

“This Week in the Stateline” is our weekly Public Affairs Program that airs every Sunday from 6:00 am to 6:30 am, featuring a local host interviewing local guests about local topics of community interest.

2020 2nd Quarter

4/5/20 1st guest, Ted O’Donnell, a local man with Covid-19 who is currently recovering, comes forward to talk about his experience. 2nd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses essential businesses and the COVID-19 curve dates for Winnebago County. He also thanks community leaders, health officials, and first responders.

4/12/20 1st guest, Winnebago County Chairman Frank Haney discusses the county game plan to battle COVID-19. 2nd guest, Joe Landmichl from Alzheimer’s Association of Illinois with tips for home caregivers. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara with Easter message and the latest COVID-19 updates.

4/19/20 1st guest, Ann-Marie Soderstrom with Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois talks about how they are handling meetings and how the community can purchase cookies for first responders, hospital workers and more. 2nd guest, Linda Sandquist of United Way of Rock River Valley talks about how the community can donate to their programs that help not-for-profit organizations in need during COVID-19. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses the latest on how the city is handling the COVID-19 battle.

4/26/20 1st guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses latest COVID-19 developments, his ZOOM meeting with other mayors in Illinois, request to the Governor to open local businesses, and next steps for our community. 2nd guest, Nathan Bryant of the Rockford Area Economic Development Council discusses economic impact to our area, how to move forward as a business, and how to get economy jump started. 3rd guest, Michelle DeHaven of Freeport Community Foundation and United Way Northwest Illinois partner talks about local non-for-profits and how Stephenson County is helping each other during these difficult times.

5/3/20 1st guest, Karen Carlson of Gigi’s Playhouse Rockford talks about their new Virtual 5K Run coming up June 6th and how we can assist families with Down Syndrome during COVID-19 times, while having fun from anywhere in the USA. 2nd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara talks about COVID-19 updates as we move into May, including new stay-at-home orders and protective gear requirements. 3rd guest, Brian Snell of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois shares tips for local people who have lost jobs, about their rights for health insurance and how to obtain coverage from any and all agencies (not selling Blue Cross Blue Shield at all). He stresses all have 60 days after termination to shop around and apply.

5/10/20 1st guest, Amy Newell of The Arc of Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties discusses how individuals with developmental disabilities are coping with the face masks, shelter-in-place orders and more, as well as future fundraising events. 2nd guest, Zach Satterlee of Lifescape Community Services talks about COVID-19 effects on senior citizens and two upcoming donation drives to collect items needed for seniors. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses COVID-19 phases from the Governor for businesses reopening, plus a thank you to citizens for following protocol.

5/17/20 1st guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara with a COVID-19 recap, and describing the task forces he has put together and how info will be digested in order to get things started in Phase 3 as we reopen Rockford and area. 2nd guest, John Groh of the Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau discusses being on one of the mayor's Panels, economic impact, and what they are studying for reopening the area. 3rd guest, Teresa Schryver of the Northern Illinois Food Bank talks about how they have served 7 million meals in 3 months (way above average) and the massive needs for donations.

5/24/20 1st guest, Laura Gibbs Green of Rockford Park District talks about the losses due to COVID-19 and the direction of the Rockford Park District moving forward. 2nd guests, Loves Park Mayor Greg Jury and Loves Park Treasurer John Danielson talk about how COVID-19 has hit their city, and the effect the loss of sales taxes from down spending will have. They also discuss the "Field of Honor" that will be open for Memorial Day remembrances. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses openings just announced from IL Governor Pritzker and his message for Memorial Day Weekend.

5/31/20 1st guest, Cathy McDermott of Rock River Development Partnership talks about local events that are still happening, changes for events, and what to expect at Rockford City Market this year. 2nd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses COVID-19 developments, "Phase 3" and what is opening, how the operations will be, and what to expect moving forward. 3rd guest, Belvidere Mayor Mike Chamberlain talks about the effect COVID-19 has had on his city and Boone County, Belvidere Chrysler Plant operations, and "Forward Boone," a new initiative for businesses and residents to stay on top of the changing economic posture in the city.

6/7/20 1st guest, Janesville City Manager Mark Freitag. 2nd guest, Freeport Mayor Jodi Miller. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara. All 3 guests discussed the effects of COVID-19 on their cities, the latest developments with "Phase 3" reopening of businesses, and plans moving forward.

6/14/20 1st guest, Ann Marie Walker of the Discovery Center discusses camps and summer activities that are opening in a COVID-19 world at Discovery Center Museum. 2nd guest, Laura Gibbs Green of the Rockford Park District talks about park facilities opening up and she outlines the stance the Rockford Park District is taking against racism and injustice. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara talks about "Phase 4" coming in reopening restaurants, and he also discusses steps moving forward in seeking action against racism and injustice in our community.

6/21/20 1st guest, Beth Kaufman of Secretary of State Driver's License Offices talks about local facilities opening up, how to get your needed documents in a COVID-19 world, and online services offered at CyberDriveIL.com. 2nd guest, Dennis Horton of the Better Business Bureau discusses scams happening in a COVID-19 world, such as employment scams and door-to-door scammers – he advises on how to protect yourself, where the scammers are from, and how to report them. 3rd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara talks about how the community is coming together through the COVID-19 phases – he also outlines his pitch to Rock Valley College to keep a planned Advanced Technology Center in Rockford.

6/28/20 1st guest, John Groh of the Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau talks about how COVID-19 has affected tourism in the area. 2nd guest, Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara discusses Phase 4 openings, and looking ahead to reopening schools in the Fall in a COVID world.