

Quarterly Issues Report

Station: WJBC-AM

Location: 236 Greenwood Ave, Bloomington, IL. 61704

For quarter beginning:

_____ January 1, 2021

_____ April 1, 2021

 X July 1, 2021

_____ October 1, 2021

Attached hereto are descriptions of local issues addressed by the station and descriptions of how each issue was treated through the stations most significant issues-responsive programming or announcements during the report period.

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Local Interviews

How Issue Was Treated: Afternoon Show Host Marc Strauss will have interviews during his weekday shift (Mon-Fri 2pm-6pm)

Title: Local Interviews

Date: 07/01/2021 – 09/30/2021

Time: Monday-Friday 6am-10am

Description:
The following pages are from Marc Strauss, Afternoon Show Host, for interviews with WJBC-AM. All the following interviews ran on air.

Marc Strauss – July through September 2021 Interviews

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Larissa Armstrong, Ecology Action Center, talks about the upcoming Yard Smart Garden Walk on July 10

Adrienne Huffman, David Davis Mansion, talks about the 25th anniversary Glorious Garden Festival on July 16-17

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept., talks about local law enforcement issues

Cheryl Magnuson, Majestic Interior Design, offers decorating and design tips

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Don Meyer, McLean County Ag History, talks about the late Bill Birckelbaw and his "Apple Barn" Legacy

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and the markets

Lee Hall, St. Jude runner, promotes the upcoming St. Jude Run

Doug Damery, Dir., Normal Parks & Rec, talks about park district programs and events

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about the latest market trends and investing tips

Jane Kahman, Humane Society of central Illinois, talks about upcoming programs and events and pet adoption opportunities

Brian Walton, theCardinalNation.com, discusses the St. Louis Cardinals and some of their top minor league prospects

Shelly Hanover, Children's Discovery Museum, talks about upcoming programs and events at the museum

Monday, July 12, 2021

Mike Levin, Sr. Dir. Of Govt. Relations, Illinois Soybean Association, provides a crop progress report and legislative update

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about travel opportunities and deals

Dana Matuszyk, Wellness and FriendsFirst Coordinator, MarcFirst, introduces listeners to the FriendsFirst program

McCade Brown, Normal West graduate and Indiana University pitcher, talks about being selected in the third round by the Colorado Rockies in the MLB Draft

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Brittnay Haag, U of I Extension horticulture educator, previews upcoming Master Gardener Hybrid training

Bill Flick, Pantagraph columnist, talks about local events in the news

Dr. Paul Naour, McLean County Orthopedics, discusses the integration of services approach offered in pain management and rehabilitation

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Rodney Weinzierl, Exec. Dir., Illinois Corn Growers Association, talks about weather conditions in Illinois and the Midwest and the impact on corn prices as well as supply chain issues

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, Chris Reudi), discuss investing and current market trends

McLean County Master Gardners (Kay Henrichs and Cheryl West), talks about Monarch butterflies and their habitats

Thursday, July 14, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, discusses investing and recent market trends

Samantha Stevenson, Child Protection Network, updates monthly DCFS statistics and talks about upcoming programs and events

Kathy Wills, Busey Wealth management, talks about doing a mid-year financial checkup

John Starks, Artistic Director, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, talks about season so far and upcoming performances and ticket options

Friday, July 16, 2021

Dr. Valerie Farmer Dougan, Director, Canine Behavior and Cognition Lab at ISU, talks about training techniques for your dog

Jason Wingate, Director of Golf, City of Bloomington, talks about the British Open at Royal St. Georges Golf Course in England

Drew Brown, local chapter of the Red Cross, discusses blood shortages and the upcoming Avanti's/Radio Bloomington Blood Drive on July 29 and Aug. 16

Pam Hummel (Chef Stu's mother), Epiphany Farms, talks about her visit to the farm and what they've done to help remodel the restaurants

Monday, July 19, 2021

Mark Tomasik, RetroSimba.com, talks about the Cardinals retiring Ted Simmons' number-23

Adam Fox, Normal Theater, talks about upcoming shows and events

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Senator Dick Durbin, talks about a recent federal court decision that ruled the DACA program unlawful and the expansion of the Child Tax Credit for working families

Sean Patrick, ihatecritics.net, talks about what's new on BlueRay and streaming options

Bill Waller, Habitat for Humanity, talks about three upcoming projects locally

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Fran Strebing, Central Illinois Regional Airport, reports on passenger traffic numbers for June and news that Frontier Airlines has added non-stop service to Las Vegas

Angie Bubon, Salvation Army, talks about local flood relief efforts and promotes Vacation Bible School

Joe McGuire (Joe the Art Guy), talks about sketch art and painting

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about current travel opportunities and deals

Dr. Barry Reilly, Supt., District 87, discusses plans for the full return of students and staff members for the fall semester

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about trends in the market and investing tips

Friday, July 23, 2021

Tessa Grossman, ISU strength and conditioning graduate assistant, talks about securing an internship with the NFL's Atlanta Falcons

Jason Wingate, Dir. Of Golf, City of Bloomington, talks about city medal play sign up and recaps Colin Morikawa's win at the British Open

Chef Ken Myszka, Epiphany Farms, talks about the history of Epiphany Farms

Monday, July 26, 2021

Chad Colby, Colby Ag Tech and This week in Agribusiness, talks about the use of drone in agriculture

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about current travel opportunities

Karen Bussone, Dir., Small Business Development Center at IWU, introduces Drue Van Meter, owner of local small business called The Recipe Girls, an at-home gluten-free bakery

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Jenna Braasch, U of I Extension, talks about upcoming 4-H events and activities

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept., talks about local crime

Chris Koos, Mayor, Town of Normal, talks about approval of the underpass project in Uptown Normal

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

John Fischer, Normal Public Library, talks about upcoming events and programs

Candace Summers, McLean Co. Museum of History, talks the next installment of the museum's "Breaking Bread" series

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Mike Cagley, IlliniGuys.com, talks about University of Illinois basketball and football news

Ellen Dalrymple, author, talks about her book about the history of the Laesch family dairy farm with proceeds going to benefit ALS research

Friday, July 30, 2021

Carolyn Hansen, talks about Miner Corn Daze

Brian Walton, theCardinalNation.com, talks about Cardinals baseball prospects and activity at the MLB trade deadline

Alex Plumadore, Pres., ISU Solar Car Team, talks about competing in the American Solar car Challenge

Monday, August 9, 2021

Monica Nyman, St. Louis District Dairy Council, talks about back-to-school meal planning and nutrition

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about travel trends and current deals

Christy Kosharek, MarcFirst, offers some back-to-school tips and resources and talks about their Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy program

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Jenna Braasch, U of I Extension, recaps the 4-H show at the McLean County Fair and previews fall programming including Master Gardener training

John Fischer, Normal Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events at the library

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Diane Boeck, McLean County Master Gardener, offers gardening tips and suggestions on end of summer planting for fall vegetables

Thursday, August 12, 2021

Jane Kahman, Humane Society of Central Illinois, talks about upcoming events and adoption opportunities

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Friday, August 13, 2021

Don Meyer, McLean County Ag History segment

Kurt Pegler, sports director, WMBD TV, talks about the upcoming ISU Red-White scrimmage and high school football practices getting underway

Bill Flick, columnist for The Pantagraph, talks about local news items

Monday, August 16, 2021

Rachel Peabody, Dir. Of Communications, Illinois Soybean Association, talks about the latest issue of Illinois Field & Bean magazine and the #SoyFromIllinois Roadshow

Rondalea Fish, Bloomington Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events at the library and reviews the children's book "My Voice is a Trumpet" by country music artist Jimmie Allen

Steve Fast, Heartland Community College, talks about fall registration and upcoming programs and events

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Max Armstrong, This Week in AgriBusiness, talks about the upcoming Farm Progress Show in Decatur

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept., talks about local crime and law enforcement topics

Kathryn Johnson, PATH Crisis, talks about their Adult Protective Services Program

Alicia Whitworth, YWCA McLean County, talks about Women of Distinction nominations and WINGS Award applications

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Doug Damery, Dir., Normal Parks & Rec, talks about early registration for their obstacle course event and other park district programs

Thursday, August 19, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Brett Petersen, Busey Wealth Management, talks about staying sane in a crazy market

Friday, August 20, 2021

Greg Peterson, Machinery Pete TV, talks about farm equipment auctions and vintage farm factors

Lyn Hruska, CEO, local chapter of the Red Cross, talks about the response to the recent WJBC summer blood drive

Mike Cagley, IlliniGuys.com, talks about Illini football practice and the coming season

Monday, August 23, 2021

Curt Kimmel, Bates Commodities, talks about farm commodity market conditions

Samantha Stevenson, Child protection Network, talks about local foster care numbers and CASA training available

Karen Bussone, Dir., Small Business Development Center at IWU, introduces us to small business owner Authrine T.K. Singleton and discusses how the SBDC helped get their business off the ground

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Jenna Smith, U of I Extension, talks about nutrition and packing a healthy school lunch

Ofc. Brad Park, Normal Police Dept., talks about local crime and law enforcement

Mayor Chris Koos, Town of Normal, talks about the Trail East construction project

John Fischer, Normal Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events at the library

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Candace Summers, McLean County Museum of History, talks about tickets going on sale for the upcoming annual Cemetery Walk

Thursday, August 26, 2021

Bridget Caldwell, McLean County Ag in the Classroom coordinator, talks about upcoming programs and events

Matt Burgess, CEO, Home Sweet Home Ministries, talks about flood relief efforts and The Big Give food drive

Kimberley Wright, Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal, talks about their new corporate partnership with Jersey Mike's Subs

Friday, August 27, 2021

Jessica Chambers, Dir., ISU Horticulture Center, previews the annual Autumnal Festival

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Chief Aaron Woodruff, ISU Police, talks about campus issues

Monday, August 30, 2021

Paul Halvorsen, Fellowship Farms, talks about their upcoming U-Pick Aronia Berry Festival

Carol Torrens, Bloomington Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events

Dr. Seth Heimer, Christie Clinic, talks about his work at a doctor of osteopathic medicine

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Rodney Weinzierl, exec. Dir. Illinois Corn Growers Association, talks about the Farm progress Show in Decatur

Brian Walton, theCardinalNation.com, talks about pitcher Adam Wainwright's amazing season as he turns 40 years old and updates progress of some Cardinals prospects

Thursday, September 2, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Michael Cervantes, Mid Central Community Action, talks about events related to Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Amy Pitzer, Children's Discovery Museum, talks about upcoming programs and events at the museum

Doug Damery, Normal Parks & Rec, talks about upcoming programs and events

Friday, September 3, 2021

Dick Luedke, Voice of the Redbirds, previews ISU's football opener

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Jeff Sualsbery, David Davis Mansion, talks about upcoming programs and events

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept., talks about local law enforcement and crime issues

John Fischer, Normal Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Rodney Weinzierl, Exec. Dir., Illinois Corn Growers Association, talks about crop progress and recaps the activities at the farm Progress Show in Decatur last week

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Kelly Alsup, McLean County Master Gardener, talks about jumping worms, fall army worms, ragweed and fall gardening tips

Thursday, September 9, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Jane Kahman, Humane Society of Central Illinois, talks about adoptable pets and upcoming programs and events

Monday, September 13, 2021

Adam Rader, Rader Family Farms, talks about pumpkin harvest

Jesse Wyer, Bloomington Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about travel deals and upcoming trip opportunities

Martha Kamp, CEFCU, talks about CEFCU's involvement in D'Vine Affair for MarcFirst

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

DeLoss Jahnke, RFD Radio, talks about current agricultural issues

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept, talks about local crime and law enforcement issues

Mark Tomasik, RetroSimba.com, tells stories of past Cardinal pennant races

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Sean Jordal, agronomist with Aguru, reports from Husker harvest Days in Nebraska and talks about preparation tips for harvest season

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Doug Damery, Dir., Normal Parks & Rec, talks about upcoming programs and events

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Leah Johnson, ISU Volleyball coach, talks about the Redbird Classic tournament and ceremonies planned to honor longtime ISU volleyball coach and administrator Dr. Linda Herman

Kathy Wills, Busey Wealth Management, talks about Private Client Solutions

Jessica Kemp, McLean Co. Chamber of Commerce, talks about the upcoming Walk-up Job Fair at Eastland Mall

Friday, September 17, 2021

Don Meyer, McLean Co. Ag History, talks about the farming legacy of the Calvin Barnes family

Jenna Braasch, U of I Extension, talks about the upcoming Nature Trails Day at Sugar Grove Nature Center

Monday, September 20, 2021

John Lumpe, CEO, Illinois Soybean Association, talks about growing opportunities for soybean use, markets accessibility and demand, and recaps ISA activities at the Farm Progress Show

Steve Fast, Heartland Community College, talks about upcoming programs, classes and events

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about travel deals and upcoming trip opportunities

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept, talks about local crime and law enforcement issues

Kathryn Lewis, homeless services program manager at PATH Crisis, talks about latest efforts and initiatives

John Fischer, Normal Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events at the library

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Alicia Whitworth, YWCA McLean County, talks about nominees for their "Women of Distinction" award/event

Candace Summers, McLean Co. Museum of History, talks about the Evergreen Cemetery Walk and how to purchase tickets

Monday, September 27, 2021

Max Armstrong, This Week in Agribusiness, talks about topics related to agriculture

Rhonda Massie, Bloomington Public Library, talks about upcoming programs and events

Tim Davis, Direct Travel, talks about travel deals and upcoming trip opportunities

Karen Bussone, Dir. Small Business Development Center at IWU, introduces us to local small business owner Athalia Monae

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

John Ackerman, Ackerman Farms, talks about the pumpkin crop

Officer Brad Park, Normal Police Dept, talks about local crime and law enforcement issues

Chris Koos, Town of Normal Mayor, talks about local issues

Brian Walton, theCardinalNation.com, talks about the Cardinals winning streak

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Savant Wealth Management (Kevin Kingston, John Reudi, Chris Reudi), talk about investing and current market trends

Matt Burgess, CEO, Home Sweet Home Ministries, talks about their "Big Give" event and registration for "Night in a Car"

Kevin Wood, who portrays Abraham Lincoln

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Sean Craig, Investment Planners, talks about investing and recent market news and trends

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Local Interviews

How Issue Was Treated: Morning Show Host Scott Miller will have interviews during his weekday shift (Mon-Fri 6am-10)

Title: Local Interviews

Date: 07/01/2021 – 09/30/2021

Time: Monday-Friday 6am-10am

Description:

The following pages are from Scott Miller, Morning Show Host, for interviews with WJBC-AM. All the following interviews ran on air.

