https://bit.ly/3lcHPmh>

As Hybrids Gain Popularity, Skeptics Ask if They Are Sufficiently Green; Automakers battle climate groups over how gas-electric vehicles are marketed ahead of new U.S. emission rules

<https://on.wsj.com/3TaR7Wc>

The Boom in Battery Metals for EVs Is Turning to Bust; Producers of lithium and nickel pause projects after prices collapsed, and momentum slows for electric-vehicle sales

<https://on.wsj.com/49rDuro>

Raw material extraction is set to soar. Making mining 'greener' won't stop the environmental damage

<https://bit.ly/4bM4aEJ>

Elon Musk relied on China to fuel Tesla's rise. Now Beijing is turning on him

<http://tinyurl.com/mr2k7vpa>

Hydrogen Cars: High prices, a volatile hydrogen market, and the closure of fueling stations have bedeviled many of the California drivers who bought fuel-cell electric vehicles in hopes of going greener

<https://bit.ly/3TbwDwu>

Can we drill for hydrogen? New find suggests additional geological source; Problems at a chromium mine in Albania traced to nearly pure hydrogen in a fault

<https://bit.ly/49pxKOJ>

Hyundai and Embraer are developing electric-powered air taxis; "We have to open the skies above the cities"

<https://bit.ly/3UZD5rA>

Dining out is about to look a lot different; Restaurants need to evolve to survive; Many restaurants have begun experimenting with removing tipping, reducing waitstaff, and adjusting the price of menu items based on demand

<https://bit.ly/3wASJj0>

Return-to-office policies and mandates doesn't improve company value, but does make employees miserable: Study

<https://bit.ly/49NDRwg>

Solar farms don't have to only harvest clean, renewable energy from the sun - they can also be breeding grounds for pollinators and native plants

<https://bit.ly/3SQmJ26>

Is This New 50-Year Battery for Real? BetaVolt's nuclear battery lasts for decades, but you won't see one in your next iPhone-powering a mobile device would require a cell the size of a yak

<https://bit.ly/49owYBR>

National Park Service reports 13M more visitors in 2023, a 4% increase; A total of 325.5M recreation visits were recorded for 2023

<https://bit.ly/3uNyGxn>

Internet service providers keep giving false broadband coverage data to the FCC, groups say; Telcos accuse fixed wireless ISPs of claiming more locations than they serve

<https://bit.ly/4bT6mu7>

Google's Chess Experiments Reveal How to Boost the Power of AI; By rewarding computers that combined different approaches to solve chess puzzles, Google created an enhanced AI that could defeat its existing champion, AlphaZero

<https://bit.ly/3OS9NaE>

The Quest for a DNA Data Drive; The world is running out of data storage. Here's how DNA can save us

<https://bit.ly/3wwOOE3>

Governor Pritzker wants Illinois to be the 'leader for quantum innovation'; Illinois is already home to multiple quantum science research facilities. The governor wants to make another one on an "industrial scale"

<https://bit.ly/49MtTv3>

The White Sox chairman's plan to bail out . . . himself

<https://bit.ly/3UPHmxN>

Downtown Chicago malls in danger of dying off; North Michigan Avenue's vacancy has risen to 33%, or at least 1M of the street's 3.2M square feet, since 2021

<https://bit.ly/3STz2up>

Crown Point eyes economic development funding, director

<https://bit.ly/3leihFg>

Economist tells Lake County Chamber what to expect in 2024; 'The economy is still growing'

<https://bit.ly/49K7Uou>

Is Illinois' film tax credit luring Hollywood to the heartland?

<https://bit.ly/3UQc9us>

Warehouse development surged during the pandemic. Now, it's 'a more normalized market'

<https://bit.ly/3uP1x4v>

Chicago: Demand for more affordable apartments is helping to keep middle-of-the-road rent prices elevated

<https://bit.ly/3UR6tQQ>

3 of the hottest US housing markets are in Illinois - and Chicago isn't one of them, study reveals

<https://bit.ly/3TbuWPG>

Springfield housing market considered among hottest in US

<https://bit.ly/49JES8v>

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Energy has announced a second round of grant funding with \$2M available for the development of local strategic energy plans

