

THE NORTH LAWNDALE COMMUNITY NEWS

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PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RESOURCES AND EVENTS THAT IMPROVE THE LIFESTYLE OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

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Week of October 29, 2020

What the Illinois Clean Energy Jobs Act is about

By Zaki Amir

Imagine Chicago, burning coal as its only source of electricity and then you realize that it is not the most efficient technology nor the healthiest. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration as of 2019, about 4,118 billion kilowatt-(kWh) of electricity were generated at electricity generation facilities in the United States. About 63% of this electricity generation was from fossil fuels, coal-23.5%, natural gas-38.4%, petroleum-0.5%, and other gases-0.3%. About 20% was generation from nuclear energy. About 17.5% was generation from renewable energy sources, hydro-6.6%, wind-7.3%, biomass-1.4%, and solar-1.8%.

Non-renewable resources are also known as finite resources because they are natural resources that cannot be easily replaced by natural means fast enough

to keep up with consumption. The term fossil fuels refer to coal, petroleum, and natural gas that are transformed from its original organic matter through heat and pressure becoming oil or gas. Ground water in certain aquifers which only mean a layer of permeable rock, sand, or gravel through which ground water flows, containing enough water to supply wells and springs can be used to produce energy too.

Renewable energy comes from the sun, wind, biomass and geothermal energies and is based on the use of panels utilizing the sun, fans using the wind, and water used to power mechanisms that create hydropower, or tidal power in the use of the sea and wave power with radiant energy from geothermal heat used to create geothermal power. These are generally considered infinite and cannot be depleted.

See Jobs page 5

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS ACT: REPOWERING ILLINOIS FOR ALL

CONSUMERS:



Powers more than 4 million homes and lowers bills, while pushing back against harmful federal attacks on clean energy.

FOR THE **ECONOMY:**



Creates more than \$30 billion in new private investment in Illinois. That's more than 4x what we were able to accomplish in FEJA (Federal Energy Jobs Act).

FOR **COMMUNITIES:**



+ 💥 = Expands access to clean energy careers, building community wealth, and ensures new opportunities as we build a new clean energy economy. Improves air and water quality, leading to healthier communities.



Reduces congestion and pollution from the transportation sector now the largest source of carbon emission.

Dr. William Yates talks about COVID-19

by Todd Thomas



Dr. William Yates,

The North Lawndale Community News interviewed Dr. William Yates, MD near the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. He spoke to us again recently to share his views on the efforts to combat the virus, and what we have learned about coronavirus and ourselves over the past eight months.

NLCN: The COVID-19 pandemic is now about eight months long. Did it play out the way you thought it would in terms of deaths, serious illness and numbers of infections nationwide?

Absolutely Yates: Throughout my lifetime, I have never seen any infectious disease so deadly and disastrous. I have also never witnessed, despite the efforts of the best scientists in the world the inability for them to come up with adequate treatment and/or vaccines for immunity. And to add insult to injury, political indecision of how to treat and handle the virus which has allowed the virus to gain momentum instead of retreat. Even with a vaccine, I think we are all in for many more months of the COVID predicament.

NLCN: What could the United States have done differently to better control the virus?

Dr. Yates: As with anything in the world, you do not have to "reinvent the wheel" to be the smartest person in the room. In early January and February, we had global data that proved this disease was spreading rapidly and deadly and their plans of virus containment were seemingly effective at that time. But we ignored all the available evidence above and continued with our normal way of daily life. In retrospect, it is now obvious that adopting the Asian containment plan and sterilization plan of the virus would have been a much better choice than the path afforded to us.

NLCN: Anything the state of Illinois could have done to better control the virus?

Dr. Yates: Honestly, I do not think so. I believe the governor and the mayor of Chicago, and other mayors throughout the State of Illinois have done an exceptional job of maintaining statistics of the virus' infectious abilities. They have also done their best to prevent the spread of the virus and have implemented and provided proper treatment facilities to allow the virus to be contained. Overall, I would give them an "above average" grade for their handling of this crisis.

NLCN: Are there measures the African American community can do to better combat coronavirus? Dr. Yates: Unfortunately, due to the conditions that many African Americans are subject to such as: multiple generations living in the same households, jobs which require close social contact and other health problems (comorbidities) make us an easier target for the coronavirus. In order to overcome these obstacles, the simple things such as social distancing, wearing a mask and frequent handwashing should become our daily routine. Also, efforts should be made to improve our health such as losing weight

See Dr. Yates page 3

The North Lawndale Community News

The North Lawndale Community News is published weekly by Strategic Human Services. Our purpose is to help inform our community on resources, events, and issues relevant to them and our neighboring communities. Our community includes those who live, work, worship in, and/or care about North Lawndale. Our focus is on positive, productive solutions, that will improve the lifestyle of community members.

