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WAS \$20,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$16,616***



2018 SUBARU IMPREZA PREMIUM AWD, 4 Dr Sedan, 4cyl., crystal white pearl, blind spot detection, cross traffic alert. #P2830
WAS \$18,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$15,371***



2019 FORD ECOSPORT SE 4 Dr Utility, EcoBoost 1.0L, FWD, power moonroof, new tires, priced below KBB Fair Purchase Price. #P5601
WAS \$21,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$17,643***

CARS

- 2012 CHRYSLER 200 LIMITED** 2.4L 4cyl., 6-speed auto, FWD, black leather, new tires, heated seats, non-smoker. #42549N
WAS \$11,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$8,995***
- 2018 CHRYSLER 300 LIMITED** 3.6L V6, 8-speed auto, AWD, leather, cruise control w/stop, sunroof. #33169A
WAS \$24,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$19,736***
- 2021 AUDI A4 S LINE PREMIER AWD**, 4 Dr Sedan, 2.0L TFSI, 7-speed auto, leather, power moonroof, 15,500 miles. #P2815
WAS \$42,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$37,534***
- 2020 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL AWD**, V6, 6-speed auto, heated & cooled seats, moonroof, navigation GPS, leather, lifetime power train warranty! #P2816
WAS \$48,950.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$43,950***
- 2023 TOYOTA PRIUS LIMITED** 4cyl., 40/50 MPG, AWD, heated & cooled seats, 1 owner, 4 Dr Hatchback, white. #43241A
WAS \$43,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$43,995***
- 2022 FORD MUSTANG GT PREMIUM** only 381 miles! 2 Dr Coupe, 5.0L V8, 6-speed manual, RWD, race red, Equip Group A. #43319A
WAS \$49,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$45,781***

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- 2012 FORD F-550 SD XL** 4x4 Tow Package, 4 Dr Crew Cab, non-smoker, 6.7L V8 32V OHV Turbodiesel, CC, GVWR - 18,000lb Payload Package. #42328A
WAS \$38,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$23,933***
- 2018 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500** 4x4, 5.3L V8, 4 Dr Double Cab, E-Z lift & lower tailgate, Off Road Suspension Package, keyless entry, Ford Blue Certified, Blue Advantage. #42295A
WAS \$31,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$26,228***
- 2018 RAM 1500 CREW CAB** 4x4, 4 Dr Crew Cab, Hemi 5.7L V8, heated front seats, heated steering wheel, power foldaway mirrors, Certified Pre-Owned. #P2814
WAS \$32,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$29,163***
- 2020 RAM 1500 BIG HORN** 4 Dr Crew Cab, 8-speed auto, Hemi 5.7L V8, heated front seats, heated steering wheel, sec. alarm, Certified Pre-Owned. #32107D
WAS \$38,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$35,448***
- 2021 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB** 4x4, 4 Dr Quad Cab, Hemi 5.7L V8, a/c w/dual control, power mirrors, front heated seats, heated steering wheel. #33165A
WAS \$43,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$38,451***
- 2019 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500** 4x4, EcoTec 5.3L V8, 6-speed auto, electronic w/overdrive, Trailing Package, Ford Blue Advantage, Blue Certified. #P2819
WAS \$43,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$39,980***
- 2017 RAM 2500 CREW CAB SLT** 4x4, non-smoker, Cummins Diesel!! 4 Dr Crew Cab, 6.7L, auto, priced below KBB Fair Purchase Price, Certified Pre-Owned. #P5586A
WAS \$48,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$39,988***
- 2022 RAM 2500 CREW CAB** 4x4, 4 Dr Crew Cab, 6.4L V8, Heavy Duty Snow Plow Prep Group, rear power sliding window. #P2715
WAS \$64,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$47,461***
- 2017 RAM 2500 CREW CAB LARAMIE** 6.7L 16 Turbodiesel, 6-speed auto, Tow Package, heated & cooled seats, non-smoker, 4 Dr Crew Cab, Factory Certified. #P5595A
WAS \$54,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$48,493***

TRUCKS

- 2012 FORD F-150 LARIAT** 3.5L V6, 4WD, ABS brakes, alloy wheels, heated mirrors, heated front seats, 13,401 miles, 7300 Payload Package, keyless entry. #P2784A
WAS \$20,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$16,207***
- 2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO LT** 4.6L V6 Flex Fuel, CC, On-Star 6 mo. Connection Plan, keyless entry, remote start, E-Z life & lower tailgate. #P2722A
WAS \$21,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$17,468***



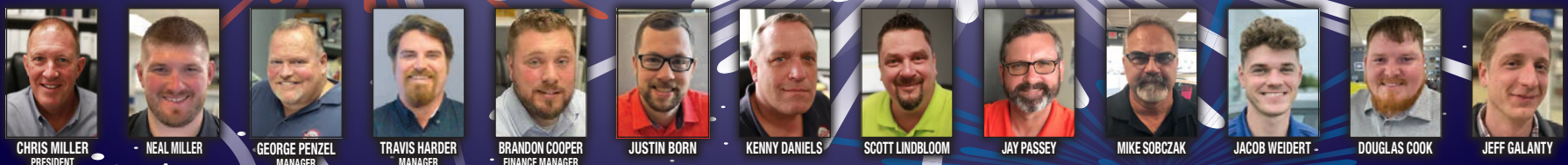
2018 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW 4X4 4 Dr Super Cab, new brakes, non-smoker, 2.7L V6 EcoBoost, Tow Package. #P2780
WAS \$39,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$35,983***

