

WGL QUARTERLY PROGRAMMING

July – September, 2020

WGL began broadcasting an all news format August 24th, 2020. Local news produced by WGL staff makes up 93% of WGL's broadcast day. CBS news and Radio America make up the other 7% of programming daily on WGL.

•WGL broadcasted information

•Wawasee Community School Corporation has sent all students and staff from one class home for a quarantining period of 14 days today, Thursday, Aug. 27. The action was taken after the corporation was notified of a COVID-19 positive student at the school. That student and two additional students from the same classroom were sent home from school with symptoms of COVID-19 on Wednesday, Aug. 26. Officials with The Kosciusko County Health Department advised WCSC to send all students and staff from that classroom home for quarantining.

•The Indiana Department of Transportation announced plans to close SR 13 in Kosciusko County on or after Tuesday, Sept. 3, for construction that will continue through late November. The work will take place on the bridge over Tippecanoe River, between Backwater Road and East Esterbrook Drive, according to INDOT. The closure will allow contractors to complete a bridge deck overlay and other bridgework. Access to homes and businesses will be maintained throughout the work. The official detour will be US 6 to SR 15 to US 30. The road may be closed up to 60 calendar days. The contract was awarded to R.L. McCoy for \$1.8 million and includes the rehabilitation of multiple structures in Kosciusko and Whitley counties.

•The Indiana State Department of Health will host a free COVID-19 drive-thru testing clinic in Warsaw Sept. 9 – 12. Testing will be offered from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The clinic will be located at Warsaw's Central Park, 225 E. Fort Wayne St., Warsaw, in the west parking lot. The drive-thru clinic is open to anyone age 2 and older who lives or works in Indiana.

•Fort Wayne will get 1,104 new trees along streets and in parks in the coming

year, a more than \$244,000 investment by the city. The local Parks and Recreation Board learned that Thursday from Derek Veit, the parks department's superintendent of urban forest. Veit said the devastation of the city's urban canopy by the emerald ash borer pest in recent years taught the city a costly lesson – the need to diversify the species of trees selected for planting to prevent mass infestation. “We've learned from the ash borer and Dutch elm disease and chestnut blight before that,” Veit said, before the board approved a \$244,395 contract with Shade Trees Unlimited of Columbia City to supply trees from 35 species.

•Grace College celebrates its 2020 incoming class of 459 students — the second-largest in school history. Despite the uncertainty of an economic recession and global health pandemic, Grace's incoming class is 13% larger than last year and is the most socioeconomically and racially diverse of all time. The new class also brings an impressive number of athletes. A total of 145 incoming students will compete in one of Grace's 18 varsity sports, eight JV teams, or five club sports, including the new Esports and bowling teams. Grace College enrollment totals 1,901 students this semester.

•South Shore Country Club in Syracuse has been purchased by DP&P Investments and will cease to remain a golf course. Hahn Reality and Auction, said Polk Auction will be auctioning off all the equipment Oct. 17. Carl Tuttle opened the golf club in 1929, and it was owned by others over the years. The golf course will remain in operation until Sept. 30.

•An Allen County K-9 tracked down a fleeing suspect after a vehicle and foot pursuit Sunday morning. Just before 3 a.m., Allen County police were involved in a vehicle pursuit starting at Woodburn Road and Sampson Road. The K-9 led police through the woods to Croskey laying in a tree line in the 5100 block of Fox Mill Run. After initially failing to comply with police's orders, he was eventually taken into custody. Croskey faces charges of Resisting by Fleeing in a vehicle, Resisting physically, Criminal Recklessness, Possession of Marijuana, and Reckless Driving. The vehicle's two passengers were released without charges.

•**Despite slight gains in two districts, public school enrollment in Allen County dropped this fall, and Fort Wayne Community Schools is bearing the brunt of it.**

The urban district – which enrolled 29,710 students last year – has about 1,000 fewer, spokeswoman Krista Stockman said last week, characterizing the decline as significant. “It's not the direction we want to head, but we do think a lot of this really has to do with the pandemic,” Stockman said. “These are trends we're seeing across the country.” Along with a drop in kindergarten enrollment, significantly more students chose home schooling or a virtual charter school than in previous years. Parents with home schooling experience preferred the flexibility of teaching their children rather than following the district's schedule.

