

Subject: News Headlines: 3-14-24

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News Headlines: March 14, 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

How to Be Right 80% of the Time in Education; The problem is, it's more rewarding to be wrong; If you bet against the long-term success of any given school reform or educational innovation, you'll generally be right at least 80% of the time

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

Why is standardized testing the lifeblood of education policy? We're failing our students

<https://bit.ly/3x0ciS4>

Texas has placed an 80,000-student charter school network under conservatorship following investigations into multiple allegations of "financial and operational impropriety"

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

'You Can Hear a Pin Drop': The Rise of Super Strict Schools in England; Inspired by the academic success of schools like the Michaela secondary school in northwest London, some principals are introducing tight controls on students' behavior

<https://nyti.ms/3v1qhGX>

'Brain gain' in rural America and who is behind it; Young people leave their homes to explore and learn everywhere, not just in rural America. But rural spaces offer some unique advantages that inspire many to return and bolster their communities

<https://bit.ly/3TzPt0u>

Biden proposes 'historic new program' to address child care shortages; The president is requesting a \$500M increase in Child Care and Development Block Grant funding, which states use to lower the cost of child care for low-income families and raise child care provider wages

<https://bit.ly/48YABx8>

Delta-8-THC use reported by 11% of 12th graders in 2023

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

If schools won't ban kids' cellphones, some lawmakers say, they will

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

Parent Poll: It's the Economy - Not Culture Wars - Worrying Them & Cell Phones OK; A new National Parents Union survey finds broad support for direct federal funding to help families and few fans of school cell phone bans

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

To help address the city's ongoing youth mental health crisis, New York City Council members are looking to expand student support groups and tap peer-to-peer connections

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

Podcast: Bad Therapy - Why the Kids Aren't Growing Up; A discussion of the rampant over-diagnosis of mental-health disorders, how therapists are harming kids and undermining parents, and why human beings are far more resilient than we think

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

We need to stop telling kids they've been traumatized; How therapy culture makes children miserable

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

'A Condemnation': Under Mental Health Strains, Students Weigh Quitting College; The number of students tempted to leave college because of mental health or well-being has increased, with 54 percent of all students citing emotional stress - and 43 percent citing personal mental health - as reasons they'd leave

<https://bit.ly/4ae05Yf>

Give up on happiness. Go hard at wonder; By abandoning the pursuit of happiness and filling our days with things that spark wonder, that aren't entirely based on positivity, and that fuel our curiosity and our passions, we can overcome our emotional barriers and live truly fulfilling, wonder-full lives

<https://bit.ly/4cff85P>

Sometimes kids need a push. Here's how to do it kindly; Raising an independent child is about empathy

<https://bit.ly/3TzTkL0>

Podcast: How Is the 'College Is a Scam' Narrative Influencing Who Chooses to Go to Campus?

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

Do adults without degrees see the value of college? New research focuses on how 18- to 30-year-olds without college diplomas view higher education

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

Student perceptions of American higher education; Continued research exploring college enrollment declines

<https://gates.ly/4a9msOx>

How Texas Colleges Are Preparing Students for AI Careers

<https://bit.ly/3IzITC0>

College campuses are still not safe for Jewish students. That's why I have submitted 33 Title VI complaints to the Department of Education

<https://bit.ly/43iYY7p>

Raising children in an era of ideological capture; The rising generation of American children is the most anxious, depressed, and antisocial in memory. The structures and traditions that once provided guidance and discipline are castigated as "racist" and "sexist," and have been displaced by the demands of "social justice"

<https://bit.ly/4a2QYtK>

"As educators, we must tell the truth - to ourselves and then to our students," writes a director of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging at a Montessori school in Cincinnati. Sometimes, though, the truth can be difficult to face and uncomfortable to talk about

<https://bit.ly/3VdKaF9>

How might Parents' Bills of Rights impact the future of collecting student-related data? Three attorneys write that growing state legislative pushes create additional data privacy, collection and access obligations for schools

<https://bit.ly/3Pg0LVi>

Girls wrestling is the nation's fastest-growing high school sport

<https://bit.ly/43eAqN4>

Boosters Look to Lure High School Athletes with NCAA Sidelined; Donor-funded organizations are preparing to pursue high school athletes with lucrative deals to lure them to specific colleges while a National Collegiate Athletic Association rule banning the practice is on hold

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

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Non-profit policy think tank disputes poll that favors spending more on education

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

The State of Education in Illinois 2023-2024 Full Report

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

Illinois public schools receive a 'C' grade on their State of Education report card

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

First-time voters must be left alone to make their choice. Even by their teachers; The Chicago Teachers Union called this a "non-partisan voter education forum." It was an educational exercise, the union said

<https://tinyurl.com/569fbjrx>

White girls are barred from a public school leadership program in Oak Park, Illinois. A watchdog group says the program is in "direct violation" of the law. "Girls on the Rise" is a "safe space for girls of color"

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

Chicago Public Schools wants ideas for how to improve outcomes for Black students

