

Subject: News Headlines: 2-28-24

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

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News Headlines: February 28, 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

Is the end of federal relief funds worsening an child care crisis? Staff shortages, low pay and a lack of affordable options for families are leading to underenrollment

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

Why Early Childhood Teachers Require a Unique Approach to Tech Coaching

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

Kids are using phones in class, even when it's against the rules. Should schools ban them all day?

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

Wave of migrant and refugee families brings new students to Detroit schools; Can the district meet their needs?

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

Why elite colleges are bringing the SAT back; Yale and Dartmouth are bringing testing back - but thousands of other schools aren't

<https://bit.ly/3UW5mPN>

Are policymakers overlooking key higher education data? College earnings data often only includes students who graduated, but adding those who didn't can unearth revealing information, a recent report suggests

<https://bit.ly/48y4LHa>

Some employers are wary of Gen Z workers. What can colleges do?

<https://bit.ly/49Ae0YT>

Podcast: Can VR Help Preserve and Teach Indigenous Culture?

<https://bit.ly/48DCf73>

DEI Doesn't Have To Die for Freedom of Speech; Diversity, equity and inclusion require that people of

differing viewpoints be able to express themselves

<https://bit.ly/431QAt6>

Massachusetts governor rejects request for National Guard to address high school violence

<https://bit.ly/3UTlx0o>

—
A measure introduced by Illinois state Sen. Dave Koehler, D-Peoria, looks to change what is traditionally included in a student's "record" and would do away with destruction of the temporary record and make it permanent.

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

Book: Children's education included 'mechanical literacy' in the industrial age

<https://bit.ly/3lilm6h>

Chicago's principals have multiple bosses. How could that change?

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

Can you prove your teen lives here? Some schools make house calls; Parents call it invasive, but Kenwood Academy defends it; Chicago Public School's inspector general found five Kenwood athletes falsified residency proof

<https://bit.ly/3SUbh5p>

Play about school-to-prison pipeline resonates with Chicago students who 'live it in their neighborhoods'

<https://bit.ly/48w29K6>

Elgin Area School District U-46 is trying to expose students to college life by paying to take them on visits to campuses around the country.

<https://bit.ly/3wGM1lj>

Round Lake administrator will be next Kaneland superintendent

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

Chicago shop reclaiming an old profession by teaching shoemaking and leather work

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

Daniel Henry is one of the co-founders of an After School Matters program. He is responsible for introducing hundreds of high schoolers to music education.

<https://cbsn.ws/49Uk0LX>

Gov. Pritzker Champions Clean Energy with Heartland College's EV Industry Training Center Launch

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

The Evanston Township High School District 202 Board of Education unanimously passed a new sustainability policy at its joint meeting with Evanston/Skokie School District 65

<https://bit.ly/49UkPo1>

How a Roosevelt teacher uses sound baths to aid her students; Tara Zinger wanted to ease students'

heightened stress from the pandemic

<https://bit.ly/4bSJJ9e>

NIU student entrepreneurs to compete for European Innovation Academy

<https://bit.ly/3wy3m6j>

Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity launched \$6M in funding for the Illinois Returning Residents Clean Jobs Training Program.

<https://bit.ly/3uFExF7>

Westville approves new four-year teacher contract

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

Western Illinois University and the Macomb Police Department (MPD) were recently awarded \$25,000 from Healing Illinois, a racial healing initiative of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS),

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

Single-use bathroom stall options at Edwardsville High School

<https://bit.ly/3lgla8x>

Alton School District to Outline Special Education Grants Usage

<https://bit.ly/42Yh52g>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Dollar Rides Wave of US Exceptionalism to Reign Supreme; As measured against the currencies of America's largest trading partners, it's a lofty 17% above its average over the last two decades

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

The 'Vibescension' Will Continue Until Interest Rates Fall; A new economic paper explains why interest rates are the missing piece to understanding why people are unhappy about a seemingly strong economy

<https://bit.ly/49w03eD>

Real wage growth is headed higher

<https://bit.ly/3Tdx9tM>

The economy is roaring. Immigration is a key reason; Momentum in the job market picked up aggressively over the past year - all while Washington is deadlocked on a border agreement

<https://wapo.st/3OXNdxk>

Economic Freedom in US Falls to Lowest Level in 30 Years in 2024 Global Index

<http://tinyurl.com/9hh5f6kp>

The Index of Economic Freedom covers 12 freedoms-from property rights to financial freedom-in 184 countries

