

**Quarterly Issues/Programs  
List**

**For  
WMKR (FM) 94.3 Pana, IL**

**January 1, 2017 – March  
31, 2017**

## QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS LIST

Here follows a listing of the significant issues responded to by station WMKR (FM) 94.3 Pana, IL along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of:

January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017

The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which these stories appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

Description of issue	Program or segment date	Time	Duration	Description of program segment
City government	01/12/17	9:22 am	1 min 50 sec	Taylorville Mayor Discusses Improvements to City Sanitation
City government	02/07/17	11:22 am	2 min 00 secs	City Council Revotes on Several Issues
City government	02/22/17	9:22 pm	1 min 15 secs	Council Votes Yes on Lincoln Prairie Bike Trail
City government	03/07/17	9:22 pm	1 min 45 secs	City Passes New Ordinances
City government	03/21/17	9:22 pm	1 min 35 secs	City Allows Former Employee to Rescind Resignation

It was a packed house Tuesday evening at the Taylorville Municipal Building as many members of the community came out to Tuesday's Taylorville City Council Meeting in support of the Lincoln Prairie Bike Trail between the cities of Taylorville and Pana. The Council voted 5-3 in favor of a motion to have the city attorney draft an intergovernmental agreement between Taylorville and Pana that would both fix the trestle bridge along the bike path, as well as transfer ownership of part of the path to Taylorville.

Taylorville City Alderman Martin Vota had mentioned during the meeting that he had spoken with many concerned citizens regarding the bike trail. Vota spoke with WTIMTV following the meeting where he echoed some of the concerns that he had heard.

WED 3 BikeTrail1 :36

Vota discussed the intergovernmental agreement the council approved to allow the city attorney to draft, and what it would mean for the trail.

WED 4 BikeTrail2 :34

Originally, Taylorville had only agreed to help Pana with the costs of the repair of the trestle bridge along the trail. With the costs of the project increasing, Vota discussed why the Council decided to now work towards taking over ownership of a portion of the trail.

WED 5 BikeTrail3 :34

Some concerns were raised by several members of the City Council as to whether or not this was a prudent expense for Taylorville, noting the condition of several sidewalks within the city limits. Vota shared why he felt spending money on the trail was well worth it.

WED 6 BikeTrail4 :25

Vota concluded by saying that once the Taylorville side of the trail is under city ownership, the city should promote the trail to help bring tax dollars and revenue into the city. To view the complete interview with Taylorville Alderman Martin Vota, click on the WTIMTV icon at [TaylorvilleDailyNews.com](http://TaylorvilleDailyNews.com)

1/12/17

5p

mp

The state government in Illinois has caused headaches for many, and often times those problems trickle down to the local level. The city of Taylorville however has managed to continue to progress forward. Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton highlighted improvements to the city infrastructure that was a major problem in the past.

FRI            1                            Mayor1                            :34

The work on the city sewer system hasn't been completed, with additional projects on the city sanitation system underway. Mayor Brotherton said how these improvements to the city sewer system can help the city in more ways than just plumbing.

FRI            2                            Mayor2                            :34

Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton appeared on the NEWSTALK WTIM Hometown Tour.

3/7/17

6a

mp

The Taylorville City Council is working towards improving Taylorville, and it showed during Monday night's city council meeting. The Council voted and approved motions that would reduce the blight around the city, and approve paying the contractors who have done a great job with the new sewer lines on the north side of town.

Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton spoke with WTIMTV following the meeting, and explained how the council voted to approve payment to the contractors working on the new sewer lines, however made sure to give some insurance to the city from the state.

TUE            1                            Greg1                            :29

Although the project is currently far ahead of schedule, Mayor Brotherton still wanted to thank the citizens of Taylorville for their patients with the project. He mentioned how the new sewer lines have been a huge help to the city's storm water management.

TUE            2                            Greg2                            :34

The council also continued their push to reduce the amount of blight in the city. A new ordinance was approved that would allow the council to give homeowners who are taking their time with property renovation projects a tighter timeline on when the work needs to be finished.

TUE            3                            Greg3                            :24

Mayor Brotherton also discussed the upcoming mayoral forum on Wednesday. He said the citizens of Taylorville should be paying attention, and seeing what each candidate has to say.