AM1230 WJBC

MORNING SHOW QUARTERLY REPORT JULY 1ST 2021 –SEPT 30TH 2021

7/01/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

07/01/21 7:35AM UNIT 5 SUPERINTENDENT DR. WEIKLE DISCUSSES THE PANDEMICS AFFECT ON SCHOOL

07/01/21 8:10AM AIMEE BEAM FROM THE BABY FOLD New Proclamation from Gov. Pritzker - For The Baby Fold

07/02/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

07/02/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

07/05/21 7:40 NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER DISCUSSES TOPICS FROM THE UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING

07/05/21 8:35 ADAM FOX ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

07/06/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

07/07/21 7:10 ISU ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DISCUSSES UPCOMING EVENTS AND RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

07/07/21 9:35- JAZ TETZLOFF FROM THE MILLER PARK ZOO TALKS ABOUT EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS AT THE LOCAL ZOO

07/08/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

07/09/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

07/09/21 8:35AM THE OWNER OF THE PRINCESS THEATER IN LEROY DISCUSSES REOPENING THE THEATER

07/12/21 7:10AM DR. JOHN WEILAND ANSWERS MEDICAL QUESTIONS REVOLVING AROUND THE PANDEMIC

07/12/21 7:35AM DR RICK RINGER FROM ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY TALKS ABOUT ASPECTS OF THE BUSINESS WORLD AND HOW TO LEAD.

07/12/21 8:35 ADAM FOX ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

07/12/21 9:50AM TESSA MIZELL OF THE LOCAL YMCA DISCUSSES THIS MONTHS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

07/12/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

07/12/21 8:10AM CITY MANAGER TIM GLEASON DISCUSSES LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

07/12/21 9:10 MIKE GOODWIN PROMOTES A LOCAL CHARITY GOLF OUTTING TO HELP THE LOCAL FOOTBALL TEAM RAISE MONEY

7/14/21 7:10AM CONGRESSMAN RODNEY DAVIS DISCUSSES THE DAYS LATEST POLITICAL NEWS INVOLVING OUR COMMUNITY

7/14/21 8:10 PROMOTE THE LOCAL YA BUD FESTIVAL WITH THE ORGANIZER
07/15/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

07/15/21 8:40 8:40AM HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S STEVE FAST EXPLAINS THE LATEST IMPACT OF COVID

7/16/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

07/16/21 8:10 JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

07/16/21 9:10 DREW BROWN FROM THE RED CROSS TALKS ABOUT THE UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

07/19/21 8:35AM ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

7/20/21 7:10AM SENATOR DICK DURBIN DISCUSSES THE LATEST NATIONAL POLITICAL STORY AND ITS IMPACT LOCALLY

7/20/21 8:40 BILL WALLER OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON OUR LOCAL CHAPTER

7/21/21 7:45AM CENTRAL ILLINOIS REGIONAL AIRPORT SHARES THEIR LOCAL TRAVEL NUMBERS AND PANDEMIC IMPACT.

7/21/21- 8:45AM ANGIE BUBON FROM THE SALVATION ARMY SHARES THE NEEDS FOR THEIR PROGRAMS

7/22/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

7/22/21 8:10AM DR BARRY REILLY SUPERINTENDENT OF DIST 87 TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON LOCAL SCHOOLS

7/23/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

7/26/21 7:10AM DR. JOHN WEILAND ANSWERS MEDICAL QUESTIONS REVOLVING AROUND THE PANDEMIC

7/26/21 8:35AM ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

7/26/21 9:50AM TESSA MIZELL OF THE LOCAL YMCA DISCUSSES THIS MONTHS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

7/27/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

7/27/21 8:10AM CITY MANAGER TIM GLEASON DISCUSSES LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7/28/21 7:10AM STATE REP DAN BRADY DISCUSSES THE LATEST IN LOCAL POLITICS

7/28/21 7:40 BLOOMINGTON MAYOR DISCUSSES THE LATEST FROM LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

7/29/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

7/29/21 8:10 CONGRESSMAN DARIN LAHOOD DISCUSSES RECENT POLITICAL HEADLINES LOCALLY/NATIONALLY

7/30/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

7/30/21 8:35 MCLEAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISCUSSES COVID 19 VACCINATIONS

8/02/21 7:10AM DR RICK RINGER FROM ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY TALKS ABOUT ASPECTS OF THE BUSINESS WORLD AND HOW TO LEAD.

8/02/21 7:40 NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER DISCUSSES TOPICS FROM THE UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING

8/02/21 8:10AM KRISTI OLSON FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TALKS ABOUT AN UPCOMING CHARITY EVENT

8/02/21 8:35 ADAM FOX ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

8/02/21 9:10 ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT FIRST WEEK ON THE JOB

8/3/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

8/03/21 8:10 BACK TO SCHOOL ALLIANCE

8/04/21 7:10 ISU ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DISCUSSES UPCOMING EVENTS AND RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

8/45/21 9:35- JAZ TETZLOFF FROM THE MILLER PARK ZOO TALKS ABOUT EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS AT THE LOCAL ZOO

8/05/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

8/05/21 7:40AM UNIT 5 SUPERINTENDENT DR. WEIKLE DISCUSSES THE PANDEMICS AFFECT ON SCHOOL

8/06/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

8/09/21 7:10AM DR. JOHN WEILAND ANSWERS MEDICAL QUESTIONS REVOLVING AROUND THE PANDEMIC

8/09/21 9:50AM TESSA MIZELL OF THE LOCAL YMCA DISCUSSES THIS MONTHS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

8/10/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

8/10/21 8:10AM CITY MANAGER TIM GLEASON DISCUSSES LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

8/11/21 7:10AM CONGRESSMAN RODNEY DAVIS DISCUSSES THE DAYS LATEST POLITICAL NEWS INVOLVING OUR COMMUNITY

8/12/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

8/13/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

8/13/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

8/13/21 7:10 ISU ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DISCUSSES UPCOMING EVENTS AND RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

8/16/21 7:35AM DR RICK RINGER FROM ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY TALKS ABOUT ASPECTS OF THE BUSINESS WORLD AND HOW TO LEAD.

8/17/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

8/17/21 7:10AM SENATOR DICK DURBIN DISCUSSES THE LATEST NATIONAL POLITICAL STORY AND ITS IMPACT LOCALLY

8/17/21 8:10 GIRL SCOUTS OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS PROMOTES THEIR FUNDRAISER

8/17/21 8:40 LINDA HEALY OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON OUR LOCAL CHAPTER

8/18/21 7:10AM STATE SENATOR JASON BARICKMAN DISCUSSES STATE LEVEL POLITICS

8/18/21 7:45AM CENTRAL ILLINOIS REGIONAL AIRPORT SHARES THIER LOCAL TRAVEL NUMBERS AND PANDEMIC IMPACT.

8/18/21 8:45AM ANGIE BUBON FROM THE SALVATION ARMY SHARES THE NEEDS FOR THIER PROGRAMS

8/19/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

8/19/21 8:10 KIWANIA MUMS SALE

8/19/21 8:40AM HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S STEVE FAST EXPLAINS THE LATEST IMPACT OF COVID

8/20/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

8/23/21 7:10AM DR. JOHN WEILAND ANSWERS MEDICAL QUESTIONS REVOLVING AROUND THE PANDEMIC

8/23/21 9:50AM TESSA MIZELL OF THE LOCAL YMCA DISCUSSES THIS MONTHS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

8/24/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

8/24/21 7:10 CONGRESSMAN DARIN LAHOOD DISCUSSES RECENT POLITICAL HEADLINES LOCALLY/NATIONALLY

8/24/21 8:10AM CITY MANAGER TIM GLEASON DISCUSSES LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

8/25/21 7:10AM STATE REP DAN BRADY DISCUSSES THE LATEST IN LOCAL POLITICS

8/26/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

8/26/21 8:10AM DR BARRY REILLY SUPERINTENDENT OF DIST 87 TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON LOCAL SCHOOLS

8/27/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

8/27/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

8/30/21 7:10 NEW POLICE CHIEF DISCUSSES HIS PLANS ONCE IN POSITION

8/30/21 8:35AM ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

8/31/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

8/31/21 7:10AM LOCAL BOYSCOUT TROOP PROMOTES POPCORN SALES

8/31/21 7:20AM LOCAL PASTOR PRAYS FOR THE CIMUMUNITY AFTER A MASS SHOOTING

8/31/21 9:10AM ROBERT BOSQUEZ PROMOTES THE BED BLITZ CHARITY EVENT

9/01/21 7:10 ISU ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DISCUSSES UPCOMING EVENTS AND RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

9/01/21 8:10AM DR. ENGOZE EZIKE IDPH TALKS COVID

9/01/21 9:35- JAZ TETZLOFF FROM THE MILLER PARK ZOO TALKS ABOUT EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS AT THE LOCAL ZOO

9/02/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

9/02/21 7:10AM ISU FOOTBALL COACH

9/02/21 7:35 UNIT 5 SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSES PRECAUTIONS TAKEN DURING PANDEMIC.

9/02/21 8:10AM COMMUNITY PLAYERS THEATER PROMOTES UPCOMING SHOWS

9/02/21 8:35 WE ANNOUNCE THE LABORER OF THE YEAR

9/02/21 9:35 IDOT

9/03/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

9/03/21 8:50 IWU HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

9/6/21 7:10AM DR RICK RINGER FROM ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY TALKS ABOUT ASPECTS OF THE BUSINESS WORLD AND HOW TO LEAD.

9/6/21 7:40 NORMAL TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER DISCUSSES TOPICS FROM THE UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING

9/6/21 8:35 ADAM FOX ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

9/6/21 9:50AM TESSA MIZELL OF THE LOCAL YMCA DISCUSSES THIS MONTHS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

9/7/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

9/8/21 7:10AM CONGRESSMAN RODNEY DAVIS DISCUSSES THE DAYS LATEST POLITICAL NEWS INVOLVING OUR COMMUNITY

9/09/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

9/09/21 7:10 ISU COACH BROCK SPACK

9/9/21 8:10AM FORMER EMPLOYEE REMEMBERS 9/11

9/09/21 8:35AM FIRE CHIEF REMEMBERS 9/11

9/10/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

9/10/21 8:10 JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

9/13/21 7:10AM DR. JOHN WEILAND ANSWERS MEDICAL QUESTIONS REVOLVING AROUND THE PANDEMIC

9/13/21 8:35AM ADAM FOX FROM THE NORMAL THEATER TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST MOVIE IN OUR TOWN OF NORMAL OWNED THEATER.

9/13/21 9:10 KRISTI OLSON PROMOTES LOCAL CANCER FUNDRAISER

9/14/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

9/14/21 8:10AM CITY MANAGER TIM GLEASON DISCUSSES LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

9/15/21 7:10AM STATE SENATOR JASON BARICKMAN DISCUSSES STATE LEVEL POLITICS

9/15/21 8:10AM DR BARRY REILLY SUPERINTENDENT OF DIST 87 TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON LOCAL SCHOOLS

9/15/21 8:45AM ANGIE BUBON FROM THE SALVATION ARMY TALKS ABOUT THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL CHARITY.