- 2014 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED** 5.4L V8, 7 passenger, heated & cooled seats, SWD, power moon roof, power running boards. #P2803A
WAS \$20,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$14,248***
- 2013 FORD ESCAPE** 4 Dr Sports Utility, AWD, 6-speed auto, Tow Package, heated seats, 1 owner, leather, hands-free tailgate. #P5602A
WAS \$17,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$14,544***
- 2015 DODGE DURANGO SXT** 4x4, 4 Dr Sports Utility, AWD, 3.6L V6 Flex Fuel, 1 owner, 7 passenger. #33027A
WAS \$18,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$14,848***
- 2015 FORD EXPLORER XLT** 4x4, 7 passenger, non-smoker, 3.5L, 6cyl., 6-speed auto w/select shift. #43193A
WAS \$18,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$14,909***
- 2017 HYUNDAI SANTA FE AWD**, 2.0L Turbo, heated seats, non-smoker, black leather, CC, automatic emergency braking, moonroof. #42569B
WAS \$20,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$16,822***
- 2015 CHEVY TAHOE LT** 7 passenger, 4 Dr Sports Utility, 5.3L V8 Flex Fuel, 4WD, 3rd row seating, remote keyless entry, Luxury Package. #33024A
WAS \$24,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$20,948***
- 2014 KEEP WRANGLER** 3.6L V6, 4WD, 3 piece hardcover, Class II Receiver Hitch, Trailer Tow Group, rear window defroster. #33030B
WAS \$30,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$28,377***
- 2020 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED** 4x4, 7 passenger, 24,902 miles, heated & cooled seats, 3rd row seating, leather, Trailer Tow Package. #P2801
WAS \$46,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$40,606***
- 2021 GMC YUKON XL DENALI** 6.2L V8, 7 passenger, heated & cooled seats, 3rd row seating, jet black leather, alloy wheels, 8,491 miles. #P2782
WAS \$78,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$73,384***



2019 JEEP RENEGADE 4X4 2.4L, 9-speed 948TA auto, keyless entry, lowner, remote start. #32310A
WAS \$26,995.....**MARKET BASED PRICE \$21,448***

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Stalled bills include repeal of subminimum wage for disabled workers, BIPA reform

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

While hundreds of bills cleared the General Assembly in the final month of the legislative session, some big-ticket measures will have to wait until at least the fall.

Sponsors of several stalled bills say they will consider reviving their proposals when lawmakers return to the Capitol in October and November for their annual veto session. Below is a look at some of the bills that didn't pass in the regular session and whether they're likely to come back up for a vote.

Subminimum wage: State Rep. Theresa Mah, D-Chicago, led a late push to prohibit Illinois businesses from participating in a federal program that allows them to pay individuals with disabilities below the minimum wage. It came just short of passing, although Mah says she has the votes to pass it in the fall.

The measure would have set a July 1, 2027, end date for Illinois businesses to participate in the subminimum wage program under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. That program allows employers of individuals with disabilities to obtain a certificate allowing them to pay less than the state and federal minimum wage. Advocates say a review of state records shows some

certificate holders have paid wages lower than \$1 per hour. According to the Illinois Department of Human Services, there are about 4,000 individuals employed under the program in Illinois and about 80 businesses have received certificates. Once the program ends, those workers would be subject to the statewide minimum wage.

The measure would also create a transition grant fund to support employer wage subsidies and other efforts to ensure a smooth transition and continued employment for disabled individuals.

Mah said the bill represented an agreement between IDHS and a trade group representing facilities that employ disabled individuals that was finalized late in the legislative process. But due to the crazed pace of the final week of session and attendance issues on the House floor, Mah said the measure fell just short of the 60 votes needed to pass.

"We kind of ran out of time during the last three days of session," Mah told Capitol News Illinois.

She said while she has the votes to pass the measure in the veto session, the effective dates of some of the bill's provisions might have to be pushed back due to a constitutional requirement that a

bill must pass with three-fifths majorities to have an immediate effective date after May 31.

Mah initially pushed for ending subminimum wage for disabled individuals in 2019, an effort advocates said would help Illinois "get right with history." It stalled that year but again gained steam after Gov. JB Pritzker signed an executive order in October 2021 preventing the state from entering into contracts with entities that pay disabled workers less than the minimum wage.

The bill's proponents noted the 2027 end date would create a four-year window for an existing state task force to determine the best path forward for distributing subsidies from the grant fund and minimizing disruption for employed individuals. The bill would expand that task force to add more representatives of disability care providers affected by the end of subminimum wage.

It also would increase a state- and federal-funded "personal needs allowance" for individuals living in a Community Integrated Living Arrangement to \$100 from \$60 monthly.

Biometric privacy: Another stalled measure would have made changes to the state's

Biometric Information Privacy Act, a 2008 law that allows individuals to sue companies over improper collection or storage of information such as fingerprints or facial scans.

Senate Democrats filed language to alter BIPA in an amendment to House Bill 3811 on what was scheduled to be the final day of the spring session before it was extended, immediately drawing criticisms from business groups.