<https://bit.ly/4bR5Qg9>

Illinois Archers Slightly Increase Wild Turkey Harvest, Marking a Rise Above Five-Year Average

<https://bit.ly/3wx4uqY>

Protecting oak trees - and the birds that rely on them - is aim of USDA grant program for landowners

<https://bit.ly/3wr7mW5>

Lake in the Hills to get a new Starbucks

<https://bit.ly/4a5XqQH>

Park Ridge Schedules Hearing, Final Vote For Affordable Housing Plan

<https://bit.ly/48xxo7z>

Illinois becomes 1 of 8 states approved to sell higher blends of ethanol

<https://bit.ly/49KWscj>

What we know about the status of a \$57M Peoria hotel project

<https://bit.ly/3wnGkio>

Why a plan for Peoria development is creating worries about pollution

<https://bit.ly/49Lzf9Y>

Normal city manager: Housing planning changes can't happen quickly despite need

<https://bit.ly/48s0JQJ>

Consultant explains differences between aggregate and Ameren energy prices

<https://bit.ly/438PCvf>

PUBLIC SAFETY

Measles is a 'heat-seeking missile' experts warn as Florida outbreak grows

<https://nbcnews.to/49oRZMD>

Florida surgeon general defies CDC guidelines in measles outbreak; Is leaving attendance decisions to parents, is not recommending the measles vaccine or requiring unvaccinated people to stay home

<https://cbsn.ws/3uLqjSW>

Early COVID-19 research is riddled with poor methods and low-quality results - a problem for science the pandemic worsened but didn't create

<https://bit.ly/3wqtUpX>

Neuralink brain chip: advance sparks safety and secrecy concerns

<https://go.nature.com/3TeAbyg>

First gene-edited meat will come from disease-proof CRISPR pigs; Pigs that have been given genetically engineered immunity to porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, a major and costly disease, could be on the market within two years

<https://bit.ly/3laV0E7>

How Stress Could Make Cancer Spread; Research suggests that stress hormones can cause changes in cells that make us more vulnerable to metastasized cancers

<https://bit.ly/49rKdBs>

AI Analysis Unveils Gender Disparities in Brain Organization and Function

<https://bit.ly/3UROcmH>

How to Maintain a Healthy Relationship With Someone Who's Depressed

<https://bit.ly/49sPSY0>

Autos are increasingly rolling cybersecurity threats; Carmakers Park Aging Models as United Nations Cyber Rule Comes Into Effect

<https://on.wsj.com/3uVwcNr>

3 ways to defend your mind against social media distortions; Social media distorts reality. Here's how to take it back

<https://bit.ly/49s2jDs>

Florida lawmakers pass ban on social media for kids under 16 despite constitutional concerns

<https://bit.ly/49JtFVs>

GPT-4 developer tool can hack websites without human help; The developer version of OpenAI's leading large language model can be repurposed as an AI hacking agent

<https://bit.ly/3T8yzpB>

How your sensitive data can be sold after a data broker goes bankrupt; Sensitive location data could be sold off to the highest bidder

<https://bit.ly/49Otb0a>

Vending machine error reveals face image database of college students; Facial-recognition data is typically

used to prompt more vending machine sales

<https://bit.ly/48x86Xb>

A Vending Machine Error Revealed Face Recognition Tech; A student investigation at the University of Waterloo uncovered a system that scanned countless undergrads without consent

<https://bit.ly/3uAckzy>

The AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act will help protect our emergency infrastructure

<https://bit.ly/3ORRJNZ>

Metal Prices Are Soaring. So Is Metal Theft; It's a multi-\$B global problem, and in a rapidly electrifying world, the profits-and ease-of stealing metals is only going to increase

<https://bit.ly/49wwJob>

Nebraska lawmakers advance bill to enhance penalties for dealers in overdose cases

<https://bit.ly/3OUpy0O>

Maine Legislature narrowly passes restrictions on paramilitary activity

<https://bit.ly/48o3FOk>

Another State's High Court Just Told the U.S. Supreme Court: Enough With the Gun Craze

<https://bit.ly/3OWaG1M>

Pro-gun permitless carry law closer to passage in Louisiana

<https://bit.ly/3OVFBep>

Chief enforcer of U.S. gun laws fears Americans may become numb to violence with each mass shooting

