

Subject: News Headlines: 3-6-24

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News Headlines: March 6, 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

Teachers unions have been caught spending \$Ms on Republican state legislature primaries; The Illinois Education Association spent the second-highest amount on Republican state legislative primaries, only behind Alabama. Between 2018 and 2024, the association spent \$2,650,315 on Republican candidates
<https://tinyurl.com/434astcy>

More Arkansas school districts hiring unlicensed teachers to cope with staff shortage; Research is mixed on impact of teacher certification on student performance
<https://bit.ly/4bYSP4n>

An Educator's Podcast Aims to Be an Antidote to School Culture Wars
<https://bit.ly/49GdatD>

Is the hardest job in education convincing parents to send their kids to a San Francisco public school? The city's public school enrollment has shrunk. Here's how one district employee is fighting privatization, bad PR, segregation, and population loss to stem the tide
<https://bit.ly/4c5A2nW>

Will the Teachers' Union Crush Education Opportunity in Connecticut? The state is poised to expand school choice - unless the faulty arguments and transparent agenda of the union carry the day
<https://bit.ly/49FuQWr>

Teachers and other staff in the Houston Independent school district are calling for the state-appointed superintendent of the district to be removed amid a surge in resignations of employees, cuts to libraries and implementation of rigid school reform curriculum
<https://bit.ly/3uV1cOf>

Massachusetts Is Investing Big in Early Care and Education. It's Paying Off
<https://bit.ly/49ClrPb>

As the Affordable Connectivity Program sunsets, what's next for schools? With the responsibility to keep students connected at home shifting to district leaders, experts say partnerships and plans for other FCC initiatives are key

<https://bit.ly/3v1luUH>

Bad Therapy: Why the Kids Aren't Growing Up

<https://bit.ly/3wJmr5K>

Researcher: Personality is a lottery that affects how we perform in school; Researchers have looked at siblings with different personalities to find out what works best - and worst - in the classroom

<https://bit.ly/434D8EC>

Measure that would give Floridians with disabilities greater autonomy is heading to governor's desk

<https://bit.ly/3V6gDNQ>

An Employer's Guide to Supporting Workers with Autism; Advice on hiring, training, and ensuring your workplace is welcoming to members of the autism community

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

Job Focused Community College Programs Grow - But Grim Transfer Trend Continues; Despite community college growth in fall 2023, experts say there's a 'troubling' decline of students transferring to four-year schools

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

How the federal government bungled student aid this year; Why so many college applicants are worried about being able to afford school

<https://bit.ly/3P7VnDB>

In a first, U.S. students will take the SAT entirely online (no pencils required)

<https://n.pr/3P7U1IY>

Valparaiso University to weigh cutting 28 programs; The private nonprofit in Indiana will announce which degrees are ending by the beginning of fall 2024

<https://bit.ly/3T6Xeti>

Liberty University to pay \$14M fine over failure to disclose campus crime

<https://bit.ly/3TIO9yi>

How age-friendly universities can improve the second half of life; By 2030, more than 1.4B people across the globe will be at least 60 years old. This number will shoot up to 2.1B by 2050. At this point, there will be more people age 60 or older than people between 10 and 24

<https://bit.ly/48GH4g0>

Textbooks Are on the Ballot in Texas; The culture war over public school curriculum is fueling three big races in the Lone Star State

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

A new Missouri bill would make it a felony offense for school teachers or counselors to support or contribute

to the social transitioning of a t-gender minor. The proposed law would also have an offender be placed on the s. offender registry

<https://abcn.ws/3uZqGJO>

Dartmouth men's basketball team votes 13-2 in favor of first labor union for college athletes; The vote could present a huge shakeup to the National Collegiate Athletics Association's model

<https://nbcnews.to/3lq8s7q>

Dartmouth basketball players vote to form first union in college sports

<https://cbsn.ws/3P7q1wK>

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Illinois advocates of career and technical education want more funding as demand for programs increase; Governor Pritzker proposed a \$10.3M increase in funding for CTE programs

<https://bit.ly/4a2YRPL>

First report on Invest in Kids scholarship program has major flaws

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

Parents of children with disabilities say Chicago Public Schools continues to discriminate against students with special needs. They want special education programs in all neighborhood schools, translators for non-English-speaking students with disabilities and accessibility upgrades to buildings

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

Illinois is facing a teacher shortage crisis. Rural parts of the state are struggling to get teachers to even apply for their open jobs.

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

Gov. J.B. Pritzker wants to add \$10.3M to career and technical education programs. But advocates say it is not enough to meet rising demand.

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

Senate backs Mayor Johnson and CTU-backed plan to elect 10 city school board members this November

<https://bit.ly/433T1Ly>

Illinois Senate passes plan for 'hybrid' elected Chicago school board backed by the Chicago Teachers Union

<https://bit.ly/3P73Zu5>

The Chicago Teachers Union this summer will negotiate their new contract with Chicago Mayor Johnson, their former lobbyist. Their demands include housing assistance for union members, choking charter schools and more compensation

<https://bit.ly/48Xpm8p>

A leaked Chicago Teachers Union contract proposal is raising questions about financial assistance for teacher housing

<https://bit.ly/4bWoi7n>

Chicago Teachers Union president pitches contract proposals; Proposals include ensuring every school has a

librarian, band, art and sports, as well as staff focused on restorative discipline.

