

**Quarterly Issues Report
WLFI-TV
Third Quarter, 2015**

Broadcast issues contained within the report:

AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS and HEALTHCARE

CRIME

DIVERSITY

EDUCATION

TRANSPORTATION and INFRASTRUCTURE

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AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS and HEALTHCARE

Controversy erupts in White County as a proposed slaughterhouse is discussed during council meetings. Tippecanoe is one of the top 20 healthiest counties in Indiana. That's the good news. But the bad, it's fallen almost 10 spots from last year. News 18 viewers enjoy the unusually warm temperatures during the fourth quarter, but News 18's Alexis Moberger examines the negative impact the weather had on some local businesses. News 18 examines local businesses and their needs for workers with advanced skills.

10-7-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:40)

A panel of law enforcement and medical professionals won't hesitate to say heroin is a problem in our community. They shared stories and experiences tonight as part of a forum hosted by the Drug-Free Coalition of Tippecanoe County. News 18's Brittany Tyner was there and reports the number of deaths related to heroin and prescription drug abuse is up in the area.

10-7-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

GE has announced it's moving one of its plants from Wisconsin to Canada, taking with it about 350 jobs. Officials say it's because Congress let the charter expire for the US Export-Import Bank or EXIM which provides government financing for some US exports.

10-8-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :25)

If you're in the market for a job, the Indiana Veterans Home would like to see you at its job fair today. While the focus is on medical jobs nursing, organizers are encouraging anyone interested in employment to attend. There are also openings in maintenance, food service and the business office. It starts at eight this morning and goes until noon in the home's MacArthur Auditorium on N. River Road in West Lafayette.

10-12-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Despite summer flooding, crop yields aren't as bad as expected. Earlier this summer ag experts predicted a 500 million dollar crop loss. Now, their estimating only 200 million dollars in crop losses. Purdue Ag Economist Chris Hurt says northwest Indiana appears to have been hit the hardest.

10-13-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:00)

A Request for a confined animal feeding operation in White County has many people upset. News 18's Kayla Sullivan talked with the family trying to get the operation approved. They say new technology will make the confinement building seem almost non-existent.

10-15-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:55)

Hundreds of White County residents are getting their way. A proposed slaughterhouse is not coming to the outskirts of Brookston. After more than two hours of complaints from residents, the White County Board of Zoning Appeals voted down the special exception request by a vote of four to one. And as News 18's Brittany Tyner reports, that comes as a relief to neighbors.

10-16-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The controversial vote in White County regarding a confined animal feeding operation has been put off until early next year. Gary and Connie Rice are the owners of the land involved. Earlier this week, the Area Plan Commission was slated to vote on the family's request to rezone. The meeting had to be rescheduled because so many people showed up to speak out about the rezoning.

10-16-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:40)

The countdown is on to Halloween. And this year, kids with food allergies may have some safe options for trick or treating. News 18's Alexis Moberger explains how painting a pumpkin can create a safer Halloween.

10-16-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Construction is underway on a new hotel coming to West Lafayette. The Hampton Inn and Suites will be located near the intersection of State Street and Tapawingo cross from the Hilton Garden Inn. As News 18 has already reported, the five story building will add an additional 100 hotel rooms to the area. The new hotel is expected to be ready by next fall. Officials say it will bring about 30 new jobs to the area.

10-22-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

After making the announcement in Indianapolis this morning, Governor Pence made his way north to Buchanan Farm in Benton County. There, he met with members of the community. He talked to them about a broad range of topics, including the impact of agriculture on the Hoosier economy.

10-23-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Indiana is dealing with a shortage of O negative blood donations. The Indiana Blood center says the supply of O negative blood has been declining over the last two months. The Center has been unable to fill hospital orders and says donors are urgently needed. It usually houses about 52 units at a time and currently only has seven on its shelves

10-24-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Purdue's College of Agriculture has added another destination to their study abroad program. Professors will travel to Cuba this week to organize the program. This trip allows advisors to get comfortable with the environment before they send students.