<https://nbcnews.to/3UPlj9q>

Albuquerque Cops Allegedly Got Paid To Make DWI Cases Disappear; The scandal has resulted in the dismissal of some 200 DWI cases, an internal probe, and an FBI investigation

<https://bit.ly/3uMpaus>

Proposition E Would Make It Easier for Police To Surveil San Francisco; The measure, which will be on the March 5 ballot, would greatly expand the SFPD's power while subjecting it to even less scrutiny

<https://bit.ly/4a5hS4b>

Here Are the Locations of ShotSpotter Gunfire Sensors; An analysis of leaked coordinates confirms arguments critics have made against the technology

<https://bit.ly/48txr4j>

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Internal DHS analysis warns of threats posed against 2024 Democratic National Convention in Chicago

<https://abc7.ws/3uDNAGC>

Over the course of a yearlong investigation, the Tribune found that well-known Illinois health systems have allowed workers accused of abusing patients to keep providing care

<https://bit.ly/3ljcy0R>

Failure to protect: Flawed state oversight lets doctors accused of abuse continue to see patients

<https://bit.ly/3Tbk18E>

Illinois judge who reversed rape conviction removed from bench after panel finds he circumvented law

<https://bit.ly/49MEdDd>

Adrian calls commission ruling 'political hit job,' claims he 'didn't do anything wrong' in sexual assault ruling

<https://bit.ly/49tzJS8>

Is it time to consider some sort of punishment for gun owners whose firearms are stolen from their unlocked vehicles, then used in violent crimes?

<https://bit.ly/3UTTRIJ>

Quad-City educators, parents react on Iowa bill that would permit armed school staff

<https://bit.ly/48xAZ5z>

Illinois could be the third state to legalize magic mushrooms for mental health

<https://bit.ly/3TcfQJG>

City of Quincy, Secretary of State partnering to offer no-appointment Mobile DMV

<https://bit.ly/42WILEP>

Serious crashes with pedestrians and cyclists often fail to lead to tickets or charges: 'We can't be OK with this'

<https://bit.ly/3OSDWXm>

Looming cicada invasion a 'natural wonder,' naturalist says

<https://bit.ly/4bPvX7i>

Warmer winter gives boost to insects 'cozy' under ground

<https://bit.ly/48xMwBl>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The most stolen books from San Francisco public libraries' shelves are not the hottest new novels or juicy memoirs, they are books about recovering from addiction

<https://bit.ly/3UP4jBd>

A bill that would mandate a process to review and move library materials deemed harmful to children failed by one vote in the Idaho Senate

<https://bit.ly/4bMnHVJ>

With limited resources, an Oregon town plans for climate change; Among rural communities, Grants Pass, Oregon, has notched an unlikely win: a sustainability plan

<https://bit.ly/3ldlcNs>

Climate change is throwing the water cycle into chaos across the U.S.; As the planet continues to warm, this cycle is expected to be increasingly stretched, warped and broken

<https://nbcnews.to/3wv1Jq6>

One of the world's biggest cities may be just months away from running out of water; Mexico City is facing a severe water crisis

<http://tinyurl.com/vjw9d7eb>

A Plastic Tsunami is Taking Over Farms. What Will Stop Plasticulture? Across North America, recycling companies, legislators and growers are seeking solutions to eliminate plastic waste from accumulating in farmers' fields and in landfills

<https://bit.ly/4bMNbLL>

Plastic experts say recycling is a scam. Should we even do it anymore? Evidence shows fossil fuel companies pushed recycling instead of addressing our growing plastic problem

<https://bit.ly/49rtUVu>

How to improve your life with ChatGPT

<https://bit.ly/4c0QmXg>

How governments handle data matters for inclusion; If data is not handled thoughtfully, it can lead to inequitable outcomes for different communities because data gathered by governments can mirror existing inequalities

<https://bit.ly/3OUW03e>

Study: 1 in 4 employees have witnessed workplace violence and harassment; And 12% of the workers surveyed said they have been victims

