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Friday, March 28, 2014

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Lourdine Florek, owner

www.justthefacts.net

Quinn wants tax hike permanent, local legislators criticize

A 67 percent increase in the income tax rate that was deemed temporary will become permanent if Gov. Pat Quinn has his way.

In a budget address Wednesday, Quinn said making the tax cut permanent should prevent "extreme and radical" cuts to public services.

Making the tax permanent is tied to property tax relief for homeowners, with Quinn suggesting a \$500 annual refund of property taxes. Quinn would also like to see the earned income tax credit for low-income families increased.

None of the state's financial woes, including unfunded

pensions, lowered credit rating and a backlog of unpaid bills, have been fixed by the 2011 income tax increase.

Quinn did not address those issues or the state's high unemployment rate, which local lawmakers were quick to criticize.

State Sen. Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) said Quinn contradicted himself by painting a doomsday scenario if the tax increase is not made permanent but suggested new spending and tax refunds if the hike is made permanent. He also said efforts to paint a rosy picture of the state's economy was offensive. "People

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Police News



Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 7:26 a.m. Wednesday at McFerren Park. An

unknown vehicle hit the playground fence, damaging two poles and fencing.

Anyone with information about the accident is asked to call police at 283-5196.

Tax continued from other side

are suffering because Illinois has the second highest unemployment rate in the nation and our prospects for job growth are among the poorest in the country," he said. "It's simply wrong for a governor to sweep that under the rug. People have a right to be offended by a governor who appears to be living in a different state than they are."

State Rep. Josh Harms (R-Watseka), said despite claims to the contrary, state spending has not been cut. Instead, he said, things that were in the general revenue fund have been shifted to other fund categories.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 50. Tonight, chance of rain. Low 33. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 48, low 29. Sunday, sunny. High 57, low 42.



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Obituaries

CAMPBELL - Curtis Willett "Curt" Campbell, 92, of Danville, formerly of Hoopeston, died at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, March 27, 2014 at Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care Center, Danville. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

EDWARDS—Lena M. (Staton) Edwards, 92, of Hoopeston, died at 5:44 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2014, at home. Visitation will be 10-11 a.m. Monday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Graveside service will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday at Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston Multi Agency.

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