

**KQYB, SPRING GROVE, MN  
2021 ISSUES PROGRAMMING Q3  
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS Q3**

<b>Issue Category</b>	<b>Broadcast Dates</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description - PSA</b>
<b>Schools/Education/Programs</b>	<b>8/16/2021</b>	<b>8:45am</b>	<b>3 min</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Holmen Boys and Girls After School/Grand Opening</b>
	<b>7/16 – 7/30/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>United Way – School Supply Drive</b>
	<b>7/1 – 7/13/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>BB/BS 7 Rivers</b>
	<b>8/1 – 8/30/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>Children’s Museum</b>

<b>Issue Category</b>	<b>Broadcast Dates</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description - PSA</b>
<b>Business Growth/Community Revenue</b>	<b>7/30/2021</b>	<b>7:45am</b>	<b>3 min</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Community Theater Opening</b>
	<b>8/6/2021</b>	<b>8:15am</b>	<b>3 min</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Irishfest</b>
	<b>8/6/2021</b>	<b>9:05am</b>	<b>3 min</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>La Crescent Theater/Appleseed</b>
	<b>9/2/2021</b>	<b>7:45am</b>	<b>2 min</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Ladies Day Event/Fest</b>
	<b>8/9 – 9/23/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>Logger Field/Copeland Concert</b>
	<b>8/19 – 8/27/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>West Salem Festival</b>
	<b>10/6 – 10/17/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>La Crosse Center</b>
	<b>7/26 – 8/8/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>Ashley for the Arts</b>
	<b>7/24 – 8/12/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>Irishfest</b>
	<b>7/2 – 8/30/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>Onalaska Concerts in Park</b>
	<b>7/1 – 7/30/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>Houston County Fair</b>
	<b>7/1 – 9/12/2021</b>	<b>12A-12P</b>	<b>:30</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>Riverside/MT</b>

Issue Category	Broadcast Dates	Time	Length	Amount	Description - PSA
Health/Mental/Wellness	8/18/2021	7:15am	4 min	1	Hunger Task Force/Garden
	9/19/2021	8:45am	3 min	1	EMT/Free Fest
	8/11 – 8/15/2021	12A-12P	:30	50	Hunger Task Force
	9/7 – 9/30/2021	12A-12P	:30	65	Children's Miracle/Gundersen
	8/11 – 8/20/2021	12A-12P	:30	33	EMT/Free Fest
	9/5 – 9/11/2021	12A-12P	:30	28	P.R.I.D.E.
	9/2 – 9/4/2021	12A-12P	:30	15	Veteran Mental Health
	8/9 – 9/10/2021	12A-12P	:30	128	Norma J. Vinger Center for Breast Care
	9/7 – 9/30/2021	12A-12P	:30	85	Local Veteran return/welcome

2021 NEWS ISSUES Q3 – KQYB

News stories are approximately News stories are approximately thirty seconds long and air on WQYB between the hours of 6:00am and 9am Monday-Friday.

**Health:**

7/1 Mayo Clinic is preparing to phase out its specialty COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites in southwestern Wisconsin. That's because COVID cases have gone down so much, Mayo says it will make the testing and shots part of their normal operations, instead of having separate facilities to handle COVID concerns. Next Tuesday, July 6th, will be the last day for the COVID testing at the Occupational Health Building in La Crosse. COVID drive-up testing in Sparta was scheduled to end yesterday. Appointments will be required at the regular Mayo clinic locations for COVID services.

7/2 A COVID-19 testing and vaccination clinic in La Crosse is about to be closed. The last day the Mayo Clinic site on 10th Street will be open is July 6. After that, COVID-related needs will become part of normal clinical operations at all Mayo locations in Southwest Wisconsin. Mayo stated that the need to have a facility dedicated solely to COVID-19 vaccinations is no longer necessary because the the volume at the site has steadily declined. La Crosse County is at 53.5% fully vaccinated with 63% of people over 18 inoculated. People can, of course, still get vaccinated. Just by appointment now, which can be done online or by phone.