<https://bit.ly/3vcY003>

Chicago Public Schools wants to hear about the Black student experience as it develops a 'Black Student Success' plan; Kicking off a series of community discussions aimed at improving Black student achievement
<https://bit.ly/3TAMqEj>

Chicago Catholic high school offering full scholarships to all incoming freshmen; The average cost of tuition at Josephinum Academy is about \$9,500 per student, and the scholarship covers all 40 incoming freshman
<https://bit.ly/3VfQuMm>

Trailblazing North Central College president focused on listening to students
<https://bit.ly/3v9DvBh>

Ex-Elmwood Park High School security officer sues for being fired after gun incident
<https://bit.ly/4cszSaH>

Lemont student aces ACT three years after her sister's perfect score
<https://bit.ly/3Pm0u2S>

Southtowners: Hillcrest teacher, Lemont group earn 'Excel' awards, and more
<https://bit.ly/43e09VV>

Waukegan schools trying to get parents more involved; 'This is part of our parent university'
<https://bit.ly/49QvpNb>

Officials say all District 204 schools have new life-saving devices
<https://bit.ly/3wTrnF5>

UChicago event examines unionization in college athletics, paying student athletes
<https://bit.ly/3VjhpHq>

Richmond police investigating 'sensitive images' depicting Richmond-Burton students, possibly AI-generated
<https://bit.ly/4cc8ldj>

Dominican University closing in on the digital divide; The University has through January 2025 to spend the grant
<https://bit.ly/43j7UcX>

Illinois Community Colleges reporting enrollment up
<https://bit.ly/43fdmgW>

Peoria student chefs win eighth state championship in a row with Native American inspired menu
<https://bit.ly/4aansSO>

Illinois lawmakers aim to make breakfast and lunch free for all K-12 students
<https://bit.ly/49StJm8>

More than an after-school program, DREAAM provides mentorship and lasting relationships
<https://bit.ly/4cen8Eg>

West Prairie policy change raises 'scary thought' about possible book bans

<https://bit.ly/3Tfm8am>

State board declares Fairview Heights school district 'in financial difficulty'

<https://bit.ly/3PIIfM2>

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Inflation exceeds forecasts, affirming Fed's caution on initial rate cut; Futures trading suggested that the odds that policymakers will cut the main interest rate by at least a quarter point on May 1 have plunged to 11% from 52% a month ago

<https://bit.ly/4ce2fZS>

Inflation, interest rates contribute to backlog dip; Higher borrowing costs may stick around for longer than anticipated, which could upset economic momentum

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

inflation is still in a downtrend, moving from 3% to 2% inflation is going to be a bigger struggle than moving from 6% to 3%. Additionally, the rapid pace of disinflation in the second half of 2023 created irrational expectations for the pace of rate cuts in 2024

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

Treasury Secretary Yellen says she regrets saying inflation was 'transitory'

<https://bit.ly/3Pm6kkO>

The most potent labor market indicator of all is still strongly positive; Real aggregate non-supervisory payrolls are positive, and they got more positive in 2023 compared with 2022. Currently they are 2.6% higher YoY than inflation

<https://bit.ly/3PjFHx2>

Bernie Sanders to introduce legislation to cut workweek to 32 hours

<https://bit.ly/3Pm5dBE>

The U.S. is experiencing a generational boom in small business startups; During the first three years of the Biden administration, Americans filed 16M new business applications

<https://bit.ly/48UQV1O>

How much is an office building in a big city worth these days? No one really knows; Investors have been poised to pounce on depressed office properties for a while now, but there hasn't been much opportunity for actual deal-making

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

Rising home prices create an enormous burden. So why aren't we building more houses? Only 15.5% of homes bought in 2023 would have a mortgage costing less than 30% of local median income

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

What's Good for Older Americans Is Good for All of Us; Our Housing Needs Change as We Age; Aging in Place Is Hugely Popular; ADUs and Missing Middle Housing

<https://bit.ly/3x03CLs>

A bipartisan group of Minnesota lawmakers advanced a package of housing proposals that would limit local governments' zoning controls, opening up development of more types of housing in more areas of the state

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

One in every 2,632 housing units in Florida had a foreclosure filing in February. South Carolina registered foreclosure filings for one in every 2,248 homes, while Delaware had one in every 2,428

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

Why is it so hard to build housing near transit stops? Two recent studies look at the obstacles to building more apartments and other dense housing options near transit to address environmental, urban development and housing goals

<https://bit.ly/3TcMU3b>

Spurring Housing Development Near Transit through Federally Funded Land Acquisition

<https://urbn.is/3TeCcJp>

US DOT awards \$3.3B to reconnect communities, offers funding for other transportation projects; Meanwhile, President Biden's 2025 budget for transportation calls for \$4B for large transit projects and \$1.2B for the use of low-embodied-carbon materials

<https://bit.ly/48SqlB2>

How The Interstate Highway System Changed American Industry; Measuring almost 48,000 miles in total distance, the Interstate Highway System was completed only in 1992, more than three decades after work began, and for a total cost in today's dollars of more than \$500B

<https://bit.ly/43iqIt9>

What Drives Republican Opposition to Transit? GOP state lawmakers have often opposed new spending and infrastructure for public transit. The reasons have as much to do with the urban-rural divide as partisan ideology

<https://bit.ly/3v1SihA>

Dollar Tree, Family Dollar to close 1,000 stores; The company said continued inflation is pressuring Family Dollar's core customer base

<https://bit.ly/3v6ylpP>

Family Dollar, the struggling discount chain that caters to low-income customers predominantly in cities, said it will close nearly 1,000 stores.