In the last five years, upwards of 2,000 lawsuits have been filed under BIPA, followed by several high-dollar settlements. Those legal developments, in addition to a series of Illinois Supreme Court decisions interpreting BIPA's limits in ways that favor aggrieved parties, have worried the business community.

Fast food chain White Castle, the defendant in one of the two BIPA-related cases decided by the state's high court in February, claims the court's ruling could cost the company \$17 billion — a figure that businesses warn could bankrupt entire industries. The court in that case found that claims could accrue for each violation of BIPA, meaning every individual finger or facial scan would constitute a separate violation of the law.

The opinion did, however, "respectfully suggest" the General Assembly review BIPA "and make clear its intent regarding the assessment of damages under the Act."

In response, the late-session amendment would have stipulated that "the same biometric identifier from the same person using the same method of collection has created a single violation," but business groups said the language was too vague.

They also assailed the proposed fine increase for negligent violations from \$1,000 to \$1,500 and decried the addition of another type of biometric data to the law — electronic signatures — as a giveaway to trial lawyers.

After business groups balked at the proposal, Senate Democratic leaders agreed to hold off on the bill pending further negotiations, meaning the high court's suggestions will go unheeded at least until the fall veto session.

Human composting: House Bill 3158 would have legalized and regulated "natural organic reduction," a process also known as human composting or terramation in which human remains are rapidly decomposed into compost.

The process turns human remains into dirt over the course of several weeks by heating a person's remains in a vessel with wood chips, straw and other organic material to accelerate the growth of microbes that break down the body. This is distinct from "natural burial," in which a body is buried with no casket or in a biodegradable container.

The measure passed the House 63-38 on March 24 and was later discussed in a subject matter hearing in the Senate. But it never received a committee vote or consideration by the full Senate.

Bill sponsor Rep. Kelly Cassidy, D-Chicago, said she will continue to push for its passage, but she did not have a specific timeline for when it may be considered.

"We had been working on the bill in the House for a couple of years, so folks were a little more familiar with it," she said in an email statement. "This is a whole new topic for the Senate, and between that unfamiliarity and the dishonest arguments of the opposition, we need to spend time having those direct conversations with members of that chamber and get their questions answered."

Cannabis car search: Senate Bill 125 would have ensured that the smell of "burnt or raw cannabis in a motor vehicle" cannot alone be probable cause for an individual's vehicle to be searched if the driver is 21 years of age or older.

The measure passed 33-20 in the Senate on March 30 but faced opposition from law enforcement groups and never came to a vote in the House.

Sen. Rachel Ventura, D-Joliet, said the measure may be revisited in the fall veto session with other cannabis-related measures, but multiple pending state court cases are already centered on the issue, so it might not need to be decided by the legislature.

The Illinois Supreme Court has agreed to hear three cases pertaining to the issue, with two of the cases being consolidated. Two of the cases out of the 3rd District Appel-

late Court ruled that the smell of cannabis cannot alone be probable cause to pull a vehicle over. The 4th District Appellate Court came to the opposite ruling.

"We're allowing the courts to take their view on it," Ventura said.

Ventura said she's hoping the Illinois Supreme Court rules in favor of protecting against searches based on the smell of cannabis, but she's willing to bring the bill back in the fall if needed.

"I'm hoping not to go that route. I'm very hopeful that the courts will rule in the direction of the 3rd (District) Appellate Court," Ventura said.

Corruption convictions: House Bill 351 would have barred anyone convicted of a felony, bribery, perjury or misuse of public funds while serving as a public official from ever being elected to a state or local office again.

The bill would have allowed exceptions for people whose convictions have been reversed or pardoned, or if they've received a restoration of rights. It also calls for setting up a task force to review current policies and make recommendations for disqualifying offenses.

Current law bars anyone convicted of a felony from holding a state office until they've completed their sentence and a provision of the Illinois Municipal Code bars anyone who has ever been convicted of a felony from holding an elected municipal office. But those people are free to run for the General Assembly, governor or any other constitutional office once they've completed their sentence.

While the measure passed unanimously in the House and cleared Senate committee 12-0, it never received a vote in the full Senate.

A spokesperson for Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, who sponsored the bill in the Senate, said he plans to call it for a vote in the veto session.

Government electric vehicles: Senate Bill 1769 would have required all passenger vehicles purchased by the state to be "zero-emission" by 2030, meaning they produce no greenhouse gases. The bill exempts law enforcement vehicles and vehicles bought by the Department of Transportation as part of a consolidated procurement.

It initially passed the Senate in mid-May on a 33-20 vote but was later amended in the House, passing 69-35 on May 25. It never came back to the Senate for a final vote.

"I'm being told this will be heard in veto session," Ventura said, noting that her discussions with legislative staff are ongoing.

"Rainy day" fund: Comptroller Susana Mendoza pushed for House Bill 2515, a bill requiring automatic deposits in the "rainy day" and pension stabilization funds when revenue projections exceed the prior year's estimate by at least 4 percent and the state has less than \$3 billion in bills awaiting payment.

While that bill cleared a House committee unanimously in March, it never came to a vote in either chamber. Mendoza's office said she would continue to push for the measure.