<https://herit.ag/49uo3Pe>

Infrastructure builders optimistic, despite drop in some sectors; Inflation and a lack of workers continue to challenge these projects amid the federal funding boost

<https://bit.ly/48v08hb>

Virginia became the first state to adopt the International Code Council and Modular Building Institute's 1200 and 1205 standard; As the industry increasingly utilizes offsite construction for projects like hotels and affordable housing, the code adoption is a step in the right direction

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

Repeat sales house price indexes continue to increase on par with past expansions

<https://bit.ly/3uDr3d2>

Why the apartment boom won't bring down rent for many; Demand for more affordable apartments is helping to keep middle-of-the-road rent prices elevated; While the country needs more housing, most new apartments are loaded with amenities in prime locations

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

Plan for 7% statewide cap on rent increases fails in Washington Legislature

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

Tenants' rights bills attempt to address Tennessee's affordable housing issues

<https://bit.ly/3OV01ri>

Cities Where Income Inequality Is Highest and Lowest - 2024 Study

<https://bit.ly/3SXz04E>

Let's End Tax Break Giveaways for the Fat Cats of Pro Sports; \$Bs in tax-sheltered municipal bonds are sold to fund stadiums and arenas that enrich team owners while fueling federal deficits. Local politicians can't say no, but Congress should

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

Macy's is closing 150 stores as part of a major turnaround effort

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

Burger chain Wendy's looking to test surge pricing at restaurants as early as next year

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

Wyoming will oppose \$400M water conservation grants it can't control; Wyoming joined Colorado, Utah and New Mexico in opposing any U.S. Bureau of Reclamation program that doesn't "direct" the newly available federal funds through the four-state commission, which was created to ensure the appropriate allocation of the states' Colorado River Basin water

<https://bit.ly/3V2ysgq>

Kansas Senate votes to strip state parks agency of power to acquire property by eminent domain; Bill banning public utilities from using eminent domain for solar farms put on hold

<https://bit.ly/49Mq74O>

Dallas Used To Be Walkable; Dallas wasn't built for the car: it was paved over for it. This new bill can help it rebuild

<https://bit.ly/3wFoO9n>

E-bike incentives are a costly way to cut carbon emissions, but they also promote health, equity and cleaner air

<https://bit.ly/3UVnSb2>

Behind the Curtain: AI's doom or boom; Both sides of this debate share the view that AI is unimaginably gigantically powerful, whether it destroys us or saves us

<https://bit.ly/49sBD5K>

Microsoft launched its AI principles, signaling years of major investments to come and a determination to spread its AI bets; Microsoft now offers 1500 open source models out of around 1600 "models as a service"

<https://bit.ly/3lhQT9z>

Google Introduces Gemma: Revolutionary Access to Pre-Trained AI Models; Offers a diverse array of pre-trained models spanning various domains such as image recognition, natural language processing, and speech recognition

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

Google Gemini: a glimpse into our Orwellian future; AI is rewriting history to make it fit a preferred narrative. Where have we heard that one before?

<https://bit.ly/49R7ixg>

China's next cultural export could be TikTok-style short soap operas; These apps are betting on low-budget productions, two-minute episodes, scripts adapted from Chinese web novels, and an aggressive marketing strategy

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

Climate Change: An Economic Opportunity for Illinois; Illinois municipalities tend to have abundant fresh water, less extreme summer heat, freedom from wildfires and hurricanes and affordable housing

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

\$40M High-Rise Development In Chicago's South Side Led By 5 Black Men Will Later Integrate Youth Entrepreneurship Program

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

Governor's budget includes \$1M for Lake County 'greenway'; 'This is a landmark moment . in every sense of the expression'

<https://bit.ly/42XAv7t>

In wake of layoffs at EV manufacturer, Pritzker attends opening of EV academy

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

Macy's to close 150 unproductive stores as sales slip, planning a pivot to luxury business

<https://bit.ly/4bU8rGf>

UI researchers use AI to find ideal carbon capture material

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

A sprawling film production studio set to open on the Logan Square-Avondale border has secured a \$5M city grant as it aims to increase industry opportunities in the Midwest

<https://bit.ly/3UWG4Bh>

Evanston opens second dispensary on Chicago border

<https://bit.ly/3Th5KaF>

An extension to the state-mandated deadline for Lake County Commissioners to select a proposal for developing a potential county convention and event center is in the works