<https://bit.ly/4a2ldAD>

On eve of CPS contract negotiations, teachers union President Stacy Davis Gates invites civic leaders' engagement

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

Naperville students launch sustainability competition to inspire achievable green changes

<https://bit.ly/4336ZgC>

North suburban Avoca School District 37 school consolidation proposal on Illinois primary ballot

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

Partnership between Chicago education and medical giants draws future professionals; Partnership comes as safety net hospitals on the South Side struggle to fill vacant positions

<https://bit.ly/3Pw82R1>

City Colleges brings back South Side nursing school

<https://bit.ly/48N5Db3>

CPS parents rally in the Loop seeking improved special education programs

<https://bit.ly/3T2Jjob>

Naperville students launch sustainability competition to inspire actionable change

<https://bit.ly/4c5rqO4>

Naperville D203 administrators asks board for OK to hire 12.7 full-time equivalent staff members

<https://bit.ly/3P7LdTm>

Joyce Praises \$440,000 in Pre-Apprenticeship Funding for Bethel Family Resource Center

<https://bit.ly/4a1Qe8a>

OPRF teacher shows Black History is not for February alone

<https://bit.ly/3Tqulo5>

UIC theatre students learn how to tell stories through accents

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

UChicago, UChicago Medicine and City Colleges of Chicago announce health care education partnership in Washington Park

<https://bit.ly/3Tn4VwL>

Malta elementary students bring Black history to life

<https://bit.ly/4c5WixZ>

More than a game: NIU psychology professor measures Pokémon Go's impact on belonging

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

Shiloh superintendent resigns

<https://bit.ly/48C3T4A>

Executive director retiring from CU Schools Foundation

<https://bit.ly/3wGDVj7>

The Champaign School District is looking for the next school board member after one resigned, describing his second term as a negative experience

<https://bit.ly/3T6SROU>

Harlem School District is working with local law enforcement after a bullet was found in a middle school restroom.

<https://bit.ly/4c2cxMA>

Illinois lawmakers want to ban K-12 schools from using Native mascots

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

SIU School of Medicine scholarship questioned on race, gender discrimination

<https://bit.ly/3P81s2B>

Effingham County school districts consider 1% sales tax referendum

<https://bit.ly/3P8S2UH>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Inventory shift in America's 300 largest metro area housing markets

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

Can Going Modular Fix Our Housing Shortage? Not Yet

<https://bit.ly/49CPB57>

6 Months After New York Banned Airbnb, New Jersey Is Doing Great; New York placed strict restrictions on short-term rentals last year. Rents still remain high, and some former hosts are frustrated. Meanwhile, Airbnb rentals in New Jersey are booming

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

The White House is launching a multi-agency "strike force" in an effort to curb unfair and illegal pricing across the economy, according to the chair of the National Economic Council

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

WIC, rental assistance get funding boost in newly unveiled spending bills; But the bipartisan proposals for six bills would cut funding to housing and transit program

<https://bit.ly/4a09DWY>

A growing number of middle-class families are struggling to afford the basics of housing, child care, food,

transportation and health care

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

The vacancy rate for US office is approaching 20%. And this is in a strong economy with a strong labor market. If the unemployment rate starts rising because of the lagged effects of Fed hikes, the office vacancy rate will increase even more

<https://bit.ly/3P7VAGB>

Why it's not all doom and gloom for commercial real estate

<https://tinyurl.com/3uu9xedm>

Two of America's large chain restaurants may soon be combined. Applebee's and IHOP may soon have dual-branded locations that share a back-of-house and a blended front-of-house

<https://cbsn.ws/3P8phHU>

The Tennessee Builders Alliance broke ground on the \$2.1B New Nissan Stadium in Nashville, Tennessee, the future home of the Tennessee Titans

<https://bit.ly/3PaRQ7n>

Cities Can Become the New Arsenals of Democracy; The Department of Defense has released an industrial strategy that calls for a revival of domestic manufacturing that extends far beyond traditional defense contractors

<https://bit.ly/3Vn9hWr>

Gas Industry Loses Bid To Block Green Building Codes; Gas companies and furnace manufacturers have one more chance to make their case, but it's an uphill battle

<https://bit.ly/3T4yX7d>

San Diego man is first in U.S. to be charged with smuggling greenhouse gases; Accused of bringing hydrofluorocarbons - chemical compounds commonly used for refrigeration and air conditioning - from Mexico to the U.S. and selling them for profit

<https://cbsn.ws/48Flg4u>

California gives Waymo the green light to expand robotaxi operations; The company's cars will now be allowed to drive at up to 65mph on local roads and highways in approved areas

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

Apple, Tesla, and the Dying Dream of Self-Driving Cars

<https://bit.ly/3P4fToE>

Lithium-ion batteries don't work well in the cold - a battery researcher explains the chemistry at low temperatures

