Homeless shelter vote pushed to Sept. 21

BBCHS to start full days

Board votes to return to hybrid learning plan after recent return to full remote

By Stephanie Marsham

Bourbonnais Community High School will return to full remote learning starting Oct. 1 after board votes to reject full-time remote learning.

The board, which had initially voted to return to full remote learning in August, voted to return to a hybrid learning plan to start Oct. 1.

The decision was made after the board considered a proposal from the superintendent, who said a return to full remote learning would not be feasible due to staffing issues.

The superintendent also noted that the decision was made with the safety of students and staff in mind.

The board had previously voted to return to full remote learning in August, but after receiving feedback from parents and students, decided to vote on a hybrid learning plan.

The hybrid learning plan will allow for in-person classes on two days per week, with the remainder of the week being remote.

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Bourbonnais Village moves closer to first apartments in 20 years

Developers plan 320 upscale units in 16 buildings

By Jeff Provost

The Bourbonnais Village Board has voted to approve a plan for a 320-unit apartment complex to be built in the village since a moratorium was passed in the 2000s.

The plan, which was approved by a vote of 7-2, will include a mix of one-, two-, and three-bedroom units.

The developer, Fortitude Community Outreach, said they are planning to begin construction in the spring of 2022.

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Fortitude looks to open permanent location in downtown Kankakee

By Lee Provost

Lee Provost / daily-journal.com

Fortitude Community Outreach is looking to open a permanent location in downtown Kankakee.

The organization, which provides services to those experiencing homelessness, currently operates out of a temporary location.

The new location would allow for a more permanent presence in the city, and would offer additional services to those in need.

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Patio seating directions are posted outside Brickstone Brewery in Bourbonnais as rain falls Tuesday. Restaurants have been adapting to the current Restore Illinois restrictions that re-closed indoor service and seating as of Aug. 27, but local owners warn of business closures if patios are closed.

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“Enough is enough,” said Chris Vasilakis, the former owner of Fortitude Community Outreach.

Vasilakis, who signed the petition idea only days ago, noted she has attempted to contact the governor and the legislature to make those decisions. That effort has been in vain thus far, she said.

“Those three things — the governor, the state representatives, and the local representatives — are not doing what we can,” she said.

Fortitude Community Outreach seeks re-opening by October 1

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Patrons for Fortitude Community Outreach have been waiting to see an end to Illinois’ Restore Illinois plan since March.

The current restrictions, which were put in place to combat the spread of COVID-19, have affected the restaurant and bar industry.

“We’ve thought of many things,” said Tina Vasilakis, of the popular Brickstone Brewery in Bourbonnais. “We’re looking for anyone to sign this petition idea.”

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