

2022 3rd Quarterly Issues Report

WBST, WBSB, WBSH and WBSW - Indiana Public Radio

For the period of July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

Indiana Public Radio, consisting of FM radio stations WBST, WBSB, WBSW, and WBSH, has determined that the following issues were of importance to its audience community during the past three months and has aired the following news stories to address these issues:

Health

7-5-22 Health Officials Awaiting Legislature's New Abortion Laws IPB

Across the state, health officials and legal experts are waiting to see what abortion restrictions will be introduced in Indiana after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade*.

IU Health Arnett in Lafayette and the Indiana Hospital Association both released statements indicating they plan to work with the legislature to ensure they can continue to provide quality care.

Franciscan Health in Lafayette praised the high court's decision.

But Tippecanoe County Health Officer Dr. Greg Loomis says an abortion ban in the state will have clear, negative impacts on healthcare - particularly on fetal infant mortality. A retired neurosurgeon, Loomis says there will be complications.

CUT 25063 :15 "...political ideology."

"It would be like in my sub-specialty having some law that you can't operate on a human brain until they are about ready to die. That's tying the doctor's hands. That's taking medical decision-making and taking it out of doctors, nurses, and pharmacists' hands and tying them up because of a political ideology."

The legislature is expected to take up the question of abortion bans during a special session later this month.

07/06/22

MornEd

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831

:53

7/12/22 Black Health Fair PREVIEW Farah Yousry (SLW Short Edit)

The Indiana Black and Minority Health Fair begins Thursday at the Indiana Convention Center.

The annual health fair will provide up to 25-hundred dollars worth of health services — things like cholesterol and blood sugar screenings... HIV and Hepatitis C tests, and eye exams and dental check ups.

The fair will also offer back-to-school immunizations. State Health Commissioner Dr. Kris Box says the pandemic has led many Americans to miss out on routine health services.

CUT 29001 :08 ... BACK TO SCHOOL.

All services on Thursday through Sunday are free and pre-registration is not required. But families that need childhood vaccines will need to bring a valid ID.

07/12/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AllTC

:35

8/1/22 Special Session Week Two Schedule Brandon Smith

The public will get likely its last chance to testify on the proposed abortion ban tomorrow (TUES) ... during a House committee hearing. Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports on the plan for week two of the legislature's special session.

Cut 30000 TRT: :39 OUT:SOC

08/01/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AllTC

:50

08/10/22 Metalworking Air Fine Rebecca Thiele

A waste oil recycling company in Indianapolis will pay more than 300 thousand dollars for air-pollution violations.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Rebecca Thiele reports it's part of a settlement Metalworking Lubricants Company reached with the U-S Environmental Protection Agency and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, late last week.

CUT 25112 :47 OUT: SOC

08/11/22

MornEd

0604, 0704, 0804

1:02

9/2/22

Gun Violence Toll

Farah Yousry

Gun violence is hitting record highs during the pandemic.

Much of the focus is on how many people died.

Side Effects Public Media's Farah Yousry reports, research shows gun violence takes a toll on survivors – and their communities.

CUT 25052

:48

SOQ

09/05/22

MornEd

0604, 0704, 0804

1:01

9/13/22

Omicron Boosters On State Map

Brandon Smith

Hoosiers can now find the newest COVID-19 vaccine on the state's online map, found at our-shot-dot-I-N-dot-gov.

The so-called bivalent booster, endorsed by the C-D-C earlier this month, helps protect Hoosiers against both the Omicron and Delta strains of the virus. Previous boosters only covered COVID's original strain.

In a statement, State Health Commissioner Doctor Kris Box says having a vaccine that specifically targets the current dominant strains of the virus is particularly important heading into the fall and winter, when diseases like COVID are more prevalent.

The Indiana Department of Health encourages residents to either contact a pharmacy or health care provider directly, or on the pharmacy's or provider's website for vaccination appointments ...or call 2-1-1 for assistance.

09/14/22

MornEd

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831

:45 (SHS edit)

Economy

7/6/22 Dems Criticize Special Session Delay

Brandon Smith

Indiana Democrats are criticizing Republicans for failing to provide more immediate inflation relief. A special session to provide such relief was supposed to begin today (WED). But as Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports, it was delayed for weeks as Republicans craft an abortion ban.

CUT 30000

TRT: :50

OUT:SOC

07/06/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

1:05

7-26-22 House Cmte Passes Inflation & Support Bill Thorp (SLW Mix Edit)

A House committee today (Tuesday) passed a bill that includes both inflation relief to Hoosiers ... and financial supports for parents and families.

Republican Sharon Negele [NEY-gull] authored the bill. She says it will provide a 225-dollar check for all Hoosier taxpayers ... while also supporting mothers and children.