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

Telcos are barely done rolling out 5G networks - and they're already talking about '5.5G'

<https://cnb.cx/49Eb9hE>

Google launches \$5M prize to find actual uses for quantum computers; Existing quantum computers can

solve some problems faster than any ordinary computer, but none of those problems has any practical use. Google and XPRIZE hope to change that
<https://bit.ly/3T6iz6k>

Did Google's Gemini Just Give Us a Glimpse of Education's Orwellian Future? Forget cheating-when used as intended, AI will stymie learning, knowledge, and inquiry
<https://bit.ly/436L4p0>

ChatGPT-rival Anthropic releases more powerful AI
<https://tinyurl.com/3uwb5rtz>

The AI wars heat up with Claude 3, claimed to have "near-human" abilities
<https://bit.ly/49FFDzL>

The Scariest Part About Artificial Intelligence; Between its water use, energy use, e-waste, and need for critical minerals that could better be used on renewable energy, A.I. could trash our chances of a sustainable future
<https://bit.ly/49Upk2p>

Stealing Home; Despite all the hoopla, the White Sox's proposed move from Guaranteed Rate Field to the 78 is anything but guaranteed
<https://bit.ly/3TI0aDY>

Bears should think big on lakefront domed stadium, state lawmaker says. State Rep. Kam Buckner, whose district includes Soldier Field, wants to put public transit in an under-utilized busway to make the lakefront more accessible and surround the new stadium with bars, restaurants and a hotel.
<https://bit.ly/49CXrvy>

How Chicago could revitalize the Loop amid record vacancies; Setting up an economic task force and repurposing buildings along and around LaSalle Street
<https://bit.ly/431Z0kb>

Chicago Mayor Johnson is proceeding with a revamp of empty downtown buildings initially estimated at \$1B in an effort to counter a commercial real estate crisis that's cut sale prices by more than 50%
<https://tinyurl.com/3t6e3u6n>

Retail vacancies soar on Chicago's Magnificent Mile
<https://bit.ly/4c6kpNh>

How Chicago could revitalize the Loop amid record vacancies
<https://bit.ly/3TyaoKt>

Going electric in new buildings is a matter of environmental justice; Burning gas in our homes for heating and cooking poses significant health risks, especially for Black and brown communities, a Chicago pastor writes
<https://bit.ly/3P8t0VU>

Chicago Transit Authority calls on private companies to submit tech solutions to improve system

<https://bit.ly/3V68UPI>

Divided Vote On Elmhurst Trolley; Equity At Issue; The trolley takes visitors to six stops in downtown and the Spring Road business district; The council voted to spend \$83K in hotel taxes on the program

<https://bit.ly/3T2LLjq>

Glen Ellyn approved an agreement for part of the Roosevelt Road hotel properties. The \$1.75M agreement would bring affordable housing and housing for disabled residents

<https://bit.ly/3V0GFC3>

New Darien Restaurant Expected To Open By November; The 1,000-square-foot restaurant is set to feature a drive-thru and outdoor seating

<https://bit.ly/4336FhU>

Darien Airbnb Continues Despite Ban; The city has taken the matter to DuPage County's field court

<https://bit.ly/3T5ThoF>

Niles OKs \$1.2M TIF for James Beard award winner Jimmy Bannos Jr. to open restaurant

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

University of Illinois Partners Commit \$680M to Biomanufacturing

<https://bit.ly/3wBj2pk>

University of Illinois officials partnered with companies from across Illinois committing nearly \$700M to iFAB, a bio-manufacturing hub on campus.

<https://bit.ly/4a0tdm0>

Change to summer blend spikes gas prices

<https://bit.ly/48Guhu7>

Labor unions end Starbucks board fight

<https://bit.ly/49Gni5x>

Fillmore Center project, touted as jobs engine for struggling North Lawndale, clears city commission

<https://bit.ly/48IN2Nm>

Lake County receives \$4M to clean up North Chicago site for future development; 'The vision is big'

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

Plans for a bigger Pebble Beach, acres of new parkland, overlooks and a new slope stone revetment are in the works for the Morgan Shoal shoreline.

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

Gurnee company among those applying for state manufacturing grants; 'It will drive the price of our products down'

<https://bit.ly/3To7wqm>

Lake Forest endorses plan for new Starbucks; 'I'm really excited to see some positive action here'

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

Winning bidder for South Barrington park land still a mystery

<https://bit.ly/4a0wW2U>

Vacant Wheeling office building to become apartments

<https://bit.ly/4a3OriR>

Voila! Elmhurst is getting a French market

<https://bit.ly/3T2JT5I>

'This is our downtown': Lindenhurst Center being revived with new name, owner and village assistance

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

Elburn awarded state grant for upgrades in Prairie Park

<https://bit.ly/49Cos1X>

Red Line Extension project will soon have an office space in Pullman

<https://bit.ly/3TnJn3j>

Target launches new paid membership program called Target Circle 360. Here's how it works

<https://bit.ly/3TmVwW1>

A joint venture partnership between Clear Height Properties and ICP Funds has acquired two light industrial buildings in Sky Harbor Industrial Park in Northbrook