<https://tinyurl.com/5hf3sdms>

Grocery inflation hits a fresh low; Food-at-home prices rose in February at a 1% annual rate - the slowest pace since June 2021

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

Quiet juggernaut Ashley Furniture makes \$1B acquisition

<https://bit.ly/3TC6ZBr>

EV euphoria is dead. Automakers trumpet consumer choice for U.S. car shoppers; U.S. EV sales were a record 1.2M units last year, representing 7.6% of the overall national market. That share is expected to increase to between 30% and 39% by the end of the decade

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

In the "lithium triangle" - a region spanning Argentina, Chile and Bolivia - native communities sit upon a treasure trove of the stuff: an estimated \$1T in lithium

<https://bit.ly/3IE639j>

Will renewables break the power grid or save it? The carbon-free promise of solar and wind teeters on high voltage wires

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

What the numbers say about diversity on corporate boards

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

Congress' failure so far to deliver on promise of tens of \$Bs in new research spending threatens America's long-term economic competitiveness

<https://bit.ly/3Tzz8ZI>

Researchers propose fourth traffic signal light for hypothetical self-driving car future; It's called 'white' for now, until a color that 'does not create confusion' is picked

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

Researchers have developed camera-based autonomous driving tools that can work without deploying technologies like LIDAR and RADAR. The technology can potentially deliver stealth capabilities for the military while finding applications in space and agriculture

<https://bit.ly/4a5YnrS>

New construction technology releases include heavy equipment innovations, a handheld radar scanner and digital twin upgrades

<https://bit.ly/3Vzh8QP>

Carbon-neutral beef? Argentina's new certification could promote more climate-friendly livestock production - if it's done right

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

Some Academics Get Funding for Propping Up the Livestock Industry; Livestock, dairy, grain companies, and lobbyists spent \$Bs courting academic specialists

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

Cold Weather Businesses Suffer in the Winter That Wasn't; From Montana to Vermont, an unusually warm winter has proved painful for communities reliant on skiing, ice festivals and dog sledding

<https://on.wsj.com/3wPU9GO>

Pennsylvania governor announces new renewable energy standard, endorses statewide carbon-capping market

<https://bit.ly/3TgVpu7>

World's first major act to regulate AI passed by European lawmakers; Some EU countries have previously advocated self-regulation over government-led curbs, amid concerns that stifling regulation could set hurdles in Europe's progress to compete with Chinese and American companies in the tech sector

<https://cnb.cx/4a2Pz6s>

World's Most Extensive AI Rules Approved in EU Despite Criticism; Companies worry law goes too far, watchdogs say not far enough

<https://bit.ly/48RYx5s>

Physical Intelligence Is Building a Brain for Robots; Formed by a team of robotics and AI experts, the company plans to create software that can add high-level intelligence to a wide variety of robots and machines

<https://bloom.bg/3Vm9vNv>

Smart glasses are the future, but who will get there first? How they could bring the dream of a more ambient future to life

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

First round of funds for Illinois EV charging stations begins; program will provide up to \$50M for 46 charging stations across Illinois.

<https://bit.ly/3TxVs66>

CTA Red Line extension gets \$350M in Biden's proposed budget; The proposed funding is a critical part of the Red Line Extension project, which the CTA expects to cost a total of \$3.6B

<https://bit.ly/3VauW3U>

Many Illinois Companies Will Soon Be Required to List Pay Scales, Benefits in Job Postings

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

The Chicago industrial market saw a record number of deliveries in 2023, with developers adding 40.1M square feet of new industrial product to the market last year; But 2024? Don't expect another record-setting year when it comes to either the construction of new industrial buildings or industrial sales activity

<https://bit.ly/3VfO00u>

Michael Reese Hospital: What to know about the site proposed for Bears' new stadium

<https://bit.ly/4adjWa4>

Group suggests Chicago Bears opt for new stadium away from lakefront; Building a state-of-the-art facility in a historic community near the old Michael Reese Hospital site would be a more suitable location and the best of both worlds

<https://bit.ly/3v9Dptp>

Construction on tiny homes halted in Chicago; Built without plans or permits

<https://bit.ly/3lzN0gb>

The SEED program is open to people over 25 in Will County who are unemployed or underemployed and facing food insecurity; The program trains students in logistics, financial literacy, and warehouse work

<https://bit.ly/3v09Zhz>

Dollar Tree to close nearly 1,000 stores over next few years

<https://bit.ly/3lx3gPf>

With Split-Rail in West Town closed, owners plan to create a queer-focused event space

<https://bit.ly/3v6Kn2t>

New Elevated Chicago / DePaul studies look at how vacant lots near transit impact quality of life on the South and West sides

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

Massive new Chicago Target store to open this weekend

<https://bit.ly/43f3804>

In a push to trim down greenhouse gas emissions seeping from Chicago's skyline, a new report from the Urban Land Institute Chicago has urged the city to impose caps on carbon output from buildings.