CUT 31288

TRT: 0:13

OUT: "fiscal impact"

To do that, the bill includes a number of tax exemptions for dependent or adopted children. It also expands Medicaid coverage to include labor and delivery services for people likely to qualify. The proposals come as the Senate is moving forward with new abortion restrictions.

Monique Kulkarni (COLE-carny) is a licensed psychologist. She supports the funding the bill puts towards various maternal health services - but says it's not enough.

Cut 31289

TRT: 0:15

OUT: "this bill"

The bill passed unanimously out of committee with some minor amendments and now moves to the full House.

07/26/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

1:15

8/15/22

Indiana Tax Refund Scam Warning

Brandon Smith

Indiana state officials are warning Hoosiers about scams related to the automatic taxpayer refund and inflation relief payments.

Last year, the state triggered its automatic taxpayer refund law because of unusually large revenue collections. That ultimately meant sending 125 dollars to every Hoosier who filed a tax return last year. And state lawmakers recently approved an inflation relief package that will mean another 200 dollars each to taxpayers.

But with those payments also comes concerns about scams. The money will only come in the form of a direct deposit or a paper check. The state is telling Hoosiers to ignore any texts, emails, or phone calls related to the taxpayer refund or inflation relief payments. That's especially true if the messages contain links ... or request personal or financial information, such as Social Security or bank account numbers.

If you receive one of these messages, you can report it to the Indiana Attorney General's office. You can do so online, by filing a complaint with the office's consumer protection division.

08/15/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

1:00

8/16/22

Near Record Lottery Revenues

Brandon Smith

Indiana government will receive 344 million dollars from the Hoosier Lottery this year - a near record amount. And as Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports, that money goes to help teacher, police, and firefighter pensions ... as well as reduce how much you pay for your license plates at the B-M-V.

CUT 30000

TRT: :49

OUT: SOC

08/16/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

1:10

09/02/22

Energy Insecure Coping

Rebecca Thiele

People struggling to pay their energy bills are more likely to do risky, sometimes dangerous things to keep the lights on. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Rebecca Thiele reports, that's according to a new study from Indiana University's Energy Justice Lab.

CUT 30000

TRT: 47

OUT: SOC

09/02/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

1:10

9-09-22 US Secs at Purdue for CHIPS Act investments Ben Thorp (SLW Short Edit)

Members of the Biden Administration joined Governor Eric Holcomb and Senator Todd Young at Purdue University today (TUES) to tout the investments of the CHIPS Act.

The federal act, passed in July, puts more than 50 billion dollars towards bolstering the semiconductor industry in the US. Semiconductor chips are used in numerous electronic devices, including phones, TVs, and even cars.

Earlier this year SkyWater Technology announced a 1-point-8-billion-dollar semiconductor plant in West Lafayette. Funding will come from the CHIPS Act.

U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken says supply chain issues during the pandemic made it clear that the U.S. needed to secure the production of chips.

CUT 29001

TRT: 0:13

“carry the day.”

Governor Eric Holcomb says the idea of a “silicon heartland” manufacturing hub in the Midwest in five to ten years is not a stretch. He also says Indiana has been building a talent pipeline to meet the demands of the industry.

09/13/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

1:10

Local Stories

07/01/22

Northedge Steel buys All Steel Carports

SLW

A North Carolina steel company is planning to take over a Yorktown steel structure site built in 2020, but never used. And, it’s planning to hire 40 workers.

Northedge Steel has purchased All-Steel Carports for more than 5 million dollars. The North Carolina company says it will manufacture and sell carports and steel buildings in Yorktown that will be destined for Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky.

The 11-acre manufacturing facility and sales center was supposed to have been the new home of All-Steel Carports, which began business in Muncie in 2001. But before moving, owner Ignacio Chave z-

Castillo was arrested on federal immigration-related charges. The government claimed the company was hiring and harboring "illegal aliens" and paying them "grossly reduced wages." Castillo entered into a federal plea agreement and forfeited his business last September.

It plans to begin operating in August.

07/04/22

MornEd

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831

:50

07/27/22 Elwood BABY BOX JILL SHERIDAN (SLW Local Edit)

Elwood has installed the 86th baby box in Indiana ... and the first in Madison County. The Safe Haven Baby Box organization was founded by Monica Kelsey in 2016.

CUT 31288 :10 ...IN BETWEEN.

Most of the electronically monitored, temperature-controlled boxes are installed on the sides of fire stations. Elwood Fire Department has a paid, professional staff, so there should always be someone there, no matter when a baby might be dropped off.

Elwood Fire Department Chief Mark Sullivan says they are happy to have this option for women in his small town.

Cut 31289 :03.. ... OUR BOX.

