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COMMERCIAL-NEWS

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Christy Jankowski/Commercial-News
Former Alderman Brenda Brown speaks during the Danville Public Works meeting on July 28 in support of keeping the treasurer position one to be decided by voters.

Council talks treasurer position — again

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DANVILLE — For months now, Danville City Council members have been debating changing the city treasurer position to an appointed one versus an elected one.

Currently the position is one elected. There were mixed opinions on how to handle the possible change at Tuesday's council meeting.

Former Alderman Brenda Brown has become quite vocal in stating the position should be one that is elected by the constituents.

"I come before you again tonight in regards to the position of treasurer to

be elected and not appointed," Brown said on Tuesday. "I suggest and recommend that there be an orientation for the mayor, the alderpersons and corporation council...before you take a vote on something like this, you know what you're voting for, you know what you're voting about, and how it affects the citizens of Danville."

"I'm standing here begging you and again pleading with you to leave this as an elected position and not an appointed position."

Sabrina Kelly agreed. "I just wanted to also concur with previous Alderwoman Brown's statements about the treasurer's position and representation for the city and the

representation of people of color in this in this community having a choice."

But, before council even got to the agenda item to discuss the position, Alderman Jon Cooper asked to remove the item of discussion, and asked it to be moved to the next public works meeting and a final vote on Sept. 9.

"We discussed as council two or three times," Cooper said. "It was supposed to go in front of the committees, and then we're going to make the final vote. We never did do that."

However, Mayor Rickey Williams

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DACC BLOCK PARTY



Photos by Chad Dare | Commercial-News

Students and parents collect information on Wednesday from service organizations like the Fair Hope Children's Ministry and the YMCA during the Danville Area Community College Block Party celebrating the start of the 2026-27 school year.

DANVILLE — Danville Area Community College hosted a community block party on Wednesday in the school's parking lot to celebrate the start of the 2026-27 school year.

Several community organizations were on hand as well as the Danville Public Library, Danville Fire Department, Carle Health, OSF HealthCare and several booths for Danville Area Community College.

Kids were treated to bounce houses, a zip line, face painting, miniature golf and video games.



LEFT: Isabell Blazaitis of Danville, rides a zipline from 25/8 Extreme during Wednesday's block party at Danville Area Community College. Blazaitis is a student at Northeast Elementary Magnet School.



ABOVE: Calvin Yoder, 6, of Bismarck gets his face painted by Lindsey Franz of LAF Design and Art Studio during Wednesday's DACC Block Party.

ImpactLife hosting multiple blood drives

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DANVILLE — Donating blood is a precious gift for those in need.

Chad Sabin, a community advocate with ImpactLife, says blood is always in need.

"Every day, every week, every year, there are traumas in our communities," Sabin said. "You never know when blood will be needed for someone at the moment they need it most — that's why donations have to be constant, not just during emergencies."

ImpactLife is hosting several blood drives in the next few weeks around Vermilion County.

OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center is hosting one from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Aug. 6, at the hospital, 812 N. Logan Street inside Conference Rooms 2 and 3.

If you would like to donate, Jacob Ozier says to contact him at 217-369-6545 or visit www.bloodcenter.org and use code 70321 to locate the drive.

Appointments are requested to keep things moving smoothly. You can also call Impact Life at 800-747-5401 for any questions or to set up an appointment.

Sabin said, in the summer, donations are typically less than the rest of the year, but they still need blood for patients in need.

"We can't let off the brakes just because it's summer," Sabin said. "We talk about summer as 'trauma season' — people are out on the roads, on farms, doing more activities — but it's not just accidents. Cancer patients, moms giving birth, people facing surgeries and chronic conditions all rely on blood and platelets to get them through treatment."

Sabin added that donating blood may prolong life for some people, and doing so creates precious memories.

"I still remember how I had more memories with him [family member of Sabin]... because of blood donors," Sabin recalled. "And that's also another significant part that people don't realize too, is that it allows for more memories with loved ones while they're either waiting through

See **IMPACTLIFE** on 4

Braun extends Indiana's gas tax suspension

TOM DAVIES
INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE

Indiana's gasoline tax holiday will continue for at least 30 more days.

Gov. Mike Braun issued a new executive order Wednesday suspending the state's gas taxes totalling 58.9 cents a gallon that were set to be reimposed Friday. The new suspension continues through Sept. 5.

The governor said last month he didn't have the power to continue

the tax break without the Legislature coming into special session and authorizing another extension.

But Braun said Wednesday he was declaring a new emergency under the state's energy emergency law. This time he is citing disruptions to global oil shipping lanes from the four-year-old Russian invasion of Ukraine rather than the U.S. war with Iran. He also pointed to troubles the Canadian wildfires have caused in the Alberta Oil

Sands Region.

"These disruptions have created new pressures on fuel prices that are driving the price of gas for Hoosiers to unnatural levels outside the norm of standard economic conditions," Braun said during a Statehouse news conference. "I will reevaluate in 30 days to determine whether another pause is necessary."

The governor first partially suspended the gas taxes by executive

order on April 8 following the spike in worldwide oil prices after President Donald Trump launched the war with Iran in February.

Braun fully suspended the taxes in May, but the state's energy emergency law limits a governor's action to a 120-day maximum without legislative approval.

REPUBLICANS BACK

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