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

Plan To Double Number Of Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations At Mannheim-Higgins

<https://bit.ly/432RG7S>

Jewelry store with pawn shop OK'd for Lake in the Hills over objections from neighboring businesses

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

Splash Station Waterpark for sale in Joliet

<https://bit.ly/3T7NmzF>

Elburn awarded state grant for upgrades in Prairie Park

<https://bit.ly/49EL9Td>

Upscale restaurant, valet parking coming to downtown Rockford building

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

At its height, Downtown Peoria was a commercial powerhouse and 'center of all activity'

<https://bit.ly/3loxPX7>

Agribusiness Today: A check-in with the Illinois wine industry

<https://bit.ly/3wGDFk9>

Parking options changing as work begins on Whiteside clinic expansion in Rock Falls

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

Bloomington Planning Commission to review potential housing development

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

The electric automaker Rivian will eliminate its third shift in Normal next month, saying it can meet this year's modest production goals with only two shifts because the manufacturing plant is getting more efficient.

<https://bit.ly/3uXPY4z>

Galesburg Aldermen approve Lipanda Foundation's grant for community garden farm

<https://bit.ly/3T6U0WI>

Knox County home listings asked for less money in February - see the current median price here

<https://bit.ly/3ImOdr8>

Study begins to help plan Kickapoo trail extension to Danville

<https://bit.ly/3Tm03Z0>

'Build a legacy': Springfield areas earn Cultural District designation

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

Ameren open house sheds light on efforts to wire the green future

<https://bit.ly/3TjW3rP>

Charleston, Mattoon businesses urged to monitor state paid leave act changes

<https://bit.ly/3V1enY9>

Wing Zone coming to Edwardsville

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

Crop prices slide while traders watch weather

<https://bit.ly/4a1TUH0>

PUBLIC SAFETY

New House bill would eliminate liability protections for COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers

<https://bit.ly/3V1hXBz>

Was it a Mistake to Mandate COVID Vaccines? By mandating vaccines during the COVID pandemic, we inadvertently leaned into a libertarian left hook. Consequently, we may be more vulnerable to future pandemics

<https://bit.ly/3P7JHRe>

House COVID panel subpoenas former New York Governor Cuomo over nursing home deaths

<https://bit.ly/3TI78ce>

Why genes shape but don't determine our behavior; Genes are sometimes called the "blueprint of life," but that doesn't make them the behavioral playbook

<https://bit.ly/430WYAR>

A Daily Fiber Supplement Improved Older Adults' Brain Function; Could the microbes in our gut hold the key to preventing cognitive decline in our ageing population?

<https://bit.ly/4c6hcNJ>

Diet drinks boost risk of dangerous heart condition by 20%, study says; Atrial fibrillation is dangerous and on the rise

<https://tinyurl.com/zy4k4fdh>

Absence of AI hospital rules worries nurses; The fast-paced growth of artificial intelligence raises practical and ethical questions for providers

<https://bit.ly/4c17Tyi>

Michigan governor proposes a caregiver tax credit - an idea many Americans support

<https://bit.ly/3P8XdEh>

The wildfires continuing to spread across the Texas Panhandle have already burned nearly 1.25M acres in just over a week

<https://cbsn.ws/4bZT1jP>

A Belated Bureaucratic Reversal on Pot; Its classification has always been a political question, not a medical one

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

Statistical models vs. front-line workers: Who knows best how to spend opioid settlement funds? A mathematical model designed to direct spending of opioid settlement funds is at the center of a debate over whether to invest in technology to guide long-term decisions or focus on the immediate needs of people in addiction

<https://bit.ly/49E89Su>

Oregon Legislators Overwhelmingly Vote To Recriminalize Low-Level Possession; The reversal of a landmark reform was driven by unrealistic expectations and unproven assertions

<https://bit.ly/3wIINW9>

After Decriminalization; Oregon's legalization law didn't make things better. Now what?

<https://bit.ly/3V8DXdF>

San Francisco votes on measures to compel substance abuse treatment and give police surveillance cameras

<https://abcn.ws/49vrp4t>

Alcohol overuse causes 178,000 American deaths annually. Why is it so undertreated?

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

The governor of Nebraska vetoed a legislative proposal seeking to allow local municipalities and counties to adopt safe syringes programs

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

Bill to limit supplies distributed by syringe service programs passes West Virginia Senate, heads to governor

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

Powerful Psychedelic Gains Renewed Attention as a Treatment for Opioid Addiction

<https://nyti.ms/3T6NK1a>

Zyn Is the New Vaping; Now, Juul is out and Zyn is in. It's even more discreet than Juul, with no plumes of vapor

<https://bit.ly/4c1UuWK>

The Maryland Senate gave final approval to its version of the bill intended to bring more stringent accountability measures to the state's juvenile justice system

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

A 78-year-old woman who sued two police officers after her home was wrongly searched by a SWAT team looking for a stolen truck has won a \$3.76M jury verdict under a new Colorado law that allows people to sue police over violations of their state constitutional rights

<https://bit.ly/3wH4gNU>

In a Deep-Blue City, Will Locals Get Tough on Crime? Crime in Austin has soared under a progressive district attorney. Democrats will decide: Is it time to put a moderate in charge?

