

Blanchard River Broadcasting Company  
WFIN-AM  
Findlay, OH

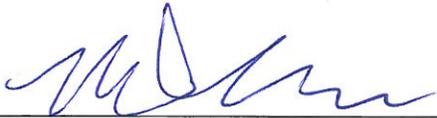
Issues/Program Report for Q1 2020

WFIN makes an ongoing effort to serve the community of Findlay and the surrounding area. As part of this effort, WFIN has identified the most significant needs, problems and interests for our coverage area. This quarterly report documents the programming provided by WFIN in response to these identified community issues. Key areas and the issues addressed during this period are verified in the attached documentation. This list is not inclusive, but does represent primary focal areas.

WFIN News Director Matt Demczyk has noted the following as significant issues during the January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020 time period:

- The coronavirus pandemic changed how everyone went about their lives
- The OHSAA Tournament was canceled as several local athletes were still competing
- Marathon Petroleum announced its new president and CEO
- Findlay City Schools hired a new superintendent
- A flood basin project moved ahead with the acquisition of more land
- A man was sentenced to prison for attacking two people with an ax

This letter with the attached documentation was placed in the WFIN Public Inspection File on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Demczyk  
WFIN News Director



\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Rice  
WFIN Brand Manager



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J. Michael Holman  
WFIN General Manager

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Breaking News**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Coronavirus  
News Broadcasts 3/9

Three Ohioans have tested positive for coronavirus and the governor has declared a state of emergency. Governor DeWine and health officials held a news conference on Monday afternoon to announce the first confirmed cases. He says all three individuals who have tested positive for coronavirus are from Cuyahoga County. The governor says the state of emergency is a legal necessity that allows state departments and agencies to better coordinate their response.  
get more on our website

**Subject:** Harley Dilly found  
News Broadcasts 1/14

Port Clinton Police Chief Rob Hickman reports that missing teen, Harley Dilly, was found dead in the chimney of a vacant home. Hickman said the investigation continues as they wait on the autopsy but they do not suspect foul play. According to Hickman, officials believe Dilly climbed on to the roof and into the chimney. Hickman asked for support of the family during this time and added, "this was not the outcome we wanted."

**Subject:** Flood Warning  
News Broadcasts 3/19

The Flood Warning for Eagle Creek in Findlay has been extended through Thursday night. Minor flooding is occurring. Flood stage is 9 feet. The creek was at 9.2 at 7am Thursday and was expected to reach 9.4 by late morning. More rain Thursday night and Friday could cause the creek to swell even more. The Blanchard River was at 8 feet at 9 am Thursday and was forecast to reach about 9.4 feet by Friday morning. Flood stage of the Blanchard River is 11 feet.

**Subject:** Findlay City Schools Coronavirus  
News Broadcasts 3/12

Findlay City Schools says students should not report to school on Friday (today) unless picking up personal items, and then for three weeks starting Monday.

The district says Friday (today) will be a staff professional development day in preparation for the state-mandated three week school closure.

And teachers will be working to be prepared in the event that they have to proceed with remote learning.

Superintendent Ed Kurt says says the district will continue to work with Hancock Public Health and take the appropriate steps necessary to protect students, staff, and school community.

**Subject:** OHSAA Tournament canceled  
News Broadcasts 3/26

The Ohio High School Athletic Association has announced that the winter sports tournaments of wrestling, basketball and hockey, which were postponed indefinitely on March 12th, are now cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

It is anticipated that schools will not be able to reopen for many weeks, which prevents interscholastic athletics from taking place.

OHSAA Executive Director Jerry Snodgrass says they are devastated that the tournaments cannot be finished, but he says safety is their top priority.

Three Findlay Trojans were competing for a state title in wrestling .

And the Ottawa Glandorf Boys Basketball team was set to play in the regional final before the tournaments were postponed, and then ultimately canceled.

**Subject:** University of Findlay Coronavirus  
News Broadcasts 3/11

The University of Findlay is canceling all in-person classes as a precaution to the coronavirus.

The university says it will follow Governor DeWine's recommendation that universities transition to remote, online classes and limit large gatherings.

The change goes into effect on Monday. Beginning then traditional classroom courses will be delivered remotely. This will continue until at least April 14th.

Also, effective Monday, the university is canceling all events, at least until April 14th.