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

Niles Approves TIF Agreement For New Restaurant; Award-Winning Chef Jimmy Bannos To Open Greek-Themed Koukla Restaurant

<https://bit.ly/43i9f3V>

Winnetka trustees want 'visionary' to design 'town square' project

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

'It's really an amazing resource': Mundelein Tool Library looking for new home

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

Oswego commission votes against plans for gas station on village's west side

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

Peoria plant involved in federal lawsuit with Purell manufacturer

<https://bit.ly/3wMhN6Q>

Popular chicken restaurant Raising Cane's could soon open in Rockford.

<https://bit.ly/4a9EwrP>

Hard Rock Casino Rockford taking shape inside and out

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

OSF HealthCare cleared an additional regulatory hurdle in its effort to reopen the Peru hospital, still targeted for Sunday, April 7.

<https://bit.ly/3Vk2AnM>

Illinois project creates first insulin-producing cow

<https://bit.ly/48VaE1A>

Hedge Park project in Champaign more than flood prevention

<https://bit.ly/3VifQt8>

Founding Females: The centralized movement to empower women in business field

<https://bit.ly/3wTJo6i>

Over \$123M coming to western Illinois for infrastructure projects

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

Farmer agrees to farm around BBCHS solar project

<https://bit.ly/3x3w6E4>

First pitch delivered as Bradley's \$45M complex in play

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

2023 derecho the 'last straw' as Hancock County farm exits livestock industry, could 2024 be similarly active?

<https://bit.ly/3Pk8Esx>

Federal funds inject over \$800,000 into Champaign County for Garden Hills revitalization

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

Springfield's tallest building likely to sell for \$M's

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

University Drive project costs moved to Edwardsville city council vote

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

Illinois Farm Bureau president emphasizes Farm Bill's importance

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

Jobs Up in Majority of Metro Areas in January

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

New Jersey is the only state to commission an independent review of its COVID-19 actions. The 900-page report details the effects on public health infrastructure and recommends changes to prevent the state from being blindsided again next time

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

How the anti-vaccine movement pits parental rights against public health; This year, legislators in Arizona,

Iowa, and West Virginia have introduced related consent bills

<https://bit.ly/4caQt2r>

4 big questions about measles, answered; Is measles making a US comeback

<https://bit.ly/3vbiI0g>

U.S. airport nasal swabbing expanding to Chicago and Miami; Those locations should provide more information about respiratory infections coming out of South America, Africa and Asia, particularly, CDC officials said

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

How Our Hands Spread Disease; The human hand is an incredible tool-and a deadly threat

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

Leprosy cases are rising in the US - what is the ancient disease and why is it spreading now?

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

The deadly H5N1 bird flu virus has spread more aggressively than ever before in wild birds and marine mammals since arriving in South America in 2022, raising the risk of it evolving into a bigger threat to humans, according to interviews with eight scientists

<https://tinyurl.com/r7x3peeb>

A medical team harnessed the Apple Vision Pro headset during two spinal surgeries. It plays into Apple's health care vision

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

Montana Man Pleads Guilty to Creating Massive Franken-Sheep With Cloned Animal Parts; The plan was to let people hunt the largest sheep in the world on private ranches in the U.S.

<https://bit.ly/3v6klqH>

Man's plan to create giant gene-edited sheep for hunting foiled; He pleaded guilty to two felony wildlife crimes

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

COVID-19 Leaves Its Mark on the Brain. Significant Drops in IQ Scores Are Noted; Research shows that even mild COVID-19 can lead to the equivalent of seven years of brain aging

<https://bit.ly/49S8fG0>

AI character fosters companionship for people living with dementia

<https://bit.ly/3wT4B02>

The New Science on What Ultra-Processed Food Does to Your Brain; Studies are finding links between these foods and changes in the way we learn, remember and feel

<https://on.wsj.com/3IAYY9m>

Why memory is more about your future than your past; Memories aren't mental recordings, but pliable information we can use to better manage the present and conjure future possibilities

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

Seven Reasons to Work; Are you ready to swap your office chair for a rocking chair? Hold that thought
<https://bit.ly/49U5W5A>

What Does Plastic Do to the Endocrine System? Mounting evidence shows the endocrine-disrupting chemicals in plastics are harmful to human health
<https://bit.ly/3lzMdvF>

Playing with dogs helps people concentrate and relax, brain recordings show
<https://nbcnews.to/3Tz7Hz4>

How bad is maternal mortality in the U.S.? A new study says it's been overestimated
<https://n.pr/48Y5WQu>