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Pritzker quickly wields expanded authority to freeze noncitizen health care enrollment

Activists accuse governor of 'aligning himself with anti-immigrant Republicans'

By Jerry Nowicki
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Gov. JB Pritzker's administration wasted no time in exercising new authority granted by lawmakers to limit the number of enrollees in a pair of state-funded health care programs for low-income noncitizens.

In a move that drew intense backlash from immigrant rights advocates, Pritzker on Friday signed House Bill 1298 then immediately filed emergency rules authorized by the law to "temporarily" pause enrollment in the Health Benefits for Immigrant Adults program as of July 1. That state-funded program serves individuals aged 42 to 64 years who would be eligible for Medicaid benefits based on income levels but not their citizenship status.

A similar program serving noncitizens age 65 and older, known as Health Benefits for Immigrant Seniors, will remain open unless enrollment reaches 16,500, at which time it will also be paused. As of June 7, there were 14,594 people enrolled in HBIS, according to the administration, which projected in March that enrollment would increase to 21,000 in the upcoming fiscal year.

The Healthy Illinois Campaign, which advocates for health care equity for non-citizens, called the freeze "immoral and shortsighted," saying it will force people "to forgo cancer treatment, diabetes care, mental health care, and countless other kinds of necessary medical treatment." "By slashing live-saving health coverage for Illinois immigrants, Gov. Pritzker is turning his back on the communities he claims Illinois welcomes and aligning himself with anti-immigrant Republicans around the country," the organization said in a statement.

Pritzker had previously defended and celebrated the programs when he signed them into law, agreeing with advocates that it is cheaper to provide preventative care to noncitizens rather than making them rely on emergency room visits to treat conditions that have gone undiagnosed due to a lack of health care benefits.

But a news release June 16 from the Department of Healthcare and Family Services billed the changes as a necessary move to ensure "programs do not exceed the funds available and appropriated by the General Assembly"—an amount pegged at about \$550 million.

"Compared with the traditional Medicaid population, month-over-month enrollment has grown at a higher rate, and per-enrollee costs have tracked higher among the HBIA and HBIS-enrolled populations due to more prevalent, untreated chronic conditions and higher hospital costs," IDHFS said in a news release.

The emergency rules will now be considered by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, a bipartisan 12-member group of lawmakers from both chambers of the General Assembly. The rules will remain in place for 150 days, although HB 1298 allows the administration to refile an identical rule after that time.

JCAR could vote by a two-thirds majority to suspend the rules. It could also object to them, leaving them in place while requesting a response from the administration. But nothing in law requires JCAR to act on the rules, in which case they would remain in place.

Costs 'in question'

Advocates hailed the 2020 launch of the HBIS program as setting a "national precedent" for providing health care for immigrant seniors regardless of their legal residency status.

But it far outpaced the initial estimate of \$2 million annually that was cited by its House sponsor at the time, Rep. Delia Ramirez, D-Chicago, who has since moved on to Congress.

"We have to protect something so fundamental to our humanity as providing health care coverage to people, regardless of documentation status," Ramirez said in a statement after the governor announced the changes. "It's extremely disappointing to hear that the state administration has decided to stop

immigrants from accessing life-saving health insurance under the pretense that it costs too much, especially since the alleged costs of the program are in question."

The Pritzker administration in March noted the HBIS program cost the state \$187.5 million in the prior 12 months, and it projected that cost would increase to \$285 million in the upcoming fiscal year.

Expansions of the HBIA program have similarly outpaced expectations, leading the administration to project a total price tag of \$1.1 billion for noncitizen health care in the upcoming fiscal year if enrollment wasn't capped. That number was about 5 times what Pritzker had proposed spending in his February budget.

Advocates accused the governor of overestimating those numbers and caving to calls by Republicans to curtail the program's spending. GOP lawmakers held several news conferences in the waning days of the General Assembly's spring session to call for a suspension of the programs, which they said would entice new immigrants to come to the state and thus become increasingly expensive.

When he signed the state's Fiscal Year 2024 budget earlier this month, Pritzker said capping program enrollment would help limit spending to "about \$550 million."

"That's more than we expected, but not nearly as much as it might have cost if we didn't have the tools necessary (to limit program growth)," Pritzker said.

The HBIA pause does not affect current enrollees, but the administration also announced enrollees of both programs will soon be subject to copays and coinsurance if their health care is not otherwise eligible for federal reimbursement. That includes a \$250 copay for inpatient hospitalizations and \$100 for an emergency room visit. Enrollees receiving certain outpatient services at hospitals or surgical centers would be subject to 10 percent coinsurance.

IDHFS said in a statement that enrollee payments un-

der the new coinsurance requirement "could range from \$3.70 to \$202.95, depending on the service received."

Ramirez suggested those changes would "result in higher costs for those already enrolled in the program and place additional financial strains on our safety net hospitals."

Health care providers would be responsible for collecting those cost-sharing payments and would bear the cost of nonpayment.

In January, enrollees will also be transferred to the state's Medicaid managed care program, a system overseen by private insurers. That change is aimed at generating additional dollars through the state's tax on managed care organizations.

IDHFS also noted in a news release that the department is looking to maximize federal reimbursement for emergency medical expenses, as well as pursuing supplemental prescription drug rebates for those covered under the programs. It will also seek reimbursement from "large public hospitals"—namely the Cook County Hospital System—that received "payments in excess of the rates paid to non-large public hospitals" under the program.

The Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus urged eligible noncitizens to enroll in the program in June before it is paused. Eligible individuals can enroll online at abe.illinois.gov/abe/access.

"As we pride ourselves as being a welcoming state, we should not be cutting health benefits and creating barriers to health care," the Latino Caucus said in a statement.

The caucus had advocated for an expansion of the program to individuals aged 19-41, which would have cost a projected \$380 million alone, according to the administration. That expansion would have ensured health care coverage for low-income noncitizens of any age, as those aged 18 and under are already covered under the state's AllKids program.

"Latino Caucus members have not given up—and will pursue closing the gap in coverage until we achieve health care for all residents," the caucus said in a statement. "The often-disenfranchised communities we represent sent us to Springfield to be their voice; we will never turn our backs on them."



SUBMITTED PHOTO Hi-Liter/MCN

Officials gathered on June 21 at the groundbreaking for the Park City Stormwater Capital Improvement Project.

Stormwater Capital Improvement project starts in Lake County

On June 21 the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) and the City of Park City celebrated the beginning of construction on the Park City Stormwater Capital Improvement project. This project is a long-awaited infrastructure improvement that will alleviate flooding to more than 800 properties in Park City.

Construction will include the installation of large box culverts, storm sewer system upgrades extending from Illinois Route 120 south to Greenbelt Forest Preserve, and replacing the stormwater system restrictor plate at the Casimir Pulaski Drive culvert. This project was marked as a high priority for a capital improvement grant because this area of Park City is located at the headwaters of the Skokie River, resulting in a large chance of flooding.

"Increasing rain levels in our area have broken records and caused millions of dollars in damage to properties, in addition to obstructing the lives of Lake County residents and visitors," said Stormwater Management Commission Executive Director Kurt Woolford. "SMC's goal is to never see our County's residents suffer again like they did during the 2017 flood event."

The impact of flooding has been well documented and disruptive to this area. Main roadways such as Washington Street and Belvidere Road, along with numerous local roads, have been closed because of flooding. Washington Street has been closed eight times in the last five years because of flooding,

and during the July 2017 flood event, it was closed for two days. Major road closures like this not only affects local residents, but also commuters. During the July 2017 flood event, 22 properties, mostly residential, also reported some level of structural damage.

"This project will ease some of the impacts that residents in this area have endured," said Lake County District 14 Board Member Angelo Kyle. "I'm so glad that through collaboration with our state and local partners, we can ease the financial hardship that comes with flood damage to the residents who own homes and businesses located in this floodplain."

"SMC's dedicated work and planning secured the funding for not only this project, but many more across our county that will upgrade our aging infrastructure and make the lives of our hardworking residents a little easier," said Lake County Board Vice-Chair Mary Ross-Cunningham.

Additional funding for this project was provided by our local sponsor of Park City who contributed \$42,527. Lake County will be granted a total of \$122 million in funding by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to support local initiatives in managing regional stormwater and related infrastructure maintenance and improvement projects to reduce flooding for hard-hit communities across Lake County. Future project locations include: Antioch, Grayslake, Highland Park, Warren Township, and Waukegan.

MCSO ties for first in Illinois Traffic Safety Challenge Championship category

The McHenry County Sheriff's Office was notified by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police for their first-place tie in the Illinois Traffic Safety Challenge - Championship Category.

The Illinois Traffic Safety Challenge, coordinated by the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, is designed to challenge police departments to address traffic safety concerns in unique ways. Departments are judged in the following categories: policy, training, recognitions, public education, enforcement, and effectiveness. After reviewing the individual department's accomplishments, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police recognizes the law enforcement agencies in the state that were able to demonstrate exemplary traffic safety and enforcement programs. The Champion-

ship Category is a grouping of all previous first place wins, regardless of agency size, competing against each other.

Deputies within MCSO's Traffic Unit, along with civilian employees, presented a compilation of data, photographs, crash records, and information to secure a win in their category. MCSO and other winning agencies will be presented with prizes at an awards banquet in Au-

gust. The Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Traffic safety has also assisted the Sheriff's Office efforts through providing grant funding in occupant protection, speed enforcement, construction zone safety, and impaired driving. All the efforts put forth have one common goal: making the roadways of McHenry County a safer place to be for our community.

HI-LITER

~ including McHenry County News

1102 Ann Street, Delavan, WI 53115

As of Feb. 9, 2022 Hi-Liter is the successor publication to McHenry County News

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Breaking ground on the first inclusive community playground in Northern Illinois



A project that was originally spearheaded by North-Bridge Church with a donation of land, is moving forward with the help of a volunteer team of construction and special education professionals and parents in the Antioch and surrounding communities. They have come together and pledged their time and talents to build the Treehouse Community Playground.

They are breaking ground on the new first-inclusive playground in Northern Illinois and want everyone to know about this exciting project for the community. They have currently raised 80% of \$540,000 to make the playground become a reality.

Unlimited Play, a non-profit organization and national experts in playground design, is taking the lead to design and develop the first accessible playground which will enable all children, regardless of their abilities — to play together, side by side. It will

also allow parents and grandparents with disabilities to play with their children.