TUE            4                            Greg4                            :25

You can hear the Taylorville Mayoral Forum Wednesday by tuning into the live coverage on NEWSTALK WTIM, and to view the complete interview with Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton, click on the WTIMTV icon at [TaylorvilleDailyNews.com](http://TaylorvilleDailyNews.com)

2/7/17

6a

mp

The Taylorville City Council held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday night. It was a packed agenda with a great deal of motions, ordinances, and resolutions on the agenda. Many of which however were simple issues the council had already discussed, but needed to re-vote on. Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton shared how some of the motions regarding the city's new water treatment plant had to be re-written and re-voted on.

TUE            3                            TvlCouncil1                            :16

Another topic of discussion was the progress of the new sanitation lines being installed in town. Several of the alderman praised the work that's been done, noting the weather has cooperated, and the work is ahead of schedule. The council did have to vote on motions that would allow the contractors to be paid for the work, with several alderman stating how the city was more or less functioning as a "pass through". Mayor Brotherton explained what that meant.

TUE            4                            TvlCouncil2                            :19

Mayor Brotherton also discussed renovations on the way for the Taylorville Police Department, and shared what the department has in store.

TUE            5                            TvlCouncil3                            :31

To view the complete interview with Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton, click on the WTIMTV icon at [TaylorvilleDailyNews.com](http://TaylorvilleDailyNews.com).

3/21/17

6a

mp

The Taylorville City Council held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday night at the Taylorville Municipal Building. A short meeting was highlighted by motions addressing other municipalities borrowing city equipment, city employees, and remembering a prominent member of the community.

Taylorville Mayor Greg Brotherton spoke with WTIMTV following the meeting where he explained exactly what the city did when it comes to loaning city equipment to other municipalities.

TUE            1                            Mayor1                            :29

Another motion came out of discussion during the personnel committee proceeding the night's city council meeting regarding a city employee who had handed in their resignation, but had since changed their mind. Mayor Brotherton explained in further detail what the situation was.

TUE            2                            Mayor2                            :31

There was some concern from several alderman on allowing the employee to rescind the resignation. Mayor Brotherton shared why, and what the city ultimately elected to do.

TUE            3                            Mayor3                            :24

The city also held a moment of silence for a former member of the community, as well as a former city Alderman.

TUE            4                            Mayor4                            :34

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County government	02/9/17	9:22 am	1 min; 25 secs	Christian County Sheriff Meets with Students
County government	02/17/17	9:22 am	30 secs	Christian County Sheriff Announces Seizing of Drugs
County government	02/22/17	9:22 am	1 min; 50 secs	Christian County Board Cuts Salaries
County government	03/22/17	9:22 am	1 min; 20 secs	Tempers Flair at Christian County Board Meeting
County government	03/22/17	9:22 am	1 min; 45 secs	Christian County Sheriff Fears for Future of Teens in County



2/9/17

5p

mp

Central A&M Middle School recently hosted an area-wide leadership workshop to teach leadership and interpersonal skills to the student leaders of several area schools. Christian County Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp spoke at the event, and shared with the students the leadership lessons he's learned throughout the years.

Central A&M Middle School Principle Ryan Scott said the school was very grateful to have the sheriff speak at the event, and share his experience with the kids.

FRI            5                            CAM Leader1                            :32

The program is a new program the school has implemented recently with the goal of helping the student body become better leaders both in the school, and in the community. Scott said he wants his students to understand why good leadership can benefit all.

FRI            6                            CAM Leader2                            :34

A Christian County resident has been arrested for possession of about 10 pounds of cannabis. Agents with the Central Illinois Enforcement Group, in cooperation with agents from the Metropolitan Enforcement Group Southwestern Illinois conducted a drug investigation that lead to the arrest of Zachary T. Bland of Pana for possession of the marijuana with intent to deliver.

Christian County Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp said the drug task force groups were able to intercept and seize the cannabis as it made it's way through the mail.

WKN            1                            DrugBust1                            :30

The task force was able to determine where the cannabis was eventually headed through that arrest, which lead to the arrest of Bland. According to Kettelkamp, this takes nearly \$80,000 worth of marijuana off the streets.

Sheriff Kettelkamp praised law enforcement officers for making the bust because he feels that it could potentially save lives. Kettelkamp discussed how he feels that marijuana is a gateway drug, that can potentially lead to abuse of other drugs.

WKN            2                            DrugBust2                            :32

Kettelkamp mentioned how with the seized marijuana, you could make nearly 9,000 joints, and how one individual could possibly supply 448 people with 10 grams of cannabis.