7/6 It was about this time last year, just before the 4th of July, that we learned there would be no Oktoberfest in La Crosse for 2020. But that was last year, as the COVID-19 outbreak was causing cancellations of practically every public event in America. This year, the fest is on again. Oktoberfest president Kelly Wilde says local officials gave the green light for the 60th anniversary fest just in time for it to happen: Wilde says the fest needed a 90-day window to prepare for the usual events, with the official opening on September 30th. The Festmaster from 2019, Terry Cowgill, says you can look at his continuing reign two ways: One study says Oktoberfest brings about \$15 million to the La Crosse economy every year.

7/19 No new cases of COVID-19 reported in Wisconsin yesterday, although health experts have counted COVID increases in every state over the past week. In the past month, new cases around Wisconsin had fallen to their lowest level in over a year, before the latest surge of a COVID variant. State experts report 15 new cases for every 100,000 people in La Crosse County in a recent two-week period. A few surrounding counties have 5 or fewer active COVID cases, at last report.

7/21 Despite signs that COVID cases are rising again around the world, some doctors are finding cause for optimism. Dr. Joe Poterucha (POT-a-roo-ka) from Mayo in La Crosse says this region isn't seeing many new cases, compared to other parts of the U.S.: Poterucha predicts that herd immunity against COVID and its variants could be achieved in the next year or two.

7/26 U-W-La Crosse is among the universities in Wisconsin offering incentives for students to get COVID vaccinations during the summer or fall. Students who become fully vaccinated by October 15th can qualify for scholarships and prizes. The La Crosse program is a companion to the effort through the U-W System to set aside 70 scholarships for campuses that have a 70 per cent vaccination rate. La Crosse Chancellor Joe Gow expects a more normal school year, but he says COVID-19 remains a serious threat to the campus and the city.

7/27 The pandemic is not over, says La Crosse County. Even though 60 per cent of county residents have been fully vaccinated, the number of local COVID cases is starting to rise again. The county health department is again urging people who have been vaccinated to wear masks in public, continue to keep social distance in groups, and seek testing if you have COVID symptoms.

8/1 La Crosse County is recommending a return to indoor mask wearing, because of a new surge of COVID-19 cases. The Delta variant is being cited as the likely cause for a sharp increase in the local spread of the virus, according to county public health nursing manager Jacquie Cutts: The county has gone from roughly 4 new cases a week at the start of July to an average of 50 new cases during the past week. The health department says anyone over the age of 2 should wear a mask in public indoor sites.

8/2 A free vaccine clinic will take place over the next four Wednesdays at La Crosse's public library on Main Street. The clinics will take place from 1-4 p.m. at the library, beginning this Wednesday and going through the rest of the month. They are hosted by the La Crosse County Health Department. The Pfizer vaccine will be given to those aged 12-17, which will require two doses. A parent or guardian will need to be present. Consultation is also available. The single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be provided for all others 18 and over.

8/9 They're trying to avoid some COVID mandates, but La Crosse County officials would like employees to follow safety procedures as the virus rises again. One requirement has been put in place, according to county human resources director Stephen Conrad: Conrad spoke to the county board on Monday. Board members are encouraged to wear masks, but not required to do so. County chair Monica Kruse says 58 per cent of La Crosse County residents are now vaccinated, with the largest percentage of vaccinated citizens at least 65 years old.

8/11 La Crosse area hospitals are starting to fill up with COVID-19 patients again, because of the variant spreading across the country. Mayo Doctor Joe Poterucha (POT-a-roo-ka) says La Crosse County is considered at 'substantial risk' for COVID, while Trempealeau and Monroe Counties are at high risk. Vernon County has a moderate risk, because the vaccination rate there has been high.

8/13 La Crosse County has been rated as having a "high" COVID-19 transmission rate by the state, in part because of the fast-spreading Delta variant. COVID cases and hospitalizations in the county are rising. La Crosse had 70 cases over a two-day span this week, including 38 on Monday — the most cases in a day since the end of January. Most of those cases are people who are un-vaccinated.