9/16/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

9/16/21 7:10 ISU COACH BROCK SPACK

9/16/21 8:10 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE

9/16/21 8:40 8:40AM HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S STEVE FAST EXPLAINS THE LATEST IMPACT OF COVID

9/17/21 8:10AM Illinois Public Health Association's Pandemic Health Navigator

9/17/21 8:10AM JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

9/17/21 8:50AM IWU COACH NORM EASH

9/20/21 7:35AM DR RICK RINGER FROM ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY TALKS ABOUT ASPECTS OF THE BUSINESS WORLD AND HOW TO LEAD.

9/20/21 9:10AM AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CHAIR – HEART WALK

9/20/21 9:50 YMCA

9/21/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

9/21/21 8:40 LINDA HEALY OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON OUR LOCAL CHAPTER

9/21/21 CEO OF MARCFIRST PROMOTES UPCOMING FUNDRAISER

9/22/21 7:10AM STATE REP DAN BRADY DISCUSSES THE LATEST IN LOCAL POLITICS

9/22/21 9:10AM JOEY LONG FROM APPLE AND PORK PROMOTES FUNDRAISER

9/23/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

9/23/21 7:10 ISU FOOTBALL COACH BROCK SPACK

9/23/21 8:10AM DR BARRY REILLY SUPERINTENDENT OF DIST 87 TALKS ABOUT THE PANDEMICS IMPACT ON LOCAL SCHOOLS

9/24/21 7:10AM DR. VALERI FARMER DOUGAN OFFERS ADVICE ON TRAINING YOUR PET

9/24/21 8:10 JASON WINGATE OF BLOOMINGTON GOLF DISCUSSES NATIONAL GOLF STORIES AND LOCAL HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY

9/24/21 8:50 IWU COACH NORM EASH

9/27/21 7:10AM DR. JOHN WEILAND ANSWERS MEDICAL QUESTIONS REVOLVING AROUND THE PANDEMIC

9/28/21 6:40AM CAR TECH TODD ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT AUTOMOBILE ISSUES

9/28/21 8:10AM CITY MANAGER TIM GLEASON DISCUSSES LAST NIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

9/29/21 7:40 BLOOMINGTON MAYOR ON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

9/30/21 6:40AM TIM DAVIS OF DIRECT TRAVELCI.COM SHARES INFO ON LOCAL TRAVEL OPTIONS

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

<u>Issue:</u>	Local PSA
<u>How Issue Was Treated:</u>	WJBC-AM ran a total of 451 Recorded PSA's for Local Charities and their events
<u>Title:</u>	WJBC-AM PSA Rotator
<u>Date:</u>	07/01/2021 – 9/30/2021
<u>Time:</u>	Midnight - Midnight
<u>Description:</u>	<p>WJBC-AM ran a total of 451 One Minute PSA's to help promote local charities and their events. Charities featured in these PSA's included:</p> <p>Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Glorious Garden Festival @ David Davis Mansion, McLean County Youth's Hog Wild 5K, Humane Society of Central Illinois Dog Olympics, Bloomington Normal Sunrise Rotary Brats & Bags Tournament, Children's Discovery Museum Craft, Beer & Jazz event, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Sample for a Cure, Girl Scouts of Central Illinois Diamonds & Desserts event, United Way "That's What She Said/Power of the Purse" event, Stay4Project "Day of the Dozer", American Cancer Society "Golf Outing", McLean County Museum of History "Evergreen Cemetery Walk", PATH Crisis Center "Just A Call Away 5K", Children's Discovery Museum "Oktoberfest", Children's Discovery Museum "Day of Play", Town of Normal "Make Music Normal", Town of Normal "To The Max Obstacle Course", American Heart Association "Heart Walk".</p>

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: EEO Employer

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 182 recorded promos to promote that WJBC-AM is an equal employer

Title: EEO Employer

Date: 07/01/2021 – 09/30/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:
WJBC-AM ran a total of 182 Recorded Promos to inform that we are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 469357

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Cancer Awareness

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 125 recorded promos to promote The American Cancer's "Relay For Life" event

Title: Relay For Life 2021

Date: 07/01/2021 – 08/29/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:
WJBC-AM ran a total of 125 Recorded Promos to promote American Cancer's "Relay For Life 2021" event to help raise awareness and money in the fight of Cancer.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 728370

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Drunk Driving

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 45 recorded promos to promote the MC Strong Golf Outing

Title: MC Strong Golf Outing

Date: 07/10/2021 – 07/25/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:
WJBC-AM ran a total of 45 Recorded Promos to promote the MC Strong Golf Outing that raises money for the MC Strong Foundation that provides finance and awareness to Drunk Driving.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 742577

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Blood Shortage

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 85 recorded promos to promote American Red Cross Summer Blood Drive

Title: American Red Cross Blood Drive

Date: 07/21/2021 – 08/15/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:
WJBC-AM ran a total of 85 Recorded Promos to promote the Summer Blood Drive for the American Red Cross.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 746755

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Breast Cancer Awareness

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 120 recorded promos to promote Susan G. Komen's More Than Pink Walk

Title: More Than Pink Walk

Date: 08/16/2021 – 09/10/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:
WJBC-AM ran a total of 120 Recorded Promos to promote the Susan G. Komen Foundations Annual More Than Pink Walk to raise awareness and money in the fight of Breast Cancer.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 759050

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Childhood Cancer Awareness

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 129 recorded promos to promote St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Run/Walk/Marathon

Title: St. Jude Run Walk

Date: 08/23/2021 – 09/17/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:
WJBC-AM ran a total of 129 Recorded Promos to promote St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's "St. Jude Run/Walk/Marathon event to help raise awareness and money in the fight of Childhood Cancer.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 759055

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue: Bloomington Normal Jaycees
Charity Event

How Issue Was Treated: WJBC-AM ran a total of 82
recorded promos to promote
Bloomington-Normal Jaycees
annual “Bruegala” Event

Title: Bruegala 2021

Date: 09/14/2021 – 09/30/2021

Time: Midnight - Midnight

Description:

WJBC-AM ran a total of 82 Recorded Promos to promote
Bloomington-Normal Jaycees Annual “Bruegala” event that raises
money for their local charity contributions.

*Stratus Order Confirmation Number: 775566

WJBC-AM

Order Number	Copy	Total Spots	Date Range	Rate
335492	WJBC PSA ROTATOR	451	07/01/21-09/30/21	\$0.00
569357	EEO EMPLOYER	182	07/01/21-09/30/21	\$0.00
728370	RELAY FOR LIFE 2021	125	07/01/21-08/29/21	\$0.00
742577	MCSTRONG GOLF OUTING	45	07/10/21-07/25/21	\$0.00
746755	AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE	85	07/21/21-08/15/21	\$0.00
759050	MORE THAN PINK WALK	120	08/16/21-09/10/21	\$0.00
759055	ST JUDE RUN/WALK	129	08/23/21-09/17/21	\$0.00
775566	BRUEGALA 2021	82	09/14/21-09/30/21	\$0.00
QTR 3 2021 PSA TOTALS		1219		

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Issue:

Local News

How Issue Was Treated:

WJBC-AM runs local news two times per hour during the morning show and afternoon show each weekday and one time per hour during the middays and weekends

Title:

Local News

Date:

07/01/2021 – 09/30/2021

Time:

Midnight - Midnight

Description:

WJBC-AM Local News Stories follows:

QUARTERLY REPORT July 2021-September 2021

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Fourth of July festivities around Central Illinois

Date: 07/01/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Annual Fourth of July festivities are happening this weekend across central Illinois.

On the 4th in Bloomington-Normal, the Spirit of McLean County Sky Concert firework show at Miller Park and Fairview Park will happen around dusk.

Some other events include the 53rd annual 4th of July Parade in Towanda. Chenoa and Downs each have a full day of events with fireworks at dusk.

Heyworth will be shooting off fireworks Sunday night at Centennial Park and Mackinaw will hold their celebration starting at dusk Sunday at Brock Lake.

These are just a few celebrations happening around the area this weekend. You can find others by going to WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Community, business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: July 2021 recognized as The Baby Fold's History of Care on Route 66 month.

Date: 07/01/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

The Baby Fold has been serving central Illinois for nearly 120 years, and to recognize that contribution, the State of Illinois has proclaimed July 2021 The Baby Fold's History of Care on Route 66 month.

The original path of the historic Route 66 highway winds right past the front steps of The Baby Fold's campus in Normal.

Baby Fold Vice President of Development and Public Relations Aimee Beam spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

You can find the proclamation on WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Local museum offering free admission on July 4th

Date: 07/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The McLean County Museum of History is ringing in the 4th of July with free admission. The downtown Bloomington museum is displaying a replica regimental flag for the 33rd Illinois Infantry Regiment.

The Museum's Executive Director is Julie Emig.

The museum is open for free admission on Monday, July 5th, from 9 until 5.

All exhibit galleries and the Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66 Visitors Center will be open.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Bloomington man faces charges for aggravated battery

Date: 07/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

A Bloomington man remains behind bars on a half-a-million bond on charges of aggravated battery.

On Friday, June 25, around 1 a.m. Bloomington Police responded to a hotel on Brickyard Drive for an unconscious person.

Once on the scene, BPD located 44-year old James Noplos of Fergus Falls, Minnesota unconscious and bleeding from his head.

BPD transferred Noplos to OSF St. Joseph's Emergency Room, where he was later transported to OSF St. Francis in Peoria.

After a short investigation, the officer's identified that 39-year old Anthony R. Gillespie of Bloomington punched Noplos, knocking him unconscious.

Around 1:30 a.m., officers arrested Gillespie in the 300 block of East Wood Street.

Noplos was in serious and critical condition at OSF St. Francis in Peoria for most of last weekend and week for medical treatment.

Last Sunday, Jamie Harwood, Peoria County Coroner, pronounced Noplos dead, with the cause of death listed as blunt force head trauma.

The McLean County State's Attorney's Office charged Gillespie with one count of aggravated battery and two counts of obstructing justice.

Anyone with information regarding the incident is encouraged to contact BPD.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: BPD probing home invasion

Date: 07/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Bloomington Police are asking for the public's help in solving a home invasion investigation.

According to a news release, Police responded around 3:30 p.m. on Thursday to an apartment in the 1000 block of E. Grove St. for an armed robbery.

During the course of the investigation, officers learned that an adult male opened his apartment door and two suspects forcebully entered the apartment.

The victim alledges one suspect continually pointed a pistol at him. However, the victim sprayed a type of pepper spray at the suspects, causing them to free.

Both male suspects are described as younger adult males, thin and appriximatley 5'10" to 6'0" tall.

Authorites report the suspects may still be suffereing from the effects of pepper spray, which includes coughing, sneezing, shortness of breath, and still possibly having an orange tint on their skin.

The case is under investigations and no arrests have been made.

There were no reported injuries and anyone with information is encouraged to contact Bloomington Police.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: IHSA looking for more officials

Date: 07/05/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3 pm

The Illinois High School Association is on the lookout for new officials heading into the new season.

The organization's Executive Director, Craig Anderson, says the need is high in all sports.

The new season begins in less than a month, with football workouts starting on August 9th.

ISSUE: Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Bloomington man sentenced for hate crime

Date: 07/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A man is going to prison for riding his motorcycle through a crowd of protesters, injuring two of them in downtown Bloomington last year.

Judge William Workman followed prosecutors' recommendation to sentence 22-year old Marshall Blanchard of Bloomington to seven years in prison.

Blanchard pleaded guilty in April to a hate crime in return for the state's attorney's office agreeing to dismiss 16 other charges, according to our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC.

A group had been marching near Front and Madison Streets following a rally to protest George Floyd's death at the hands of Minneapolis Police.

Authorities said a 22-year old woman who had been marching that evening suffered serious, but non-life threatening injuries to her legs and torso after Blanchard drove his motorcycle into the crowd. She was treated in the emergency room of a local hospital.

A second person, a 28-year old man, was treated at another local hospital for injuries to his arm.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Local labor leader passes away

Date: 07/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

One of the county's most prominent labor leaders is being remembered for his many decades of community service.

Ronn Morehead, who was president of the Bloomington and Normal Trades and Labor Assembly for 40 years, died Saturday morning. He was 82.

Starting as a construction laborer, Morehead helped workers during plant closings and layoffs, and created training opportunities for job retention.

He also supervised a summer youth employment program for many years, according to our news partner, HOI ABC.

