

## QUARTERLY ISSUES LIST FOR WXEF-FM FOR JULY THRU SEPTEMBER 2023

ISSUE	HOW ADDRESSED	WHEN AIRED
1) Traffic Safety	One of several crashes in an interstate construction zone led to routing traffic onto a state highway where a tractor truck trailer was involved in a crash that released anhydrous ammonia, killing five, injuring many more, and leading to the evacuation of a portion of the village of Teutopolis for almost 24 hours. The bigger issue is why crashes have continued for months in the construction zone, and why steps haven't been taken to correct the problem	9-30-23 (coverage all day)
	-- St. Rep. Adam Niemerg continues to contact IDOT and Illinois State Police regarding the series of crashes that have occurred in the I-70 construction zone between Effingham and Montrose	8-26-23 at 630am and 730am (1:30)
2) Education	Unit 40 school officials toured the new Little Hearts Early Education Center, an effort by the school district to make more early education slots available to district personnel as the need remains to accommodate parents of preschoolers who would like to teach in the district	9-26-23 at 630am and 7:30am (1:30)
	-- Lake Land Community College enrollment is down from the previous fall semester although gains were seen in dual credit and in International students	9-25-23 at 630am and 730am (1:00)
	-- Effingham Unit 40 school board members hired an architecture firm to study the pros	8-22-23 at 630am and 730am (1:30)

and cons of a centrally-located building that would house studentds in Grades Pre-K thru 5

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Teutopolis school district officials have asked Superintendent Matt Sturgeon to develop a maintenance schedule and a schedule on current bonds will be retired, all toward the possible construction of facilities

8-9-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:30)

### 3) Local Government

Jasper County board members have agreed to conduct a feasibility study as to whether the current Courthouse should be replaced

9-22-23 at 630am  
and 730am (:40)

### 4) Economy

Effingham County's unemployment rate in August is at 3.5%, up from a year ago, but still lower than the statewide jobless rate

9-22-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:00)

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Effingham County's jobless rate for July was 3.4%, higher than the July 2022 rate of 2.8%

8-24-23 at 630am  
and 730am (:45)

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Local Congressman Mike Bost and House Agriculture Committee Chairman GT Thompson were in Effingham for a "listening session" ahead of action by Congress on a new Farm Bill

8-23-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:30)

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the June jobless rate for Effingham County is at 3.1%, up from 2.8% in June 2022. The rate is still well below the national rate for June of 4.8%

7-29-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:30)

### 5) Human Services

Community Support Services and other human service agencies are opposing efforts to get rid of the "commensurate wage" they pay clients being trained to go into the work world. The issue is before the legislature.

9-21-23 at 630am  
and 730am (:45)

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Illinois State Police will soon implement a provision of the newly-passed assault weapons ban that allows people who owned such weapons before the law took effect to keep them

9-19-23 at 630am  
and 730am (:45)

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The President and CEO of Hospital Sisters Health System, parent company of the Effingham hospital, said a systemwide outage was due to a "cybersecurity incident"

9-4-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:30)

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Illinois overpaid unemployment benefits to the tune of \$5.2 billion during the first 18 months of the COVID-19 pandemic, with much of it paid to fraudulent claimants

7-28-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:45)

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Capitol News Illinois relases coverage of problems at Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center, many dealing with employee misconduct and mistreatment of those being cared for there

7-12-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:30)

## 6) Safe-T Act

As of today, state courts in Illinois will be prohibited from jailing individuals who are accused, but not convicted, of crimes simply because they cannot afford to post bail while they await trial

9-17-23 at 630am  
and 730am (1:30)

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The lawsuit challenging the Protect Illinois Communities Act has been dismissed. Suits are still pending at the Federal level

8-21-23 at 630am  
and 730am (2:00)

This is a representative sampling of what issues arose and how they were addressed. We air local and area news four times each weekday and each weekend morning. We regularly staff city council, county board, school board and

other local meetings and air a Community Calendar program six days a week.