How Evangelicals Use Digital Surveillance to Target the Unconverted; The new thing in proselytizing is an app that allows Christian conservatives to collect data on whole neighborhoods of potential converts
<https://bit.ly/3lyWYhM>

On popular online platforms, predatory groups coerce children into self-harm
<https://bit.ly/48NxBUk>

'Inception attacks' on Meta VR headsets can trap users in a fake VR environment; Figured out a way to hack into Meta Quest headsets without the user knowing, allowing them to control the user's VR environment, steal information, and even manipulate interactions between users
<https://bit.ly/3vbnMBQ>

These Drones Beat First Responders to the Scene; Fremont, California's, drone-response program gets eyes on-site before emergency services arrive
<https://bit.ly/3VfOweU>

Biometrics giant Accenture quietly took over la residents' jail reform plan; A plan to divert funds from police ended up funneling an \$8.6M contract back toward the prison-industrial complex
<https://bit.ly/3T8jeE4>

What's Missing >From Railroad Safety Data? Dead Workers and Severed Limbs; Thanks to government loopholes, rail companies haven't been scrutinized by the Federal Railroad Administration for scores of alleged worker injuries and at least two deaths
<https://bit.ly/4afJ549>

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel in 5 major cities will now wear body cameras
<https://bit.ly/3lzhVJs>

Podcast: Traffic Deaths Now Exceed the Number of Homicides in Los Angeles. This Initiative Aims To Change That
<https://bit.ly/4a87gRV>

Is Bail Reform Soft on Crime? Not When Done Well; Evidence-based changes focused on fairness and effectiveness make for safer communities, better uses of government resources and protection of individual

freedom

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

The death of Oklahoma student Nex Benedict has been ruled a suicide, according to a medical examiner's report

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

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CDC sends team to Chicago to help contain measles outbreak at migrant shelter

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

State moves some migrant families to hotels amid measles outbreak

<https://bit.ly/3wTxU2A>

Student at Cooper Dual Language Elementary Academy developed measles on Monday, CPS confirms

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

Chicago Weekly Crime Tracker

<https://bit.ly/3l3abzK>

Mayor Johnson to Focus Chicago's Anti-Violence Efforts on 10 Blocks in Englewood, West Garfield Park, Austin, Little Village

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

One robbery crew has struck 21 different times over just the last few months - targeting plumbing and electrical businesses on the North, Northwest, and West sides of the city

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

Johnson to Focus Chicago's Anti-Violence Efforts on 10 Blocks in Englewood, West Garfield Park, Austin, Little Village

<https://bit.ly/3Tez9kl>

Chicago man gets 27 years for opening fire on car carrying police officer and 2 federal agents

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

Summit man held in custody after feds say he fired gun during U.S. Capitol riot

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

Lake County authorizes \$1.68M contract for temporary housing of jail inmates

<https://bit.ly/3wV8d1J>

Chicago Police Issue Community Alert Amid Surge in Motor Vehicle Thefts in Grand Crossing

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

Report of coyote biting 5-year-old shuts down Elmwood Dunes Preserve in Wilmette

<https://bit.ly/3v6Rs33>

Oil and gas companies emit more climate-warming methane than EPA reports

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

Illinois Law Enforcement Agencies Show Strong Compliance With State Laws To Build Trust

<https://bit.ly/4cbsRL5>

Urbana releases public safety personnel study

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

Jail populations see decrease, finances unknown following Safe-T Act

<https://bit.ly/3Ti3Mp7>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Muni Bond Games and the Lurking Arbitrage Vampires; Today's interest rates may tempt public financiers to try to play the spread between tax-exempt and taxable bond yields. That invites heightened federal scrutiny, but there are some strategies likely to avoid the bite of the feds

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

Claims about Idaho 'harmful' books rooted in QAnon conspiracy theory

<https://bit.ly/3v9Dk94>

To hit Vision Zero traffic safety goals, Richmond, Virginia, needs a 'cultural shift'; The program seeks to end all traffic-related fatalities and severe injuries by 2030

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

Illinois Supreme Court denies appeal of counting votes for controversial Bring Chicago Home referendum

<https://bit.ly/49Sbt2D>

'Bring Chicago Home' advocates claim there are 68,000 homeless Chicagoans, but that's 10 times higher than the estimate recognized by the federal government. If the problem is exaggerated, what will Mayor Brandon Johnson do with his tax hike money?