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

Father of school shooter on trial for manslaughter

<https://abcn.ws/43c885S>

Jury takes just hours to convict man of killing Chicago Police Officer Ella French, wounding partner

<https://bit.ly/3V5XSKd>

Feds pin Chicago shooting on migrant with alleged cartel ties - but there's no record of charges

<https://bit.ly/3P9QHwL>

Month after cyberattack, Chicago children's hospital says some systems back online

<https://abcn.ws/3Tn1KoP>

Democratic Cook County state's attorney candidates face off over finances

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

Chicagoans Could Push Police To Reopen Cold Cases Under New Bill; The Homicide Victims' Families' Rights Act would give people "an official process to demand closure"

<https://bit.ly/3V0F535>

Chicago teens help create a campaign to prevent gun violence; A new campaign from the gun violence prevention group Project Unloaded has a key message for teens: "Just one gun can change the story"

<https://bit.ly/3P8wAPP>

Police say there's actually been 11 gun-related arrests at TopGolf in Naperville since September, latest over the weekend

<https://bit.ly/48K2Srb>

South Elgin police bring in backup to break up gathering of 500 to 600 cars in parking lot Saturday night

<https://bit.ly/3T7cuGM>

A Centralia funeral home director who was subject to a complaint that his embalming room looked like a "scary, filthy freak show" agreed to a permanent revocation of his license late last week.

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

Residents of Flossmoor outraged over possible ouster of police chief

<https://bit.ly/436P6xE>

After several people complain of Illinois man's travel scams, police take action

<https://cbsn.ws/3VcfBj4>

Here's what you need to know about tax season scams

<https://bit.ly/4a3QQdn>

Five arrested during ISP anti-human trafficking operation in Danville area

<https://bit.ly/4a0zwpC>

New video released of officers fatally shooting Springfield man

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

FBI Springfield accepting applications for citizens academy

<https://bit.ly/48CPSU5>

FBI targets area Asian message parlors

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

Fairmount & Four Area Fire Departments Getting ARPA Funds

<https://bit.ly/3V7z4BO>

A new police memorial is being proposed by the union that covers the Madison County Sheriff's Department in Edwardsville.

<https://bit.ly/3T7lbka>

The Illinois Food Safety Act in Senate Bill 2637 would ban several additives, including potassium bromate and red dye No. 3. California and New York are working on similar bans, but if enacted, Illinois would have the strictest food additive ban in the country.

<https://bit.ly/49Ez9Bk>

Edwardsville PD seek new recruits to bolster force

<https://bit.ly/3v1VDwX>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Billionaires Won't Save Local News. Here's What Will; We need the government to step up

<https://bit.ly/49DdmK1>

The Department of Energy is making \$90M available to help states and localities adopt and implement building energy codes, which set energy efficiency standards for new buildings, additions and major renovation

<https://bit.ly/4a1WfBM>

Proposal to Eliminate Michigan Property Taxes Leaves Homeowners Divided; The initiative is dubbed "Ax Mi Tax"

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

Trillions of gallons leak from aging drinking water systems, further stressing shrinking US cities

<https://bit.ly/3V2CPZ2>

Places across the U.S. are testing basic income programs as part of the social safety net

<https://bit.ly/48Xp4yl>

This rural California region launched a shade equity plan to combat deadly heat that's disproportionately impacting Latinos

<https://bit.ly/3V7zZSy>

Librarian sues Texas county after being fired for refusing to remove banned books

<https://bit.ly/4c2zS0v>

How to bridge political divides - from two friends on opposing sides; The value in discarding the "scare script" by which we demonize others

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

How to Tackle Truth Decay; The social contract of trust between experts and society is in danger of dissolving. We need to start putting it back together

<https://bit.ly/4333qY2>

5 Steps to a Complete Meeting Overhaul; Sick of PowerPoints and rehashing the past? Here's how to make meetings future-focused and engaging

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

The amateur presenter; Think about the most important interactions you've had. None of them were professional speeches; The challenge isn't in becoming a sort of pretty good professional presenter. The challenge is becoming you

<https://bit.ly/49YAC51>

The most beautiful questions any leader can ask; Too many leaders create an imbalance between thinking and doing - but a clear vision can be sharpened through deep reflection

<https://bit.ly/3uXTu5l>

Podcast: To Negotiate Better, Start with Yourself; A conversation with an expert mediator on overcoming your biggest obstacle

<https://bit.ly/3P7Xw1S>

Deliberate Calm: How to Learn and Lead in a Volatile World

<https://mck.co/430D1Kp>

How to calm your anxiety, from a neuroscientist; Two evidence-based activities - breathing and movement - can soothe your nervous system and fuel creativity and connection

<https://bit.ly/48lbsH0>

How to Eliminate Workplace Bullying and Incivility

<https://bit.ly/3T1VmlF>

When New Hires Get Paid More, Top Performers Resign First; Research shows that unaddressed pay gaps will push veteran talent to find new jobs