<https://bit.ly/4bHT9UW>

Judge invalidates 'Bring Chicago Home' real estate sales tax hike referendum

<https://bit.ly/49Od2rw>

Chicago's proposed real estate tax increase, always a bad idea, enters legal limbo

<https://bit.ly/3SQ1OMp>

Chicago mayor's office fighting back after real estate transfer tax question on ballot ruled invalid

<https://abc7.ws/4bNzUtg>

Springfield had federal funds for lead paint removal, but couldn't find contractors

<https://bit.ly/49RdMwp>

The Madison County Board overwhelmingly passed a "Resolution Opposing Sanctuary State Status"

<https://bit.ly/4bPS4KH>

The City of Evanston is currently advertising to fill two deputy city manager positions. Positions have been vacant for months

<https://bit.ly/3ljnrzL>

Big Win for 'Bring Chicago Home' Opponent Chicago Southland Black Chamber

<https://bit.ly/49pW03f>

Chicago sues oil and gas companies for climate deception

<https://bit.ly/48rX05H>

Rocky assessment process gives Chicago Bears partial break on taxes on proposed stadium site, but leaves team 'disappointed'

<https://bit.ly/3Vb74NJ>

Kane County eyes moving health department facility from Aurora to St. Charles

<https://bit.ly/3UPHFbV>

City of Mattoon legalizes compact housing

<https://bit.ly/42VdCI2>

Evanston officials are reviewing procedures and are expected to issue a statement Monday regarding the city's policies on hate speech after a wave of antisemitic comments at Thursday's City Council meeting

<https://bit.ly/3T9pcpG>

Two communities in southern Illinois will receive a total of \$1M in state taxpayer funds for trails and public parks

<https://bit.ly/3leXdPc>

Evaston seeks new purpose for Harley Clarke mansion, again

<https://bit.ly/3Tcm7VV>

The City of Evanston is seeking proposals from experienced and qualified parties for the adaptive use and rehabilitation of the Harley Lyman Clarke Mansion and its grounds located on the shores of Lake Michigan.

Due 5/28/2024

<https://bit.ly/438ljEZ>

Lake County getting a head start on road construction season: 'We'll take advantage of good weather when we get it'

<https://bit.ly/49OIQwu>

DeKalb city proposes new drinking rules, public nuisance regulations downtown

<https://bit.ly/3OYKTq2>

City of Highland Park: RFQ - Collaborative Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Consultant. Due April 01, 2024

<https://bit.ly/3lcP7X3>

City of Wilmette: RFP for DEI Consultant. Due April 01, 2024

<https://bit.ly/3TbwoS6>

City of Orland Park: Invitation to bid for 82nd Avenue Multi-Use Path, Phase II Design Engineering. Due

3/14/2024

<https://bit.ly/49KBbiJ>

City of Aurora: Invitation to bid for Best Pl. and Greenwood Dr. Water Main Replacement. Due 3/13/2024

<https://bit.ly/3wsiRN3>

City of Joliet: Invitation to Bid - 2024 LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT PROGRAM - BENTON LIFT STATION AND GREENFIELD LIFT STATION. Due 3/19/2024

<https://bit.ly/3uCffaV>

McHenry County: RFP for Lead Abatement Contractor. Due 2/29/2024

<https://bit.ly/3UAAPa6>

City of Naperville: Invitation to Bid for 2024 Lead Water Service Replacement Program

<https://bit.ly/3Pji5sz>

City of Rockford: Invatin to Bid for LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PHASE 6. Due 4/1/2024

<https://bit.ly/48xiaPM>

City of Naperville: Invitation to Bid for ELECTRIC UTILITY ASSET EVALUATION & CAPITAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT. Due 3/20/2024

<https://bit.ly/3TaQGel>

City of Champaign: Invitation to Bid - 2024 Infrastructure Maintenance Project. Due March 6, 2024

<https://bit.ly/49DMOlq>

The City of Champaign is soliciting proposals from experienced and qualified vendors for Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint Programming & Services

<https://bit.ly/3uK8Zhi>

Peoria County: RE-BID EROSION PROTECTION IMPROVEMENT DRY RUN CREEK. Due 3/22/2024

<https://bit.ly/4a5y9pN>

City of Collinsville: 2024 Comp Plan RFQ. Due March 25, 2024

<https://bit.ly/3TbNM9i>

SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Kane County may move its health department facility out of Aurora to a new location in St. Charles; Proposed \$30M building