The university says, although there are no campus-associated cases of coronavirus, they are being proactive in their effort to prevent illness and promote a healthy campus environment.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Business**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject: Argyle Building**  
News Broadcasts 2/6

The City of Findlay says a developer has eyes on putting up an apartment building where the Argyle building once stood in the 500 block of South Main Street. Mayor Christina Muryn supports the project, pointing out that the developer said the public parking spaces would be maintained, and in addition, would also be covered.  
Get more on our website.

**Subject: Cooper Tire Temporary Shutdown**  
News Broadcasts 3/21

Cooper Tire is temporarily shutting down its tire manufacturing facilities in the United States and Mexico. The company says the move is being made to protect the health and safety of employees and to respond to market demand that has been impacted by coronavirus.  
The process of phasing down production will proceed on a rolling schedule over the coming week, with facilities expected to be closed for two to three weeks

**Subject: Marathon New CEO**  
News Broadcasts 3/18

Marathon Petroleum has a new CEO.  
The company has announced that Michael J. Hennigan has been appointed president and chief executive officer, effective immediately. Hennigan became president and chief executive officer of Marathon subsidiary MPLX in 2017. Hennigan takes over CEO duties from Gary Heminger, who is retiring in April after 45 years with the company.

**Subject: Red Hawk Run Golf Course**  
News Broadcasts 3/26

A local group of investors is working to save Red Hawk Run Golf Course. The golf course, on U.S. 224 east of Findlay, was sold to the Red Hawk Run Community Association and another buyer last fall. Now they need to raise 700 thousand dollars in the form of memberships and shares of stock to have the course open this spring. Gene Fernandez says they only have until Tuesday to raise the money, because after that the grass will really start growing and the course will get away from them. Get more details on our website.

**Subject: Restaurant Week**  
News Broadcasts 3/1

This is Findlay Area Restaurant Week. Participating restaurants will be offering three course meals at a set price throughout the week. The price points range from 10 to 40 dollars and vary from restaurant to restaurant. People are encouraged to try out something new or your support your favorite restaurant during the week. Get more details on Restaurant Week on our website.

**Subject: Art Van Furniture**  
News Broadcasts 3/5

Art Van Furniture has announced that it's closing all of its corporate stores. However, the franchise location in Findlay will remain open, in fact, owner Tony Rettig says they're rebranding the store back to the Rettig name. He says anyone with furniture on order from Art Van Findlay will have their orders delivered and serviced by Rettig Furniture & Mattress.

**Subject: Mitec Leaving**  
News Broadcasts 1/16

Mitec Powertrain, Inc. announced that they will be ceasing all operations in Findlay by the end of this year. Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development director Tim Mayle said that they plan to help the employees losing their jobs. Mayle said they are working very closely with Mitec to know when employees will be laid off so economic development can help them get somewhere new. He added that they are also looking at options for the facility and said he thinks they should be able to find a new manufacturer to take the space.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Education**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** All A schools  
News Broadcasts 2/18

Findlay City Schools has been recognized by the State Board of Education for achieving the "All A Award" for Whittier Primary and Jefferson Primary in 2019. Also, Wilson Vance Intermediate received an "Overall A Building Award." The State Board of Education recognizes schools and districts with the "All A Award" if they receive A's on all Ohio School Report Card measures. This is the second "All A Award" in a row for Whittier Primary.

**Subject:** Civics Team  
News Broadcasts 1/29

The Findlay High School We The People civics team claimed the state title in the We The People state competition, which has become a standing tradition. Now the team is gearing up for the national competition and Alexis, who is on the team, says it's a little daunting. The team will go up against 56 other top teams in the nation this April.

**Subject:** FCS Audit  
News Broadcasts 3/26

Findlay City Schools has been recognized by the Ohio Auditor of State for its financial record-keeping. The 'Auditor of State Award with Distinction' goes to local governments and school districts that have completed a 'clean' audit report. Auditor of State Keith Faber says the district's hard work has demonstrated their commitment to transparency

**Subject: FCS Closed Coronavirus**  
News Broadcasts 3/12

Findlay City Schools says students should not report to school on Friday (today) unless picking up personal items, and then for three weeks starting Monday. The district says Friday (today) will be a staff professional development day in preparation for the state-mandated three week school closure. And teachers will be working to be prepared in the event that they have to proceed with remote learning. Superintendent Ed Kurt says the district will continue to work with Hancock Public Health and take the appropriate steps necessary to protect students, staff, and school community.