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North Lawndale Community News Winner of the 2005 SBC Beyond the Call Award

North Lawndale Community News
Winner of the 7th Congressional Dirict 2004
Education Champion Award
Presented By Congressman Danny K. Davis &
Residents of the 7th Congressional District

NLCN 2019 Focus

Health, Education, News Literacy and Economics

Many things remain a high priority in our life. As we struggle to enjoy life many neglected the necessary choices that preserve and extend a healthy and abundant, spirit, mind, and body. So along with health, there is education (knowing) and the need to have the resources to act upon the knnowledge for a better quality of life. The North Lawndale newspaper was and is created to help fulfill the mission of Strategic Human Services. That mission is to provide information on resources and events that improve the lifestyle of individuals and families.

This is our primary objective that includes all of the sub-objectives that help to reach the primary objective.







and controlling high blood pressure or any respiratory ailments. I do realize this may be difficult given that our access to health care is not as easy as it is for other races.

NLCN: Public transportation riders have raised concerns about lack of mask enforcement on busses and trains. Should they be concerned and what can be done? Dr. Yates: Of course they should be concerned! It is well known that the virus spreads well in closed spaces like busses and trains. It is my belief that anyone utilizing public transportation should have a mask before they enter the bus or train; they should be screened for a fever and also screened for symptoms or a travel history to any region of COVID outbreaks. Social distancing should also be practiced as much as it allows in this closed environment.

NLCN: Do you have any thoughts about sports being played on the high school level. Most sports have been cancelled in Illinois, but many states have allowed athletics to continue?

Dr. Yates: As much as I'm a fan of high school sports which are critical in the development of physical as well as mental stamina and teach life lessons and teamwork, I think in the presence of so many unknowns with the coronavirus that starting a high school athletic program now would be a huge mistake. The virus spreads so easily and so quickly an entire team can become infected overnight. Even though it

See Dr. Yates page 5



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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE 1970 ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION

Explanation of Amendment

The proposed amendment grants the State authority to impose higher income tax rates on higher income levels, which is how the federal government and a majority of other states do it. The amendment would remove the portion of the Revenue Article of the Illinois Constitution that is sometimes referred to as the "flat tax," that requires all taxes on income to be at the same rate. The amendment does not itself change tax rates. It gives the State the ability to impose higher tax rates on those with higher income levels and lower tax rates on those with middle or lower income levels. You are asked to decide whether the proposed amendment should become a part of the Illinois Constitution.

For the proposed amendment of Section 3 of the Article IX of the Illinois Constitution.



Yes / Sí



No / No



MAKE SURE

WHEN YOU SEE THIS QUESTION ON YOUR BALLOT

PAID FOR BY VOTE YES FOR FAIRNESS



The Fair Tax is a tax cut for

97% of Illinoisians

No matter what we look like or where we come from we all want to know our families are safe and taken care of.

When our community hospitals are closing but the wealthy get tax breaks something is wrong.

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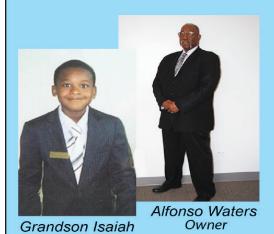
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Jobs from front page

Wave energy on the coastline could provide 1/5 of the world demand and hydroelectric power could supply 1/3 of the total energy needs for the planet. Geothermal energy could give 1.5 more times the energy needed and wind power could give 30 times over the needs of human consumption with solar at this time providing 0.1% of the demand for energy to the planet. If used properly, solar power could yield 4,000 times the power needed by 2050.

The Clean Energy Jobs Act is legislation to create Clean Job Workforce Hubs which are a network of organizations looking to provide support to disadvantaged and minority communities. Support in this context is also about renewable energy jobs that are much needed.

Sponsored by Sen. Scott Bennett, D-Champaign, and Rep. Carol Ammons, D-Urbana the bill is supported by the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District and the Prairie Rivers Network a state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation aims to dramatically cut carbon emissions by making Illinois 100 percent renewable by 2050 through the installation of more than 40 million solar panels and 2,500 wind turbines in the coming decades.

Rep. Carol Ammons said, "We're trying to tie the job training programs to the actual industry and get people working," and continued by saying, "We also want to make sure that this bill has the ability to make it affordable for people who live in low-income communities and

The 365-page bill known as the Clean Energy Jobs Act or as (CEJA) creates long-term answers to our public health and economic challenges as a response to the Covid virus that has disproportionally affected Afro descendants and Latino citizens with higher death rates, more unemployment, and poorer air quality. It is created to achieve more equity in the placement administration and operation of coal-fired electric plants and strive towards environmental justice for all.

The idea in a nutshell is to commit Illinois to 100% renewable energy by 2050 and moving away from inefficient unclean, dirty expensive energy of the past while providing employment for Illinoisans' that shows reduction in pollution from gas and diesel vehicles as early as 2030 reflecting the understanding that the planet is in trouble due to climate change and a better way of providing energy has to come into reality.