Morehead served on many committees, including the Illinois Special Olympics board, and he was one of the organizers of the annual children's Christmas party for unemployed families.

He is a former Citizen of the Year in the Town of Normal, and received the town's Martin Luther King Jr. Human Relations Award.

Morehead was also named a "History Maker" by the McLean County Museum of History.

ISSUE: Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Fatal crash in rural McLean County

Date: 07/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

An investigation is underway into how a man was killed in a traffic crash in Ellsworth.

According to a news release, the crash happened on Monday at the intersection of 2675 east and 1000 North in Ellsworth.

A 40-year old male was pronounced dead at the scene according to McLean County Coroner Dr. Kathy Yoder.

An autopsy is scheduled for Tuesday and the name of the man is being withheld pending notification of family members.

A passenger was transported to a local hospital.

The McLean County Coroner's Office and McLean County Sheriff's Department are investigating the accident.

ISSUE: Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Man identified in rural McLean County crash

Date: 07/07/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The McLean County's Coroner's Office and the McLean County Sheriff's Office are investigating a fatal automobile accident over the weekend.

On Monday, McLean County Coroner Dr. Kathy Yoder responded to the intersection of 2675 east 1000 North in Ellsworth.

40-year old Daniel Engler was the vehicle driver. Dr. Yoder announced Engler dead at the scene.

Yoder said preliminary autopsy reports indicated that Engler died of positional asphyxia and blunt injuries of the neck reportedly sustained as the car lost control on a gravel roadway, left the road, and overturned.

Authorities also reported a passenger was transported to a local hospital.

The incident remains under investigation by the Mclean County Coroner's Office and the McLean County Sheriff's Department.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Airport new location for vaccination

Date: 07/07/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton toured the Midwest Food Bank in Normal Tuesday and presented a plan to decrease food insecurity.

Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer Eric Hodel said with a 30% increase in requests for food at the food bank, volunteers are seeing unfamiliar faces and people with their hands out for the first time.

Hodel credits volunteers and donations for the food bank's ability to help those in need in the past year. And Stratton said food insecurity is on the rise in the state.

According to our news partner, Heart of Illinois ABC, in the works is a two-year initiative to enhance equity in agriculture where local and state agencies will collaborate to support entrepreneurs and growers of color.

ISSUE: Community, COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Local health officials report another COVID-related death

Date: 07/08/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Another McLean County resident has died from COVID-19, while health officials report 29 new cases of the virus in the past week.

Health officials report the latest death is a male in his 60's not associated with a long-term care facility.

McLean County Health Department Public Affairs Coordinator Marianne Manko reports 27 people are isolating at home, while 18,224 have been released from isolation and are considered recovered.

Authorities also report no McLean County residents are hospitalized due to COVID-19, while one person from outside the Twin Cities is hospitalized.

Health officials also report 373,100 tests have resulted in a cumulative positivity rate of 5.0%. The rolling 7-day positivity rate is 1.3%.

On the vaccine front, approximately 164,468 doses of the vaccine have been administered in the county.

ISSUE: Police, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: McLean County K-9 dies

Date: 07/08/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A McLean County Police K-9 responsible for the seizure of over three million dollars worth of drugs and assets and the discovery of two abducted children has passed away.

K-9 Keej first joined the force in McLean County with Lt. Jason Tuttle in 2008.

Throughout his 10-years of service, Keej (KEY-jay) was responsible for the seizure of over three million dollars worth of drugs and assets, including approximately 250 pounds of cannabis, 108 kilos of cocaine, crack, MDMA, Heroin, and Methamphetamine.

Keej was also responsible for seizing more than \$8-hundred thousand dollars in currency, vehicles, and illegal guns.

In July of 2016, Keej played an instrumental role in the discovery of two abducted children.

Keej passed away last Friday due to complications with his spine.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: New president of Bloomington Rotary Club

Date: 07/08/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The Bloomington Rotary Club has a new club President.

The club, which currently has 71 members, announced Van Miller of Bloomington will serve as the club's next President.

Miller, who replaces past President Pete Falstad of Bloomington, is the Director of Annual Giving for Illinois State University.

Miller, who joined the club in 2011, will hold the office of President from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.

The club provides avenues of service including disease prevention, maternal and child health, literacy and education, and clean water and sanitation.

The club meets weekly on Thursdays at noon at Second Presbyterian Church located at 404 N. Prairie Street in Bloomington.

ISSUE: Business, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Bloomington Salvation Army adds new corps officer

Date: 07/08/2021

A new assistant corps officer has joined the Bloomington Salvation Army.

Lt. Katherine Reid will serve under Majors Dan and Laura Leisher.

She replaces Lt. Justion Tracy, who served as Assistant Corps Officer in Bloomington for the past two years.

Originally from Lawrence, Missouri, Lt. Reid's first encounter with the Salvation Army was when, as a child, she briefly lived at a Salvation Army shelter with her mom.

She became involved with the Pathway of Hope Program, which provides services to individuals and families who seek to overcome challenges like unemployment, unstable housing, and lack of education.

She began her training as a Salvation Army Officer in 2019.

ISSUE: Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: I-55 crash kills four people

Date: 07/08/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

Four people were killed Wednesday evening in a car crash on Interstate 55.

Authorities report all four of the individuals are from Washington, Ill, including three juveniles.

Illinois State Police report the crash happened around 10:11 p.m. at milepost 122 when a 2016 Chrysler Pacifica was traveling northbound. Police report the driver of the Pacifica lost control of the vehicle in heavy rain and skidded across the median and into on-coming southbound traffic.

Authorities report a 2017 Freightliner Truck-Tractor Semi-Trailer traveling southbound at the same location struck the Pacifica in the southbound lane.

Police report the Pacifica came to a rest in the median and the tractor-trailer crossed the median and ended in the northbound lane before overturning on the frontage road E. of Interstate 55.

The four occupants of the Pacifica who died, a 47-year-old male, a 17-year-old male, a 17-year-old female, and a 16-year-old female, all from Washington, were pronounced dead at the scene.

According to ISP, a 13-year-old female who was also in the Pacifica was transported to an area hospital with life-threatening injuries.

The driver of the semi-tractor trailer, 41-year old Corey Jackson, from Decatur, Georgia was transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The identity of those who died is not being released pending family notification.

ISSUE: Government, Business, COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Less people riding Connect Transit

Date: 07/12/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Fewer people have ridden Connect Transit buses since the start of the pandemic.

In 2019, the bus system served over two million passengers. But in 2020, ridership dropped to 1.6 million, a 35% drop.

Interim General Manager Mark Peterson says businesses closing and more people staying at home played a role in the decline. He spoke with our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC.

But Connect Transit also saw revenues drop off as they stopped collecting fares March 2020 to cut down on the spread of COVID-19 for over a year. Now that they are collecting fares again, they have gone up from \$1 to \$1.25.

Ridership and revenue are slow to rebound as Illinois State University students are on summer break and businesses are slowly returning to normal operations.

ISSUE: Business, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Stage workers picket

Date: 07/12/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Stage production workers across central Illinois picketed for work over the weekend.

Picketing outside The Corn Crib, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees represents workers who set up, tear down and operate stage productions across the state.

According to organizers, local venues aren't going to skilled laborers for their jobs anymore. Instead, they are hiring workers outside the union for cheaper wages

Craig Chladny with IATSE Local 193 says they had contracts with the local venues in the past. Now he's frustrated with the lack of communication from these venues. He spoke with our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC.

Chladny says during the pandemic their industry shut down from the start, and now they're trying to continue where they left off.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Bloomington doctor discusses booster shots

Date: 07/12/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

A Bloomington doctor is weighing in on the COVID-19 booster shot debate.

Doctor John Wieland with Carle BroMenn Medical Center says Pfizer is expected to release new research that says a booster shot could drastically increase antibodies. But the CDC and FDA disagree.

Wieland spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

ISSUE: Politics, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Local Congressman sponsoring local journalism legislation

Date: 07/13/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Illinois Congressman Rodney Davis is co-sponsoring a bill with bi-partisan support that supports local journalism.

The Local Journalism Sustainability Act seeks to support the efforts of local newspapers, radio stations and media through a series of tax credits that promote subscriptions, advertising, and the hiring of local journalists.

Davis says the bill is especially needed in a time with such partisan national news media.

The proposed tax credits are intended to encourage Americans to subscribe to local publications, help those publications retain and compensate journalists a livable wage, and provide businesses with advertising dollars.

The bill was introduced by Reps. Ann Kirkpatrick of Arizona and Dan Newhouse from Washington.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Vaccination means no mask

Date: 07/13/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The next general manager of Bloomington-Normal's public transportation system is not a stranger to central Illinois.

Connect Transit's Board of Trustees appointed David Braun to the job, replacing Isaac Thorne, who resigned in August of last year to take a similar job in Knoxville, Tennessee. Former Normal City Manager Mark Peterson has served as interim general manager.

Braun has worked more than 25 years in the public transit industry, including assistant general manager and general manager of Peoria's CityLink transit system from 1996 to 2002.

Most recently, Braun has worked as director of transit operations for the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority in Cincinnati.

According to our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC, Braun's first-year salary will be \$157,000. He will start the job August 9th.

ISSUE: Community, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Local EMA working with flood victims

Date: 07/13/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

After historic rainfall hit McLean County two weeks ago, an emergency management task force made up of disaster response teams, local law enforcement and volunteers has been working seven days a week to get those affected by the rainfall back to normal.

In the last weekend of June, nearly a foot of rain fell in McLean County. Now, the local emergency management agency is trying to help impacted residents get back on their feet. McLean County EMA Acting Director Cathy Beck spoke with our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC.

The EMA will be hosting a Multi-Agency Resource Center this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, from 10 am to 2 pm at Bloomington Junior High School. Over 50 agencies will be there to assist those with flood damage.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: In-person acts returning to ISU

Date: 07/14/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

In-person acts are returning to Illinois State University's family weekend, as the University announced a magician and comedian as part of the lineup.

Magician and comedian Justin Willman, who's Netflix series Magic for Humans is bringing his "Magic for Humans in Person" tour to Braden Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 2.

Magic For Humans is one of the most streamed shows on Netflix with clips from the show garnering over 150 million views across social media.

Prior to Magic for Humans, Willman was known for his appearances on Conan, the Tonight Show and Ellen including live performances at the White House for the Obama family.

Willman also writes for television productions such as The Goldbergs and America's Got Talent.

Tickets can be purchased starting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 16 at the Braden Box office, located in the Bone Student Center at 100 N. University Street in Normal.

Tickets prices vary from \$29 to \$39.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: BPD investigating burglary case

Date: 07/14/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Bloomington Police are asking for the public's help in identifying a suspect in a burglary case.

BPD says in the early morning hours Saturday a white man broke into a business in the 1200 block of Towanda Avenue.

Authorities say the suspect is 20-25 years of age.

In a video provided by BPD, the suspect can be heard talking while inside the business.

You can find the video on WJBC.com. Anyone with information is asked to contact Bloomington Police.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Local Congressman doesn't want more COVID-19 restrictions

Date: 07/14/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

COVID cases are rising in parts of the country, with the delta variant accounting for about half of the new cases.

Some are wondering if tougher restrictions will go back in place if cases start to rise here. Congressman Rodney Davis shared his opinion as he spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Davis says so much more is known about the virus and he is still encouraging people to get the vaccine.

Health experts are still split on whether or not there will be a need for booster shots in the fall or winter.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Corn Belt Energy holding off on shut offs

Date: 07/15/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Due to more rain in the forecast today, Corn Belt Energy Rate 11 customers will not experience an interruption in electrical service.

Corn Belt was planning to shut off power for those customers today, but due to the expected wet conditions, it caused some concerns for sump pumps with the recent flooding.

More than 2,200 McLean County residents are enrolled in Corn Belt's rate 11 plan.

Bloomington resident Donald Sur is a 25-year Corn Belt customer. Sur was one of the residents concerned that a power shut off today could've caused more flooding damage. He spoke with our news partner, Heart of Illinois ABC.

Members who are enrolled in the Rate 11 program allow Corn Belt to interrupt power to their meter during a few electric peak periods from June 1 through September 30. In exchange, those customers receive a lower energy rate.

Corn Belt says the test will be rescheduled for later this summer.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Heartland not requiring COVID-19 vaccination

Date: 07/15/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

Many colleges and universities are requiring students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 before they return to campus in the fall.

Heartland Community College is not mandating the shot, but they are strongly encouraging people to get vaccinated before the fall semester.

Heartland's director of public information Steve Fast says there will still be some policies on campus. He spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Meanwhile, Illinois State University is not requiring vaccinations, but students who are unvaccinated will be required to go through weekly testing.

ISSUE: Government, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Labor leader appointed to McLean County Board

Date: 07/16/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A labor leader is the newest member of the McLean County Board.