<https://bit.ly/3TcR3Fe>

Normal Library asbestos removal and renovation bid \$5.1M

<https://bit.ly/3lcWUEp>

STATE & FEDERAL

Governor Pritzker's proposed budget has some good bets, but also some question marks

<https://bit.ly/3wqW8kp>

Governor Pritzker's proposed budget does not go down well; Once again, the budget process will be a show controlled by super-majority Democrats

<https://bit.ly/42WsRu7>

Take note of Black, Latino state legislators' criticisms of Pritzker's budget plan

<https://bit.ly/4bTk8NI>

Governor Pritzker reveals revised plan for public pension funding

<https://bit.ly/4bNgtAJ>

Who to vote for? Too often, it's about who's first on the ballot

<https://bit.ly/438KMy5>

Gov. J.B. Pritzker's budget proposal offers mixed bag on taxes

<https://bit.ly/3PjvQHJ>

Illinois Municipal League sees negative impact in Pritzker's budget

<https://bit.ly/4bl6mx0>

Illinois Dems will be tested on Pritzker's ambitious budget

<https://bit.ly/42UHxJ>

Democratic congressional candidates want to abolish Electoral College

<https://bit.ly/3UV2Fyg>

Illinois AFL-CIO and Chicago Federation of Labor Leaders Support Medical-Aid-in-Dying State Legislation

<https://bit.ly/49Qlzun>

Audit reveals COVID grant dollars given to ineligible Illinois applicants

<https://bit.ly/3SV8FnM>

Legislator reacts to Illinois' near bottom ranking in social mobility

<https://bit.ly/49EgVPY>

Oklahoma Senate approves grocery tax cut; Bill would reduce state revenue by about \$418M a year

<https://bit.ly/3wu0dVj>

Arizona House Republicans unanimously voted to ban basic income programs in the state; Arizona has one of the highest rates of homelessness in the United States

<https://bit.ly/42PsaD1>

Wisconsin Assembly's final floor session: PFAS, higher education and constitutional amendments

<https://bit.ly/3SRRFz1>

Utah Legislature passes bill to codify state version of Religious Freedom Restoration Act

<https://bit.ly/3PiRVGn>

A report by the Congressional Budget Office confirms a Washington fact of life--higher taxes do not reduce budget deficits. They just fuel more government spending and bigger budget deficits

<https://bit.ly/3OUO9CP>

Bidenomics Is Still Working Very Well

<https://bit.ly/3Iac2Cq>

The Lasting Damage of Bidenomics; A 3% higher interest rate on even the existing \$33T level of federal debt equates to \$1T of extra federal interest expense each and every year, on top of the already giant existing debt service number

<https://bit.ly/49KOEHj>

Sotomayor and Barrett stress Supreme Court camaraderie; As decisions key to Trump's future loom, justices from different ideological flanks of the court professed independence from politics

<https://politi.co/4bO8vaA>

Social media cases head to SCOTUS - but conservatives may have already won; Two major cases deal with GOP laws aiming to force Big Tech to carry all users' viewpoints

<https://politi.co/3wBkOXu>

Supreme Court readies for major social media freedom of speech battle: Here are the stakes

<https://bit.ly/42Us2lt>

Four times the No Labels third-party initiative took a hit; The group expects to be on the ballot in 32 states, while the other 18 have ballot access requirements that would become the unity ticket candidates' job to take on

<https://bit.ly/3UVuG8G>

RFK Jr. courts Black voters, looking to chip away Biden's support

<https://bit.ly/3IcP6Cz>

Presidential age debate obscures a simple fact: Some cognitive skills improve as we get older

<https://bit.ly/42PJCas>

The Brokered Convention That Could Break the Democrats; Those who want to replace Biden on the 2024 ticket are glossing over the brutality and chaos that would ensure

<https://bit.ly/49HC8bE>

It's Not as Easy as Just Getting Biden to Drop Out; The thing about a brokered convention is that there would be no guarantee the party would get a better nominee than Biden

<https://bit.ly/3OXeRdN>

Trump wins South Carolina, easily beating Haley in her home state and closing in on GOP nomination