Statistically, more than 1 in 10 people have a disability, yet no playgrounds in Northern Illinois welcome everyone equally. Building an all-inclusive playground in our community will help break down barriers and unite people and families. Inclusive play brings together children of all abilities, creating a sense of community where all children feel nurtured, valued, encouraged, and respected. And research shows that communities thrive when their children thrive.

Play is critical for a child's development. It builds imagination, enhances independence, promotes physical activity, fosters healthy brain development, and eases anxiety. Playgrounds are designed specifically for kids, but not all kids. Rarely will you find children with disabilities able

to enjoy the local playground equipment. Why not? Because it's not accessible for them.

The Treehouse Community Playground is designed to offer all children the opportunity to benefit from a fun, engaging playground with friends and family. Specialized equipment lets those in wheelchairs to enjoy the thrill of a ground level merry-go-round, a pirate ship-like glider, sensory games, a safety seat for the swings, a roller slide for those with cochlear implants and so much more.

We want all children to be able to play together. The goal is to finish construction in the fall of 2023.

Please feel free to visit the construction area at: Treehouse Community Playground, 18724 West 173, Antioch. For more information about the project contact: Judy Bergh, Program Director at jbergh1333@gmail.com.

Top photo, from left: Judy Bergh, Mark Albrecht, Maryellen Zibell, Herb Riedel, Mike Shipman, Mark Sural, John Bak and Sarah Rodgers at the Treehouse Community Playground groundbreaking. At left: a rendering of the proposed layout of the inclusive playground that will be constructed in Antioch.

SUBMITTED IMAGES Hi-Liter/MCN

Officials warn of new scam

McHenry County Clerk and Recorder Joe Tirio is cautioning people to be vigilant against scams after one of his employees received a home warranty scam attempt in the mail.

When Tirio called the number on the letter warning that the employee's home warranty was set to expire, the operator told him that they worked for McHenry County, and promptly hung up when Tirio informed him who he was.

"While many scam attempts are obvious — from outlandish threats of fines and imprisonment to letters and emails chock full of laughable spelling and grammar errors — there are others that aren't as easy to detect," Tirio said. "County residents, especially seniors who are more often targeted, need to be on their guard against efforts to steal their money or their private information."

Every type of scam, from phone calls to phony letters and fake look-alike websites, has red flags that can be easily caught. The Better Business Bureau maintains an informative and easy-to-understand guide to various scams at www.bbb.org/all/spot-a-scam, which also offers visitors the opportunity to sign up for weekly scam alerts. People can also visit www.bbb.org/scamtracker to look up and report items they suspect are potential scams.

"While many scams are easily detectable — McHenry County government is not in the home warranty business — you can always call and ask if anyone suspicious is claiming that they are working on McHenry County's behalf," Tirio said.

The County Clerk and Recorder's Office offers a free service called the Property Fraud Alert Program, which offers personal notification by email, text message or phone call if a document is recorded in their name. You can sign up by visiting www.propertyfraudalert.com, or calling 800-728-3858. To learn more about the alert system visit <https://www.mchenrycountyil.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/105059/637678216070400000>

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Pet of the week

Julienne, is about a year old, spayed, up-to-date on routine shots (incl. rabies), tested negative for FIV, feline leukemia and heartworm and micro-chipped.

She is a super sweet and easy going cat. Enjoys petting and loves to have her ears scratched.

While walk-ins are welcome, adoptions are by appointments only to ensure we have the staff available to help adopters. For information and/or to complete an online application, please visit www.saveapetil.org/adopt.

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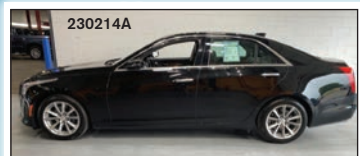
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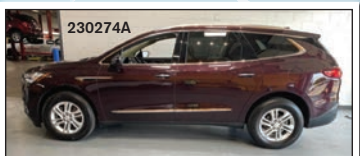
230214A
2019 CADILLAC CTS
\$19,490



230287A
2021 NISSAN KICKS S
\$20,390



P15356
2020 CHEVY MALIBU LT
\$20,490



230274A
2018 BUICK ENCLAVE PREMIUM
\$21,490



230138C
2017 CHEVY SILVERADO
\$21,990



P14310
2018 BUICK ENVISION PREFERRED
\$22,990



P15378
2019 GMC TERRAIN SLT
\$23,990



P15255
2020 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE
\$23,990



P15394
2021 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN SE
\$23,990



P15302
2019 GMC TERRAIN SLE
\$26,290



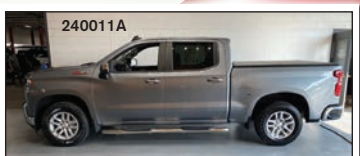
KB2659
2020 CHEVY BLAZER LT
\$29,990



230406A
2019 FORD EDGE ST
\$30,490



P15251A
2017 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 LT
\$32,490



240011A
2019 CHEVY SILVERADO LT
\$32,490



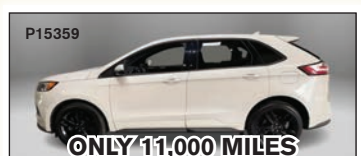
P15345
2020 RAM PROMASTER
\$33,290



230357A
2019 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED
\$35,990



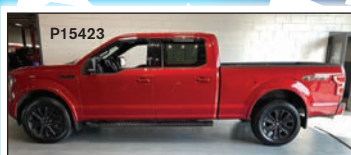
P15424
2021 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED
\$36,990