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

Civic Federation questions volatility, structure, fairness of 'Bring Chicago Home' referendum

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

Graduated Real Estate Transfer Tax and Bring Chicago Home Proposal: Data and Policy Analysis

<https://bit.ly/3v1tFSb>

Johnson says limited migrant shelter evictions to start

<https://bit.ly/3PmEq8p>

Johnson's \$1.25B bond plan moves forward; alderman says mayor is dodging spending oversight

<https://bit.ly/43o53je>

Paying \$M's to house migrants, Chicago failed to take Catholic archdiocese up on offers of free rent
<https://bit.ly/3VgnTXu>

Chicago Voters Will Get to Decide Whether City Council Should Have Power to Hike Taxes on Sales of Million-Dollar Properties, State Supreme Court Rules
<https://bit.ly/3TeUTwr>

As Chicago Mayor Johnson's bid to borrow \$1.25B to fund housing and development moved forward in the City Council, it faced an unexpected roadblock: an alderman calling on colleagues to vote "no" in protest
<https://bit.ly/3TfdB7o>

Pilsen residents push referendum to offset property tax increases; "Should the government provide assistance if your bill increased by more than 40% to help pay your property tax bill with TIF funds?"
<https://bit.ly/3TDeSGQ>

Climate Ready Chicago: Strategies For Accelerating Building Decarbonization
<https://bit.ly/3wNjUHW>

Chicago should set limits on buildings' greenhouse gas emissions, report says
<https://bit.ly/48ZefeN>

Proposed changes to public comment rules at Evanston City Council fail
<https://bit.ly/3TzQ6am>

Skokie residents react to ruling that Village Board violated Open Meetings Act; Improperly discussed a \$4.5M loan to a hotel development project in downtown Skokie in February 2023
<https://bit.ly/48YB826>

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois collected over \$60M in FY 2023 from criminal, civil, and asset forfeiture actions.
<https://bit.ly/43fd7Tk>

Poll: How has Chicago life changed since pandemic?
<https://bit.ly/3Vjcfly>

How to apply online for Cook County property tax exemptions
<https://bit.ly/3v1uoCT>

Highland Park restaurant, business owners say elected officials should be allowed to hold liquor licenses; 'Our voices are being muffled'
<https://bit.ly/3IDgyK6>

Elgin hoping to land state grant to replace aging oak trees in Lords Park
<https://bit.ly/4a6Atwo>

Kane County to spend \$1M redesigning heating and cooling system in sheriff's office, jail
<https://bit.ly/3TogwL8>

Evanston receives \$400,000 grant from Cook County for sidewalk improvements

<https://bit.ly/3Vzzlh9>

Connections for the Homeless to administer \$810,000 Evanston rent subsidy program

<https://bit.ly/3PgU1GD>

Members of Evanston's Finance and Budget Committee voted 5-2 Tuesday night to recommend that the city issue a new round of general obligation bonds within the next few months.

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

Due to their rapid growth, cottonwood trees often have a lifespan of 70 years or less. This week, the three huge cottonwood trees at the entrance to the Dr. Edward and Cecelia Moser Covered Bridge along the Riverwalk extension in Naperville will be coming down to help keep visitors safe.

<https://bit.ly/3Ti0QZD>

Election 2024: What will you pay in sales tax if McHenry County, Marengo referendums pass

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

Crest Hill, Romeoville getting federal funds for water projects

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

Peoria Heights comments on discolored water

<https://bit.ly/3TcY0oR>

The U.S. Postal Service is doubling down on its position that transferring processing operations from the North Mattis Avenue plant in Champaign to Chicago will not have a negative impact on delivery times, but members of the public aren't convinced.

<https://bit.ly/4aanv0W>

Jacksonville Food Center requests city grant to cope with rising demand

<https://bit.ly/48Sbyf9>

Adams County Board to weigh options including new HVAC system or new courthouse

<https://bit.ly/3Ve49DF>

As more municipalities around Madison County pass ordinances banning unauthorized encampments on public property, the Madison County State's Attorney is encouraging others to do the same.

<https://bit.ly/3lyL1sy>

Illinois EPA Offers Two Funding Opportunities for Watershed Management Projects to Address Nonpoint Source Pollution

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

Referendum could enable Clear Water to directly serve Lake Mattoon customers

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

Under budget crunch, metro-east city plans EMS layoffs, service cuts to neighboring towns

<https://bit.ly/4ccHON0>

SPACE NEEDS - NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Climate Change Is Turning Prisons Into Death Traps; Heat waves and floods are making Californian prisons increasingly unlivable. The state needs a better plan to address that

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

—

NU plans new softball stadium

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

Michael Reese Hospital: What to know about the site proposed for Bears' new stadium

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

Prospective visitors to the Obama Presidential Center (OPC) will have to wait a little longer for its opening in Jackson Park. the center's grand opening has been pushed again to spring 2026 to allow for a "truly spectacular" unveiling

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

Mosaic Construction LLC has completed a K-12 STEM learning facility for Noggin Builders at 4165 Dundee Road in the Chicago suburb of Northbrook.