**Subject: FCS Food Coronavirus**  
News Broadcasts 3/31

Findlay City Schools continues to offer grab and go lunches for students during the statewide school closure due to the coronavirus. We caught up with counselor Stefan Adams behind Glenwood Middle School who says parents and students are very appreciative. The lunches are offered Monday thru Friday from 1130 to 1230 at Glenwood Middle and Lincoln Elementary. Additionally, students can pick up meals from 4 to 6 on Tuesdays and Fridays at all elementary schools. Get more on our website.

**Subject: Schools Closed Coronavirus**  
News Broadcasts 3/12

Governor DeWine has ordered all K-12 schools in Ohio to close as a precaution to help stop the spread of the coronavirus. Schools will close on Monday and remain closed for three weeks, and then the situation will be reviewed. The governor said from what they can tell based on what has happened elsewhere, unless a child has another medical problem, the risk of death from coronavirus for a child is not very high, but kids are potential carriers.

**Subject: UF Students Competition**  
News Broadcasts 1/9

A pair of University of Findlay students was named a top ten finalist team for their performance in the 24th Annual American Society of Health-System Pharmacists National Clinical Skills Competition. The national competition was held in Las Vegas, Nevada and is designed to test problem-solving skills in several areas including pathophysiology, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics. Students Maddison Donnelly and Stephanie Busick made up UF's team. The duo went up against teams from over 140 schools from all over the country.

**Subject:** UF Tuition Collaboration  
News Broadcasts 1/30

The University of Findlay is partnering with two other universities on an initiative benefitting employees of the institutions and their families.

UF is collaborating with Tiffin University and Ashland University to make it possible for employees, spouses, and their dependent children of any of the three universities to enroll in graduate programs at the University of Findlay, Tiffin University, or Ashland University at a 25 percent discount off the cost of the program.

**Subject:** New FCS Superintendent  
News Broadcasts 3/3

The Findlay City Schools Board of Education has voted to hire current Assistant Superintendent Troy Roth to take over for Superintendent Ed Kurt next school year.

Roth says he's looking forward to taking over reins on August 1st. Roth came to Findlay from Margaretta Local Schools where he worked as a middle/high school principal for Ed Kurt.

Kurt, who has been Findlay's superintendent since 2014, is leaving to go back to Margaretta Local Schools where he was superintendent before coming to Findlay.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Flood Mitigation**

#### **Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Flood Basin Project  
News Broadcasts 1/20

Former Hancock County Commissioner Steve Oman (omen) sold 264 acres of land to the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District for the proposed Eagle Township flood basin project.

Tim Mayle serves Blanchard River Watershed Solutions and explained that they and Hancock United for a Better Blanchard both make sure this project has minimal impact on residents' homes and farmland but also stayed close to the city. He added that they will continue buying land for the project. Mayle explained that they will need around 7,000 acre-feet, which is based on area. This means the basin can be 7,000 acres and 1 foot deep, 1-acre and 7,000 feet deep, or anywhere in between. Mayle said they hope to have more details and actual designs available before May so they can see about getting the plan approved. So far the conservancy district has bought 417 acres.

**Subject: Flood Warnings**  
News Broadcasts 1/11

The National Weather Service has issued Flood Warnings for the Blanchard River and Eagle Creek in Findlay, as well as the Blanchard River in Ottawa. The Flood Warning for the Blanchard River in Findlay goes from Saturday night to Monday afternoon. Moderate flooding is anticipated, as the river is forecast to rise above flood stage (11 feet) by Saturday night and rise to around 12.5 feet by Sunday afternoon. The river will fall back below flood stage by Monday afternoon.

**Subject: Flood Warnings**  
News Broadcasts 3/29

Flood warnings have been issued for the Blanchard River and Eagle Creek in Findlay after we picked up a lot of rain the last few days. The Flood Warning for the Blanchard River goes from Sunday afternoon through Monday morning. Flood stage is 11 feet and the river is expected to rise to around 11.3 feet by Sunday night and fall below flood stage Monday morning. Minor flooding is forecast. Eagle Creek has been upgraded from minor to moderate flooding as it's expected to rise to around 10.2 feet Sunday afternoon, more than one foot above flood stage of 9 feet. There's also a Flood Warning in effect for the Blanchard River in Ottawa from Monday morning to Wednesday morning with minor flooding forecasted.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Government**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject: County Commissioner Forums**  
News Broadcasts 2/25