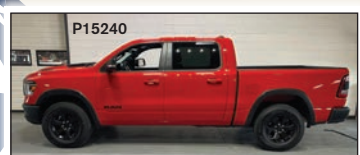
P15359
2020 FORD EDGE ST
\$38,490
ONLY 11,000 MILES



P15321
2021 DODGE DURANGO R/T
\$38,490



P15423
2020 FORD F-150 XLT
\$40,990



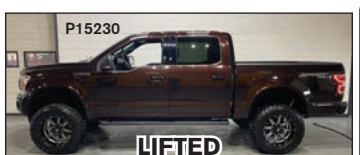
P15240
2021 RAM REBEL
\$42,990



240394A
2019 CHEVY TAHOE PREMIER
\$44,990



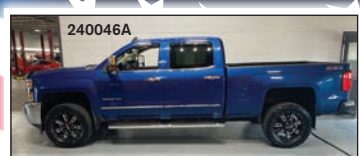
P15281
2020 FORD EXPLORER ST
\$44,990



P15230
2019 FORD F-150 XLT
\$45,490
LIFTED



P15243
2021 FORD MUSTANG GT
\$45,690



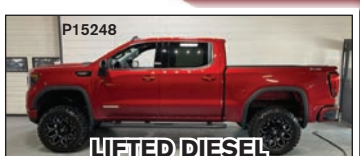
240046A
2016 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 LTZ
\$46,990



P15320
2021 FORD F-150 XLT
\$47,290



P15428
2022 CHEVY COLORADO ZR2
\$47,490



P15248
2022 GMC SIERRA ELEVATION
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Pamela Althoff and Louissett Ness are co-chairs of the Workforce Housing Workgroup that is studying the issues related to the workforce housing situation in McHenry County.

County creates Workforce Housing Workgroup to tackle housing challenges

McHenry County Board Chairman Mike Buehler, R-Crystal Lake, created the Workforce Housing Workgroup to study the availability, challenges and opportunities related to workforce housing, along with its critical importance to the economic vitality of McHenry County communities.

“When the County Board sat down to update our Strategic Plan, we kept coming back to the same issues of our local businesses needing more workers, and workers needing more quality places where they can live in our community,” said Workforce Housing Workgroup co-chair Pamela Althoff, R-McHenry. “Chairman Buehler and the Public Health and Community Services Committee charged our workgroup with exploring these issues.”

According to data from the McHenry County Workforce Network Board, 65% of workers in McHenry County earn \$25 per hour, or \$52,000 per year or less. The median monthly mortgage payment in McHenry County is \$1,782 per month, or \$21,384 per year, while median rent

prices are \$1,250 per month, or \$15,000 per year, according to the 2021 American Community Survey. This means that for single workers, housing costs are often more than the recommended one-third of their income if they chose to live in McHenry County.

“McHenry County has a reputation of being a wonderful place to work and play, but this workgroup will help us to become a place where our workers can afford to stay,” said the group’s co-chair, Louissett “Lou” Ness, D-Woodstock.

The Workforce Housing Workgroup will meet over the course of the next year with the goal of developing a report outlining housing recommendations and best practices for the region.

Members of the Workforce Housing Workgroup are representatives of McHenry County Government, the McHenry County Economic Development Corporation, the McHenry County Workforce Network Board, Heartland Realty, Illinois Realtors, and the McHenry County Council of Governments.

Historical society briefs

Garden items, vintage clothing wanted

The McHenry County Historical Society is looking for donations of your beloved “Shabby Chic” garden items in need of a new home. Unique garden tools, wrought iron garden décor, watering troughs/cans, shepherd’s hooks, wagons, wheelbarrows and birdhouses are welcome.

Items will be accepted between July 5-8 at the museum annex garage, 17618 Washington St. in Union. To arrange a time to drop off the items, email Laurie Cisneros at lkicisneros58@gmail.com or call the office at 815-923-2267.

The Heritage Fair vintage clothing sale also is a popular destination for pre-1970 hats, purses and clothing to sell. Donated items should be clean and in good condition. No children’s clothing, please.

For questions or drop-off information, email Lynne Eltrevoog at LynneCatsmeow@aol.com

Bakers needed for July 9 Heritage Fair

Bakers are needed for McHenry County Historical Society’s 36th Annual Heritage Fair on Sunday, July 9. This year’s contest will feature vintage family recipes in these categories: Pies, cakes, cookies/bars and breads/muffins. Bakers may register entries in the West Harmony School on the museum grounds between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. July 9. Judging follows.

Winners, who will be announced immediately after judging, will receive ribbons in each category. There also will be a special grand champion prize for the overall winner. All goods entered in the contest will be sold at the Heritage Fair bake sale with proceeds benefitting the McHenry County Historical Society.

Bakers are asked to submit a recipe (printed or typed) with their entry this year. Also, please submit a brief description of the importance of the recipe to your family or the recipe’s origin. A form is available on the Society’s

website at GotHistory.org.

The story accompanying your recipe is an important component of the contest. The historical society may incorporate submission into a future cookbook or for another purpose.