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

With the blighted 280 acres of the Tinley Mental Health land now officially in their hands, Tinley Park-Park District officials celebrated and talked next steps; Will include razing all 45 buildings on the property to make way for redevelopment

<https://bit.ly/42YZd7M>

Site of former Tinley Park Mental Health Center to be redesigned into massive sports complex

<https://bit.ly/42TAC3U>

Officials Differ Over Elmhurst Trolley's Fate; The trolley connects the downtown and Spring Road business districts

<https://bit.ly/3wHRDC4>

New affordable townhomes pique interest in East Garfield Park

<https://bit.ly/3TdBE7H>

Fate of Discover Financial Services campus in Riverwoods uncertain

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

New restaurant to get \$400,000 boost from Mundelein

<https://bit.ly/49Hh9G2>

Why more apartments could be coming to downtown Des Plaines

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

Why does the US government think a Kroger-Albertsons merger would be bad for grocery shoppers?

<https://bit.ly/48xemy4>

\$1.2M in repairs planned for historic Adlai E. Stevenson II home

<https://bit.ly/3lg1m5h>

Target announces opening date for new Chicago store

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

Rep. Rita Joins Local Leaders as Park District Takes Over Tinley Park Mental Health Center Site for Recreation Destination

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

Great expectations: Dozens of riders turned out for Bike Jam to support controversial Dickens Greenway

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

Factory-built single-family homes are coming to West Woodlawn.

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

Tiny home proposal sent back to Evanston committee to allow neighbor presentation; Grant Street 'pocket neighborhood' project to get more scrutiny

<https://bit.ly/3OZpFZ1>

Merchants Capital has provided more than \$54M of debt and \$49M in Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) equity financing for the rehabilitation of Island Terrace, a 21-story affordable housing property in Chicago.

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

Kinship PACE of Illinois LLC has signed a 15,310-square-foot retail lease at Bricktown Square shopping center in Chicago.

<https://bit.ly/43bNZNn>

Outback Steakhouse Closes Randhurst Location

<https://bit.ly/49SIK8y>

Grant from DuPage Foundation boosts job placement services for individuals with disabilities at Donka

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

Ameren Illinois hosting open house in Decatur to preview multi-year electric grid plan

<https://bit.ly/48v1l8d>

First hearing on 1,200-megawatt solar facility complete, second set for Feb. 28

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

Year-round sales of E-15 fuel could benefit Illinois corn farmers

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

Year-round E-15 sales is good news for Illinois drivers and corn producers, farmers say

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

Peoria area gas station development finally open for business

<https://bit.ly/3ThaoW9>

Champaign, Springfield neighborhoods recognized as state cultural districts

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

Bloomington is moving forward with its long-delayed multi\$M Fox Creek Bridge replacement, with the city council Monday authorizing engineers to finalize construction plans.

<https://bit.ly/49vq6m6>

One Earth Energy: CO2 pipeline project would benefit ag sector throughout area

<https://bit.ly/3Tf8tkH>

Starbucks set to open third shop just north of Rockford

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

Illinois awarded more than \$75M to clean up and develop its abandoned mine lands

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

Alton solar project fails in committee

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

A public meeting to discuss a number of changes to US 67 in West Alton is coming up in a week.

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

Retail meat demand decreases in 2023

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

How drinking coffee may lower your risk for diabetes; They are usually large observational studies, which show correlations - not cause and effect

<https://bit.ly/3lcvj6e>

Wearable Tech Reads Human Emotions; A pioneering technology capable of real-time human emotion recognition, promising transformative applications in wearable devices and digital services

<https://bit.ly/3wpLbj6>

Drones: The New First Responder Tool?

<https://bit.ly/49QCOF2>

They lost everything in New Mexico's biggest wildfire. Now they're sounding the alarm for others; The number of Americans in the continental U.S. directly exposed to wildfires more than doubled between 2000 and 2019

<https://bit.ly/3TekcA0>

Oregon homeowners face soaring premiums, few property insurance options over wildfires; Major insurers in central, southern and eastern Oregon have dramatically pulled back

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

Where does lightning strike? New maps pinpoint 36.8M yearly ground strike points in unprecedented detail

<https://bit.ly/3TckY0v>

Pedestrian deaths declined modestly in first half of 2023

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

More than a quarter of Louisiana's rural hospitals at risk of closure; Nationwide, more than 400 rural hospitals are in danger of closing, about 20% of the nationwide total