La Crosse County residents fully vaccinated hit 56.1% yesterday. Two neighboring counties have yet to get to 40% fully vaccinated — Jackson (39.5%) and Monroe (39.0%). While Vernon County is at 45.2% and Trempealeau is at 53.2%. Statewide, the total is 49.9%. With a “high” transmission rate, masking is recommended for everyone aged 2 and over, including those who are vaccinated. The vaccine is free and readily available at multiple places throughout the area. Check this story at WIZM News dot com for a list of places to get vaccinated or call the county health department.

8/16 The founder of La Crosse’s Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is on a ventilator, due to COVID-19. Cardinal Raymond Leo Burke is currently a Cardinal Priest in Rome. But the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that he became ill in Wisconsin, where he was raised. Burke, who served the La Crosse Diocese from 1995-2003, said on Twitter over the weekend that he’s hospitalized with COVID-19, on a ventilator, but doctors are encouraged with his progress. A tweet three days prior, confirmed he had COVID-19 but was resting comfortably and receiving excellent medical care. As rumors spread of his health on Twitter, a message “purported to be from Msgr. Roger Scheckel at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe said that Burke had just been tired out from a busy schedule at the shrine and a sinus infection. The message added that the cardinal had not been diagnosed with COVID-19 and was ‘not deathly ill,’” according to The National Catholic Reporter. The 73-year-old Burke has expressed skepticism in needing to social distance and opposed mandatory “vaccination schemes,” according to the site. Last December, Burke called COVID-19 the “Wuhan virus,” saying “It has been used by certain forces inimical to families and to the freedom of nations, to advance their evil agenda.” Burke founded La Crosse’s Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 2008. He was rumored to be a top candidate to take the place of Pope Benedict XVI, who resigned pm Feb. 28, 2013. Burke went on to the Vatican, becoming the highest judicial authority in the Catholic Church, aside from the Pope.

8/20 Three months ago, the Coulee COVID-19 Collaborative stopped giving weekly updates. The collaborative between Mayo, Gundersen and the La Crosse County Health Department were encouraged by the vaccine rollout and the county being 47.9% vaccinated. That vaccination rate is now 56.5%. With cases on the rise, thanks in part to the more contagious Delta variant, the collaborative announced it would begin meeting regularly again. The La Crosse County Health Department will also again begin sharing weekly case and data updates. COVID-19 cases in La Crosse County have increased 163% in the past four weeks — from 19 cases a week to 200 cases. The positive rate for those tested has gone from 1% to 6.5%. The collaborative said the Delta variant is impacting younger people and causes illness, but vaccinated people recover quicker. To combat the virus, it is recommending everyone wear a face mask, especially indoors and/or in a public setting, whether vaccinated or not. For more info on how to get vaccinated or tested, there are multiple links in this story at WIZM News dot com.

8/24 Signs and bullhorns and honking car horns marked a demonstration outside Gundersen in La Crosse on Tuesday, led by hospital workers fighting for their jobs against a mandate. A few dozen protesters gathered to oppose the hospital's requirement for employees to get the COVID-19 vaccine by November 1st or be fired. David Anderson is a Gundersen nurse, who says the government and the vaccine makers don't impose similar mandates: Anderson says about 15 per cent of Gundersen employees have not had the vaccine yet. That adds up to 12-hundred workers.

8/27 Gundersen and Mayo are at capacity when it comes to COVID-19 patients. Others may suffer if things don't change. And they may get worse, again, before they get better, as school begins to ramp up. Mayo Critical Care doctor Joe Poterucha (POT-a-roo-ka) just asks you get vaccinated. It's been a challenge, Poterucha says, convincing some people ... The vaccine is free and readily available at Mayo, Gundersen, Weber Health, Walgreens ... go to Vaccines dot gov slash search to find the closest provider.