2/22/17

5p

mp

The Christian County Board voted unanimously Tuesday night to cut the salaries of county board members, as well as the county board chairman. The move is aimed to help reduce the budget deficit that the Board is facing.

County Board Chairman Tim Carlson says the move was the biggest highlight of a generally positive meeting of the Christian County Board.

THU            1                            CountyBoard1                            :25

Carlson says the board is just trying to do their part in helping cut the budget deficit. Carlson said over a ten year span, the move is expected to save the county quite a bit of money.

THU            2                            CountyBoard2                            :20

The next meeting of the Christian County Board will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 in the Christian County Courthouse.

Tempers were heated and many questions were asked during Tuesday night's meeting of the Christian County Board as County payroll system issues continue to be a problem. The board was presented with their 2016 audit review, with an item of concern coming from an IRS penalty for failed tax deposits, and where the money came from to pay that penalty.

Finance Committee Chair Becky Edwards presented the issues with the audit to the board, sharing how a failure to make a proper federal tax deposit resulted in a fee of nearly \$13,000.

WED 1 County1 :33

County Clerk Laurie Mense, who's office is responsible for the failed deposits, informed the board how issues with the new payroll system the county converted to early last year was the reason behind the missed deposits.

WED 2 County2 :34

The penalty was ultimately paid using an account known as an "agency account" or an "in/out account", which takes money from employee deductions. Several members of the board had questions about a lack of transparency of the entire process, as well as using the agency account to pay the fees. Mense informed the board that the previous county board had in fact discussed the issues with the payments, and said she wasn't trying to hide anything.

WED 3 County3 :39

The money that had been taken out of the agency account to pay the penalty has to be replenished. To do so, the County Clerk's Office makes a claim with the county board to replenish those expenses. A move which as of the Finance Committee Meeting, had not yet been done. Mense said she had not yet been made aware of the need to file a claim, however had one ready to be voted on.

WED 4 County4 :27

A motion to table the vote on the claim ultimately failed, with a motion to pay the claim made by the County Clerk's office narrowly passing by a 9-7 vote. The next meeting of the Christian County Board will take place on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

3/22/17

5p

mp

With a vote on the April 4<sup>th</sup> Taylorville School Tax Referendum looming Christian County Sheriff Bruce Kettelkamp is worried about the future of youth in the community should it fail. The Sheriff is also concerned about recent developments in the state government that push towards the legalization of marijuana, saying that legalizing it sends the wrong message to our kids.

Sheriff Kettelkamp says marijuana is the second most used drug among youth today. He says he doesn't understand why there has been a push towards legalization, due to the message that sends to teens.

MON        1                                  Marijuana1                                  :32

Kettelkamp said he doesn't believe that drug addicts should be in prison, and wanted to clear up the misconception that a possession charge leads to jail time.

MON        2                                  Marijuana2                                  :28

Kettelkamp discussed his experience with drug addicts, and some of the problems drugs cause in people's lives. He said although drug addicts shouldn't be in prison, the people supplying the drugs should be.

MON        3                                  Marijuana3                                  :34

Sheriff Kettelkamp appeared on the Newstalk WTIM Morning Show

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Economic development	01/25/17	9:22 am	1 min; 40 sec	Local Baker Working Towards Opening Storefront
Economic development	02/02/17	9:22 am	1 min, 45 sec	Tornado City Tattoo Open for Business
Economic development	02/20/17	9:22 am	1 min, 30 secs	Initial Stages of Taylorville Industrial Park Underway
Economic development	03/06/17	9:22 am	1 min, 50 secs	Happy Baked Goods Has Successful Opening
Economic development	03/08/17	9:22 am	1 min, 40 sec	CCEDC Publicly Supporting Tax Referendum

1/25/17

5p

mp

A local baker is moving from her home based baking business, to opening her own storefront in Taylorville. Meredith Eisenbarth, owner of Happy Baked Goods is working towards opening her own storefront location. Eisenbarth said her business started small, and has grown tremendously over the years.

THU            5                            Baked1                            :29

Eisenbarth said her business is a reflection of a life-long passion for baking. She said after taking some time off, she started taking orders once again, and everything has grown from there.

THU            6                            Baked2                            :36

Happy Baked Goods' storefront location will be at 115 West Poplar in Taylorville. There is not yet a determined open date, however Eisenbarth is hopeful they will be open for business in 4 to 6 weeks.