A recent surge in surrenders this year includes three babies at a Carmel station. And this newest box comes the same week lawmakers begin meeting to craft an abortion ban that will give Hoosier women fewer options in the event of an unwanted pregnancy.

Most baby boxes are funded through private church donations. In Elwood, an anonymous donor funded the 15-thousand-dollar box installation through the Elwood United Methodist Church.

07/27/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AllTC

1:00

Muncie Westside Skate Park Survey and Fundraising

SLW 08/12/22

Muncie is looking for input – and donations – to continue its quest to add a skate park to the city’s Westside Park. IPR’s Stephanie Wiechmann reports.

CUT 31490 1:02 ... SOQ.

ANCHOR OUT: We have a link to the skate park survey on our website ... at indianapublicradio.org.

8/15/22

0631, 0731, 0831

MornEd

1:10

08/31/22 COVID Boosters / Community Spread Sollars & Wiechmann

As the federal government begins the process of authorizing more COVID-19 vaccine boosters, local healthcare organizations are making preparations to get those shots out to Hoosiers.

The US Food and Drug Administration has given authorization to boosters made by both Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech.

Suzanne Clem is with Open Door Health Services. She says the next step is approval by a vaccine panel with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

CUT 31289 :08 ... OMICRON.

The CDC advisory panel is scheduled to meet tomorrow (THURS).

Meanwhile, the CDC community spread tracker lists several area counties at high risk of community level COVID spread right now. Those listed in the red category are Delaware, Grant, Henry, Miami, and Randolph counties.

Clem says it's important to follow CDC recommendations in these counties.

CUT 31288 :10 ... REALLY IMPORTANT.

Open Door is an IPR underwriter.

08/31/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AllTC

1:15

09/12/22 Vera Mae’s Bistro Sold To Accutech SLW

A downtown Muncie restaurant has been sold to a technology company down the street.

IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann reports, Vera Mae's Bistro is now owned by Accutech.

CUT 31496

:51

SOQ

Anchor Tag: Vera Mae's Bistro is an IPR underwriter.

09/13/22

MornEd

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831

1:03

09/13/22 "Muncie Folk" Not-For-Profit Helps People on the Street with Naloxone, Mental Health Issues SOLLARS

Naloxone, a medicine used to prevent deaths from opioid overdoses, was patented in 1961 and approved for use in the United States ten years later.

Naloxone, also known by the brand name of Narcan, has saved countless lives over the years. Its benefits are recognized to the point, today, that naloxone nasal spray dispensers are being freely distributed in wall boxes – like so many fire extinguishers or AED units in public buildings and other locations.

As our Stephanie Wiechmann reported recently, Muncie is seeing more so-called “Naloxboxes” throughout the community.

To fill in more details for us we welcome to Morning Edition Sarah Renee and Neil Kring who are with the organization Muncie Folk – a local 501C3 not-for-profit organization that performs harm-reduction work helping those with substance abuse problems. They also work in conjunction with Indiana Department of Mental Health doing street outreach.

(Interview begins)

09/13/22

MornEd

0744, 0844

7:30

Local and State Government

07/01/22

Indiana Broadband Access

DAUPHINAS

Hundreds of thousands of people across Indiana lack internet access at home.

Among households with school-age children, more than 40,000 homes lack a dial-up internet subscription or broadband access at home.

That's according to research from Ball State economist Michael Hicks.

CUT 25044 :14 "...can't work from home."

"If you don't have broadband, you're immediately excluded from 15% of all job opportunities that are available in America right now. If you don't have broadband, you're gonna have to go to library just to apply for a job, but you certainly can't work at home."

Internet access isn't federally subsidized like water or electricity.

Billions of federal dollars are headed to Indiana to increase broadband access, but experts say the money won't reach ALL who need it most.

07/04/22

MornEd

0604, 0704, 0804

:43

7/26/22

Senate Inflation Relief Clears Cmte

Brandon Smith

Last night, a Senate committee unanimously approved its version of an inflation relief bill. If approved, the average Hoosier household would save about 20 dollars a month for the next six months.

The measure would suspend, for six months, the state sales tax you pay on your utility bills - electricity, water, gas, internet, and phone. It also caps the sales tax on gasoline ... and rolls back a one-penny-per-gallon gas tax increase. But those are unlikely to make a difference at the pump.

The rest of the money in the bill would be spent on state construction projects and paying down teacher pension fund debt.

School and teacher organizations applauded the measure. But as David Marcotte (mar-COT) from the Indiana Urban Schools Association told lawmakers, schools could use even more help ... as they deal with inflation and an ongoing teacher shortage.

CUT 29002 TRT: :05 OUT: "cause hesitation"

The House has a competing inflation relief bill that would send 225-dollar checks to taxpayers.