<https://bit.ly/3lf1PVn>

Her air-ambulance ride wasn't covered by Medicare. It will cost her family \$81,739

<https://n.pr/48zOPob>

Don't Leave It to the "Professionals"; Minnesota's plan to shut down a program for volunteer special advocates would be a tremendous blow to the state's child-welfare system

<https://bit.ly/3uF9Cc5>

More than 100 Mainers are in jail awaiting lawyers; The state's failing to recruit enough attorneys, some say; others blame prosecutors for filing too many cases. Everyone agrees it's a crisis

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

Louisiana Legislature Advances Bills To Roll Back Criminal Justice Reforms; Criminal justice advocates say the evidence doesn't back up Republicans' claims that Louisiana's landmark 2017 reforms are to blame for violent crime

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

New Hampshire Considers Veterans' Treatment Instead of Prosecution; About 8 percent of the state's corrections system population served in the military

<https://bit.ly/3lhllQ6>

Vending machines expand scope, impact of public health initiatives; Officials stock the machines with harm-reduction materials like overdose reversal treatments and testing strips

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

Fentanyl Is Killing American Kids. Most Don't Even Know They're Taking It

<https://bit.ly/42Wi17F>

Antidepressants for Adolescent Girls Spiked During COVID-19, Research Shows

<http://tinyurl.com/2yep23ud>

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The worst place to take shelter from a tornado is beneath an overpass, experts warn

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

Secretary of State Giannoulias is pushing legislation to allow Illinois residents to start using digital driver's licenses and state IDs

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

Governor Pritzker announces \$6M for CEJA Returning Residents Program; The program will deliver clean jobs

training, education, and support services in Illinois Department of Corrections facilities to people within 36 months of their release

<https://bit.ly/3UZz5rd>

The protection of Chicago's witnesses and victims must be a priority; Whatever happened to SAFE-T Act proponents' promise to protect witnesses and victims?

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

Chicago is the latest city rethinking disputed technology that listens for gunshots; More than 150 U.S. cities use ShotSpotter

<https://bit.ly/4bUt856>

ShotSpotter deal could be invalid, should get City Council vote, ex-watchdog says

<https://bit.ly/49NluX6>

ShotSpotter executive gives perspective on Chicago breaking ties with gunshot detection technology

<https://bit.ly/4a8YqUb>

ShotSpotter contract extension might be illegal, sources say

<https://bit.ly/3wxbBQ9>

Cook County Sheriff raises awareness for 'red flag' law

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

Evanston City Council approves plan to send community responders to 'low-risk' 911 calls

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

Slain CPD officer Ella French's mother testifies at trial of alleged shooter

<https://bit.ly/49PX5kH>

Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller, Heart Health Experts, and Elected Officials Highlight Importance of CPR/AED Training During American Heart Month

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

'Caucasian' Chicago cop sues the city for the right to change his ethnicity in personnel files

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

Ex-McHenry County Sheriff's deputy charged with official misconduct, solicitation of sex act: authorities

<https://bit.ly/49Sm1bA>

DeKalb Citizen Police Review Board to change how police participate in meetings

<https://bit.ly/4bQq75H>

QCA nuclear emergency response plans evaluated

<https://bit.ly/42VA3qs>

Danville aldermen to consider adding to K-9 unit

<https://bit.ly/3TdDK7H>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Runaway Spending in the Lone Star State; Local government expenditures pose a problem for Texas taxpayers; While Texas doesn't have a state income tax, it does have the nation's sixth-most burdensome property taxes

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

How shipping containers in Georgia became tiny homes for the homeless

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

San Francisco is ready to apologize to Black residents. Reparations advocates want more

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

Los Angeles Becomes First U.S. City to Outlaw Digital Discrimination; Under a new ordinance, Internet providers can't provide better service to wealthier neighborhoods

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

How All Americans Are Paying for San Francisco's Pork-Barrel Spending; Freebies from Washington make space for mischief in local budgets

<http://tinyurl.com/mr3dvmpm>

Producers of "Forever Chemicals" Knew They Were Toxic, Say UN Experts; "DuPont and Chemours appear to have impermissibly captured" the EPA

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

Pentagon is panicking over Biden's proposal that would increase water costs by \$10K per household; The World Health Organization now recommends that governments limit polyfluoroalkyl substances, also known as PFAS or "forever plastics"

