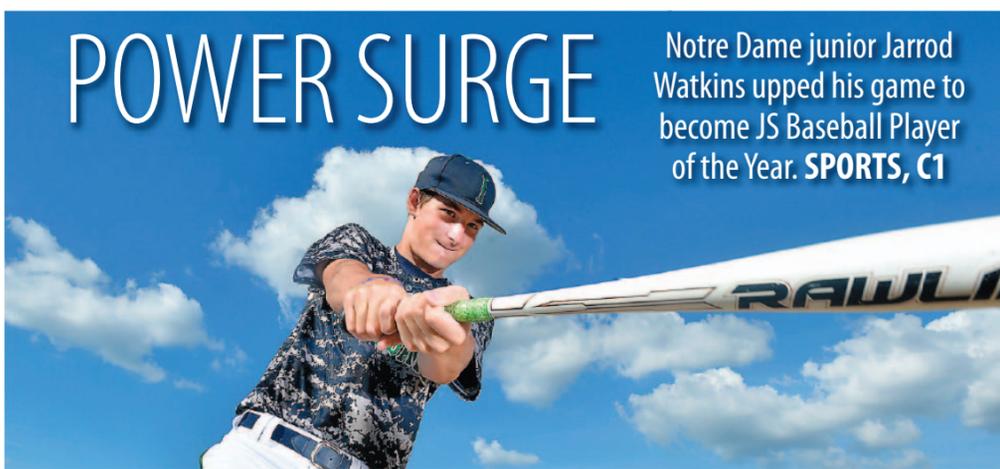




MAD DASH Runners sprint downhill in Main Street Mile. SPORTS, C1



POWER SURGE

Notre Dame junior Jarrod Watkins upped his game to become JS Baseball Player of the Year. SPORTS, C1

TODAY SUN MON

 84°/71° 88°/74° 88°/69°
 SEE FORECAST, PAGE B10

A GATEHOUSE NEWSPAPER
Journal Star

SATURDAY ♦ JUNE 28, 2014 ♦ \$1.25 pjstar.com

WESTLAKE SHOPPING CENTER SALES TAX

Westlake adding new sales tax

Additional 0.75 percent tax will be used to pay for more paver bricks to replace asphalt

purchase at Westlake Shopping Center is more troublesome in principle.

"It's such a small amount. But that doesn't mean it's right," Bracken said recently as he exited a music store located in the Northwest Peoria plaza, boxed microphone and receipt in hand.

"There's a lot of things that we pay an extra 80 cents for here,



The south parking lot at Westlake Shopping Center was resurfaced in 2010 with semi-permeable pavers and dividers planted with prairie plants, all designed to stem water runoff normally associated with paved parking lots.

DAVID ZALAZNIK/JOURNAL STAR

NATION/WORLD

Syrian rebels U.S. wants to train are retreating

The Syrian rebels that the U.S. now wants to support are in poor shape, on the retreat from the radical al-Qaida breakaway group that has swept over large parts of Iraq and Syria, with some rebels giving up the fight. A2

LOCAL

Local activist Klein dies

Social activist Dolores Klein, best known for her support of the women's movement and the civil rights movement, died last week at age 87. Before social media, Klein made use of the tools at hand — letters to the editor and talk radio — to push for equal rights. B2

died last week at age 87. Before social media, Klein made use of the tools at hand — letters to the editor and talk radio — to push for equal rights. B2

LAWN&GARDEN



Sprucing up the curbside

Making a yard and a community more beautiful begins at the curb. But that narrow space between the yard and the street presents a gardening challenge. See some tips for adding beauty to the curbside. D1

DOZENS OF COWS CONGREGATE UNDER BOB MICHEL BRIDGE



PURCHASE THIS PHOTO AT PJSTAR.COM

FRED ZWICKY/JOURNAL STAR

East Peoria gets overrun with cows, or at least under the Bob Michel Bridge, as the Ayrshire and Brown Swiss associations hold their purebred dairy cattle conventions Friday at Embassy Suites. Jake Stewart of Bartonville, a University of Illinois animal science student, helps keep the cows fed before auctions.

Cows await auction fate outside Embassy Suites

About 100 of them stay under Bob Michel Bridge as hotel hosts national convention

cows in the United States and Canada stayed there this week — not actually in the hotel but near it.

While more than 300 people gathered for the national convention for two famous dairy cow breeds, Ayrshire and Brown Swiss, about 100 cows stayed next door under the Bob Michel Bridge.

The cows were on hand because the two respective breeds — first the Ayrshire folks, then the Brown Swiss contingent — held separate

auctions Friday at the hotel.

Cows were fenced in under the bridge where they received shade, hay and plenty of attention from owners and prospective buyers.

As electric fans cooled their "barn," cows appeared relaxed and content with their river view.