Ohio's primary election is about 3 weeks away. Early voting is already underway. If you want to get more familiar with some of the candidates for Hancock County commissioner, make sure to tune into WFIN tonight. We'll be holding a candidate forum involving the 3 republican candidates for commissioner. The forum begins at 5pm at the university of findlay's alumni memorial union, the same location the sheriff's candidate forum was held last week. Ohio's primary election is coming up on March 17<sup>th</sup>

**Subject:** Courthouse Offices Closing Coronavirus  
News Broadcasts 3/20

The offices of the Hancock County Auditor, treasurer and recorder are all closing to the public due to the coronavirus outbreak. The offices are encouraging people to conduct their business over the phone or online. However, if a situation can't be handled in that fashion you can schedule an in-person appointment.

**Subject:** Candidates at Luncheon  
News Broadcasts 2/4

Six GOP candidates will be presenting at the Republican First Friday Luncheon. There are three candidates eyeing the Sheriff's seat and three contesting the seat held by Commissioner Mark Gazarek. The commissioner's seat held by Brian Robertson is uncontested in the upcoming primary. The meeting includes a buffet starting at 11:30 am that requires a reservation and costs \$10. The program itself starts at 12 and has no cost to attend.

**Subject:** Findlay Mayor In Washington  
News Broadcasts 1/29

Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn was in attendance as President Trump spoke about the importance of strong city leadership at the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting on Friday, January 24th. "It was overwhelming to be there at the White House — listen to "Hail to the Chief" come on — it was a really neat experience for sure." The mayor tells WFIN that this was her first time in the White House, and she was in awe of all the history the building has seen. She says she stood in the back of the East Room as President Trump spoke and had a direct line of sight to the president and jokes that he 'may' have seen her. Mayor Muryn was also in Washington D.C. in October for a roundtable discussion on affordable housing, but this was her first time actually in the White House.

**Subject:** Findlay Mayor SOTC Address  
News Broadcasts 2/14

Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn delivered her State of the City Address at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts. Her speech looked back at the accomplishments of last year and what lies ahead for the city this year. A few of the accomplishments of 2019 she highlighted were the STRICT Center, the Move With The Mayor campaign and the benching project to mitigate flooding. The STRICT Center is the regional training center for emergency responders that'll be located near Fire Station 4 on County Road 236 and is expected to break ground this year.

**Subject:** Findlay Coronavirus News Conference  
News Broadcasts 3/13

Findlay and Hancock County officials came together at a news conference at the Findlay Municipal Building to talk about their response to the coronavirus threat.

"It's not time to panic, it's time to prepare," said Hancock Health Commissioner Karim Baroudi.

He said the public health infrastructure in Hancock County is strong and is urging everyone to get back to the basics of proper handwashing.

Social distancing is also an important factor in avoiding the virus, he said, so people should try to stay at least six feet away from others. He says they don't know much about the virus yet but they're trying to learn more every day.

**Subject:** Hospital No Visitors Coronavirus  
News Broadcasts 3/24

Visitors are no longer allowed at Blanchard Valley Hospital in Findlay or any other Blanchard valley health system facilities. There are a few exceptions which you can read about on our website.

People experiencing coronavirus symptoms of shortness of breath, cough, fever and fatigue should call the Blanchard Valley Hospital COVID-19 testing center.

Hancock County also has a coronavirus call center set up. Get those numbers on our website.

**Subject:** Mental Health First Responders  
News Broadcasts 2/20

The Hancock County Sheriff's Office is holding a Mental Health Wellness Forum for all first responders and their families. Sgt. Michael Cortez says what first responders witness on a daily basis can really add up. "What first responders deal with is called cumulative post-traumatic stress, and what that means is event after event after event over a period of time that goes undealt with."

He says first responders tend to bottle that stuff up and don't deal with it and it finally comes out in negative ways such as withdrawing from family, becoming angry, engaging in troubling behavior or worse. He says one big thing first responders need to realize is that it's okay to not be okay.

Several area mental health organizations will provide resources for those attending.

**Subject:** New Senior Home  
News Broadcasts 1/13

A Philadelphia-based real estate development company is partnering with Blanchard Valley Health System for a new senior independent living development. Toledo Business Journal reports Pennrose Management Company is investing \$9.5 million for Eastern Woods Senior.