<https://bit.ly/49R8YXY>

OPRF's Project 2 bids come in under budget; The school board will likely use most of \$1.3M in savings to add upgrades

<https://bit.ly/48Sruy2>

Touhy-Herbert Park's playground and a gym that is under construction beside the park on the Near West Side. The Chicago Park District announced that it would be making improvements to the park starting later in spring

<https://bit.ly/3TJyoS5>

After months of repairs, West Side's Legler Regional Library reopens

<https://bit.ly/49Ni5sM>

Kane County to spend \$1M redesigning heating and cooling system in sheriff's office, jail

<https://bit.ly/3IDc4ms>

STATE & FEDERAL

Change to immigrant health care programs in Illinois will cause up to 6,000 to lose benefits; The state

budgeted \$550M for the programs last year, and Pritzker is proposing \$440M for them during the fiscal year that begins July 1

<https://bit.ly/3PiXd4u>

Illinois Senate bill builds hope for infertility patients

<https://bit.ly/4ccb3PY>

Illinois legislator continues push for property tax relief as state sees higher revenues

<https://bit.ly/43f6ksO>

Illinois could ban prior authorization for in-patient mental health care

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

A panel of Illinois lawmakers began hearing testimony Wednesday on Gov. JB Pritzker's proposals for sweeping changes in the state's health insurance industry; Bill seeks to reduce denials of coverage, improve provider networks

<https://bit.ly/48O5btr>

LGBTQ+ Identification in U.S. Now at 7.6%; More than one in five Gen Z adults identify as LGBTQ+

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

Nearly 30% of Gen Z women identify as LGBTQ, Gallup survey finds; Women ages 18 to 26 were more than twice as likely to identify as LGBTQ than their millennial counterparts, the survey found

<https://nbcnews.to/3v0UHJp>

Florida Governor DeSantis's Anti-LGBTQ Regime Is Crumbling; Multiple bills stall in the legislature

<https://bit.ly/4a3duCM>

Buyouts can bring relief from medical debt, but they're far from a cure; One in 10 Americans carry medical debt, while 2 in 5 are underinsured and at risk of not being able to pay their medical bills

<https://bit.ly/4cdU9As>

Biden launches tax war with GOP

<https://bit.ly/3wPx5I5>

President Biden Calls for Corporate Tax Hikes; Increasing the corporate tax rate to 28% would raise the U.S. rate to one of the highest in the world, harming our ability to compete. The President's proposal would raise the actual combined U.S. rate to 32.8%, higher than any other OECD country but one

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

America's Biggest Companies Paid Top Execs More Than They Paid In Taxes; The report highlights how rampant corporate tax dodging and excessive executive pay have become among dozens of major American companies

<https://bit.ly/4csEVb9>

New Inflation Numbers Keep Economic Concerns Front and Center; The eroding value of the dollar inflicts pain, and Americans resent politicians who cause it

<https://bit.ly/49LipZ4>

Democrats' big vulnerability: Why they're losing Black, Hispanic voters; Democrats' advantage among Black, Latino and Asian voters is at its lowest since 1960

<https://bit.ly/49H0mmR>

Are men and women growing apart politically? Not so fast; The idea that young men and women inhabit different political realities is going viral. But is it true?

<https://bit.ly/4cbYiF3>

Conservatives are warning about noncitizens voting. It's a myth with a long history

<https://n.pr/4cbQ2F9>

Hopes that Biden will quit his reelection campaign ignore the differences - and lessons - of LBJ and 1968's Democratic catastrophe

<https://bit.ly/48S4jnw>

The Difference between Trump and Biden Is Mostly Cosmetic; The two presidential campaigns are failing to offer the voting public distinct visions of the country's future

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

It's Time to End the Use of Special Counsels; A special counsel is supposed to ensure that the Justice Department can credibly conduct sensitive investigations that are, and that appear to be, fair and apolitical. Yet special counsels (and their precursors) have for decades failed to achieve this goal

<https://bit.ly/3Pm1QL3>

GOP's Impeachment Farce Is Imploding, and the Real Culprit Is Trump; The case against Trump is based on things that actually happened, while the case against Biden is based largely on inventions

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

As Biden impeachment stalls, House GOP turns to backup plans; While Republicans have considered other paths to antagonize the White House for months, those plans have taken on fresh importance as a vote to impeach seems doomed

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

House GOP launches new probe of Jan. 6 and tries shifting blame for Capitol attack away from Trump

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

Why so many members of Congress are calling it quits; Thus far, 43 House members and eight senators have announced that they won't be seeking another term but they'll finish out this one. Additionally, eight House members and two Senators have left their seats early due to factors including retirement, death, and expulsion

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

Many Republicans plan to skip House GOP retreat as they grumble about location and spending time with one another

<https://tinyurl.com/55eb4htb>

YouTube Algorithm Steers People Away From Radical Content; Another blow to the idea that algorithms are driving our political dysfunction

<https://bit.ly/3lybh6m>

Putin is set to win 6 more years in power. Here's how it will affect the war and Russia's relations

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

Putin has no successor, no living rivals and no retirement plan - why his eventual death will set off a vicious power struggle

<https://bit.ly/3ThAI0Z>

Putin said Russia would demand security guarantees to consider talks to end the war in Ukraine, telling a state news agency that "realities on the ground" should be the basis of any negotiations

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

Putin said that Russia is ready to use nuclear weapons if its sovereignty or independence is threatened, issuing another blunt warning to the West just days before an election in which he's all but certain to secure another six-year term