9/9 Over the past week, 355 new cases of COVID-19 in La Crosse County. A month and a half ago, that number was 19. That 355 averages out to 51 cases per day between Aug. 29 and Sept. 4. Western Region

hospitals are 82.3% in use and ICUs are 86.3% in use. DHS data also states hospitalizations in the region grew by 42% over a two-week period beginning Aug. 25. La Crosse County has 57.9% of its total population fully vaccinated, while the state is at 52%. The county ranked 10th in Wisconsin for completed vaccinations. 12-to-15-year-olds in the county are 53% vaccinated. The lowest total in La Crosse is 18–24-year-olds at 40% ... while the highest total is those 65 and over at 88%

## **Business/Economy**

8/10 Drivers in La Crosse are still paying higher prices for gas than people in other large Wisconsin cities. The Triple-A says the La Crosse average is holding steady at \$3.07 a gallon, slightly ahead of the price in Wausau. The statewide average is \$3.03 a gallon, six cents higher than a month ago. Appleton has the lowest average among large markets in the state, at \$2.94 per gallon.

8/23 When the La Crosse Center opened its doors in 1980, it brought in big stars like Bob Hope and John Denver to celebrate the opening. The center is now a bigger building, but the re-opening this year may be smaller than the original event. Members of the center board are discussing ideas for the new Grand Opening planned for December. Tours for the public and a display of new artworks in the building are some of the ideas brought up so far. New construction and COVID-19 have kept much of the center closed for events since February of last year.

8/30 The La Crosse city plan commission wants to give a developer one more chance to work out a new housing project along King Street. Commission members voted to delay action on Kevin Biondo's housing plan for another 30 days. It's already been on hold for 3 months, as Biondo has negotiated with neighbors who prefer single-family homes. He tells the commission that he didn't expect a long battle: Biondo's plan has been reduced from 16 apartments to just 4 units, but even that has met with opposition. The city council judiciary committee reviews the plan tonight.

9/19 For decades, you had a choice of movie theaters operating in downtown La Crosse. Only one is still open now, and that theater...the Rivoli...is celebrating a century in business this week. Sunday officially marked 101 years since the Rivoli opened its doors: David Demerit and his wife Kay were on hand yesterday as the Rivoli served birthday cake to customers. Their son Sam Demerit is an associate manager now at the Rivoli, and he was happy to greet customers for 1920's prices...one day only: For much of this week, you can see 'Jungle Cruise' and 'The Wizard of Oz' on the Rivoli screens, in 2020's prices.

9/23 Just when passenger numbers at the La Crosse Airport are almost back to pre-pandemic levels, the delta variant of COVID may be scaring off some fall travelers. Local airport director Ian Turner says passengers normally start planning holiday flights by now, but this year they seem to be waiting, to see how badly the virus is spreading: Turner says fall travel numbers through La Crosse could be as much as 20 per cent below normal. The airport had its highest monthly passenger total in 2 years during August.

## **Education:**

8/2 We told you that the La Crosse County health department wants people to go back to voluntarily wearing masks indoors to fight COVID-19. County health nursing manager Jacquie Cutts wants public schools to go even farther. Cutts is asking the La Crosse School Board to make mask wearing mandatory in schools when classes resume this fall. She says parents trust the schools to do the right thing: Cutts says it's likely that large numbers of students won't be vaccinated until fall or winter.

8/3 A city committee tonight, will review a contract between the School District of La Crosse and the city's police department over Resource Officers. The \$150,000, year-long contract will be for three School Resource Officers and a DARE officer to the district. The memorandum for the Judiciary and Finance -- or J&A -- committee to review is 10 pages and can be read at WIZM News dot com, along with two letters submitted asking that wording in the contract be changed. One letter is from a parent of a student that would like clarification surrounding actions to protect the SRO Program Advisory Committee, which is made up of citizens and community volunteers. They ask that the contract include how police will respond if someone on the advisory committee is retaliated against. They also ask the committee how the school will recruit and support volunteers from "marginalized backgrounds without process transparency" from police. The Judiciary and Finance Committee meets at 6 p.m. tonight at the Southside Neighborhood Center.