07/27/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

1:10

INDOT HALTS PROPOSED MUNCIE BYPASS CHANGE

SLW 08/04/22

After much public opposition, the Indiana Department of Transportation says it won't adjust traffic on US-35 at Riggins Road.

INDOT had proposed removing the left-hand turn lanes and the median from US 35, allowing only right turns at the Muncie Bypass. The agency had cited what it called a high number of "incapacitating" crashes and several property damage crashes.

But at a public hearing on the proposal last month, Delaware County law enforcement officials said they didn't remember responding to those accidents.

Governmental bodies in both Delaware County and Muncie submitted letters of opposition to INDOT over the change.

Now the agency says it won't move forward with the change. But, it says it will continue monitoring traffic at the intersection to see if further discussion is needed.

08/04/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

:45

8-4-22 Gov Public Health Cmsn - Further Changes Violet Comber-Wilen

A report from the Governor's Public Health Commission out today (THURS) gives dozens of recommendations for improvements in Indiana's public health system. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Violet Comber-WHYlen reports, committee members hope this influences legislators to make changes to the state's current system.

CUT 30000

TRT: 0:53

OUT: SOC

08/04/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

1:05

09/07/22

Muncie Gets More Naloxone Boxes

SLW

Another naloxone box has arrived in Muncie, aimed to help combat overdose deaths.

IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann reports, the life-saving kits are part of a statewide initiative paid for with federal grant money.

CUT 31495 :58 SOQ

09/08/22

MornEd

0604, 0704, 0804

1:10

09-19-2022 How are state roads funded/maintained? Violet Comber-Wilen

How are state roads funded and maintained? Several listeners wanted to know. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Violet Comber-Wilen reports, revenues come in from a variety of state and federal sources.

CUT 29001 TRT: 0:49 OUT: SOC

09/19/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

1:20

Education

07/04/22 NFL & HBCUs Sports Med Diversity Farah Yousry

The NFL will launch a program this fall that lets medical students from historically black colleges and universities do clinical rotations with NFL teams.

Side Effects Public Media's Farah Yousry reports – the program's goal is to increase diversity in sports medicine.

CUT 25064 :40 SOQ

07/06/22

MornEd

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831

:54

07/08/22

SB PUBLIC COMMENT ELIZABETH GABRIEL

Among the many laws that went into effect in July is one specific to school boards - their public meetings are now required to have a comment period. Indiana Public Broadcasting's Elizabeth Gabriel explains why.

CUT 29003

:47

... SOQ.

ANCHORTAG: School boards may also limit public comments to discussion only about agenda items.

07/11/22

1604, 1704, 1804

AIITC

1:05

AP-IN 08/12/22

Indiana, Purdue universities plan Indianapolis campus split

Indiana University and Purdue University officials have announced plans to split up control of the Indianapolis campus that the schools have shared for more than 50 years.

The academic division of IUPUI is set to take effect in 2024 ... and new names for the campus will be chosen.

IU will continue to operate much of the 27-thousand-student campus ... and programs in areas like business, science, law, nursing, and liberal arts.

Purdue says it will control engineering, computer science, and technology programs ... with an aim to increase their enrollments and coordinate them more with the main Purdue campus in West Lafayette.

University officials said the changes will allow IU and Purdue to highlight and grow their academic programs and research presence in the state's largest city.

It's a move similar to what happened to the shared university campus in Fort Wayne in 2018. Purdue Fort Wayne now provides most of its academic degrees, with IU largely overseeing health sciences programs.

08/12/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

1:00

08/17/22

Special ed para shortage

FEATURE

McCOY

Teacher's aides play a crucial role in educating students with disabilities. But school administrators across Indiana are struggling to keep and hire special education assistants. Today, Indiana Public Broadcasting's Lee Gaines and Dylan Peers McCoy report on why some aides have left the field - and what that means for students.

CUT 30187

TRT 3:51

... SOQ.

08/22/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

4:15

09/06/22

Indiana To Tax Student Debt Relief

AP

Indiana will tax student debt relief as income, reflecting similar policies in other U.S. states following the Biden administration's announcement of a forgiveness plan last month.

The Indiana Department of Revenue said on Tuesday that residents will be required to include their forgiven loans as taxable income.

09/07/22

MornEd

0604, 0704, 0804

:17

09/19/22

Porter County Staff Crisis

McCOY/GAINES

A school in northern Indiana's Porter County provides special education services to thousands of students with disabilities - more than almost any other school system in the state. And teachers and parents say a staffing shortage there is so bad ... it's dangerous. But how did it get that way? Indiana Public Broadcasting's Dylan Peers McCoy and Lee Gaines report.

CUT 30187

TRT 3:53

OUT: SOQ.

09/22/22

1630, 1730, 1830

AIITC

4:20