According to our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC, the board Thursday night approved Chairman John McIntyre's appointment of Jim Rogal to represent District 4, covering west and northwest Normal.

Rogal replaces Logan Smith, who resigned in June to accept a job out of state. Smith is a Democrat, so his replacement had to come from the same party. Republicans continue to hold an 11-9 majority on the county board.

Rogal will serve the rest of Smith's term, which expires in December 2022.

Rogal works for Laborers International Union of North America, and is vice president of the Normal Public Library Board.

He previously worked at legislative liaison for the Illinois Department of Corrections, and was special assistant to the chief of state for the Illinois Senate President.

ISSUE: Police, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Olive oil spill causes road closures

Date: 07/16/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A traffic note for those in Farmer City or if you use Route 54. According to Farmer City police, a truck carrying olive oil spilled some of its oil on Route 54 from Clinton all the way to Farmer City.

Farmer City officials say Route 54 from Route 150 over to Interstate 74 is currently closed. IDOT has been called to bring in sand.

Authorities are urging drivers to also use caution on Route 54 to Clinton and I-74 from Farmer City to Champaign.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Rivian delays truck deliveries

Date: 07/16/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

Deliveries of Rivian's R1T electrical truck is being pushed back from August to September.

Founder and CEO RJ Scaringe made the announcement in a letter to customers recently.

The company in June said its deliveries of the R1Ts was being delayed until July.

The R1S model is now planned to be delivered "shortly thereafter in the fall," the letter read.

Scaringe described the process of launching the trucks, as well as its commercial vans, as a "complex orchestra of coordinated and interlinked activities."

Rivian took over the Normal-based manufacturing plant in 2017 after Mitsubishi left that site years before.

Since then, Rivian has been constructing and refitting the plant to start production of its electric vehicles according to our news partner, Heart of Illinois ABC.

ISSUE: Government, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Council member Carrillo stepping down

Date: 07/19/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Bloomington council member Jenn Carrillo is stepping down after a little more than two years in office.

Carrillo, who represents Ward 6, is resigning after their landlord sold the house they currently reside.

In a news release, Carrillo said she's determined to use this opportunity to call for the changes needed to make elected offices accessible to working-class people.

Bloomington Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe also wished council member Carrillo "nothing but the best as they embark on this new journey."

Carrillo's term will end on August 31st, 2021.

ISSUE: Politics, Government, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Normal Town Council approves underpass

Date: 07/20/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

After years of debate, the Town of Normal has approved a nearly \$24 million underpass providing pedestrians and bike riders a below-ground place to cross Union Pacific train tracks.

After some heated discussion, town council members Monday night voted 6-1 in favor of accepting federal grant money to build the connector beneath railroad tracks near Uptown Station.

The grant covers 93% of the \$24 million estimated cost...with the local government's share at almost \$1.7 million.

Opponents of the project, like resident Karl Sila, think the cost will be higher than that.

According to our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC, former Town Council member Cheryl Gaines urged the current council to support the project.

The only no vote came from Town Council member Stan Nord. He considers the underpass a "luxury" item compared to higher priorities like infrastructure improvements. Some other members, like Kathleen Lorenz and Scott Preston, appeared hesitant before they voted yes.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE:

Date: 07/20/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and midnight

Rivian Automotive's electric SUV made a cameo Tuesday during the launch of Blue Origin's New Shepard spacecraft with Jeff Bezos on board.

It's no surprise, with Amazon being one of the largest investors in Rivian. The electric automaker is producing its SUV and pickup truck, along with delivery vans for Amazon at its manufacturing plant in Normal.

U.S. Senator Dick Durbin says Rivian has become a national talking point.

Durbin spoke with WJBC's Marc Strauss.

ISSUE: Government, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Two more COVID related deaths in Livingston County

Date: 07/21/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

After historic flooding in the Twin Cities, Bloomington Public Works crews wrapped up the bulk waste collection on Tuesday.

With the historic flooding, many residents were left with flooded basements and waterlogged furniture. As a result, Bloomington enacted a special collection as residents were clearing out items that suffered water damage.

The collection process ended on Tuesday, and authorities are putting the \$25 per buck fee back into effect.

For those who still have items they want to get rid of, citizens can take their waste to the Citizen Convenience Center located at 402 South East Street.

ISSUE: Government, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Pontiac Threshermen's Parade moving forward

Date: 07/21/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Pontiac Mayor Bill Alvey says plans are moving forward for the Threshermen's Parade.

Earlier this summer, the Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce had announced that it didn't have enough resources to successfully mount the annual event. Alvey says the city is now in charge of the project and says everything is falling into place.

The Threshermen's Parade is scheduled for Labor Day weekend. It typically involves dozens of vintage tractors and other attractions on a route through downtown Pontiac.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Sex Ed policies up for discussion

Date: 07/21/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A local airport says passenger numbers were up again last month and traffic was about 80% of 2019 numbers.

Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington says the numbers continue to trend upward as the summer progresses.

CIRA deputy director Fran Strebing spoke with WJBC's Marc Strauss.

Strebing says they hope business travel will pick back up, possibly after Labor Day.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: OSF requiring COVID-19 vaccination for employees

Date: 07/22/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

OSF Healthcare requires all 24,000 employees to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

In a news release, OSF said any employee who elects not to receive the COVID-19 vaccine could face discipline, including the loss of employment.

Mike Cruz, M.D, Chief Operating Officer for OSF Health Care, said the decision was not made lightly.

OSF said the decision was based on science and followed existing vaccine policies.

OSF HealthCare employs nearly 24,000 people in 150 locations throughout Illinois and Michigan.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Reditus Labs reports more cases of the Delta variant

Date: 07/22/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Cases of COVID-19 are on the rise, and Reditus Laboratories recently identified 64 Delta variant cases during its sequencing run on July 16, and the company CEO called it "substantial."

In May, Reditus Laboratories discovered one case of the Delta variant and later found two cases in June, according to Reditus Laboratories CEO Aaron Rossi. However, the laboratory recently identified 67 cases of the delta variant, with 18 of those cases coming from Peoria and Bloomington-Normal.

According to a news release, the lab recently ran 364 randomly selected positive COVID-19 samples. Results indicated 64 cases test positive for the Delta variant, among 154 cases of the United Kingdom variant, and 107 samples showed cases of the Brazilian variant.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Mask optional in District 429

Date: 07/23/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Masks will be optional in Pontiac's District 429 this school year.

Superintendent Brian Dukes says the district's board of education met earlier this week and determined that students will not be required to wear masks during the school day.

State law still requires masks when students are on buses, and Dukes stresses that policies may still change.

Dukes says policies for the upcoming school year were emailed to parents this week. District 429 students will be back in the classroom on August 11th.

ISSUE: Police, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: BPD interim chief set to retire

Date: 07/23/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Bloomington Police interim chief Greg Scott announced Friday he's retiring after 25 years with the department.

City Manager Tim Gleason accepted Scott's resignation on Thursday.

Scott started in Bloomington as a patrol officer in 1996 and moved up the ranks to assistant chief in 2016. Scott was named interim chief after Dan Donath retired in September of last year. Scott's last day on the job will be September 3rd.

Meanwhile, city spokesperson Katherine Murphy says the search for a new police chief is ongoing. A new chief could be named in September or October.

ISSUE: Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Local teacher sentenced for defrauding Blue Ridge school district

Date: 07/26/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A Blue Ridge man was sentenced last week to 30 months in federal prison after being convicted of defrauding the Blue Ridge school district of about \$336-thousand-dollars over two years.

45-year-old Joshua Raymer pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud in connection with a scheme to defraud the district.

According to court documents, from April 2016 through December 2018, the former technology coordinator would claim district computer switches were faulty when they were not and have them order more.

Raymer would then sell those computer switches as his own property.

In addition to his prison sentence, Raymer has been ordered to pay over \$460,000 in restitution, split between the Blue Ridge school district, a computer vendor, and to Special Olympics Illinois.

Raymer worked for Special Olympics Illinois following his employment with the school district and agreed to pay the organization restitution relating to uncharged theft as part of his plea deal.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: MCHD school guidance for COVID-19

Date: 07/27/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

With a new school year just a few weeks away, many school districts are determining what COVID policies will be in place.

The McLean County Health Department says it recommends that schools follow the latest CDC guidance, which calls for layered mitigation strategies. Here's health department administrator Jessica McKnight.

The layered mitigations include mask wearing for those who are unvaccinated, social distancing, screening testing, ventilation, and handwashing.

ISSUE: Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Republican gubernatorial candidate makes stop in Normal

Date: 07/27/21

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A downstate lawmaker who is making a run for governor made a stop in the Twin-Cities Monday night.

Republican State Senator Darren Bailey made the first stop of his summer bus tour at Radar Family Farms in Normal. Around 200 people attended the event.

Bailey will face several challengers in the 2022 primary election, which has been moved back from March 15th to June 28th.

ISSUE: Politics, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Ward 6 applications being accepted

Date: 07/29/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The city of Bloomington is now accepting applications to replace Ward 6 council member Jenn Carillo.

Earlier this month, Carillo announced their landlord sold the house they currently reside in and moved outside their ward. As a result, Carillo is stepping down on August 31st, after a little more than two years on the council.

Bloomington Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe explains the process of filling that council seat. He spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

The mayor says he hopes to have a new Ward 6 representative before the council's first meeting in September.

ISSUE: Community, Health

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: First cases of West Nile Virus reported locally

Date: 07/30/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

The first cases of West Nile virus have been identified in McLean County.

The health department says a mosquito pool collected in the 61705 zip code area and a dead bird found in the 61761 area tested positive for West Nile Virus.

McLean County is one of 18 counties in Illinois with confirmed West Nile activity. There have been no reported human cases.

Residents are advised to limit time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn and take precautionary measures to limit exposure to mosquitoes.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Carle Health opens new MRI center

Date: 08/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Carle Health is expanding its imaging footprint in the twin cities by opening a new Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) center.

The new center, located at 1709 Jumer Drive, is the only 3T MRI operation in McLean County.

According to a news release, the center is retaining technologists and staff after acquiring the facility.

Care Health is officially marking a grand opening on Wednesday, Aug. 4, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11:30 a.m.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: MCHD reports 35 new cases of COVID-19

Date: 08/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Cases of COVID-19 are on the rise across the Twin Cities as local health officials on Friday reported 35 new cases of the virus while the rolling positivity rate increased to 4.2%.

Health officials say there are 10 McLean County residents in the hospital due to COVID and 155 people are isolating at home.

On the vaccine front, over 170-thousand doses have been administered in McLean County, and 48.82% of the population are fully vaccinated.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED:

TITLE:

Date:

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

ISSUE: COVID-19, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: ISU prepares for new semester with COVID cases rising

Date: 08/03/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Colleges and universities across central Illinois are gearing up for classes in a few weeks amid a recent uptick in new coronavirus cases.

Illinois State University students and staff are required to input their vaccine information online. Those who don't have proof they're vaccinated will be required to participate in weekly on-campus saliva-based COVID-19 testing.

ISU President Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy says they've seen a significant uptick in students submitting their vaccine information. She spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Classes at ISU start on August 16th.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE:

Date: 08/03/21

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

The McLean County Fair kicks off this Wednesday and local health officials are reminding people to be cautious with COVID-19 still present in the community.

McLean County Health Department Administrator Jessica McKnight says they want people to enjoy the fair but there are ways to help reduce the risk of COVID-19. McKnight spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

The health department will be offering walk-in COVID vaccines at the fair Wednesday through Saturday.

Organizers of the McLean County Fair are offering incentives for those who have yet to receive a COVID vaccine. More information is available on WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Community, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Annual Back 2 School Alliance backpack drive

Date: 08/04/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A local organization is gearing up to put backpacks and school supplies into the hands of students who need them most.

Since 1999, the Back 2 School Alliance has provided supplies for kids in Bloomington-Normal schools who qualify for free or reduced lunches.

Taunnia Leffler is a former Unit 5 school board member and volunteer with the organization. She spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

This year's backpack pickup will be a drive-thru event on August 11th at State Farm's corporate south location.

Leffler says they're still looking for volunteers and donations. You can find more information on WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED:

TITLE: United Way Livingston County campaign

Date: 08/05/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

The current campaign for the United Way of Livingston County is coming to a close, even though the current goal hasn't been met.

Executive Director Deb Howard says the pandemic took a toll on fundraising, leaving the organization with a 13,000 dollar shortfall. Howard says it's just not practical to continue the current fundraising efforts.

Howard says problems came about because the United Way relies heavily on donations gathered through area employers. Workplace disruptions that came with the pandemic made it very difficult for employers to have focused in-house campaigns.

ISSUE: Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: ISU president on the job for one month

Date: 08/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

There won't be any drastic changes made by ISU's president during her first few months on campus.

Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy says her goal is to learn the first 90 days and work with the team around her, which she says is fantastic.

Kinzy says there are some areas she wants to focus on. She spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Kinzy has been on the job for about one month. The first day of classes at ISU start Aug. 16.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: McLean County experiencing high community transmission of COVID-19

Date: 08/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The McLean County Health Department is asking residence to follow recent CDC guidance of masking as the county is currently experiencing "high community transmission."

On Tuesday, Health officials reported 38 new cases of COVID-19, pushing the county's confirmed cases to over 19,000.

Meanwhile, 229 people are isolating at home, while 18,539 people have been released from isolation and are considered recovered.

Authorities report 394,700 tests have resulted for a cumulative positivity rate of 4.8%. The rolling 7-day positivity rate is 3.5%, down from 4.0% on Wednesday.

Officials also report 10 McLean County residents are hospitalized due to COVID-19, while seven other people from outside the county are hospitalized in twin city hospitals.

On the vaccine front, approximately 172,024 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in the county, and 49.22% of the county's population is fully vaccinated.

According to date from the Illinois Department of Public Health, 51.29% of Illinois residents are fully vaccinated.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Local school district reacts to new mask mandate

Date: 08/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Local school districts are reacting to Gov. Pritzker's mask mandate for students returning to the classroom.

In McLean County's largest school district, Unit 5 Superintendent Dr. Kristen Weikle said the district would comply with the Governors orders. She spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

For students who will not comply, Dr. Weikle said she would have a conversation with the student to adhere to the rules.

Unit 5 is home to approximately 13,000 students.

ISSUE: Education, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: ISU move-in underway

Date: 08/09/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Illinois State University students will start to move-in this week and there will be some lane closures around campus.

There will be lane closures on Fell Avenue from Mulberry Street to Beaufort (byou-fert) Street throughout move-in which runs today through August 15th.

Town officials are asking drivers to allow for extra time and be very cautious when driving around campus.

An interactive map showing the lane closures can be found on WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Police, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Two finalists for Bloomington Police Chief

Date: 08/10/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

The Bloomington Police Department will soon have a new leader after a months-long search process.

City Manager Tim Gleason has named two finalists, State Police Deputy Director Jamal Simington and Springfield Police Chief Kenny Winslow.

The public will have the chance to meet the finalists on Monday, August 16th from 4 to 5:15 at the Government Center in downtown Bloomington. Gleason spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

The candidate Gleason selects as chief will replace Dan Donath and Clay Wheeler, two long-time Bloomington Police officers who each retired only about a year after their appointments as chief.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: EAC holding hazardous waste collection

Date: 08/11/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The Ecology Action Center in McLean County is holding a hazardous waste collection day with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

According to E-A-C Executive Director Michael Brown, the collection is open to anyone in the state of Illinois and is free of charge.

The collection event will be held at the Interstate Center in Bloomington on October 9 from 8:00 a.m. until 3 p.m.

However, the E-A-C is asking the public to make an appointment ahead of time.

To schedule an appointment, you can visit our website at WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Business, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: COVID vaccine or negative test for local concert

Date: 08/12/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A singer who is performing at The Corn Crib later this month is requiring all attendees to be vaccinated or show a negative COVID-19 test.

Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit are scheduled to perform at the stadium on Aug. 21st.

The event is being presented by The Castle Theatre in Bloomington. The Castle's owner Rory O'Connor told our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC they will comply with Isbell's requirement.

O'Connor said a handful of people have requested a refund after this week's announcement, but others have said this makes them feel more comfortable attending the event.

At the concert, security will be checking vaccine cards and COVID tests at the door for anyone coming into the event.

O'Connor also believed The Corn Crib is a safer venue because the concert will be held outside which typically allows for more social distancing than indoor events.

ISSUE: Business, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED:

TITLE: Samsung battery plant could be coming to Normal

Date: 08/12/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A new battery plant that would create thousands of jobs in central Illinois could be coming to the Twin-Cities.

U.S. Senator Dick Durbin spoke to reporters on Thursday.

Last week, Patrick Hoban, CEO of the Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council, said the area is a finalist to land a \$1 billion development. Hoban told our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC the community is competing against two other finalists in other states.

Earlier this year, Rivian partnered with Samsung as its battery cell supplier.

Rivian is building its R1T pickup, R1S SUV, and delivery vans for Amazon at its manufacturing facility in Normal.

ISSUE: Government, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Bloomington council member wants financial help for flood victims

Date: 08/13/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A Bloomington alderman, whose ward was hard hit by flooding in late June, wants the city council to provide financial help for flood victims.

The proposal presented by Ward 7 representative Mollie Ward would direct city staffers to create a plan providing near-term financial assistance to people whose property was flooded by sewage from the storms on June 25 and 26.

According to news partner Heart of Illinois ABC, financial aid would be dependent on residents' income levels, insurance coverage, and eligibility for other assistance.

Ward also wants the city to seek dollars that might be available from the state government and other agencies.

Ward's proposal comes as city leaders look to improve sewage systems in many parts of the community that handle storm water and human waste.

Those upgrades were originally scheduled to be done before the end of this decade, but many residents are demanding the council speed up those improvements, and city leaders are considering whether to spend federal COVID relief dollars to do the work.

The city council is expected to discuss whether to move forward on Ward's proposal at Monday night's committee-of-the-whole meeting.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Craft beer festival in Uptown Normal

Date: 08/13/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Uptown Normal is getting set to host its first big event since the start of the pandemic. The Craft Beer and Jazz Street Festival is this evening in Uptown from 4 to 10.

Normal Civic Arts Manager Adam Fox says the town has been working with local health officials and is following guidance from the CDC. Fox spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

With today's street festival there will be some road closures around Uptown Normal. North Street from Broadway Street to Uptown Circle will be closed and that includes the intersection of Broadway and North Street. Roads will reopen at 11 p.m.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Constitution Trail closure in Normal

Date: 08/15/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The Constitution Trail under the Towanda Avenue Bridge near the Vernon/Towanda intersection is scheduled to be closed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. beginning Monday August 16, 2021 through Wednesday August 18, 2021, weather permitting.

These closures are required for continuing work on the Towanda Avenue Bridge Repair Project.

Periodic trail closures will be required throughout this project.

ISSUE: Business, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE:

Date: 08/16/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

State Farm is hiring more than 2,500 full-time employees -- with over 700 of those based at their headquarters in Bloomington.

The claims and customer service openings -- a hybrid of in-office and virtual roles -- also include their hubs in Atlanta, Dallas and Phoenix.

Some of the positions support in-language claims teams to assist Spanish and Asian language speaking customers, according to a release.

Those interested in a position are invited to take part in an online virtual career fair, on Tuesday, August 17 from noon to 2 p.m. Registration is available online.

State Farm says the full-time positions can cover a variety of shifts start at more than \$16/hour with access to full benefits.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Avanti's shutting down indoor dining

Date: 08/16/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A local restaurant is closing both of its dining rooms in the Twin-Cities due to being short staffed.

Avanti's Italian Restaurant announced that both of its dining rooms will be closed indefinitely starting today.

Avanti's has two locations in the Twin-Cities, one in Bloomington at 3302 East Empire Street, and in Normal at 407 South Main Street.

According to a Facebook post, Avanti's carry out, curbside pick up, delivery, banquet and catering will remain available.

The restaurant also announced that both Bloomington-Normal locations will be closed on Sundays starting August 22nd.

ISSUE: Politics, Government, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Council wants more discussions on financial help for flood victims

Date: 08/17/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A narrow Bloomington City Council majority favors continued discussions about providing near-term financial help to flood victims even as elected leaders look at longer-term flood-related repairs costing many millions of dollars.

At a committee-of-the-whole meeting Monday night, five of the nine council members backed Mollie Ward's proposal directing staff to come up with money for people still hurting from historic flooding that happened in late June.

Our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC reports four council members were opposed to Ward's idea, noting the city is working on longer-term sewer upgrades that staffers estimate will cost more than \$13 million. Also, they wanted more information about the dollar amount of the financial assistance and where the money would come from.

Donna Boelen, Sheila Montney, Nick Becker, and Tom Crumpler also voted against further consideration of providing financial help to food victims.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Castle Theatre to require proof of vaccination

Date: 08/17/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The Castle Theatre is requiring all guests attending indoor shows at the Bloomington-based venue to either show proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test, effective immediately and until the end of September.

The venue said on Facebook that patrons will be asked to show either a valid vaccination card or the negative test result -- alongside a government-issued ID when they arrive at the door.

Per CDC guidelines, The Castle Theatre is also asking all guests to consider wearing a mask unless actively drinking, no matter your vaccination status.

Some shows may have additional requirements as outlined by the artists, in which case all ticket holders will be notified either by email, or on social media.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Regional Superintendent on masking compliance

Date: 08/18/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Regional School Superintendent Mark Jontry says school districts in Illinois don't really have a choice when it comes to the state's mask mandate for students.

Some voices are calling for school districts to defy the governor's mask requirements, but Jontry says there could be serious consequences for districts that don't comply.

The Illinois State Board of Education could revoke a district's accreditation, for example, or exclude the district from activities sanctioned by the IHSA and IESA. Jontry adds that defiant districts also run the risk of increased legal liability.

Jontry says mask mandates are driven by student safety concerns and he's hopeful that the current restrictions can be lifted for the 2nd semester of the school year.

ISSUE: Education, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: ISU president recognized

Date: 08/20/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Former Illinois State University President Dr. Larry Dietz and six area Veterans are receiving recognition for their commitment to the "Stay 4" project.

Dr. Dietz is being honored for his commitment to the Great Plains LIFE Foundation's "Stay 4" project, which assists low-income, at-risk high school students.

Additionally, the foundation is honoring U.S. Army Sgt. Jim Allen, U.S. Army First Lt. David Brown, U.S. Army Specialist Jerry Monical, U.S. Marine Corps Master Sgt. Matthew Pearson, U.S. Army Sgt. Brent Wick, and U.S. Army Sgt. Bill Zimmerman for their commitment to the foundation.

The local "Stay 4" project is designed to address the high school drop-out crisis and help low-income students demonstrate the ability to succeed.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Man faces charges for attempted productions of child pornography

Date: 08/23/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A Chenoa man has been arrested after a McLean County Grand Jury indicted him on felony charges of attempted production of child pornography and obstructing justice.

The indictment alleges that in January of this year, 32-year-old Curtis Cleary made a hole in ceiling tile and placed a recording device inside a bathroom which he knew would be used by minors. Authorities said the bathroom was not in a public place, like a school, but they are not revealing the exact location.

The obstructing justice charge alleges Cleary tried to destroy evidence by smashing the cellular device.

The attempted child pornography charge is a Class 1 felony, with a maximum penalty of 15-years in prison if he's found guilty.

Cleary is being held on \$100,000 bail, meaning he has to come up with \$10,000 cash to be released from jail.

According to our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC, his is next court date is September 17.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: MFB sending disaster relief to New York

Date: 08/24/21

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The Midwest Food Bank is sending a semi load of food boxes and hygiene kits to help with Hurricane Henri and disasters in Haiti and New York.

According to a news release, a semi load would be leaving to head to New York to help with disaster relief.

MFB is shipping earthquake relief sea containers to Haiti after a 7.2 earthquake hit the peninsula in August. Additionally, the peninsula was hit by tropical storm Grace that dumped up to 15 inches of rain.

The Midwest Food Bank is also anticipating requests for relief in Tennessee, as 22 people were killed, and more than 50 are missing after massive rainfall.

For those who wish to help, financial donations can be made at Midwest Food Bank dot-org.

There will be volunteer opportunities for the community as disaster relief boxes are assembled this week.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Corvette show returning to Bloomington-Normal

Date: 08/25/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

One of the largest Corvette shows in the world is returning to its roots in the Twin-Cities. At a press conference on Tuesday, The Bloomington-Normal Area Convention and Visitors Bureau announced the national event is returning to Bloomington for the 50th anniversary and the first time since 1973.

Bloomington Gold will be held June 10th through the 11th, 2022, at Illinois State University.

The event is open to the public, and 15-thousand people are expected at the show.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE:

Date: 08/26/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Students at Illinois State and Illinois Wesleyan are back in town with many local leaders watching the COVID-19 statistics.

Normal Mayor Chris Koos says so far, so good, but he's watching the next two weeks to see if case numbers stay flat.

Bloomington City Manager Tim Gleason says with the Delta variant spreading they are working closely with both universities.

According to ISU's COVID-19 Campus Case Tracker, as of Tuesday, 65% of students have submitted their proof of vaccination. 83% of ISU faculty and staff have received the shot.

ISSUE: Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: City names new police chief

Date: 08/26/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

After a lengthy nationwide search, Bloomington has named a new top cop to lead the law enforcement agency.