8/3 A one-year extension of the SRO program putting La Crosse police at public schools has done little to quiet public opposition to the concept. A city council committee being asked to accept a new agreement on SRO's was told by speakers that students don't trust the police, and police don't trust students, so the program should end. Cameron was one of those speakers, who says the schools don't trust the students either: Mayor Mitch Reynolds and others argue that the new agreement has already been in effect for weeks and trying to change it just before a new school year might cause problems.

8/4 You've heard the advice for over a year...safety steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. But doctors at Mayo Clinic say familiar prevention measures should be an effective way to keep children healthy during the new school year: Dr. Gregory Poland of Mayo's vaccine research group says COVID variants have been turning up at summer camps this year. Poland says many colleges are planning to have mask mandates this fall.

8/16 Two weeks left for summer vacation for most La Crosse school students. The fall semester begins on September 1st, and superintendent Aaron Engel hopes to have all the students and teachers in the classroom on the first day, for the first time in two years: Engel tells the La Crosse school board that all students 12 or older will be encouraged to get vaccinated against COVID, if they haven't been already.

8/18 Gundersen Health System is requiring its staff be vaccinated for COVID-19. The healthcare giant set the deadline for doing so on November 1st. So far, 85% of its staff is already vaccinated, Gundersen posted yesterday online.

8/23 The La Crosse School District will be requiring students and faculty to wear masks to start the year. That's what La Crosse Education Association president John Havlicek told WIZM. Havlicek said he was appreciative of the leadership by district Superintendent, Dr. Aaron Engel, who sent a letter out Friday saying K-through-12 students will be masked to start the year. As the teacher's union president, Havlicek said that faculty also said masks are needed at this time, as the Delta variant of COVID-19 has become more prevalent in the area, and children more susceptible to it.

8/24 A big incoming freshmen class when UW-La Crosse begins school in exactly two weeks. Over 2,100, the most ever for an incoming class at the university, according to Joe Gow. The UW-L Chancellor said masks will be required but, at this point, not the vaccine. Gow said they will test students as they come in to see just how prevalent the virus is, especially students living in the dorms. One dorm will be designated for those who have COVID so they can quarantine for two weeks.

8/31 The La Crosse public schools officially start the new class year on Wednesday...with school resource officers back in smaller numbers. Only three police officers will be assigned to the city's middle and high schools, instead of five as in the past. La Crosse Police Sergeant Cory Brandl says the SRO's are happy to return: Many people in the community have criticized the resource officer program, claiming that having police at schools intimidates young people, especially students of color.

8/31 This time, it's going to feel more like a normal start to the school year in La Crosse. Students in the district had to learn at home for the fall semester, because of the pandemic. But second-year Superintendent Aaron Engel is eager to see kids back in classrooms, starting today: Two La Crosse public schools, Hamilton and Northside, have year-round classes, so the school year started in those buildings back in July.

9/1 Kids were back in classrooms, and on playgrounds, at La Crosse schools yesterday on the first day of a new class year. And joining the students at North Woods Elementary on Wednesday was Governor Tony Evers, who spent a moment admiring a student garden: Evers and state school superintendent Jill Underly made North Woods part of a two-day school tour around Wisconsin. School principal Keri Holter says the lessons planned for students this year are exciting, and they include COVID safety steps: The governor's group insisted that they wanted to be outside with the kids, to reduce the risk of COVID.

9/2 U-W-La Crosse declares victory in a vaccination drive. The La Crosse campus has become the first in the UW system to get 70 per cent of its students vaccinated against COVID-19. Reaching that goal means that La Crosse will get at least 7 scholarships of \$7000 each from the system, which will be distributed through a drawing next month. More scholarships will be awarded when the campus gets to a 75 per cent vaccination level.