•A late Thursday morning incident led to a standoff between Kosciusko County law enforcement officers and a barricaded subject. According to information provided by Sgt. Christopher M. Francis, public information officer for the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Office, shortly before 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct.1, crews were directing traffic on CR 700S near CR 425W, west of Claypool, for an electrical pole project. Witnesses said Quincy Akeem Jenkins, 27, Elkhart, entered a traffic control vehicle after exiting a white sport utility vehicle. Jenkins left the traffic control vehicle and fled to a neighboring home, removing clothing as he was running. Members of the utility crew notified the home's occupant, stopping her from answering the door. Jenkins again tried to enter a vehicle and ran westbound to another residence, where he forced entry through a back window. Officers from Mentone and Claypool Police Departments arrived within minutes of the initial call and confirmed that Jenkins was inside of the home. Dispatchers made contact with the homeowner, who said that there was no one else inside the dwelling. The homeowner responded to the scene and was instrumental in relaying vital information to deputies. Multiple attempts were made to communicate with Jenkins, who refused to answer. However, Jenkins did release a small dog through the front door. Kosciusko County SWAT was activated and a plan was established to enter the residence. Officers placed a robot inside the back door of the home and were able to observe the interior. After speaking with Jenkins through the communication system on the robot, he surrendered to SWAT operators and was taken into custody without further incident. Jenkins was taken to an area hospital for medical evaluation.

•A woman died after leading police on a pursuit that ended at Coliseum Boulevard and Coldwater Road. Police were initially called at 9:30 p.m. to the Regency Inn at 1004 W. Coliseum Blvd for an unrelated call. While conducting their investigation on that call, a woman

approached officers and asked for help retrieving some personal items from the hotel. During this interaction, an officer noticed signs of possible intoxication and began questioning the female driver, according to a news release from Paul Meitz, Fort Wayne police spokesman. The woman sped away, striking a vehicle in the parking lot, and fled east on Coliseum. While crossing the entrance to the intersection of Glenbrook Mall, the driver hit three other cars. At Coldwater Road, she hit a fifth vehicle before continuing into the intersection. She drove off the road and hit a utility pole about 50 yards east of the intersection, near a Jiffy Lube and Fresh Thyme grocery, according to the release. The driver was trapped and had to be extricated from the vehicle. She was taken to a hospital with life-threatening injuries, where she later died. The drivers in the other five vehicles did not report any.

•Are you registered to vote? If you want to have your say in the Nov. 5 municipal election, you need to register.

Voters registering in the county clerk's office must do so by the close of business Monday, and voters registering online have until midnight Monday night, according to a news release from the office of the Indiana secretary of state.

Hoosiers can register to vote online by using the Indiana Voters app (available on iPhone and Android) or by visiting www.IndianaVoters.com. Citizens also can submit an application to register in person at their local county clerk's office.

•A Massey Ferguson combine became a casualty of fall harvest this Thursday afternoon when it caught fire. The fire was reported at approximately 4:45 p.m. west of 4550 W. 1000N, Milford. The property is owned by Lee and Sandra Beer and the combine is said to belong to Lee Beer. Black smoke could be seen over six miles away. Firefighters from Milford and Nappanee fire departments responded to the scene to not only extinguish the combine fire, but also extinguish any fire that had spread to the field. The cab and soybean head on the combine all appeared untouched by the fire. Damage is expected to be over \$200,000.

•More broadband internet is coming to Whitley County after a deal was reached between the county's board of commissioners and Kansas-based Mercury Wireless. "Internet access is an important part of today's workplace, education and economic development initiatives. The goal is to provide internet access to as many as possible. If a child is sent home from school with homework, we want them to be able to complete the work," said Don Amber, Whitley County

commissioners chairman. Commissioners say they met with several providers before deciding on Mercury since they felt the company was best able to meet time restraints. Mercury Wireless currently serves Southern and South Eastern Kosciusko county from the WIOE, 101 tower located near Sidney

•Louis Dreyfus Company in Claypool is growing again, and Thursday night, the agricultural business took a step in seeking two tax abatements from the Kosciusko County Council totaling about \$50 million. Attorney Steve Snyder, on behalf of Louis Dreyfus Company, Agricultural Industries LLC, said, "As you are aware, Louis Dreyfus is a significant player in the county. It has made a \$200 million-plus investment in the county and wants to add more to that investment and create additional jobs." Louis Dreyfus has 117 employees and would add seven more as a result of the additional construction. Current salaries total \$8,835,413 for the 117 employees; and the new seven employees would add \$343,000 to that figure. There would be construction costs and new equipment including logistics equipment of \$150,000 and information technology equipment of \$330,000. "Total project is just over \$50 million," Snyder said.