The development will host 50 units for renters aged 55 or older.

The Journal states that the project will be on or near Birchaven Lane in Findlay.

We will have more on this project in the coming days.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Major Crime**

Stories run an average of 30 seconds.

Programming as Follows:

**Subject: Ax Attacker Sentenced**

News Broadcasts 2/11

The man who attacked his girlfriend and her daughter with an ax in Arlington last year is heading to prison. Brandon M. Pinks pleaded guilty to attempted murder, felonious assault and tampering with evidence in a Hancock County Courtroom on Tuesday. He was sentenced to a total of 20 to 25 1/2 years in prison on the charges. The Hancock County Prosecutors Office read a victim impact statement on behalf of Breanna Lemos and her daughter Arianna Teague. Both say the violent attack on April 1st left them with scars they will have to carry forever. They thanked Arlington and Findlay communities for helping them through it. Hancock County Prosecutor Phil Riegle says what the victims went through was horrifying, and this sentence takes into consideration the violent nature of the offenses. Authorities say the bloody crime scene resembled a horror movie. Pinks will also have to register with the Violent Offender Database when he gets out of prison years from now.

**Subject: Drug Raid**

News Broadcasts 1/31

Several people were arrested following the searches of two Findlay residences. The Hancock County METRICH Drug Task Force and Findlay Police Department Emergency Response Team searched a home on Hardin Street and another on Logan Avenue Friday morning. In the Hardin Street residence, officers found crack cocaine. Officers say the Logan Avenue home had methamphetamine and a large amount of fentanyl. Both homes also had prescription pills, drug paraphernalia, cash, and items indicative of drug trafficking.

**Subject: Fostoria Death Ruled Homicide**

News Broadcasts 1/31

The Fostoria Police Division says the death of a man found inside a house on Friday has been determined to be a homicide. Police say the homicide determination included findings on the scene and the autopsy of the deceased which was performed by the Lucas County Coroner's Office. Police say 66 year old Larry Cole was found inside a house on Circle Drive on Friday afternoon. An agitated woman was taken from the scene for evaluation and is currently being held at the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital in Toledo. The police chief says no charges have been filed at this time and the investigation continues.

**Subject:** Triple Murder  
News Broadcasts 2/4

Three people were killed in a shooting a Lima bar Tuesday morning. The Lima Police Department reports that they responded to a shooting at Levels Lounge around 2 am. Officers say they found 2 victims inside the bar and 1 on the sidewalk between two businesses. The police department has not released the names of the victims. Anyone with information on the shooting is asked to contact the Lima Police Department. More on our website.

## WFIN COMMUNITY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST

### **SUBJECT: Politics**

**Stories run an average of 30 seconds.**

**Programming as Follows:**

**Subject:** Commissioner Candidate Forum  
News Broadcasts 2/26

Voters had a chance to hear from three candidates running for a Hancock County Commissioner's seat during a forum on WFIN last night. Republicans William Bateson, Miranda Lobdell and Michael Recker are vying to take over the seat of Commissioner Mark Gazarek, who decided to not run for re-election. Flood mitigation efforts and county finances were just a few of the topics discussed during the forum, which was held at the University of Findlay's Alumni Memorial Union. See video of the forum on our website.

**Subject:** Sheriff Candidate Forum  
News Broadcasts 2/19

The three candidates for Hancock County Sheriff squared off in a forum on WFIN last night. The forum included current sheriff Michael Heldman and challengers Tim Saltzman and Verl Warnimont. The three answered questions ranging from how to address the opioid epidemic to over-crowding at the jail. The forum was held at the University of Findlay's Alumni Memorial Union. See video on our website. Next wednesday, WFIN will be holding another candidate forum, with the Republican primary candidates for Hancock County Commissioner. Ohio's primary election this year is on March 17th, St. Patrick's Day.

**Subject:** Findlay Mayor SOTC Address  
News Broadcasts 2/14

Findlay Mayor Christina Muryn delivered her State of the City Address at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts. Her speech looked back at the accomplishments of last year and what lies ahead for the city this year. A few of the accomplishments of 2019 she highlighted were the STRICT Center, the Move With The Mayor campaign and the benching project to mitigate flooding. The STRICT Center is the regional training center for emergency responders that'll be located near Fire Station 4 on County Road 236 and is expected to break ground this year.