<https://bit.ly/3TbZMYo>

How Trump Became Unbeatable; Republican elites don't understand their voters. They spent eight years making excuses for Trump and supporting him at every turn, sending the clear signal that this is his party

<https://bit.ly/3leGlbk>

One third of South Carolina Republicans would spurn Trump if he were convicted-exit poll

<http://tinyurl.com/39vskfbx>

Draft RNC resolution would slow the party's embrace of Trump as the nominee; A second resolution would bar the Republican National Committee from paying the former president's legal bills

<https://nbcnews.to/4bN8q74>

'My ultimate and absolute revenge': Trump gives chilling Conservative Political Action Conference speech on presidential agenda; Unbound and unhinged, ex-president vilifies immigrants before devolving into bizarre riffs, including calling himself 'total genius'

<http://tinyurl.com/5n8stmb>

Trump predicts November 'Judgment Day' for critics in CPAC speech

<https://bit.ly/48uE7iF>

Trump to Black voters: You 'embraced' my mugshot

<https://politi.co/48oTCso>

Trump Says Criminal Indictments Are The Reason 'Black People Like Me'; "I'm being indicted for you, the Black population," the former president told a gathering of Black conservatives in South Carolina

<https://bit.ly/49teyQa>

Black leaders, DNC blast Trump for 'racist' comments

<https://bit.ly/49s1736>

Fourteen Russian Hoaxes and What Explains Them; Whenever we hear our government or its servants in the media make a politically charged claim about Russia, we should refresh our memories of the many stories that turned out to be hoaxes

<https://bit.ly/3lebviM>

Former U.S. agents warned in 2020 that the Hunter Biden scandal had Russian fingerprints. They feel vindicated now

<https://nbcnews.to/3wrEr4m>

The Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer Kidnap Plot Became a Political Lightning Rod. Then Two Reporters Got Hours of FBI Tapes; A new podcast reveals hours of FBI tapes from the investigation

<https://bit.ly/3URBi8c>

Defense Department AI chief: Keeping humans in the loop not always possible anymore; The Defense

Department is implementing a 2023 policy it interprets as allowing the replacement of human beings with human judgment

<https://bit.ly/3SPW2KH>

Our Military Is Weak. That Should Scare You; At present, the U.S. military is roughly half the size it needs to be. Moreover, most of its primary equipment (planes, ships, tanks, etc.) is 30 to 40 years old

<http://tinyurl.com/3jxmfyc3>

Military recruiting is down sharply. More than half of adults under 30 years hold a negative view of the military. White progressives are least likely to volunteer. If the free-fall is not arrested, a draft will be necessary

<https://bit.ly/3SQd0sy>

If Trump wins, will the U.S. become isolationist?

<https://nbcnews.to/49iXxrX>

Moderates pitch 'pared down' bipartisan spending agreement for Ukraine, border security

<https://bit.ly/3OWNm4l>

Congress must act to defend our borders and aid our allies. Global security is at stake

<https://bit.ly/3uMR7Co>

Department of Defense has more than 50 criminal investigations into Ukraine aid, but nothing substantiated

<https://bit.ly/3URTWwL>

Ukraine faces American-made crisis two years into war; Since Republicans took control of the House in January 2023, Congress has not approved any major aid for Ukraine

<https://bit.ly/3wohMFY>

Ukraine: A worthy investment; Despite Russia's efforts to crush the Ukrainian economy, Ukraine's export picture looks markedly different today

<https://bit.ly/48sHDtN>

'Putin must lose everything': defiant Zelenskiy hosts western leaders in Kyiv to mark two years of war; Ukraine's president met the prime ministers of Italy, Canada and Belgium in a show of unity after recent battlefield defeats

<http://tinyurl.com/yck87usb>

As Ukraine's economy burns, Russia clings to a semblance of prosperity; Kyiv could require \$500B to get the country back on its feet. But Moscow has so little debt that even sanctions have not done much damage . . . yet

<http://tinyurl.com/mvsn6v2z>

The West tried to crush Russia's economy. Why hasn't it worked? From an unenforced oil price cap to rogue countries teaming up, Moscow is exploiting the West's weaknesses