2/20/17

5p

mp

The Christian County Economic Development Corporation held their Executive Committee Meeting last week at the CCEDC Office in Taylorville. During the meeting, CCEDC Director Mary Renner informed the committee about progress being made for the new industrial park in Taylorville, as well as another possible, high impact project for the city.

Renner says the CCEDC has submitted the pre-application for the park, but are currently waiting on an appraisal on the property.

MON        1                      Park1                      :30

Although Renner couldn't shed too many details, she did say that a developer is considering Taylorville for a reportedly "high impact" project.

MON        2                      Park2                      :27

Renner also touched on the upcoming Taylorville School Tax Referendum, stating how that vote will be critical for the future economic development of both Taylorville, and Christian County.



2/2/17

5p

mp

A new business has opened in Taylorville for those looking to decorate their skin with a little ink. Mara Bertinetti, owner of Tornado City Tattoo said the shop has plenty to offer the community.

FRI            3                            TCT1                            :28

The private rooms Tornado City Tattoo offers are something that Bertinetti says sets the business apart. She said she noticed that many tattoo shops are open spaces leaving customers exposed. Bertinetti says the artists like the private rooms as well.

FRI            4                            TCT2                            :21

You can find Tornado City Tattoo in Taylorville at 415 West Franklin Street. They're also very active on Facebook, and you can find their page by searching for "Tornado City Tattoo".

The Christian County Economic Development Corporation have come out in public support of the proposed property tax referendum for Taylorville Schools. Should the referendum fail, Taylorville Schools will be forced to tremendously cut their curriculum, which the CCEDC says would drastically decrease Taylorville and Christian County's chances of attracting new business.

Mary Renner, Executive Director of the CCEDC said although the organization is typically apolitical, this issue is very important to their goal of attracting new business to the county.

THU            5                            CCEDCTax1                            :32

Renner explained how the referendum failing could impact Taylorville and Christian County, leading to less tax dollars overall for the region.

THU            6                            CCEDCTax2                            :37

Renner also warned that should the referendum fail, not only could it lead to businesses deciding not to locate in Taylorville, but it could also lead to current businesses struggling due to families moving to areas with better funded school districts.

3/6/17

6a

mp

Happy Baked Goods is officially open for business in Taylorville, and had quite the grand opening. Since opening their doors last Tuesday, the business has seen a steady flow of customers, and has regularly sold out of nearly every item they offer.

Meredith Eisenbarth, owner of Happy Baked Goods said the reception the business has seen has been an incredible experience that exceeded expectations.

MON            1                            HBGOpen1                            :33

Eisenbarth reflected on what her most popular item has been so far, and said with the huge demand, she's looking at hiring more help in the future so Happy Baked Goods can keep up with their customers.

MON            2                            HBGOpen2                            :37

Happy Baked Goods can be found off Poplar Street in Taylorville, and more information can be found online on their Facebook Page.

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Education	02/01/17	9:22 am	1 min; 50 sec	State Senator Manar Stresses Importance of Fixing School Funding
Education	02/01/17	9:22 am	1 min; 10 sec	LLCC Hosts High School Students
Education	02/14/17	9:22 am	1 min	Taylorville School Board Approves Cuts
Education	02/21/17	9:22 am	55 secs	Demolition Begins on St. Marys School
Education	03/13/17	9:22 am	1 min, 10 secs	Taylorville Schools Joins Lawsuit Against State

With many schools beginning to seek alternative sources of funding rather than rely on state funding, many questions remain on how Illinois funds its schools. State Senator Andy Manar (D-Bunker Hill) sits on a school funding reform commission created by Governor Bruce Rauner, tasked with creating a better funding formula. Manar said in a conference call with the press Wednesday, that he's proud the commission has tried to create a formula that better assists children from low income areas.

THU 3 Manarcall1 :35

Manar stressed the importance of being able to better fund school districts in low income areas, but did warn that there are significant hurdles to overcome.

THU 4 Manarcall2 :30

The bipartisan commission has recommended an increase of at least \$3.5 Billion for school funding in Illinois.

2/1/17

5p

mp

High School Students from 19 area high schools gathered at Lincoln Land Community College on Tuesday for the annual WYSE (wise) Academic Challenge. Matt Vespa, a Professor at LLCC and Director of the WYSE competition shared information on the WYSE Challenge.