Donated baked goods also are needed for Heritage Fair Bake Sale. Cookies, cakes, quick breads, brownies, bars, tarts and pies are part of this popular feature of the festival. Please label your baked goods, indicate nuts or other special instructions, and if possible – prepackage them to minimize handling. A good rule of thumb – depending on size – is a half dozen cookies and two-four brownies/bars on a plate. On fair day bring your items to the bake sale tent next to the log cabin or to the office on the Friday before Heritage Fair.

All proceeds from the Heritage Fair Bake-Off and bake sale benefit the McHenry County Historical Society. For information, call 815-923-2267 or email info@mchenrycountyhistory.org

McHenry County Sheriff’s arrest bulletin

The following arrests in McHenry County were reported by the McHenry County Sheriff’s Department. Suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

May 9

Robert G. Jenkins, 65, Wonder Lake, was cited for a violation of a stalking no contact order;

May 10

Alan J. Dufield, 40, Libertyville, was cited for theft – obtains/exerts unauthorized control over property of the owner 10k<100k, burglary – motor vehicle, obstructing justice – leave state or conceal self, driving while suspended/revoked, aggravated fleeing/attempting to elude peace officer – rate of speed at least 21 mph over limit, resisting or obstructing peace officer, improper passing, improper U-turn on roadway, reckless driving, street racing and failure to remain at the scene of a vehicle damage accident;

May 12

Kerry L. Boswell, 56, Crystal Lake, was cited for A-1 domestic battery/bodily harm, and A-2 domestic battery/physical contact;

Jonathan M. Kriske, 42, Marengo, was cited for driving while license, permit, or privilege to operate motor vehicle is suspended or revoked;

Courtney R. Hancock, 27, Crystal Lake, was cited for criminal damage to property,

ty, and A-1 domestic battery/bodily harm;

Kristie A. Ghera, 42, Johnsburg, was cited for harassment through electronic communications - threatening injury to person (family or household) or property;

May 14

Jacob A. Joiner, 25, Oakwood Hills, was cited for DUI – alcohol, following too closely, operation of vehicle when registration suspended for noninsurance;

Thomas R. Jacobi, 38, Oakwood Hills, was cited for methamphetamine possession, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, improper lane usage, and driving while license revoked.

May 16

Michael S. Shabo, 25, Des Plaines, was cited for burglary – building, 3 counts of criminal damage to property and criminal trespass to real property;

Anakin Z. Olshock, 23, Skokie, was cited for burglary – building, 3 counts of criminal damage to property and criminal trespass to real property;

Pamela M. Szalacha, 59, McHenry, was cited for aggravated battery – peace officer – minor/no injury – no dangerous weapon, 2 counts of criminal damage to property, battery, and resisting or obstructing peace officer;

Garrett C. Kowalczyk, 31,

Elgin, was cited for aggravated battery – peace officer – minor/no injury – no dangerous weapon, and 3 counts of resisting or obstructing a peace officer;

Tonya M. Krich, 38, Woodstock, was cited for manufacture/deliver 1<15 grams cocaine/analog, manufacture/deliver 1-15 grams fentanyl/analog, manufacture/deliver controlled substance – sched 1,2 narc, manu/deliver controlled substance – fentanyl/amphetamine – other amount, and 2 counts of possession of a controlled substance – other drug any amount;

Jose Garcia, 29, Woodstock, was cited for 4 counts of manufacture/deliver 15<100 grams cocaine/analog, manufacture/deliver/possess with intent to deliver cannabis – more than 30g but less than 500g, and possession of cannabis – more than 30g but less than 100g;

May 17

William F. Mitchell, 39, Crystal Lake, was cited for violation of an order of protection;

Sabrina J. Lutz, 35, Union, was cited for endangering the life or health of a child – causes, permits or places child in circumstances;

Tyler S. Dierkes, 24, Marengo, was cited for driving on revoked or suspended license, and operating a motor

See ARRESTS, Page 7

Motorcycle vs. van crash under investigation

A Lake County Sheriff’s Deputy saved the life of a motorcyclist involved in a traffic crash.

On June 24, at approximately 3:40 p.m., Lake County Sheriff’s Deputies responded to Route 176 and Bayonne Avenue, Green Oaks, for a traffic crash involving a Ford Transit Van and Harley-Davidson Motorcycle. Deputy Dwight Arrowood observed the operator of the motorcycle, a 55-year-old man of Skokie,

with a major leg wound, and he was bleeding significantly. Deputy Arrowood applied a tourniquet on the motorcyclist’s leg to stop the bleeding.

Preliminary investigation shows the driver of the Ford, a 58-year-old woman of Gurnee, was traveling eastbound on Route 176. She attempted to make a left turn onto northbound Bayonne Avenue, directly in the path of the westbound Harley-Davidson. The Harley-Davidson struck the

Ford, and the operator of the motorcycle was thrown from the motorcycle.

The driver of the motorcycle was transported to Advocate Condell Medical Center with critical injuries.

The driver of the Ford and her 26-year-old passenger were uninjured.

The crash remains under investigation by the Lake County Sheriff’s Office Technical Crash Investigations Team.

You ought to be in pictures!

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▼ Just shoot and e-mail!

▼ We need you to ID everyone in the photo *first* and *last* names required

▼ Tell us what’s happening in the photo

▼ **Please do NOT crop your photos.**

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This is your chance to promote your organization or special event!

Remember to include the 5W’s:
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