"These are the best of the best," said Marla Behrends, industry relations manager of the Midwest Dairy Association, referring to the

Please see **COWS**, Page A8

BALLOT INITIATIVES

Judge: No map or term limit measures on ballot

Decision by Cook County judge could be a setback for Rauner campaign

BY SOPHIA TAREEN OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Measures that would allow Illinois voters to decide on lawmaker term limits and a new political redistricting process can't appear on November's ballot, a judge ruled Friday, in a decision that could be a setback for Republican gubernatorial candidate Bruce Rauner.

Cook County Circuit Court Judge Mary Mikva decided the measures didn't meet constitutional requirements and ruled them invalid. Attorneys for the term limits group vowed to appeal, while the redistricting group announced it would scrap efforts for 2014.

Rauner, who's trying to unseat Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn in what is one of the most competitive governor's races nationwide, has made term limits a campaign cornerstone. In addition to railing against "career politicians," his campaign sees the measure as a way to inspire supporters to vote.

But his group and another supporting changes to redistricting have said the court case, and a separate signature verification

Please see **BALLOT**, Page A11

DAILYDEALS. PJSTAR.COM

Purchase 3 Non Invasive Laser Body Contouring Procedures to Remove Excess Fat for only **\$75**

Midwest Body Solutions

THIS IS NOT A COUPON. Purchase this deal only online dailydeals.pjstar.com

Advice	D4	Lottery	A2
Business	A10	Obituaries	B6-8
Classified	E1	Opinion	A4
Crosswords	D4, E1	Sports	C1

6 54873 22222 1

TO SUBSCRIBE CALL **686-3161**

Vol. 158, No. 216, 70 Pages
 Copyright 2014
 The Peoria Journal Star Inc., Peoria, Illinois

BMW of Peoria

1720 W. Pioneer Pkwy | 309.692.4840
BMWofPeoria.com

Financing available thru BMW Financial Services. See BMW of Peoria for details.

2014 BMW 435i xDrive

MSRP \$60,025 Sale Price \$55,595

#W4574
 Black Sapphire, Coral Red leather, Black trim, Sport Line, Cold Weather Pkg, Driver Assist Pkg, Lighting Pkg, Premium Pkg, Tech Pkg

2013 BMW X1 xDrive28i

MSRP \$41,095 Sale Price \$36,662

#W4295
 Lemans Blue, Premium Package, M Sport Package

PE-4428012

BALLOT

Continued from Page A1

process by election officials, has been laced with politics in heavily-Democratic Cook County. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of business and community groups but argued by well-known elections attorney Michael Kasper, who's represented top Democrats, including House Speaker Michael Madigan. An opponent of term limits, Madigan is the longest serving House speaker nationwide at nearly three decades.

"We always knew that the protectors of the failed status quo would fight this in court and that it would go to the (Illinois) Supreme Court," Rauner said in a statement. "Illinoisans by the hundreds of thousands have spoken out in favor of shaking up Springfield with term limits, and the will of the people should not, and ultimately will not, be denied."

Democrats have dismissed the allegations, including Quinn. The Chicago Democrat led a petition drive for a term limits ballot initiative in 1994, but it was struck down by the Illinois Supreme Court. He didn't support the Rauner efforts because the measure also increased the size of the Illinois House. Quinn also was instrumental in the only other voter-backed initiative to make it to the Illinois ballot while a political activist. The 1980 so-called "cutback amendment" shrank the size of the House and how residents elect legislators.

The legal fight over the ballot initiatives has featured several high-profile Illinois political figures and lawyers with wide connections.

The judge is the daughter of former federal judge and former Democratic congressman Abner Mikva. Lawyer Lori Lightfoot, once a finalist to head the U.S. attorney's office in Chicago, was on a legal team arguing against the lawsuit. Judge Mikva disclosed in court that she was linked to people on both sides of the case, including that Kasper represented her during her election. Neither side objected to her presiding in the case.

Attorneys said they'd have difficulty finding a Cook County courtroom without such connections.

Quinn's campaign blasted Rauner's effort.

"During that (Quinn's) petition drive, Bruce Rauner was nowhere to be found. Now, 20 years later, he turns up with a poorly drafted, election-year proposal. Rauner has nobody but himself to blame for harming the term limits cause," a campaign statement said.

Mikva had to decide if the proposed questions made "structural" and "procedural" changes to the Legislature. The lawsuit said that the measures didn't meet those constitutional requirements, would change rules for seeking office, and would affect the governor's powers.

In her ruling, Mikva reasoned that all parts of the term limits initiative — which also makes it harder to override a governor's veto — weren't related. She added that provisions of the mapmaking initiative were outside of constitutional requirements.

Attorneys for Rauner's group, the Committee for Legislative Reform and Term Limits, had argued the measure met requirements. As did the other group, Yes for Independent Maps.

That group faced other problems. The Illinois State Board of Elections said an initial sampling found numerous signatures from that group to be invalid. Supporters of independent redistricting had been trying to rehabilitate them. They announced Friday afternoon that they'd try again in the future.

"This experience will make us better prepared to win the next campaign to give voters an opportunity to have a voice in the redistricting process," the group's chairwoman Deborah Harrington said in a statement.