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

Top 10 Business Process Improvement Concepts You Should Know

<https://bit.ly/3P0R9NP>

Investing in the Development of Young, Remote Employees; Remote work presents unique challenges - but managers can offer support to overcome them

<https://bit.ly/3Ta3RfH>

How to Get People to Seize Opportunities at Work; Five concepts from behavioral economics that companies can deploy to improve the take-up rates of products and programs

<https://bit.ly/3SY2qQ2>

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Sustainable Budgeting Tools; Long-term budget assessments and stress tests as tools for sustainable budgeting

<https://bit.ly/42Wg7np>

Study shows Illinois property taxes among the highest in country

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

Risk Management: Illinois OSHA Required Trainings

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

A group of Illinois counties have moved to slam the door on a class action lawsuit that could force them to pay potentially untold \$Ms in damages for seizing and selling entire homes over a few thousand dollars in unpaid property taxes

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

'I want people to care about the night': Advocates are working to fix light pollution in Chicago area

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

The Chicago Medical Reserve Corps is looking for volunteers from the health care field, and the city's health department is partnering with medical organizations for services in and out of shelters.

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

Illinois EPA must revamp its permitting process after Chicago activists file civil rights complaint

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

The Chicago Board of Elections will challenge a Cook County judge's ruling that Mayor Brandon Johnson's \$100M real estate tax hike is unconstitutional.

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

The Chicago Bird Alliance is offering an internship from May to July to help with education efforts and public awareness of piping plovers on Montrose Beach.

<https://bit.ly/3P1CKkG>

Students interview Black Evanston residents who are first in the nation to receive reparations; A history project is collecting the stories of recipients

<https://bit.ly/3wwhDk1>

'Offensive and dangerous rhetoric': Evanston officials condemn anti-Semitic comments made at public meeting

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

Naperville Park District Board supportive of America250 plaque despite community concerns that the idea was all but scrapped

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

Tinley Park District celebrates transfer of land, receives initial state money for cleanup

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

Thornton Township again seeks tax for mental health services, seeks input on food pantry

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

Why water, sewer bills are rising in Elmhurst

<https://bit.ly/3SYv7fZ>

Highland Park council member alleges and City denies Open Meetings Act violation in wake of Feb. 12 liquor license discussion

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

ADL ties antisemitic, hate speech attacks to Evanston 'City Council Death Squad'

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

Here's the latest in the ongoing fraud lawsuit involving Sankoty Lakes

<https://bit.ly/3URWqv3>

The U.S. Postal Service has set a date for a public input meeting as it continues to review the northwest Champaign post office and considers transferring some of the site's mail processing operations to other offices.

<https://bit.ly/4c4Dkli>

City of Galesburg recognized for excellence in financial reporting

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

Early projections show \$51.7M budget for Quincy

<https://bit.ly/3SSo1tn>

More Quincy residents affected by aggregation issue than previously expected

<https://bit.ly/42U3NUC>

Yard waste fees earn ire of Decatur council, changes to be discussed

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

Can you bury a loved one in your backyard in Illinois? Here's what the law says

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

More than \$143,000 in grants to municipalities, townships, and park districts has been approved by the Madison County Board for environmental initiatives.

<https://bit.ly/432QWzG>

The 2024 Driehaus Foundation Awards for Investigative Reporting are Now Open for Submissions

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

SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Tours given at Marion County, Florida, schools to showcase urgent need for improvements; If approved by voters, half-cent sales tax would be in place for 10 years; 80% of Marion County's school maintenance

requests do not get fixed because the district does not have the \$840M to do it

<https://bit.ly/3TdKwu0>

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DePaul's music program gets \$10M gift; Will likely be used for things like facility and equipment upgrades, and to incentivize new initiatives

<https://bit.ly/3OZY2PH>

Improvement projects approved for West Aurora High School

<https://bit.ly/3SX0dEv>

Geneva approves annexation of nearly 55 acres for Bullock Campus

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

Normal Public Library board approves bid for renovations

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

Construction for the Illinois Youth Center in Lincoln is being held off as they are set to receive funds from the governor's new budget.