<https://bit.ly/3T2i4tV>

Why neurodiversification is more important than hiring workers based on cultural fit

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

Companies with higher proportions of women on their boards tend to achieve higher credit ratings than those with lower female representation, Moody's Investors Service said, noting the value offered by boards with a range of viewpoints

<https://bit.ly/3SYP862>

Giving DEI the Pink Slip; Major institutions have started rolling back their diversity bureaucracies

<https://bit.ly/3v08BeM>

A Good AI Program Must Start with Good Data; Making good on the promise of generative AI requires a foundation of clean data and clear policies. Chief data officers and AI experts weigh in on practical ways to build a strong program

<https://bit.ly/3V5GLs2>

How the procurement process can help agencies acquire responsible AI; Buying artificial intelligence is not just about setting new policies to manage emerging technology, but applying tried-and-true processes

<https://bit.ly/3To8Ppe>

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Suburban mayors warn that Governor Pritzker's plan to eliminate grocery sales tax will hurt services or raise other taxes

<https://tinyurl.com/4evw6nsc>

Eliminating sales tax on groceries could affect basic services in some suburbs, mayors say

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

The Illinois Legislature enlarged leave rights, statewide, to encompass: Parents experiencing the loss of a child due to suicide or homicide; Individuals experiencing the loss of a family member who was the victim of a violent crime; and Individuals donating organs

<https://bit.ly/49GdQ23>

Chicago Mayor Johnson says no plans yet to again extend migrant removal deadline

<https://bit.ly/4c5FQOy>

The Bring Chicago Home referendum will remain on March primary ballots, but its results may not be tallied.

<https://bit.ly/49C0vbd>

Mayor Brandon Johnson Champions Workforce Expansion for Chicago Youth with One Summer Chicago Initiative

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

UChicago nurses to hold one-day strike for safe staffing

<https://bit.ly/3T2tUnL>

Why aren't more families in need getting food aid from this established federal program?

<https://bit.ly/48KdUN7>

Bills go unpaid as vendors caught in Dolton's dysfunction; Dolton owes more than \$427K to a company that repaved village streets in 2002. That firm is not alone

<https://bit.ly/3wHq0t1>

Dolton Mayor vetoes resolution calling for spending investigation

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

DuPage County adopts plan solidifying ownership and operation of nearly 60 miles of its trail network

<https://bit.ly/4c3KLiL>

New Lenox Property Tax Rebate Checks In The Mail; In total, this year's rebate is \$2,217,437 sent to 6,790 households

<https://bit.ly/4340Fpe>

Opponents of 143rd widening fail to garner Will County Board quorum in fight over veto

<https://bit.ly/48EtM3D>

Waukegan ravines the subject of climate change study; 'Where individuals can escape from urban life'

<https://bit.ly/3V63550>

Fight over domed greenhouse in West Chicago goes to court

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

CTA calls on private companies to submit tech solutions to improve system

<https://bit.ly/437rAkg>

Chicago's iconic river architecture boat tour returns to downtown on St. Patrick's Day weekend

<https://abc7.ws/49EJSvp>

Hoffman Estates latest suburb asked to adopt Gaza cease-fire resolution

<https://bit.ly/49UPfX4>

How AI is helping Lake County forest preserves engage with the public

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

Miche Fest Moves To Oakwood Beach After Pilsen Neighbors Protested Harrison Park Takeover; The new location comes after Pilsen residents spoke out against the private use of neighborhood parks.

<https://bit.ly/3V442ui>

Idling trains bother River Forest residents; Village officials are asking Union Pacific for answers

<https://bit.ly/3v1CWJR>

Crow Island Woods access limited as stormwater project begins

<https://bit.ly/3T6vyVI>

Evanston civil rights leader declines honorary street sign, citing lack of a Gaza cease-fire resolution

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

Report calls for review of Evanston City Council policies

<https://bit.ly/3uOYZn3>

Evanston panel flip-flops on leaf blowers; Three-week pause in ban on gas blowers will be up for council debate next week.

<https://bit.ly/4375CNZ>

Evanston panel opts to roll the dice on gambling; HSC votes to permit video gaming terminals throughout city.

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

Downers Grove's One Book, One Town event focuses on compassion, hope

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

Will-Grundy Medical Clinic (WGMC) Partners With The Will County Community Mental Health Board

<https://bit.ly/434Uyka>

On a roll: Rockford's new garbage, recycling bins are coming

<https://bit.ly/3lpos9H>

The Midwest Food Bank in Morton is among nearly two dozen groups to receive grant funding to provide free and locally produced food to vulnerable communities.

