

Good Citizens Primary Election

(From Lacon Front Page)
fulness, honesty, punctuality), and patriotism (unselfish loyalty to American ideals).

In introducing the honorees, Vice Regent Sandy Miller expounded on their school and community volunteerism. Students were asked to introduce family members and guests and to talk about their future plans. Certificates, Good Citizens pins, and other gifts were bestowed. A reception was held in their honor. The winner at the National level of the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Contest receives a \$5000 college scholarship.

The program for the day was presented by Brenda Olson and Toni Homan from Freedom Paws of Chillicothe. Also present was Decker, a black Labrador being trained as a service dog for military and first responders. Freedom Paws Service Foundation has trained about 60 dogs or about eight dogs per year since its founding. The group has placed their service dogs in nine states so far. Cost for training the dogs is about \$25,000 a year. It takes 18-24 months to train a service dog. In the past month, three of the foundation's dogs have been placed. Donations are always welcome.

The business meeting followed the program and awards ceremony. Reports by chapter chairmen were given. Information was shared on the April 11 chapter meeting with guest speaker, District Director Laurie Perry. The meeting will be held at 10:30 at the Henry Public Library.

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Residents in each district will vote for no more than two names on the ballot. For district one David Minnick who currently sits on the board is joined by William "Bill" Maupin, Troy Parlier and Margaret Toniny on the republican ballot, with no candidates on the democrat ballot.

District two does not have a contested race as incumbents Jamie Durham and William Fecht are running for the two seats.

Current board member Justin Meierkord will be facing off against Malachi Cox and Bruce Dudley on the republican ballot for district three with Jeff Schmitt on the democrat side. Schmitt only recently came to the board, being appointed in November of last year to fill the vacancy left open by the resignation of Hank Gauwitz.

Running unopposed are current incumbents Jill Kenyon for County Clerk and Recorder and Cynthia Nighsonger for County Treasurer. Sheriff Wayne Strawn II is also running unopposed.

Dave Lueders will be running for precinct committee person for Whitefield Township and Donna Augustyn-Sloan is running for the precinct committee person for Richland township.

At the state level, Darin LaHood is running for the sixteenth congressional district on the republican side, with Kevin Lamm, Patrick Cortesi and Kim Armstrong on the ballot for the democrats.

Chris Balkema is once again on the ballot for state senator in the fifty-third legislative district. There is no candidate on the democrat ballot for this position. Ryan Spain is on the republican ballot, while Nicole Dopler is the lone democrat option for representative in the general assembly for the seventy third district. Republican Tim Ruestman is running unopposed for representative in the one hundred and fifth district.

JB Pritzker and running mate Christian Mitchell are running unopposed on the democrat side, while several republican candidates are running for the chance to oppose him in November. Darren Bailey, who lost to Pritzker in 2022 is among the list of republican candidates, as is DuPage County Sheriff James Mendrick, Wirepoints CEO Ted Dabrowski and businessman Rick Heidner.

For Illinois Attorney General, incumbent Kwame Raoul is

running unopposed and Robert Fioretti is on the ballot for the republicans. Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias and Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs are also running unopposed on the democrat ballot. On the republican side Walter Adamczyk and Diane Harris will be facing off for a spot on the November ballot for Secretary of State. There is only a write in option available on for the state treasurer position on the republican ballot.

The Illinois Comptroller position will also see a change up this time as Susan Mendoza has opted not to run for another term. On the republican side, Bryan Drew is throwing his hat in the ring, while four democrats hopefuls. The four women include Sen. Karina Villa, State Rep. Stephanie Kifowitz, Lake County Comptroller Holly Kim and State Rep. Margaret Croke.

The U.S. Senator position has several people on both the democrat and republican side vying for the spot on the general election ballot this fall. This lengthy list of candidates comes after longtime U.S. Senator Dick Durbin's decision to retire after over 30 years in office.

The democrats have put 10 names and a write in option on the ballot, including names like Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton and Reps. Raja Krishnamoorthi and Robin Kelly. On the republican side six candidates have thrown their hat in the ring including Illinois Republican Chairman Don Tracy.

The specimen ballots for both the republican and democrat parties are available for viewing on the county's website marshall-countyillinois.gov. On the website you can also locate your polling place.

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

O	P	T	S	F	I	G	I	R	I	S
P	E	A	K	I	N	N	N	O	D	E
P	R	I	Y	A	N	K	A	S	O	L
		P	I	N	R	H	Y	M	E	S
W	A	V	E	D	U	L	A	N		
A	C	I	D	P	R	I	N	G	E	S
R	E	D	W	A	G	E	D	D	I	L
P	R	I	S	O	N	E	R	L	A	L
		O	O	P	S	D	I	M	L	Y
P	E	L	O	S	I	L	O	I		
A	M	A	T	P	R	I	M	A	T	E
G	U	S	H	E	E	L	N	I	N	E
E	S	T	E	S	O	Y	Y	E	T	I

Rising Property Taxes

(From Lacon Front Page)
would cap all such increases for homeowners at 3%.

"It's been proven that other states with low property taxes are always appealing for people that want to move and invest in a residence," Sosnowski said. "We've got to do that. There's a lot more states now starting to talk about phasing out property tax completely or limiting it in drastic ways so that it becomes less of a burden. It's detrimental to people if we have the highest property tax in the nation. We've seen over time is that people are just voting by leaving."

With all three bills have now been referred to the Rules Committee, Democratic State Rep. LaShawn Ford questions if they truly stand to make a difference for most.

"You have people that don't own, and we have to worry about their affordability," Ford told The Center Square. "Affordability is inflation and the cost of health care, the cost of food, gas. We

need to make sure that we do everything we can to look at affordability across the board."

While Ford warms to aspects of Sosnowski's plan, such as the cap for seniors, he takes issue with what he sees as its lack of overall fairness.

"You have people that actually gut a property out and just keep the foundation, keep the four walls and build a whole new home and we're going to assess them at the same value as others, as if it was just built," he said. That doesn't make sense, and then that's cheating local governments; it's cheating the schools, the parks, the fire and police."

Ford instead argues in favor of a millionaire's tax where he insists the revenues could be extended to aid more residents.

"That's what we want to do," he said. "We want to help the system, help property owners as well as make sure that there are no unintended consequences for the municipalities and the communities."

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