In a news release, Bloomington City manager Tim Gleason said Col. Jamal Simington would lead the city as the next Police Chief, replacing retiring interim Chief Greg Scott.

Col. Simington's career began in 1991 at the Kankakee County Sheriff's Department, where he served as a correctional officer, telecommunicator, and then sheriff's deputy.

Col. Simington's resume also includes more than 20-years with the Illinois State Police as the Deputy Director for the Division of the Academy and Training.

Simington's first day on the job is October first of this year.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Sweet Corn Circus returns to Uptown Normal

Date: 08/26/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Uptown Normal will be hosting the Sweet Corn Circus this weekend with several thousand people in attendance each day.

Town of Normal Civic Arts Manager Adam Fox says there are currently no capacity restrictions on outdoor events and they're following the guidance from local and state health officials.

Fox says they are suggesting that vendors wear a mask and members of the Gamma Phi Circus have said they will wear a mask during the event.

The Sweet Corn Circus is this Saturday and Sunday in Uptown Normal.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED:

TITLE: Bloomington resident wins \$1 million in COVID vaccine lottery

Date: 08/27/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

The final drawing for the state's 'All IN for the Win' vaccine lottery has taken place, and a Bloomington resident is one of the winners of the grand prize drawing.

Illinois Department of Public Health officials report a winner from Bloomington won the 1-million dollar grand prize.

IDPH notified the winner by phone or email on Thursday.

Bloomington residents are encouraged to keep their phones on and check their emails regularly to find out if they've won.

Officials say winners have seven days to securely complete, sign and send the authorization form to IDPH to accept their prize.

ISSUE: Police, Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Police continue to search for missing ISU student

Date: 08/30/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Police are continuing the search for a missing Illinois State University graduate students and Bloomington resident.

Jelani Day was reported missing last week by an ISU faculty member and his family.

A big development came Thursday afternoon when police in the LaSalle County found Day's car, a white 2010 Chrysler 300, hidden in a wooded area in Peru.

Bloomington Police are working closely with both ISU and Peru Police to track down Day, who was last seen on campus in the Bone Student Center Tuesday, according to a photo released by BPD Friday afternoon.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Bloomington Police.

ISSUE: Police, Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: 3 dead after mass shooting in Normal

Date: 08/30/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Normal Police Chief Rick Bleichner told our news partner, Heart of Illinois ABC, that two people were shot to death, including the suspect, and three others were wounded Monday at Landings Estates, a mobile home park in north Normal.

The chief said the suspect was fatally shot by police. He said officers were called to Lambert Drive at Landings Estates about 3:45 p.m.

The man allegedly killed two people and wounded three others. Those three victims were taken to area hospitals. Their conditions were not available.

Illinois State Police are now in charge of the investigation, aided by the McLean County State's Attorney's office and the coroner.

No other details are available.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Coroner identifies victims in Normal shooting

Date: 08/31/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Three residents from Normal have been identified after a mass shooting Monday afternoon in north Normal.

McLean County Coroner Kathy Yoder pronounced all three dead at the scene: 66-year-old Ronald Reiner, 64-year-old Sharon Reiner, and 59-year-old Julie Davis.

The shooting happened Monday around 3:45 p.m. in the 2000 block of Lambert Drive.

A news release from State Police did not identify any of the people named in the release as suspects or victims. At the scene on Monday, Normal Police told our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC the suspect was a male.

Three others were wounded in the shooting and taken to area hospitals. ISP says one person has life-threatening injuries.

State police say the investigation is still in the early stages and no other information is being released at this time.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: BPD investigating shots fired incident

Date: 09/01/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Bloomington Police are probing a shots fired incident that happened on Tuesday.

Police report officers responded to the 1400 block of Chalis Drive around 3:00 p.m.

During an investigation, detectives located evidence that a shooting had occurred.

Police report there were no injuries reported, no arrests have been made, and there is no suspect information.

ISSUE: Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: More information on missing ISU grad student Jelani Day

Date: 09/01/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm
Bloomington Police are releasing more information about the whereabouts of Illinois State University graduate student Jelani Day before he disappeared last week.

Police said they've obtained surveillance video, and are now releasing still photos from that video, of Day entering Beyond/Hello, a cannabis dispensary North Veterans Parkway in Bloomington.

The video shows Day at the store Tuesday, August 24, just after 9 a.m. Earlier, police released surveillance photos of Day at ISU's Bone Student Center that same morning about 7:20.

At the cannabis dispensary, Day appeared to be wearing a blue Detroit Lions baseball hat, a black tee shirt with a unique graphic (Jimi "Hendrix" band shirt), shorts, and black shoes with white soles. The exterior surveillance video also shows Day's white Chrysler 300 in the parking lot of the business.

Police said Day won't be wearing the clothing because it was found in his car when police discovered the vehicle hidden in woods on the afternoon of Thursday, August 26, in the LaSalle County city of Peru.

Anyone with information about Day's whereabouts is asked to call Bloomington Police.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Hospital beds near capacity in McLean County

Date: 09/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Hospital beds in the twin-cities are near capacity as health officials report 95 new cases of COVID-19.

The McLean County Health Department reports 22 McLean County residents are hospitalized due to COVID-19, and eight residents from outside the county are hospitalized locally for the virus.

Authorities say 96% of ICU beds and 94% of total beds are in use with COVID patients.

Additionally, officials report the county's cumulative positivity rate remained steady at 47% from Tuesday, and the county's 7-day rolling positivity rate increased to 4.1% from 3.8%.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Carle to require COVID vaccination for employees

Date: 09/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Carle Health, which runs one of the two hospitals in Bloomington-Normal, is giving thousands of its employees a higher minimum wage.

The health care provider based in Urbana announced Wednesday its minimum wage is being raised to \$15 per hour starting immediately to improve career opportunities and strengthen its work culture, a news release said.

The company owns Carle BroMenn Medical Center in Normal. It says about 4,700 Carle employees will see pay raises, or nearly 42% of its workforce.

Jobs seeing those increases include healthcare techs, food services, housekeeping, scheduling, and customer service.

ISSUE: Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: ISU enrollment down slightly from last year

Date: 09/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Enrollment numbers at Illinois State University are slightly down this year, but the incoming freshman class saw a modest increase.

ISU's 2021 enrollment is 20,233 - down two percent from last year.

Jana Albrecht, associate vice president for enrollment management at ISU, says having to recruit virtually this past year presented several unique challenges. But she says overall, they were pleased with the outcome.

ISU welcomed 33-hundred-74 freshmen to its student body, up one percent from last year.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Police catch fugitive in rural Hudson

Date: 09/02/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A fugitive who's been on the loose since running from a car crash in rural Hudson early Tuesday morning is in police custody.

Police said an area resident contacted authorities Thursday after spotting Brian Morgan just northeast of Hudson. Morgan surrendered without incident, according to police. Morgan was not armed, nor was he wearing shoes as police said during the two-day manhunt.

Police said Morgan was taken to an area hospital because he may have been dehydrated from his two days on the run.

McLean County Sheriff's Police said Morgan fled from authorities after the car in which he was a passenger crashed into a utility pole about 3:30 a.m. Tuesday in rural Hudson.

Our news partner, HOI ABC reports, multiple counties sought his arrest on several warrants.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Ronn Morehead this year's WJBC Laborer of the Year

Date: 09/03/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A man from Normal who served as the Trades & Labor President for over 40 years is the 2021 WJBC Laborer of the Year.

Ronn Morehead passed away earlier this year but left behind a legacy of giving back to the community. Ronn helped organize the Labor Day Parade and the Children's Christmas Party for Unemployed Families, and served on multiple community and statewide boards.

Ronn's granddaughter Samantha Morehead spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Samantha and other family members will ride at the parade's beginning in Ronn's honor.

The Labor Day Parade marches from Front Street in downtown Bloomington to Miller Park Monday morning at 10.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Body found in the Illinois River

Date: 09/06/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Authorities are still searching for missing Illinois State University graduate student Jelani Day.

On Saturday morning, a search team, which include members from Bloomington Police, found an unidentified body in the Illinois River.

The LaSalle County Coroner's Office has not released the identification of the body found, and stated that it may take several days or weeks to confirm an identity.

Officer John Fermon of the Bloomington Police Department asked people not to speculate whether or not it's the body of missing ISU graduate student Jelani Day. He spoke with our news partner Heart of Illinois, ABC.

Bloomington Police continue to search for Day and asks anyone with information to contact their office.

ISSUE: Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: I-55 death investigation

Date: 09/08/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

A Lexington woman is dead after being hit by a semi on Interstate 55.

According to a news release, 46-year old Wendy Haase of Lexington attempted to cross the roadway and was struck by a semi.

Police say 31-year old David Hendrix of Montana was driving northbound on I-55 near mile marker 173 in the right lane.

Around 4:40, police say Haase attempted to cross the roadway and was struck by the semi.

Haase was transported to a local area hospital, where she later died from her injuries.

Hendrix was uninjured in the crash.

Police say the investigation is ongoing, and charges are pending.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Congressman Davis on masking

Date: 09/08/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A Central Illinois Congressman is still against the governor's indoor mask mandate and wants people to have the option when it comes to masking.

Taylorville Republican Rodney Davis says COVID-19 needs to be looked at with a "risk management strategy instead of a zero-tolerance policy." Davis spoke Wednesday with WJBC's Scott Miller.

You can listen to Congressman Davis' full interview on WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Community, Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Former NCHS football coach passes away

Date: 09/09/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Retired Normal Community High School Head Football Coach Dick Tharp has died less than a week after attending a ceremony in which the school renamed its football field in his honor.

The beloved coach and teacher died Tuesday, the Unit 5 School District announced in a social media post.

Tharp was on hand for the field's renaming, and was reunited with many of his former players who attended the festivities as Tharp received the much-deserved honor.

Tharp guided the Ironmen from 1968 to 1988, becoming the school's winningest coach with 158 victories.

Tharp was also quoted as saying last Friday's tribute was one of the "greatest moments of his life."

Coach Dick Tharp was 90 years old.

ISSUE: Community

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: 20th anniversary of 9-11 attacks

Date: 09/10/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Saturday marks the 20-year anniversary of the 9-11 attacks. After the horrific attacks, WJBC joined forces with our sister stations WBNQ and B104 to create the Liberty Fund Drive, offering a way for the community to show their support.

Janae Henson was the director of marketing and promotions. She spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

What was supposed to be a one-day drive turned into a full week with over \$1 million raised for the American Red Cross.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Make Music Normal returns

Date: 09/09/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

An annual music festival is making its return to Uptown Normal on Friday (TONIGHT) and Saturday.

Make Music Normal will get underway Friday night (TONIGHT). Town of Normal Civic Arts Manager Adam Fox spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

The festival also has a full day of music on Saturday from 1 until 10. There will be several street closures around Uptown for the event. You can find the full lineup for Make Music Normal on our website WJBC.com.

ISSUE: COVID-19

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Local doctor on COVID booster shots

Date: 09/13/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A local doctor thinks COVID-19 booster shots might start rolling out to the general public sometime this fall.

Dr. John Wieland with Carle BroMenn Medical Center spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Wieland says a lot of reports indicate booster shots would be given eight months after the second dose.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Pumpkin farmers begin harvest

Date: 09/14/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

This year, pumpkin farmers across Central Illinois are seeing smaller produce in their fields due to heavy rain earlier this summer.

Some parts of Central Illinois saw up to 10-inches of rainfall in a span of 24-hours, leaving many fields flooded.

It's been a struggle for Rader Family Farms, but Adam Rader says the farm still sees plenty of pumpkins to harvest. He spoke with WJBC's Marc Strauss.

Radar says even with the rain, the farm is growing over 45 different kinds of pumpkins.

ISSUE: Government, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Bloomington extends ban on utility shutoffs

Date: 09/14/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Bloomington's ban on utility shutoffs will continue until October 1 following city council action Monday night.

Aldermen voted unanimously to extend the moratorium a couple more weeks for people who are late paying their bills for water and other services because of pandemic-related financial hardships.

Our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC reports council member Tom Crumpler initially suggested the city should “err on the side of generosity” and grant an even longer extension. However, city staffers assured council members they’ll grant exemptions, including special repayment plans, for people still having trouble paying their bills.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Rivian’s first customer vehicle rolls of production line

Date: 09/15/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Rivian's first R1T pickup truck has rolled off the assembly lines in Normal.

After months of delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Rivian founder and CEO RJ Scaringe shared photos of the company's blue R1T pickup rolling off the lines surrounded by hundreds of plant workers.

Rivian, who has raised around \$8 billion since the start of 2019, has the backings from major companies such as Ford and Amazon.