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

Winnebago County receives \$181K for emergency food, shelter programs

<https://bit.ly/4a0aO8F>

Pritzker announces \$28.8M in USDA grants to provide free local food to communities in need

<https://bit.ly/48G6RoO>

Officials raise concern for Champaign postal hub plans

<https://bit.ly/4c4Horl>

Election judges needed in Central Illinois

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

Normal council adopts budget, increases water rates

<https://bit.ly/3T7GmTg>

Normal council takes first steps toward banning future smoke shops in Uptown, OKs increases for water and sewer rates

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

Bloomington homeless problem could prompt emergency declaration and request for county services

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

Flood threat low for the Quad-Cities this spring

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

Quincy City Council to consider second utility increase in 15 months

<https://bit.ly/3V4Geg8>

Springfield Area Arts Council announces launch of 2024 City Arts competitive grant program

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

The Vermilion County State's Attorney's Office has completed a review of a joint agreement between the City of Danville and Vermilion County regarding the planned demolition of Bresee Tower.

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

Carbondale city manager announces resignation

<https://bit.ly/3P9JYTx>

SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The federal government isn't keeping up with its safety checks for asbestos in government buildings, according to an audit that dings the General Services Administration for the failure

<https://bit.ly/4376zpD>

Chicago Bears promote Karen Murphy to EVP of stadium development and chief operating officer

<https://bit.ly/436YHUZ>

Evanston 5th Ward groundbreaking expected in July; New school to be finished in June 2026.

<https://bit.ly/4c1qVEU>

Glenbard Township High School District 87 is asking voters to approve a bond issue to fund improvements to its schools; A cottage industry of district administrators, teacher unions, architectural firms, construction firms and financial advisors work together to pass debt and/or tax referendums

<https://bit.ly/3P4WluP>

Weller, Thomas Halls at EIU to pause use for fall 2024; Additionally, Thomas Hall will also be put on pause due to two major campus projects planned for the area: the new life sciences building and the utility tunnel project.

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

STATE & FEDERAL

Illinois Comptroller Pitches Plan to Bill Biden for Migrant Costs; "We should be able to claw back those funds"; "This is a situation that the federal government has allowed to happen"

<https://tinyurl.com/36xb6fn2>

Judges, ex-legislators and the Cook County clerk wrote letters of support for convicted Springfield insider Tim Mapes

<https://bit.ly/3v05raO>

Professor says lack of election competition in Illinois bad for governing

<https://bit.ly/3lq2VxF>

Legal group files complaint against three federal judges in Illinois

<https://bit.ly/430Pw8R>

Powerbrokers and political insiders asked judge to go easy on convicted top aide to Michael Madigan

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

Illinois primary election voter guide: Key dates and more

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

Why sleep experts say we should stop changing the clocks for daylight saving time

<https://bit.ly/4a1ri0e>

State Representative Edgar Gonzalez, Jr. (D-Chicago) recently introduced House Bill 1634, which seeks to have Illinois automatically adopt the vehicle emissions standards of California.

<https://bit.ly/3V66hNR>

Democratic Illinois lawmakers propose ways to protect - or expand - IVF

<https://bit.ly/48C0Rxe>

Illinois Attorney General says targeting Mexican-style rodeos may violate anti-discrimination laws

<https://bit.ly/48C1Q0o>

Illinois pharmacies progress in dispensing controversial abortion pill, mifepristone

<https://bit.ly/48K7c9T>

—

Joe Biden and Donald Trump are sweeping Super Tuesday races and moving closer to a November rematch

<https://bit.ly/49LIPv6>

Trump, Biden dominating Super Tuesday

<https://bit.ly/3T52Owv>

Tennessee House Republicans passed legislation to block state courts from hearing challenges to any internal rules or policies the General Assembly passes, a direct response to a lawsuit filed after three Tennesseans were dragged out of a committee hearing for holding paper signs calling for gun reform

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

A U.S. appeals court held that a Florida law championed by Governor DeSantis that banned mandatory workplace diversity training that promotes progressive concepts violates employers' constitutional freedom of speech rights

<https://tinyurl.com/3bjabmn5>

Appeals court blocks Florida 'Stop Woke Act,' says it's a 'First Amendment sin'

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

Governor canceling \$2B in medical debt for up to 1M Arizonans

<https://bit.ly/3T39YRU>

The \$175.3T Doomsday Clock Is Ticking - That Is The Estimated Unfunded SS And Medicare Liability

<https://bit.ly/4c4BsyW>

Earmark battle emerges as late threat to spending bill

<https://bit.ly/3P7Tt5D>

GOP's anti-woke fight falls flat in Congress as spending bill bankrolls Biden agenda; Ecogrief and pride flags survive the budget battle

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

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is fueling speculation that he could join the Libertarian Party's presidential ticket as he seeks to qualify in more states heading into November

<https://bit.ly/3Vc7B1w>

No Labels Could Give U.S. Someone To Vote For, Not Against

<https://bit.ly/3V2BpxG>

Michelle Obama's office says the former first lady 'will not be running for president' in 2024; Democrats and Republicans have mused about a Michelle Obama candidacy, albeit for different reasons

<https://nbcnews.to/4c4F7NA>

The Effort to Disqualify Trump From the Ballot Was an Unmitigated Disaster

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

Super Tuesday's dominance highlights how presidential selection process can exclude many US voters; Holding a primary so much later than other states means its voters often have little say in choosing the presidential contenders