THU

5

WYSE1

:28

Students test in their choice of two of seven different subjects, and individuals and school teams that place in either first or second in their respective divisions advance to the sectional competition, with the chance to move on to the state finals in April. Vespa said if students are interested in competing in the WYSE Academic Challenge, they have several avenues to do so.

THU

6

WYSE2

:33

2/21/17

5p

mp

Demolition of the old St. Marys School in Taylorville began in earnest over the weekend. So far the front third and part of the back portion of the old building has been taken down. St. Marys Principle Cathy Robertson says it's sad to see the old building go, but she knows that moving forward moving into the new building was the right decision to make.

Robertson said a crowd had gathered on Saturday to watch as the demolition began on the old building.

WED          1                                  StMarysDemo1                                  :34

As the demolition was taking place, Robertson noticed a small passageway between two rooms at the old school that she hadn't known about. She said she joked with a coworker about discovering a secret passageway at the old school.

WED          2                                  StMarysDemo2                                  :27

Robertson also said the school had been getting questions on whether or not people could grab bricks from the old school as mementos, and wanted to assure that the public is more than welcome if they'd like to grab a brick from the old school to keep.

2/14/17

5p

mp

The Taylorville School Board voted unanimously Monday night to drastically cut back their curricular and extra curricular programs should the tax referendum fail on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The district has seen a huge reduction in funding from the state during the state budget impasse, and has stated they would not have the funding for these programs without increased local support in the coming school years.

Taylorville Schools Superintendent Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau spoke with WTIMTV following the meeting, and said the district and it's finance committee examined it's expenses, and came up with a two year plan for the cuts should the tax referendum fail.

WED            1                            Cuts1                            :35

The cuts include non replacement of 4 retirements, teaching and other staff reductions, Madrigals, Scholastic Bowl, FFA, Journalism, Spring Musical, all school athletics, music, and art among other cuts by the 2018/2019 school year. The cuts would reduce the district's expenses by nearly two million dollars. Dr. Fuerstenau said the issue lies with a lack of payments from the state.

WED            2                            Cuts2                            :29

Should the referendum pass, it's projected to raise enough money to allow the district to continue with the programs cut. There would be a period of time before the district begins to receive the funding from the referendum however.

WED            3                            Cuts3                            :26

Dr. Fuerstenau stated the district would be able to make some decisions with their budget in the meantime to bridge the gap before they started to see the funds generated by the referendum. He also said the district is prepared to live within it's current means, but that would lead to a reduced quality of education for it's students.

WED            4                            Cuts4                            :31

To view the complete interview with Taylorville Schools Superintendent Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, click on the WTIMTV icon at [TaylorvilleDailyNews.com](http://TaylorvilleDailyNews.com)



3/13/17

6a

mp

The Taylorville School Board unanimously elected Monday night to participate in a lawsuit that a group of Illinois Schools are filing against the state board of education, based on a lack of funds the state has paid to the schools, as well as unfunded requirements the state continues to place on Illinois school districts. As part of joining, the Taylorville School Board elected to use non-tax payer funds to pay the associated legal fees as part of the lawsuit.

Taylorville Superintendent Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau spoke with WTIMTV following the meeting, and said the list of schools filing suit against the state is growing.

TUE            3                            Gregg1                            :29

Dr. Fuerstenau said a big part of the reasoning behind the lawsuit was the continued unfunded mandates the school continues to place on already struggling school districts.

TUE            4                            Gregg2                            :35

School board member Bruce Barry asked the board to elect to not use any taxpayer money on the legal fees associated with joining the lawsuit, and offered that the fees be paid through the Quarterback Club, which passed along with the decision to join the suit.

The board also viewed a presentation put together by Taylorville School District Business Manager Colene (Co-Leen) German highlighting some of the financial figures the district has seen since 2005. Dr. Fuerstenau said one of the most important figures of that presentation was one that showed how Taylorville Schools spends less per student than much of the state. He said this is due to the district having to make tough funding decisions due to the financial situation the district has been in.

TUE            5                            Gregg3                            :32

It's not all bad news however for Taylorville Schools, as Dr. Fuerstenau highlighted some of the accomplishments that students in the Taylorville School District have achieved.

TUE            6                            Gregg4                            :33

The Taylorville School Board will meet again on April 10<sup>th</sup>, where they will discuss the results of the tax referendum vote.