Sen. Scott Bennett, D-Champaign, said, "Given the current federal administration's lack of leadership on growing clean energy economies, Illinois must create a path forward to ensure that both the jobs and economic benefits created by smarter energy and transportation come to our state,"

State Sen. Cristina Castro, D-Elgin, and Rep. Ann Williams, D-Chicago, introduced the Clean Jobs Act that came from the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition, a network environmental groups, healthcare professionals, businesses and has been received favorably by Gov. J.B. Pritzker and deserves serious attention from the electorate as a beneficial piece of legislation that will help save \$2.6 billion in cumulative consumer savings over the next decade.

61

71

72

73

Dr. Yates from page 3

appears that young people do not become as ill as the elderly, there have been many reports of young people with lingering illnesses after coronavirus and even death. Another issue with young people being infected is that they may unknowingly transmit the virus to their older parents and/or older associates which could be disastrous. So, my answer is NO, until the virus is better understood and contained.

NLCN: When will it be safer for students to return to school?

Dr. Yates: It will be safer only if strict protocols are adhered to. The protocols are as mentioned before: social distancing, wearing a mask at all times, frequent handwashing, checking for fevers and in the school environment, sanitization, and frequent testing for the virus. The question then becomes how often is "frequent?" Weekly, daily? I believe at the minimum students should be tested twice a week for the virus. Students obviously who are positive should be quarantined and their points of contact monitored closely for symptoms of the virus and continued testing.

NLCN: Are there foods or vitamins, or healthy tips for boosting the immune system? Dr. Yates: There is nothing better than adhering to a healthy diet, but the following vitamins and minerals can boost your immune system:

Vitamins: C, D, B6, E Minerals: Zinc

Herbs: Turmeric, Echinacea, Ashwagandha

(AND MANY More!)

NLCN: How has your walkthrough temperature detector and other products been received?

Dr. Yates: Amazingly well mainly because their benefit to society in screening for the coronavirus, in my opinion, is priceless. As we know, most people who become symptomatic from the virus have a fever, which was recently demonstrated nationally by the presentation of President Trump's illness. If it is possible to screen for a fever safely, quickly and accurately, what would be a plausible argument not to use it?

NLCN: Anything else you would like to add? Dr. Yates: The things that we have improved on during these last eight months dealing with the coronavirus have been the upgrade in everyone's intelligence by communicating via other means than face to face communication. In other words, platforms like zoom, team meetings, etc. have forced everyone to communicate effectively on virtual platforms which can be time saving and save the overhead expense of unneeded office space. Also, Virtual learning has opened the world

for equalization of the educational platform. Now, it is possible for the best teachers in the world to be deployed virtually to some of the worst underserved schools in the United States to equalize and improve their educational experience.

And the switch to working from home instead of commuting daily to work has also proved without a doubt that people work just as efficiently or even more so at home, therefore eliminating the need for the abundance of office space and overhead.

Lastly, It has taught us the possibility of how deadly simple pathogens can be such as the flu. And I doubt we will ever return to being so cavalier in our health practices as to not get flu shots, wash our hands frequently and wear a mask when necessary.

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- Chris Stacey
- 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 Theresa Molina Sheree Desiree Henry
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- Judge, 7th Subcircuit 91

VOTE YES FOR ALL RETENTION JUDGES <u>EXCEPT:</u>

- MICHAEL TOOMIN 206 NO KENNETH J. WADUS LAURA MARIE SULLIVAN
- MAURICIO ARRUJO

236 252 NO JOHN J. MAHONEY

Constitution Amendment YES

For the proposed Amendment of Section 3 of Article IX of the Illinois Constitution Fair Tax Vote:

The proposed amendment grants the State authority to impose higher income tax rates on higher income levels, which is how the federal government and a majority of other states do it. The amendment would remove the portion of the Revenue Article of the Illinois Constitution that is sometimes referred to as the "flat tax," that requires all taxes on income to be at the same rate. The amendment does not itself change tax rates. It gives the State the ability to impose higher tax rates on those with higher income levels and lower income tax rates on those with middle or lower income levels. You are asked to decide whether the proposed amendment should become a part of the Illinois Constitution.

For the proposed amendment of Section 3 of Article IX of the Illinois Constitution.

Yes to all

To the Voters of the City of Chicago: Broadband

"Should the City of Chicago act to ensure that all the City's community areas have access to broadband Internet?"

To the Voters of the City of Chicago: City Plan

"In creating its City-wide plan for continued growth and sustainability, should the City of Chicago place equal focus on the goals of resiliency, equity, and diversity?"

To the Voters of the City of Chicago: Firearms

"Should the State of Illinois restrict the sale or possession of firearms that have been defined as assault weapons or of magazines that can hold more than a certain number of rounds of ammunition?'

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