<https://bit.ly/4c6bpHM>

Russia says it killed 234 fighters while thwarting an incursion from Ukraine

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

'It's a Very Russian War': Why Ukraine Is Struggling to Gain Back Ground; The Ukrainian war to defend its people from the ongoing Russian invasion is in a new, more difficult chapter for the defenders

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

The Lithuanian President called on Ukraine's allies to stop "drawing red lines" in terms of what they're willing to do to support Kyiv

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

The Pope wants Ukraine to surrender. That would give Russia a green light for endless war; Pope Francis's anti-western views are well known - and his new advice would lead not to peace, but a dangerous escalation

<https://tinyurl.com/2x6f37eh>

Denmark wants to increase the number of young people doing military service by extending conscription to women and increasing the time of service from 4 months to 11 months for both genders

<https://bit.ly/3lBhq1F>

A radical Mideast proposal: What if the U.S. recognized a Palestinian state now?

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

Netanyahu Is Making Israel Radioactive; With enemies like Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis and Iran, Israel should be enjoying the sympathy of much of the world. But it is not

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

Biden's problem is with Democrats who hate Israel, not Netanyahu; The administration's efforts to spin attacks on Jerusalem that validate Hamas propaganda as a critique of the prime minister and his policies are

an effort to appease the left

<https://bit.ly/3ThkV2d>

A free society is only as strong as the citizens willing to defend it. Reflections from my time on the ground in Israel

<https://bit.ly/3TwZFa8>

Stop the War in Gaza; In the only way it can be done; Instead of "Free Palestine," think "Peace now"

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

Podcast: Israel's use of mass starvation as a weapon of war; Aid groups assert that U.S. airdrop efforts fall short in averting famine, compounded by Israel's obstruction of aid truck access via land routes

<https://bit.ly/3IH9vQh>

Evangelical Christians are fierce Israel supporters. Now they are visiting as war-time volunteers

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

An anti-terrorism team of U.S. Marines has been dispatched to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to bolster the protection of the U.S. Embassy amid escalating gang violence and a deepening political crisis that has left some Americans stranded

<https://cbsn.ws/4a95Qgg>

China's grip on Hong Kong just became a little tighter; For Hong Kong's 7.4M citizens, the multiyear fight to maintain some semblance of self-government and political rights is all but over

<https://bit.ly/3VhMA5D>

China plans first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, its 4th in total

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

China's annual greenhouse gas emissions have soared over the past 20 years, dwarfing those of the U.S. But according to our progressive federal bureaucrats, America's cumulative historical emissions are the problem and Beijing now deserves a free-pass

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

Moving Trees North Could Save Forests from a Changing Climate; "Assisted migration" could help sustain productive forests in the face of warming habitats

<https://bit.ly/3Vhzx4d>

Successful Reforestation Is Keeping the Eastern U.S. Cooler; Parts of the southeastern and central U.S. haven't warmed as much as the rest of the country. Reforestation could be partially responsible for this "warming hole"

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

Hundreds of thousands of abandoned wells are scattered throughout America's oil and gas country. The 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law set aside \$4.7B to plug them, but there are no requirements to monitor them to ensure they aren't leaking oil, methane or other pollutants

<https://bit.ly/3v9EsJX>

US energy industry gas leaks are triple the official figures, study finds; Leaks of heat-trapping methane - about 3% of gas produced in US - cost \$9.3B yearly in climate damage, but the problem is fixable
<https://tinyurl.com/2p95ys4k>

Biden isn't advertising America's record oil boom; Biden is not "waging war" on American energy. He's boosting it
<https://bit.ly/3Pfz3Yr>

Inside the struggle to find 'official rationale' for Biden's oil, gas leasing halt
<https://bit.ly/3VzucFR>

Are we breaking the Atlantic Ocean? The climate change scenario that could chill parts of the world, explained
<https://bit.ly/3wMaA6M>

Betting on Nature's Catastrophes; Used his scientific knowledge to develop a winning formula for trading catastrophe bonds - a market that's booming thanks to climate change and inflation
<https://bloom.bg/3VcWMwt>

This company intends to be the first to mine the moon; Nearly a decade ago, Congress passed a law that allows private American space companies the rights to resources they mine on celestial bodies, including the moon
<https://bit.ly/3lBmJ19>

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If you have the same problem for a long time, maybe it's not a problem-it's a fact."
--Yitzhak Rabin

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: Can neighbors who object to a new development bring non-zoning claims to contest the proposed new use?

A: Possibly. This is an important question because the statute of limitations for zoning claims is limited to 90 days. If a plaintiff can still bring a common law nuisance claim after the 90 day limitations period it can result in uncertainty despite the General Assembly's intent to limit such uncertainty. In the case *Stop Northpoint, LLC v. City of Joliet*, an Illinois Appellate Court allowed a group to proceed with its private nuisance and public nuisance claims in its lawsuit to stop a proposed development of an industrial park. While this holding is specific to the pleadings in this case, it may provide a roadmap for other plaintiffs to contest controversial developments.

(Note: This column is not meant to provide legal advice. Consult with your local attorney. This service may constitute Advertising Material.)

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