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

Jasper County Board votes to replace old courthouse with new one

<https://bit.ly/3OYkOY2>

STATE & FEDERAL

Federal Food Assistance Program for Mothers, Children Faces \$1B Shortfall. Here's How That Could Impact Services in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/49sA5IT>

Pritzker proposes tax increases to help with budget deficit

<https://bit.ly/48zF35o>

Pritzker touts manufacturing training funding, announces cultural districts

<https://bit.ly/3VebuU3>

With budget proposal and fiery address, Pritzker paints himself as progressive pragmatist

<https://bit.ly/3SSo3S1>

Pritzker continues to downplay speculation he's eyeing the White House

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

Advocates raise concern over Pritzker's funding proposal for disability services

<https://bit.ly/3SN9OO8>

Feds ask for probation for ex-state Senator Terry Link, who wore FBI wire against colleague

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

Illinois bill looks to stop car insurance from using consumer information to set rates

<https://bit.ly/3Tg3gZO>

Following unions' lead, Illinois House Speaker Chris Welch directs \$560K to effort to oust Rep. Mary Flowers

<https://bit.ly/49HWqC8>

Feds say ex-state Sen. Terry Link deserves probation after helping uncover bribery scheme

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

Sen. Tammy Duckworth gets personal in push to protect IVF

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

African American judges asking voters to not forget them

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

Giannoulas pushing to allow IL residents to start using digital driver's licenses, state IDs

<https://bit.ly/3wFeH4p>

Trump-backed U.S. Rep. Bost touts experience amid challenge from 'outsider' Darren Bailey

<https://bit.ly/43bTOKJ>

How AI Is Already Transforming the News Business; An expert explains the promise and peril of artificial intelligence

<https://politi.co/432rGcQ>

To Censor or to Host? Supreme Court Hears Social Media Platforms' Freedom of Speech Challenge to State Laws

<http://tinyurl.com/bdfbd58m>

Is There Any Remedy When You're Censored? The Supreme Court has three opportunities this term to give teeth to the First Amendment

<https://on.wsj.com/42YR5E3>

The Supreme Court appeared lost in a massive case about freedom of speech online; The justices look likely to reinstate Texas and Florida laws that seize control of much of the internet - but not for long

<https://bit.ly/3uCGD8M>

Can Florida and Texas weaponize conservative paranoia over Big Tech's alleged liberal bias to destroy social media and freedom of speech as we know it?

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

Texas and Florida Want the Supreme Court To Bless Their Unconstitutional Social Media Laws; Both states are trying to force tech companies to platform certain sorts of speech

<https://bit.ly/3UXqV2K>

The Senate Intelligence Chair said that the federal government is "less prepared" to counter foreign interference efforts now than in 2020, citing concerns with a lack of threat sharing by social media groups
<https://politi.co/48G1zK0>

Big Tech's New Rules of the Road for AI and Elections; Major tech firms have signed an accord to fight the deceptive use of AI in 2024 elections. It's a welcome signal, if not a promise to solve the problem
<https://bit.ly/49vqTDo>

Democrats are too scared of a contested convention; The odds that this coming August we will have the first Democratic contested convention since 1968 are non-trivial
<http://tinyurl.com/36pvsu6e>

Trump is keeping Biden in the race. This is true on several levels; the one that matters most is numerical: Trump cannot pull away in the polls
<https://bit.ly/3OY2DSc>

Don't Panic, Democrats; They're freaking out about a Biden-Trump rematch. It's far too early to start worrying
<https://bit.ly/42ZV43d>

RFK Jr. gets his name on two more state ballots ahead of November election
<https://bit.ly/49MSFLx>

MAGA Republicans pushing to impeach President Biden don't seem to notice the egg on their faces
<http://tinyurl.com/bdz2jsuk>

House GOP chairs subpoena DOJ for Biden special counsel investigation documents; The special counsel described Biden as an "elderly man with a poor memory," which sparked criticism from Democrats who said the report was gratuitous
<https://bit.ly/49wnKTS>

House impeachment probe subpoenas DOJ for transcript of special counsel's Biden interview
<https://bit.ly/3UYRuo2>

The Bidens have shown a legendary skill at evading legal accountability. Even in the face of overwhelming evidence, Biden family members often marshal political allies and media to kill investigations or cut sweetheart deals
<https://bit.ly/3wDHfva>

The Top Muslim State Lawmaker in Michigan Wants You to Turn on Biden; Michigan Representative hopes to send the president a message in the primary: Cease-fire or bust
<https://politi.co/49KOgsk>

On primary day, young Michigan voters are leading call to be 'uncommitted' to Biden
<https://n.pr/3UUM4ua>

Biden's Never Been Driven By Human Rights. This Time, It Might Cost Him; Don't be so surprised about his response to the Middle East war. He's always been willing to put human rights on the back burner