9/4 A campaign to get students vaccinated is off to a great start at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. The 70-for-70 campaign aims to get 70 students' scholarships throughout the UW System when each university hits 70% vaccinated. UW System president Tommy Thompson was at the first day of classes Tuesday, announcing UW-L had already hit the 70% mark. It was the first school to announce reaching the goal, though yesterday, UW-Madison announced it was at 90% already. Regardless, upon hitting 70%, seven UW-L students are eligible for \$7,000 scholarships. The 70-for-70 campaign will give away \$490,000 in scholarships. Along with that, students and the rest of the community can still get \$100 from the state by getting vaccinated by Monday. There are walk-in vaccination sites all over the area, including Walgreens, the hospitals, UW-L's Cartwright Center. Weber Health, downtown. Vaccinations are free.

9/6 A big office building on the real estate market in La Crosse could find a new use within the local school district. That's not definite but converting the Trane headquarters building in south La Crosse into a school is an option being considered by superintendent Aaron Engel: One of the school district's long-range plans would involve merging Logan and Central into a single high school, and moving middle schools into the existing high school buildings.

9/14 The presidents of Aquinas High School and Viterbo University sat down together on Tuesday and signed an agreement for a new educational partnership. The plan will allow students from Aquinas to earn college credits while still in high school, which could lead to a three-year degree at Viterbo. Aquinas president Ted Knutson says this is something students and their parents have wanted: And Rick Trietley (TRITE-lee), the interim president of Viterbo, says there's broad support for the idea: Some of the college courses Aquinas students could take are in business management, engineering, education, and nursing.

## **Community Needs:**

7/1 For those are in need, a food distribution event will be held in Holmen this afternoon. Anyone earning 300% or less of the federal poverty guideline can expect to be given quite a lot of food. The "Truck to Trunk" event takes place from 2-4 p.m. at the Holmen Area Community Center with the help of the WAFER Food Pantry. Each package will include canned goods and approximately 25-30 pounds of frozen items such as cheese,

butter, and meat. Pre-registration or proof of income are not required. All cars in line by 4 p.m. will receive a package.

7/13 You may have seen signs in downtown La Crosse, directing you to a Red Cross blood donation site. The signs bear the message 'severe shortage,' and that's being felt around the country. Justin Kern with the Red Crosse in Milwaukee says the return to more normal activities after COVID-19 has led to increases in some medical procedures: Along with short-term blood drives around the area, La Crosse also has a blood and platelet donation center along Highway 16.

9/1 It's like a lightbulb 'going dimmer and dimmer...until it goes out.' That's how Sharon Zimmer of Onalaska describes the effect of Alzheimer's Disease on people who have it...including her husband, Chuck. The Zimmers will take part in a Walk to End Alzheimer's, coming up September 18th in La Crosse. Sharon says she and Chuck are Zimmer walking this year with the hope of raising awareness about what it's like to live with the disease at an early onset of age. Chuck was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at age 60. The local event will begin the morning of the 18th at Riverside Park.

9/8 Firefighters in La Crosse are asking you to help 'Fill the Boot' today. Local 127 of the firefighter's union will be at the corner of 3rd and La Crosse Streets near City Hall this afternoon between 2:30 and 5:30. They'll collect donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in a fireman's boot. If the weather turns bad, they'll try it again tomorrow.

9/22 Trying to get multiple groups under one roof to help those in need has been tried before in La Crosse ... many times ... and never come to fruition. Those strides look to have finally crossed the finish line in making that a reality, as Krista Coey (rhymes with Suey or Sue-ee), the social services director at the Salvation Army of La Crosse revealed yesterday on WIZM. Led by another nonprofit, the YWCA, a new outreach center called REACH will soon be opening. Coey said ... despite so many groups under one roof ... there wasn't a huge challenge to bring them together. REACH will be located on 11th and King, near the La Crosse YMCA.

## **Crime/Policing:**

7/1 The La Crosse man accused of reckless homicide in a death at Houska Park this week has made his first court appearance. Bond for David Pearson Junior was set at 500-thousand dollars, and a criminal complaint is still being prepared. Police captured Pearson on Tuesday, a few hours after finding an injured person in the park. That person died shortly after police came to the scene.