•An allegation of a biased juror and that juror's subsequent dismissal caused a three-hour delay Thursday morning in the trial of Alyssa Shepherd.

Fulton County Superior Court Judge Greg?Heller said after court Wednesday that the court had been made aware of a written juror bias. He said the juror in question was interviewed, along with the rest of the jurors individually, and that no juror bias was found to exist, but the woman asked to be excused. Those interviews caused court to not begin until 11:31 a.m. Thursday instead of the scheduled 8:30 a.m.

The female juror was replaced by a male alternate, making the 12-person jury seven men and five women. The scheduled four-day trial could potentially lead into Saturday.

During the delay, the father of Alivia Stahl, Michael Stahl, told the media he would appreciate comments on stories online to be monitored and threatening ones to be removed.

"Comments from people with opinions need to hold off until proceedings are over," Stahl said. "Right now is not the time. I don't want to see people threatening to take someone's life. We've already lost three lives. I have a 12-year-old daughter that gets on social media, and I don't need her getting on there seeing that. I know I could delete my Facebook, but that doesn't solve the problem."

•Larwill received a Community Crossings matching grant from Indiana Department of Transportation of nearly \$130,000. Main Street in Larwill is getting resurfaced and American Disability Act compliant sidewalks in the next few months through the Next Level Roads: Community Crossing Initiative, according to a news release from the Whitley County Economic Development Corp. A partnership between the Community Crossing Initiative and the town of Larwill means Larwill residents will see their tax dollars matched 3 to 1 by the state to improve the streets in town.

"Projects like this are crucial for the quality of life for residents and economic futures for communities like Larwill," said Jon Myers, Whitley County Economic Development president. "I applaud Larwill and BCS Management for their work to improve the town and bring investment into the local community."

Larwill recently resurfaced Hammontree Street with the same funding and improved the storm drain system

while completing the road resurfacing project.

The Main Street project is projected to start within the next couple of months, weather depending.

•Wawasee High School is comprised of students and staff members from the towns of Syracuse, North Webster and Milford.

All three towns have local food pantries that serve the residents in their townships. These food pantries rely heavily on community donations in order to ensure that they have enough supplies to serve those who require assistance.

This year, WHS Key Club will hold its annual non-perishable food drive, Stuff The Bus, during the weeks of Nov. 4-16. The goal is to Stuff The Bus full of food or non-perishable items that will be donated to the Syracuse, North Webster and Milford food pantries. The bus will be at the high school every morning for student and staff donations.

Key Club members will also be at the following locations during THE week:

- Dollar General, Milford, 4 to 6 p.m. Nov. 12.
- New Market, North Webster, 4 to 6 p.m. Nov. 14.
- New Market/Dollar General, Syracuse, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nov. 16.

Last year, Wawasee collected 3,267 canned and boxed food, and non-perishable items. The goal is to beat that number this year.

•The University of Saint Francis will award to this year's winner of its Pay it Forward Scholarship a \$135,000 four year academic scholarship. The four year scholarship worth \$135 thousand dollars, is open to any incoming student who shows a commitment to service and helping others."Take advantage of all service opportunities," said University of Saint Francis President Father Eric Zimmer. "Students should volunteer in their church, in their schools or in other organizations. Even helping out neighbors is something that can be included on the essay they submit with their application."

•On Friday, Governor Eric Holcomb announced Steven O. Godfrey as his appointee to the Allen County Superior Court, Criminal Division. Godfrey will succeed Judge Wendy Davis

who is running unopposed to be the next Allen County Circuit Court judge, according to the press release. Godfrey earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Ball State University and a law degree from Valparaiso University. The date that Godfrey will be sworn in as the judge of the Superior Court in Allen County has not been released.