Mark Campbell, spokesman for the term limits effort, said they hoped to file an appeal next week allowing them to go directly to the Illinois Supreme Court.

WESTLAKE

Continued from Page A1

an extra 80 cents for there," the Metamora resident said. "If you do a lot of small increases, it isn't a big deal.

"But look at gas. Remember when it was cheap? It went up, and it's not a big deal. Now it's four or five dollars (a gallon). At that point, it's too late."

After Aug. 1, it'll be too late to save those extra pennies on many Westlake purchases. That's when most stores in the shopping center will begin to charge a 0.75 percent sales tax in addition to the 8.25 percent Peoria standard.

The new tax, which the City Council approved Tuesday night, would add 7.5 cents to a \$10 purchase. Groceries are exempt.

Tax revenues are to repay a \$2 million loan for paver bricks that are to replace asphalt in the northern portion of the Westlake parking lot, according to city officials. Work is to begin next month. Excess tax revenue is to fund capital improvements and maintenance of common areas.

"That's a lot of money to do a parking lot, but that's because of the special type of construction, special type of landscaping and the special type of configuration that goes into doing that," Westlake attorney Bob Hall said.

In 2010, pavers were laid in the southern portion of the parking lot. An additional Westlake property tax was levied to pay for that. But the tax is becoming a burden on tenants, Hall said.

Pavers cost more than asphalt but last longer and are more pleasing aesthetically, according to Hall.

"We think there's (enough of) an ambience and shopping environment at Westlake that this isn't going to bother people," Hall said about the tax.

The renovations have helped revitalize Westlake over the past six years, according to Hall. In 2009, the shopping center accounted for about \$300,000 in city sales taxes, he said. This year, that figure is expected to be about \$1 million.

"There are new tenants that are in



PURCHASE THIS PHOTO AT PJSTAR.COM

DAVID ZALAZNIK/JOURNAL STAR

Cohen Development Co. President Les Cohen pauses Thursday before information displaying the value of the pavers used in the parking lot for visitors to Westlake Shopping Center. The Peoria City Council on Tuesday approved a 0.75 percent sales tax addition for most stores at the shopping center, a portion of which will be used to repay a \$2 million loan paying for completion of the north parking lot with semi-permeable pavers. While the process of installing the pavers is initially more expensive, Cohen expects to provide savings for store owners in a longer life expectancy for the materials.

that shopping center that we did not have in Peoria before," City Manager Patrick Urich said.

The Westlake overseer, Cohen Development Co. of Peoria, is able to assess taxes through city creation of a special service area, which in this case is limited to the shopping center. SSAs allow taxes to be raised and spent, usually on infrastructure upgrades, in targeted areas of a municipality.

"These are quasi-public improvements," developer Les Cohen said. "We're not getting any money out of this."

SSAs also are to fund part of the cost of the proposed Louisville Slugger Sports Complex in Northwest Peoria.

Westlake is the only shopping district in Peoria to form an SSA, Urich said. Some council members expressed

concern this might lead to a rash of self-taxing shopping areas that could make it difficult for the city to increase its overall sales tax, if needed.

"We are setting ourselves up for a public-policy disaster," at-large Councilman Ryan Spain said.

A city policy tailored to such SSAs is likely to be considered next month, Urich said. It, as well as the concept Westlake is using to pay for infrastructure, might not be tailored enough to suit Bracken.

"When it comes to taxing the community on stuff, I just feel like we have a lot more issues we can spend our money on, like maybe potholes, than spending money on this," he said.

Nick Vlahos can be reached at 686-3285 or nvlahos@pjstar.com. Follow him on Twitter @VlahosNick.

TV exec sues over withdrawn child sex abuse case

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A former network TV executive filed a malicious-prosecution lawsuit against a former aspiring actor who recently withdrew a lawsuit that accused the executive of sexually abusing him in the late 1990s.

Garth Ancier, who was a high-ranking executive at the NBC, Fox and WB networks, filed his lawsuit in a federal court in Honolulu two days after Michael Egan III voluntarily dismissed his case. The lawsuit also names two of Egan's attorneys, Jeff Herman, of Florida, and Mark Gallagher, of Hawaii.

Ancier's lawsuit states his reputation was damaged by Egan's claims that he was sexually molested by the executive and other entertainment industry figures, including "X-Men" director Bryan Singer, on a trip to Hawaii in 1999 when he was 17 years old. Ancier and Singer have denied being in Hawaii at the time Egan says he was abused.

Egan's attorneys did not respond to requests by Ancier's attorneys to produce evidence that supported the sex abuse lawsuit, the new case states. Ancier was in Los Angeles and New York developing lineups of shows for NBC at the time Egan claims he was abused. His lawyer, Louise Ann Fernandez, has said Ancier never visited the estate in Hawaii where Egan claimed he was abused.

soak up the savings

During Our Summer Sidewalk Sale!

July 3rd – 6th

Get the best deals of the season on fashions, home decor, athletic apparel and more at stores throughout the Shoppes.