7/5 The La Crosse school district still has a program for keeping police officers on district property...but the agreement has changed a little for the coming year. Superintendent Aaron Engel points out a couple of changes made in the new S-R-O agreement which took effect last week: Engel says instead of having five officers, each stationed at a specific school, there are now three officers covering regions of the district. The school system had suspended talks with police over the program, when citizens critical of police claimed they were being harassed for their views.

7/7 A La Crosse County committee wants to form a second committee, to study the idea of forming yet another committee to keep an eye on law enforcement. The vote today by the county executive committee calls for the creation of an ad hoc study group, to see if there's a need for a police oversight panel in the area. Law enforcement around the U.S. has been criticized heavily in the year since George Floyd died in police custody in Minneapolis. Several citizens in La Crosse County have called for an oversight group to watch what local officers are doing.

7/8 A La Crosse man is now charged with reckless homicide in the death of another man at Houska Park last week. David Pearson Junior is accused of 2nd degree murder and bail jumping in an apparent fight which led to

the death of 33-year-old Cameron Baker on June 28th. Police were called to the park to find Baker injured badly. He died a short time later. Pearson remains in the county jail, with bond set at half-a-million dollars.

7/9 The idea of a citizen oversight board to keep an eye on La Crosse law enforcement will go before the full county board next week. But a county supervisor who has voted against the proposal hopes others on the board will decide that such a panel is not needed. Andrea Richmond says the city police already have a procedure to take complaints from the public; Richmond also says the county's criminal justice council is doing a good job of watching for problems with the police or sheriff's departments.

7/14 The La Crosse County Board could vote tonight on whether to start a study committee which could lead to a police oversight panel. Area residents who are critical of law enforcement say some oversight of police activity is needed. A county subcommittee already has endorsed the idea of a civilian oversight board. If a study committee is formed, it would submit a final recommendation to the county board.

7/15 La Crosse County is not going to form a study committee, aimed at starting a police oversight board. Not yet, anyway. Instead of authorizing a study, the county board voted last night to ask a criminal justice panel to make changes in the proposal. County supervisor Steve Doyle says local law enforcement sees the oversight plan as an attack on them by critics: Sheriff Jeff Wolf agrees with suggestions that civilians serving on an oversight board should ride along with officers to see what they do on the job.

7/19 The La Crosse city police and La Crosse County agencies are working together on crisis management. They're calling it a Co-Responder program, aimed at pairing the police with crisis experts to deal with people who have mental health issues. The aim of the program is to increase early intervention for people who may get into trouble with the law, to avoid more serious problems.

7/21 La Crosse area police don't seem to be 'buying in' to the idea of having a citizen committee watch what they do. That's what members of a La Crosse County criminal justice council are hearing about delays in starting a local police oversight board. Sheriff Jeff Wolf has said that law enforcement worries about being under attack from members of the public. Wolf spoke with the justice council about the new 'co-responders' program involving the county and the La Crosse police: The justice council hopes to hear more comments from law enforcement before discussing the oversight plan again next month.

7/23 A triple homicide in the Town of Hamilton ... just north of West Salem. The La Crosse County's Sheriff's Office received a 911 call at 4:57 a.m. this morning that three bodies had been found at the entrance to the Milestone Quarry — sometimes referred to as the Romskog quarry — on County M, just north of West Salem. La Crosse County Sheriff Jeff Wolfe said the call came from workers who found the bodies at the entrance of the Milestone Materials quarry, as they were arriving for work. Wolf said it is a "complicated" crime scene and they are trying to figure out what may have occurred. He said nobody was in custody and had "nothing to reveal right now," on leads. He also was not aware of any secondary crime scenes. He said they believe the three were killed overnight in the "hours of darkness." He could not reveal any details about the injuries sustained. Authorities are asking that anyone who has security camera footage where they can identify vehicles between late Thursday afternoon through 5 a.m. Friday to contact them. Wolf said they would like to see footage on County M from the Village of West Salem to the north, or residence on County S from the city of Onalaska near Cedar Creek Golf Course to the top of the ridge at Counties M and S. Wolf added, he didn't think there was reason for concern to those living in the area.