<https://politi.co/3P0WAwd>

Biden has been bad for Palestinians. Trump would be worse; On Israel, the two are not the same

<https://bit.ly/48tCcL3>

Why the chief of one of the most powerful unions in America is courting Trump; The head of the Teamsters is doing photo-ops with Trump and sending funds to the Republican National Committee based on some risky political calculations

<https://on.msnbc.com/49PKYUR>

Senate GOP fears Speaker Johnson headed toward shutdown wreck

<https://bit.ly/49H4vql>

House Speaker Johnson commits to avoiding shutdown during White House meeting

<https://politi.co/3TfsY0T>

Biden, both sides of congressional leadership appear confident they'll avert a government shutdown

<https://bit.ly/42ZVd6L>

House Republicans are facing a growing exodus of experienced and talented members that adds up to an alarming political maturity drain; The departures are starting to spark worries about a further erosion of GOP lawmakers' appetite for the basic tasks of governing

<https://politi.co/49sNG2J>

Biden will urge Congress' top leaders to keep the government open and send aid to Ukraine and Israel

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

White House warns Ukraine situation is 'very dire' after talks with congressional leaders

<https://bit.ly/3OViKA7>

Biden's Cold War Nostalgia Is Dooming His Presidency; Missile scares and military Keynesianism won't win voters who want domestic reform

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

Civil War II; As Southern states again assert their dubious right to countermand federal law and the national Constitution, Biden needs to be as resolute as Lincoln

<https://bit.ly/3uRnU9t>

Arrest of Migrant in Georgia Killing Turns City Into Latest Battleground on Immigration; A personal and community tragedy got caught up in the national politics of immigration after a migrant from Venezuela was charged in the death of a former University of Georgia student

<https://nyti.ms/3UQz6xH>

Republican representatives demanded that Department of Homeland Security secretary Mayorkas hand over any information the agency has on the illegal immigrant suspected of murdering a Georgia nursing student

<https://bit.ly/3Teo5EZ>

EU leaders wary after French President Macron doesn't rule out Western troops in Ukraine

<http://tinyurl.com/248sk7zk>

Kremlin Warns Against NATO Ground Intervention in Ukraine

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

Germany and Poland say they're not sending troops to Ukraine as the Kremlin warns of wider war

<https://bit.ly/3Tfaa1q>

Germany Should Have Listened to Trump; He was right about Berlin's self-defense and risky energy dependence on Russia

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

Europe Basically Can't Defend Itself if the U.S. Pulls Out of NATO

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

Ukraine War: What Really Happened in Avdiivka? The war's developments are at this point predictable, and favor Russian objectives

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

Podcast: Putin, Navalny, Trump, CIA, NSA, War, Politics & Freedom

<https://bit.ly/3wEc5nq>

How the Pentagon Learned to Use Targeted Ads to Find Its Targets-and Vladimir Putin

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

Biden signals there could be a truce in Gaza soon but Israel and Hamas indicate no agreement is imminent

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

Hamas, Israel say Biden out of touch with premature cease-fire talk; Both sides agree that president understates negotiating hurdles

<https://bit.ly/3wvyTG2>

An agreement between Israel and Hamas appears to be taking shape. What would it look like?

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

Hamas leader hiding in Gaza, but killing him risks hostages, officials say

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

Majority of countries argue Israel violated international law in last historic hearing at UN court

<https://bit.ly/48u4qFz>

The "Occupation" Dodge; Anti-Semitism in the anti-Zionist movement is increasingly difficult to deflect or deny

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

What would a new Palestinian government in the West Bank mean for the war in Gaza?

<https://bit.ly/48w4vsr>

Houthis knock out underwater cables linking Europe to Asia; Marks a serious disruption of communications between Europe and Asia

<http://tinyurl.com/3uzu7x3s>

China and Iran Have Their WikiLeaks Moment; Hackers have unmasked some of the tactics Beijing and Tehran use to silence their opponents

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

Dallas hit 93 degrees, its highest temperature so early in the year since 1996, when it was 95 on Feb. 21 and 93 on Feb. 22

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"Luck is the intersection of preparation and opportunity. Opportunities parade past all of us all the time. The key is that you must be paying attention to see them, you must be willing to take risks, you must expose yourself to the possibility of massive failure and you must believe in what you are doing so much that you do it anyway."

--Richard Garriott

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