<https://politi.co/48oTIWo>

War in Ukraine at 2 years: Destruction seen from space - via radar

<https://bit.ly/48u8Gov>

31,000 Ukrainian troops killed since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion, Zelenskyy says

<https://bit.ly/3wuD5Gd>

The Russia-Ukraine War has caused a staggering amount of cultural destruction - both seen and unseen

<https://bit.ly/3OQFktp>

G7 leaders admonish Russia for 'irresponsible nuclear rhetoric' on second anniversary of Ukraine war

<https://bit.ly/49JNH24>

Lawmakers Barnstorm Europe to Reassure Allies of U.S. Reliability; At the Munich Security Conference, members of Congress faced a new challenge-proving that a U.S. on the verge of returning to Trumpism could still be trusted

<https://bit.ly/48tjumX>

Taiwan's leadership 'extremely worried' US could abandon Ukraine; A congressional delegation assured senior officials that the U.S. "will stand firmly" with the island regardless of the results of the U.S. presidential election

<https://politi.co/42UvVa0>

Israel's Reasonable War Aims and Strategy

<https://bit.ly/3OXwVEC>

Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu said that a cease-fire agreement with Hamas is within reach, but only if Hamas gives up its "delusional claims" amidst tense negotiations

<https://bit.ly/3OR4FU3>

Israeli Prime Minister says that unless Israel has "total victory" in the war against Hamas, "we can't have peace"

<https://cbsn.ws/49HTvJi>

Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's postwar "plan" for Gaza is no plan at all; Netanyahu's plan is wildly disconnected from US priorities - and reality

<https://bit.ly/3uKFKea>

The White House is continuing to sound the alarm bells over Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's plans to invade the Gaza city of Rafah - where more than 1M civilians are estimated to be seeking refuge at Israel's direction

<https://bit.ly/48rJDCx>

How US Air Pollution, Ironically, Has Kept Climate Hazards in Check

<https://bit.ly/3TaCW3f>

Ice coverage nearly nonexistent across the Great Lakes, as the historical peak approaches

<https://bit.ly/3uzWuF6>

Antarctica sea ice reaches alarming low for third year in a row; Indicating an 'abrupt critical transition'

<http://tinyurl.com/4nsbnp9u>

Scientists Claim AI Breakthrough to Generate Boundless Clean Fusion Energy; Princeton researchers report that a new AI model has solved one of the major roadblocks to generating fusion energy

<https://bit.ly/49EC38C>

How First Contact With Whale Civilization Could Unfold; Project CETI's scientists will need to observe the whales for years and achieve fundamental breakthroughs in AI. But if they're successful, humans could be able to initiate a conversation with whales

<https://bit.ly/3ldIJyO>

NASA tests autonomous space robots for off-world construction; NASA gave three robots plans for a moon shelter, and the robots figured out how to build it

<https://bit.ly/49veTIE>

The Odysseus Lunar Landing Brings NASA One Step Closer to Putting Boots on the Moon

<https://bit.ly/3TdviFD>

The first US moon landing in decades validates NASA's commercial goals

<https://bit.ly/3OXQYTA>

Can Humans Endure the Psychological Torment of Mars? The success of CHAPEA ("Crew Health and Performance Exploration Analog") will hang on the precision with which it simulates the first human expedition to Mars - an eventuality that NASA expects to occur by 2040

<https://bit.ly/3wqUUWI>

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"My fear of endings too often blocks my hope of beginnings."

--Craig D. Lounsborough

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Q: How can my agency ensure it is purchasing "green energy" for its electric needs?

A: There are several options for purchasing "green energy," but not all of them guarantee that renewable energy is directly delivered to your premises. A local government can purchase electricity indirectly either by signing a power purchase agreement with an Alternate Retail Electric Supplier or by subscribing to a community solar program. In these options all or part of your electric consumption is offset by the purchase of renewable energy credits so the amount of conventional power you purchase is replaced by renewable energy produced elsewhere. Green energy can be purchased directly if you are able to locate a renewable energy production facility on your property (e.g. rooftop or open space) behind the meter. Local governments can either own and operate their own facility or lease the property to a company that will own and operate the facility and sell you the electricity generated by the wind or solar power.

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