

KC Summers delivers meals to Sarah Bush Lincoln employees



KC Summers Auto Group delivered more than 450 meals to Sarah Bush Lincoln patient care employees as a thanks to the healthcare workers for their tireless work during the pandemic and the care they provide every day. The meals were delivered Dec. 30 and 31. General Manager Mike Genta and Whitney Scroggins of KC Summers brought individually packaged meals from Little Mexico, Luigi's, and Thai Noodle, all of Mattoon. SBL President & CEO Jerry Esker said, "We are incredibly touched by the generosity of KC Summers and these local restaurants. I heard many staff members comment what a wonderful and thoughtful gift this was. I, too, echo those same sentiments." Pictured left to right is Whitney Scroggins and Mike Genta of KC Summers, SBL President & CEO Jerry Esker, SBL CNO Sandy Miller, SBL Patient Care Leaders Sasha Hollman, Nicole Jahraus, Joe Garland, Emily Gilmore, Melissa Linton and Katey Stuckemeyer.

Bipartisan Illinois politicians condemn rioters and blame Trump

Pritzker calls for Congress to remove president immediately

By Jerry Nowicki
Capitol News Illinois

Hours after rioters seeking to block the certification of President-elect Joe Biden's November election victory first began storming the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, Gov. JB Pritzker called on Congress to impeach and remove sitting President Donald Trump.

The Associated Press reported one woman was shot and killed at the Capitol on Wednesday, and members of Congress were sent fleeing as angry Trump supporters stormed the floor of the U.S. House and Senate.

U.S. Congressman Adam Kinzinger, R-Channahon, called the scene a "coup attempt."

"The current president incited this coup and encouraged it and did little to protect the Capitol and the Constitution," Kinzinger said in a video posted on his Twitter account. "He is no longer the leader of our party. Our party must reject these treasonous acts."

Pritzker, in a statement, said, "Two weeks is too long for Donald Trump to remain in office, where he can continue to incite more untold violence."

"Because of today's events incited by the President, I had to ask the Illinois



State Police and other law enforcement resources, engaged in important life-saving missions, to redeploy to heighten their presence at government buildings and the Capitol in Springfield," Pritzker added.

A small group of 75 to 100 protestors demonstrated peaceably Wednesday outside of the Illinois State Capitol, a far cry from the events in Washington, D.C.

"As the heart of our democracy was under siege and blood was literally being spilled in our most sacred halls, Donald Trump was praising the attackers. There are real questions about what efforts the president made to protect our Congress or what obstruc-

tions he committed that has prevented the ending of the siege," Pritzker said in the statement.

Trump, in a video statement released Wednesday afternoon, urged the rioters to go home while still incorrectly maintaining the election was "stolen" by Democrats. Trump has filed several lawsuits alleging voter fraud, repeatedly being rejected by judges for lack of evidence.

Trump also praised the rioters in the video statement, calling them "very special" and telling them he loved them.

On Twitter, the social media platform began removing some of the president's tweets after he criti-

cized Vice President Mike Pence for not being more proactive in blocking the results of the November election. Wednesday evening, Twitter placed a 12-hour block on his account, noting it would continue until certain tweets deemed a threat to public safety were removed.

Several Republican members of Congress planned to object to Biden's certification Wednesday before it was waylaid by the rioters.

But House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said the joint session would reconvene Wednesday night to certify Biden's election victory.

"There is no doubt in

my mind that his efforts to encourage a coup represent high treason to this democracy, our Constitution and all Americans," Pritzker said in his statement. "He poses a danger to our nation. He must be impeached and removed from office immediately. And every person in a position of public trust, elected or otherwise, who enabled the systematic dismantling of our democratic norms and failed to speak up or take action bears some responsibility for the culmination of four years of spreading bile."

Legislative Republicans in the state also rebuked the events in Washington.

"The events unfolding at the United States Capitol today, and the inflammatory remarks by members of the Republican Party, are a disgrace to the core values and beliefs of our great nation," House Republican Leader Jim Durkin, R-Western Springs, said in a statement. "These actions do not represent our Republican Party, and are against everything we stand for as Americans. I am sickened and deeply saddened by what I have witnessed today. Any public officials who condone these actions have no place in the Repub-

lican party or in our democracy."

Dan McConchie, Senate minority leader designate, also issued a statement.

"The horrible violence at our nation's Capitol is a disgrace to all Americans," McConchie said. "This violence does not reflect the United States that generations of Americans have fought so hard to build. I stand with members of all parties in condemning these un-American acts of violence and treachery, and will do my part here in Illinois to repair the devastating divide that has been created in our country."

Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, and House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago, also issued statements condemning the rioters.

"The peaceful transition of power is a hallmark of our great democracy," Harmon said. "To disrupt that transition is an affront to the very fabric of the United States of America. The U.S. Capitol has stood strong in the face of attacks by confederates and terrorists. We will survive today's sad acts to once again be a beacon of hope, change and equality for the world."

First Neighbor Bank updates corporate center in Toledo, Illinois



First Neighbor Bank, a Community Bank based in Toledo, IL has started the remodeling of the bank location located one block north of the Courthouse Square in Toledo. Earlier last year the customer service staff moved into their new location on the south side of the Courthouse Square. Scott Bland, Senior Vice President of Operations reports this update and remodeling of the building will allow us to have enough room to house our staff that handle the day-to-day operations of the company. Our data processing department, internal auditors, human resources, network administrators and the company's management team will occupy the space. The main level of the facility will allow us to have all of our staff on the same floor including those that were housed in the basement level before. The teller line will be removed so that additional office space can be created and the drive-up canopy will be taken down so we can add 25 feet to the west of the existing building. The facility will receive a new roof that is similar to those we have installed at our other facilities, eliminating the flat roof, and the outside of the facility will receive a facelift. The remodeling and addition will be completed by K. Wohltman Construction of Effingham, Illinois. Bland says "Wohltman has built other buildings on the Toledo square such as the Neal Center YMCA, Toledo Fire Protection District Firehouse and the Sarah Bush Lincoln Toledo Clinic while also remodeling our new location."