<https://bit.ly/48FWYr5>

A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit that alleged the Michigan Secretary of State had violated federal law by allowing thousands of deceased voters to remain on the voter rolls

<https://bit.ly/49VFJ67>

Conspiracies hinder GOP's efforts in Kansas to cut the time for returning mail ballots

<https://abcn.ws/3T5XUzb>

The U.S. is no longer seen as a good model of democracy. Three investments in civic infrastructure could change that

<https://bit.ly/3wHe8HA>

The Supreme Court temporarily halted a new state law allowing Texas police to arrest people suspected of crossing the border illegally from going into effect; Issued a temporary stay until March 13

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

Latinos agree things are bad on the border but differ from non-Hispanics on solutions; While three-quarters of Latinos described the increases in migration as a major problem or crisis, just a third of Hispanics backed increasing deportations of people in the U.S. illegally

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

Skyrocketing cost of US nuclear missile program spurs reckoning

<https://bit.ly/3V3YKyW>

A look at Taurus missiles, the weapon at the heart of a leaked audio and Russian-German tensions

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

The UN atomic watchdog's director says he's heading to Moscow for talks on nuclear safety in Ukraine

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

Newly enlarged NATO starts drill in Finland, Norway and Sweden in defense of its Nordic turf

<https://bit.ly/4bW9hm5>

Putin Allies Quietly Gathering Private Armies; Russian companies and state agencies have financed dozens of pseudo-mercenary groups that are now fighting in Ukraine

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

Israel-Hamas truce talks stall as war in Gaza grinds on; A second day of talks concluded with no breakthrough between the warring sides

<https://abcn.ws/3TIUhXk>

Biden admin carefully ramps up criticism of Israel over the Gaza war but stops short of cutting off military aid

<https://nbcnews.to/49Xel2f>

Biden's rift with Netanyahu grows wider; Netanyahu has made no secret of his opposition both to Palestinian statehood and Biden's postwar vision

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

Israel escalates its criticism of a UN agency in Gaza. It says 450 of its workers are militants

<https://bit.ly/3wG8tBz>

How the Biden Administration Kneecapped the Most Essential Aid Group in Gaza; UNRWA has been pushed to its "breaking point" after "rash" decisions by the US and its allies

<https://bit.ly/49ECj8a>

U.N. says "reasonable grounds to believe" Hamas carried out s. attacks on Oct. 7, and likely still is

<https://cbsn.ws/4c02dES>

The Houthis Are Very, Very Pleased; The Houthis have successfully branded themselves as champions of the Palestinian cause; How do you contain a force as volatile and reckless as the Houthis?

<https://bit.ly/3V8XPNN>

China's Boom Is Over - Beijing Is Making It Worse

<https://bit.ly/48N89Ox>

A subtle shift in how China talks about Taiwan suggests it is gearing up for war; China dropped mention of "peaceful reunification" with Taiwan in a government report

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

China to boost defense spending by 7.2% this year despite economic woes

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

Stratcom general warns of China's expansion of nuclear weapons; Nuclear war dangers seen growing from military links between China, Russia, North Korea and Iran

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

'There will be no jobs left on a dead planet': Why the labor and climate fights should be waged together; For all of us to survive, labor and climate leaders need to develop a culture that's centered on shared goals and long-term alliances

<https://bit.ly/49FSDp0>

The Political Sabotage of Nuclear Power; Abundant, emissions-free energy was once the promise of a nuclear-powered future. What happened?

<https://bit.ly/4c5u86f>

Is Global Climate Policy Working? Climate policies do many things, but accelerating de-carbonization of the global economy is not yet among them

<https://bit.ly/48Gxlq0>

Scientists have used artificial intelligence to overcome a huge challenge for producing near-limitless clean energy with nuclear fusion

<https://bit.ly/3P9mZs1>

Russia and China looking to put a nuclear power plant on the Moon

<https://bit.ly/48G0lyb>

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"To play it safe is not to play."

--Robert Altman

ASK ANCEL GLINK...the question changes each Friday. Information submitted to Ancel Glink through this service is not considered confidential, nor does the service create an attorney-client relationship with Ancel Glink.

Q: Is written correspondence addressed only to a Mayor a public record available for copying under FOIA?

A: Possibly not. This question was recently addressed again by the Illinois Appellate Court in Shehadeh v. City of Taylorville, where the court reviewed the City's denial of a FOIA request for a copy of the requester's own letter to the Mayor. The most interesting result of the case arises from the Appellate Court ruling that the requester's letter addressed to the Mayor did not qualify as a public record under FOIA because it was not "received by, in the possession of, or under the control of a public body." After analyzing FOIA's definition of a "public body" and prior Illinois cases concluding that an individual alderperson was not a "public body" under FOIA, the Appellate Court concluded that the Mayor is not a "public body" under FOIA. The Court rejected the requestor's argument that an individual Alderperson should be distinguished from a Mayor, noting that even though a Mayor (unlike an individual Alderperson) has legal authority to make certain unilateral decisions and actions, that distinction does not transform a Mayor into a "public body" under FOIA. It is important to note that there is mixed precedent regarding this question.

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