7/27 Two suspects and how the victims died, released Tuesday, in the triple homicide that occurred last week in La Crosse County. Nya Thao and Kham-than-et Ratt-ana-sack have been identified by investigators of killing three men at the entrance of a quarry just north of West Salem, Wis. The three victims were shot. At least one handgun was used, according to evidence recovered. Thao, aged 33, also goes by "Kush." His last known

address was Holmen. Ratt-ana-sack goes by "Kham," "Black," or "Blacky." His last known address was Wausau, Wis. Both are believed to be armed. Felony probation warrants have been issued. A 2005 Mercedes-Benz S, believed to be used during the murders, was found abandoned just east of Green Bay last weekend. The bodies were initially discovered early Friday at the entrance to the Milestone Materials quarry by people arriving for work. They called 911 at 4:57 a.m. If anyone has information, contact authorities.

7/29 Just hours after the arrests of two suspects in a La Crosse County triple murder, the men accused of the crime are now in the county jail, being held without bond. Nya (NYE-uh) Thao of Holmen and Khamthaneth Rattanasack (RAD-un-sack) of the Wausau area were captured separately on Wednesday night and Thursday in central Wisconsin. La Crosse Sheriff Jeff Wolf says the victims...Peng Lor, Nemo Yang, and Trevor Maloney...were shot multiple times outside the Romskog quarry in the town of Hamilton on July 23rd. He says according to an informant, money was the motivation for the shootings: 'Black' is one of Rattanasack's nicknames. Thao reportedly fired the fatal shots. Sheriff Wolf says the suspects and victims had ties to two Asian gangs, the True Asian Bloods and the Crazy Hmong Boys.

8/1 A cash bond of \$1 million has been set for both of the men accused in a triple-homicide at a La Crosse County quarry. On Friday, Judge Scott Horne imposed the high bond on Nya (NYE-uh) Thao and Khamthaneth Rattanasack (RAD-un-sack). The suspects were captured separately in central Wisconsin, on charges of shooting three men over a \$600 debt. The murders reportedly occurred on the morning of July 23rd, shortly before quarry employees arrived for work that day. Rattanasack and Thao are scheduled for another hearing on August 13th.

8/19 The idea of a police oversight committee for the La Crosse area could remain on hold for a while longer. The county's criminal justice council has been told that county supervisor Steve Doyle may need more time to meet with local law enforcement, to get their views on an oversight board. Proposals for setting up a local citizen committee that would review police activities have gone back and forth between the justice council and the county board. Some La Crosse area residents who have criticized the local police say they have been targets of retaliation by police.

9/10 Two men charged in a recent triple murder in La Crosse have entered pleas of 'not guilty.' Nya (NEE-uh) Thao and Khamthaneth Rattanasack (com-THAH-neth ruh-TAN-uh-sack) entered their pleas today before Judge Elliott Levine and will be scheduled for trial. The suspects are accused of fatally shooting three young men outside a La Crosse County quarry on July 23rd, reportedly because one of them was owed money.

9/13 It's just a broken egg now. The artwork named Hatched Baby is missing the baby, but it did already turn up somewhere. As of last night, the La Crosse Police Department said it was unsure exactly when the blue head of Hatched Baby went missing. Just that it happened over the weekend. The face of what was a 9-foot tall statue did turn up on social media, however, and apparently it's at somebody's home. Two pictures posted on social media show the face propped up against a couch and also lying in what appears to be a laundry room. WIZM is not posting a link to that page, as it is promoting theft and vandalism to increase its media following.

9/15 La Crosse County's criminal justice management council meets today and is scheduled to hear a progress report on plans for a police oversight committee. Sheriff Jeff Wolf thinks there could be a vote on the committee concept as soon as next month. However, he wants to be sure that the sheriff's office and La Crosse police have a say in any changes made to local law enforcement. A few local citizens who have criticized law officers tell the county that the study process has taken too long, and they say an oversight committee should be formed as soon as possible.