According to a plant spokesperson, the workforce is expected to increase to around 4-thousand employees sometime next year.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Frontier suspends Las Vegas service from Bloomington

Date: 09/15/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Frontier Airlines started nonstop service to Las Vegas from the Bloomington airport last month, but that service is being suspended next month.

Central Illinois Regional Airport executive director Carl Olson says the increased COVID levels in Las Vegas hindered the number of travelers, resulting in Frontier suspending the service. Olson spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Olson says Frontier will suspend the Las Vegas flights starting October 3rd.

ISSUE: Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Several fights at Bloomington High School

Date: 09/15/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Several fights broke out earlier this week at Bloomington High School and the leader of District 87 says there "will be pretty severe disciplinary consequences."

Superintendent Dr. Barry Reilly spoke with WJBC's Scott Miller.

Reilly says the school resource officer was taken to a local hospital and is now recovering at home. Reilly says no other injuries were reported.

School administrators are finalizing their investigations, but according to Reilly, there will be expulsion recommendations for several students, and criminal charges are possible for one or more students.

ISSUE: Business, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Trail East developer backs out

Date: 09/17/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The developer in the Trail East project is no longer pursuing the project.

AJ Loss, Manager of Bush Development LLC., said they have exhausted every viable auction.

Bush Development has worked with the Town of Normal to overcome numerous obstacles -- including a lawsuit and the devastating impact market and economic conditions had on the project.

A statement from the Town of Normal said that residential options were in high demand and that the northeast part of Uptown Circle is ideal for a mixed-use building with options for residents.

According to our news partner, Heart of Illinois ABC, Normal Town staff will begin seeking out other potential developers for the area.

ISSUE: Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Local travel agent on more people flying

Date: 09/20/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Airport travel is slowing coming back amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and a Central Illinois travel agent is encouraging people to hit the road safely.

Last week, the TSA announced 1.8 million people went through airport screening, compared to 7-hundred 84-thousand people this time last year.

Tim Davis with Direct Travel spoke with WJBC's Marc Strauss.

Davis said cruise vessels are also on the return, with many ships operating at 50% capacity.

ISSUE: Police, Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Shooting injures one person in Normal

Date:

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Normal Police say a man was injured in a shooting at an apartment complex early Sunday morning.

Officers responded to a report of a shooting at 9 Traders Circle in North Normal around Midnight.

Police say a non-Illinois State University student was injured and the extent of his injuries is unclear.

Authorities have not disclosed any suspect information, and no arrests have been made.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Normal Police.

ISSUE: Government, Politics, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Town council approves new truck stop

Date: 09/21/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Elected leaders have given final government approval for a Love's truck stop and RV park in north Normal, and builders are also being allowed to put up a sign that's much higher than permitted in the town's code.

The Normal Town Council approved plans to rezone 30.5 acres of farmland to build the truck stop and RV park at the northwest corner of Interstate 55 and North Main Street, according to our news partner HOI ABC.

Earlier this month, the Normal Planning Commission recommended Love's comply with the town's current code limiting the sign's height to 75 feet, but the council granted a variance allowing for the sign to reach 200 feet above I-55.

ISSUE: COVID-19, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Vaccine for nursing home workers

Date: 09/22/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Employees at the government-run McLean County Nursing Home will be paid a bonus of up to \$1,000 for receiving the COVID-19 vaccination.

Approximately 90 people work at the nursing home, and according to Illinois Department of Public Health data, 61% of the workers are fully vaccinated and 84% of the nursing home's residents are fully vaccinated.

Interim County Administrator Cassy Taylor told our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC the incentives will range between \$500 and \$1,000 depending on workers' job status, with full-time employees receiving a larger bonus.

The money is coming from state's portion of the American Rescue Plan's payments to long-term care providers. The McLean County Nursing Home is receiving just over \$113,000.

The county board last week approved using the money as incentive for more workers to receive the COVID shots.

ISSUE: Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: HCC enrollment goes up

Date: 09/22/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Enrollment numbers are up this year at Heartland Community College.

Heartland's 2021 enrollment is 4,436, up 2.5% from last year. According to a release, the enrollment of 1,425 new students returned Heartland to pre-pandemic numbers.

The college also saw increases in minority student enrollment and non-traditional students who are 25 and older.

ISSUE: Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: ISU president delivers first address

Date: 09/23/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Illinois State University's first female President highlighted vaccination rates across the University during her first Presidential address on Tuesday.

With over one third of a school year under her belt, Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy said vaccination rates are high among students, faculty, and staff.

In the past week, 36 students tested positive for COVID-19, and since the start of the school year, 206 students have tested positive for the virus.

Kinzy did deliver some bad news, the university is facing a budget shortfall of \$25 million due to COVID-related expenses.

ISSUE: Education

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: One BHS student expelled

Date: 09/23/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Following the brawl at Bloomington High School last Monday that sent a school resource officer to the hospital, one of the students involved in the fights has been expelled.

The District 87 school board is holding hearings this week discussing the consequences following last week's fights.

District 87 Superintendent Barry Reilly said in a statement one student involved in the brawl was expelled.

He said the district is considering expulsion for the other three students involved as well.

According to our news partner, HOI ABC, the hearings for the three remaining students will continue on Thursday.

ISSUE: Police, Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Body found in Illinois River confirmed to be missing ISU student

Date: 09/23/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

The body found in the Illinois River near LaSalle-Peru on September 4th has been identified as Jelani Day.

The LaSalle County Coroner made the identification through dental forensics and DNA testing and comparison. The coroner's office says the cause of death is unknown, pending further investigation and toxicology testing.

Day, who is a graduate student at Illinois State University, was reported missing on August 25. Family had reported they had last talked to him in the evening hours of August 23. He was last seen on campus at ISU on August 24 and later that day at the Beyond Hello dispensary in Bloomington. Day's vehicle was then located August 26 in Peru, Illinois.

Bloomington police public information officer John Fermon says the investigation is ongoing and other details are not being released at this time.

Day's family released a statement on Thursday, saying the investigation is not over and the family is still looking for answers.

Authorities are asking anyone with information to contact Bloomington Police or the LaSalle County Sheriff's Office.

ISSUE: Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News Story

TITLE: Man to stand trial for murder charges in McLean County

Date: 09/24/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Bloomington Police went to Minnesota this week to return a murder suspect to the Twin-Cities where he'll stand trial.

18-year-old Kentrell Brown faces three murder charges for the shooting March 7th that killed 26-year-old Natwan Nash of Bloomington. Nash suffered multiple gunshot wounds at an apartment complex in the 2400 block of Clearwater Avenue.

Police captured Brown in May in Olmsted County, Minnesota, where he recently waived extradition and was brought to the McLean County Jail.

Our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC reports Brown is being held on \$3 million bond, and he'll have to come up with \$300,000 cash to be released before his trial.

Brown is scheduled to be arraigned on the murder charges today (Friday) in McLean County Court.

ISSUE: Government, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Bloomington city manager could get raise

Date: 09/27/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Bloomington's city manager continues to get glowing reviews from elected leaders, who are scheduled to vote tonight on giving him a raise.

Tim Gleason, who used to run city governments in Washington and Decatur, received the highest performance ranking for his work in Bloomington.

The city council is scheduled to vote tonight on a proposed 2.5% raise, retroactive to July 23.

According to our news partner, HOI ABC, that would boost Gleason's annual salary to \$202,149.

If the council approves, the city will also contribute \$550 per month into Gleason's retirement account. Until now, the city paid him that amount each month as reimbursement for driving his car on official business.

Gleason was hired in 2018 as Bloomington city manager.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: WJBC gets a look at Rivian plant and R1T pickup

Date: 09/27/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

WJBC got an inside look at Rivian's manufacturing plant in Normal and a test drive of the R1T pickup truck.

As the electric automaker starts to roll cars off the production line, several local leaders got to test drive the R1T, including Normal Mayor Chris Koos, Senator Dick Durbin and Congressman Darin LaHood.

Durbin says after the Mitsubishi Motors plant closed six years ago this has been a huge turnaround for the region.

LaHood says the company has brought jobs to the area and they continue to grow.

Rivian is producing its R1T pickup, R1S SUV, and delivery vans for Amazon at its manufacturing plant in Normal.

ISSUE: Crime, Police

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Man shot in Normal dies from injuries, says coroner

Date: 09/27/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

A Peoria man has died from his injuries after being shot multiple times in Normal earlier this month.

In the early hours of September 19, Normal Police responded to reports of a shooting in the area of 19 Traders Circle.

Police say 20-year old Roy Ward Jr. of Peoria was shot multiple times and was transported to Carle BroMenn Medical Center.

On September 22, the McLean County Coroner's office reported Ward Jr. died from multiple gunshot wounds.

According to a news release on Monday, toxicology results are pending, and there have been no arrests.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact N-P-D.

ISSUE: Government, Politics

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Bloomington council rejects payments to flood victims

Date: 09/28/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

The Bloomington City Council is holding off on making direct financial payments to residents whose property was devastated by historic flooding in late June.

Instead, the council encouraged property owners to apply for state and federal assistance programs, and when that money is exhausted, the council will again consider a local funding program.

Council members Donna Boelen, Nick Becker, and Sheila Montney opposed all efforts to use local funding because they said taxpayer funds can not be allocated for private purposes.

The initial push for direct payments came from Council member Mollie Ward, who represents areas of the west side that sustained some of the worst damage from the June floods.

Our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC reports Ward is unhappy the council won't act until money runs out from the Illinois Development Housing Authority's rehabilitation program.

ISSUE: Police, Crime

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Shots fired in Normal

Date: 09/28/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 6am and 3pm

Normal Police are probing a shots fired incident that happened Monday night about three miles from the Illinois State University campus.

ISU police issued a campus crime advisory after police were called around 5 o'clock to an apartment complex located at 710 W. Orlando Ave. The shots were also reported to be heard in the area of 700 N. Adelaide St. where three juveniles were last seen running away in a northwest direction.

Authorities say no injuries were reported and the incident remains under investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Normal Police.

ISSUE: Community, Business, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Mayor Koos tours Rivian plant

Date: 09/29/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Normal Mayor Chris Koos was one of several local leaders who got to test drive Rivian's R1T pickup truck this week.

The vehicles are starting to roll off the production line, and Koos says he's very impressed with Rivian's growth since coming to town. The company currently has around 26-hundred employees and that number is expected to grow above 4-thousand sometime next year.

Koos says he expects Rivian to attract other businesses to the Twin-Cities. He spoke with WJBC's Marc Strauss.

Meanwhile, community members will have the opportunity starting Thursday through this Sunday to get a close-up look at the R1T pickup and meet members of the Rivian staff.

You do need to RSVP for the event. More information is available on our website WJBC.com.

ISSUE: Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: State vaccine mandate impacts Bloomington Fire Department

Date: 09/29/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Under the state's COVID-19 vaccine mandate, emergency medical technicians are required to show proof of vaccination or submit to COVID testing twice a week.

That impacts the Bloomington Fire Department, according to City Manager Tim Gleason.

Gleason says the testing is expensive and takes up different resources, but the city would likely use funds from the American Rescue Plan to pay for testing.

Gleason is hoping more fire department members get vaccinated and is possibly looking at different incentives for those who get the shot.

ISSUE: Community, Government

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: Town removes mural of Jelani Day

Date: 09/30/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Government officials have removed a painting of the late Illinois State University graduate student Jelani Day from the site of a much-talked about mural in Uptown Normal, but a spokesperson said the town is working with ISU to find an alternative site for the work.

An anonymous artist created the portrait as a tribute to Day who was missing for weeks before his body was discovered in the Illinois River in LaSalle County.

The mural adorns the west side of 104 East Beaufort Street, which was the planned site for the Trail East building. Developers agreed to preserve the mural, but later scrapped the entire project.

The painting was on display for only a day, but town spokesperson Cathy Oloffson said it had to be removed because the town's code prohibits any additions to the government-owned building without permission.

The town posted a notice at the site. It said the town "recognizes this piece as an expression of grief over a tragic situation and respectfully preserved the tribute."

Oloffson told our news partner Heart of Illinois ABC the portrait is being stored in a conference room of a government building, and it's covered with a black cloth.

ISSUE: Community, Business

HOW ISSUE WAS TREATED: News story

TITLE: MPZ opens new monkey exhibit

Date: 09/30/2021

Duration: 30 second story, ran between 3pm and Midnight

Miller Park Zoo is unveiling a new exhibit that will house two monkeys and a small antelope.

According to the Zoo's Superintendent Jay Tetzloff, the project was part of a 2014 state grant that awarded the Zoo seven-hundred thousand dollars, with 100,000 thousand dollars going towards the final stages of the parking lot project.

The new exhibit, located between the Flamingos and the Carousel, features the animals along with lots of trees and ropes for the monkeys and hollow logs for the Duikers.