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Health	02/28/17	9:22 am	1 min; 25 sec	TMH Auxiliary Has Successful 2016 Blood Drive
Health	03/03/17	9:22 am	1 min; 30 sec	HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital Holds Successful RED Event
Health	03/07/17	9:22 am	1 min; 10 sec	HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital Hosting Food Drive
Health	03/27/17	9:22 am	40 secs.	Pana Community Hospital ER Working to Keep Wait Times Low
Health	03/30/17	9:22 am	1 mins, 20 secs	TMH Swing Bed Program Helping Many Recover

3/7/17

5p

mp

HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital in conjunction with the Shelbyville County Market will be holding a food drive on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Suggested items for the drive are canned fruits and vegetables, boxed dinners, soups, pork and beans, and other various food items.

All food collected will be donated to the local food bank at the First United Methodist Church. Last year the Methodist food pantry provided assistance to over 150 residents of Shelby County.

The hospital asks residents to join them in helping those in need, and realizing that hunger doesn't take a day off. A complete list of suggested food items for the food drive is available at [TaylorvilleDailyNews.com](http://TaylorvilleDailyNews.com).

3/3/17

5p

mp

HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital Held their seventh annual Red Event on February 16<sup>th</sup> to help raise funds for the hospital. The fundraising event was a huge success, and featured attractions such as a comedian, a silent auction, and catered food.

Glenda Plunkett with HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital shared how the Red event has grown over it's seven years.

WKN            1                            Red1                            :26

Overall the hospital was able to raise nearly \$35,000 for the hospital to help support programs, buy equipment, and continue services at the hospital. Plunkett shared how this years event was bigger than in years past.

WKN            2                            Red2                            :33

HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital was especially thankful to the generosity of the Red Event Sponsors for helping to make another Red Event a success for the hospital.

2/28/17

5p

mp

The Taylorville Memorial Hospital Auxiliary had a very successful 2016 blood drive effort. Through these drives, the community provided nearly 400 units of blood, impacting the lives of over 1,500 patients.

Pat Anderson is taking over as chair of the Auxiliary's blood drive effort from former chair Marilyn Voggetzer, and discussed just how successful last year's blood drive efforts were, and shared how the Auxiliary gets the word out about the drives.

WED        8                            AuxBlood1                            :32

Many thanks have gone out to Voggetzer for her tenure as chair of the drives. Anderson said Voggetzer is continuing to help her in her new role as chairperson of the Auxiliary's blood drive efforts.

WED        9                            AuxBlood2                            :23

The next blood drive that the TMH Auxiliary will be hosting will be on March 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Janice Hopper Auditorium from 11 until 6.

3/27/17

5p

mp

Pana Community Hospital is working to give the best experience and care it can across all departments, including their Emergency Department. The department is working to keep wait times low, and the quality of care high, and urge residents to come into the ER if they feel they need emergency care.

One concern among many when they head to the emergency room is how long it will take to be seen. Greg Hager, Manager of Pana Community Hospital Outpatient Services joined the Newstalk WTIM Morning Show and said at Pana Community Hospital, they try to keep wait times to under ten minutes, and had several methods such as a triage system to help achieve that goal.

TUE            E                            Hager1                            :25

Sometimes though wait times and frustrations can grow as patients waiting to be seen in the ER get passed up by other patients who may have arrived after they have. Hager asked those heading to the ER to be patient, as there may be others arriving after them, that have more serious issues.

Hager also said that people experiencing certain symptoms such as stroke like symptoms should get to the ER as soon as they can, so the hospital can give them medications to help as soon as possible.

TUE            R                            Hager2                            :40

Hager added that even if Pana Community Hospital needs to transfer you to another, larger hospital for care, they are still capable of stabilizing your conditions, and that visiting the Pana Community Hospital ER is still your best bet to get the care you need in as timely a manner as possible.

3/30/17

5p

mp

Taylorville Memorial Hospital is offering a "Swing Bed" program to help patients with their recovery process, and get them home. The program offers patients additional care when they no longer need acute hospital care, but are not quite ready to return home.

Swing Bed Program Manager Becky Erlenbush shared what kind of patients should consider the Swing Bed program.

FRI            4                            Swingbed1                            :33

Erlenbush said the program has gotten a lot of positive feedback, and that the program has a more relaxed atmosphere that tailors it's care to each patient's needs.

FRI            5                            Swingbed2                            :35

If you'd like more information on the swing bed program at Taylorville Memorial Hospital, visit [TaylorvilleMemorial.org](http://TaylorvilleMemorial.org), or call 824-1130.