10-26-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Attorney General Greg Zeoller is hosting the sixth annual Indiana Prescription Drug Abuse Symposium in Indianapolis later this week. The symposium titled 'In the Trenches, a Community Approach' looks to combat the state's rise in prescription drug abuse and heroin overdoses. The event brings professionals such as first responders, medical professionals and legal professionals together to share ideas.

10-27-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

An agribusiness announced its plan to build a 20 acre, one point three million dollar facility just outside Delphi today. The Nebraska based Wiechman Pig Company plans to open a new facility on the East side of Delphi along the Hoosier Hearland Highway by March of next year.

10-27-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A nearly 500 thousand dollar grant from the Governor's office has local students getting a cutting-edge education. Students at North and South Newton high schools are using drones and tractors to learn precision farming. Both school received drones to take photos and videos of fields.

10-27-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Tippecanoe is one of the top 20 healthiest counties in Indiana. That's the good news. But the bad, it's fallen almost 10 spots from last year. It's all according to an annual rankings compiled by the "University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute" and "Robert Wood Johnson Foundation." News 18's Alexis Moberger reports some main factors that influence the top 20 ranking.

10-28-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration 3:25)

He's one of the most familiar faces and voices in Indiana and Illinois when it comes to car dealership commercials. Tippecanoe County native, Bob Rohrman, has been a staple in the car industry for nearly 60 years. But while most people know what he does, a Lafayette author wanted to share the story of who Rohrman is. News 18 This Morning sits down with author Jeff Washburn as he shares what keeps driving Rohrman on the road to success.

10-28-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

Indiana scientists have come together to send a letter to Governor Pence regarding climate change. News 18's Cameron Hardin reports, the letter isn't just to warn the state of the problem, but also to help with solutions.

10-28-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:38)

A new upgrade could be coming to Amtrak. As News 18's Alexis Moberger tells us, the company could make the Lafayette station run close to 14 times a day.

10-30-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :30)

The Tippecanoe County Health Department is tracking a rise in the number of syphilis cases, 12 so far this year compared to less than five in each of the last four years. The county says it's working with the Indiana State Department of Health to closely monitor the trend, educate the public and healthcare providers about syphilis, and help facilitate proper testing and treatment.

10-30-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

A new way to detect early signs of heart disease became a family affair. It started when Mike and Marty Crumly received the new Coronary Calcium C-T Scan, which detects early signs of a heart attack. News 18's Brittney Verner has the story.

11-2-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

The Tippecanoe County Health Department is reporting a significant increase in the number of syphilis cases. Twelve people in Tippecanoe County have tested positive for this sexually transmitted disease. Other counties have also reported increases in diagnosis. News 18's Brittney Verner breaks down the risks associated with this disease.

11-3-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

College is expensive and student debt totals are higher than ever. This leaves many students considering which colleges will provide them with the best starting salary. According to a recent survey, Purdue graduates have the second highest starting salaries in Indiana. News 18's Alexis Moberger looks into what went into Purdue's ranking.

11-4-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

There will soon be more space for Purdue club athletes, the Purdue Student Farm, and Horticulture Park. News 18's Cameron Hardin reports, numerous aspects of Purdue will soon be receiving a nice face lift.

11-5-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :37)

While the Indiana unemployment numbers are going down, one Purdue professor says the state's economy isn't growing at a very rapid rate.

11-5-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

The Tippecanoe County 9-1-1 dispatch Center is asking the county for another dispatcher as the population and crime rate continue to rise. Their total staff of 12 dispatchers responded to more than 219,000 calls last year. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports the understaffing problem could cause harm to the community.

11-6-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :25)

October was a successful month for American workers. The US economy added 271,000 jobs last month, pushing the unemployment rate to it's lowest level since 2008. The unemployment rate fell to just five percent. Wages are up too. Average hourly earnings rose two-point-five percent, its best gain in years.

11-6-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The numbers are in for Indiana's corn crop this year. The early season flooding followed by the unusually dry months to end the summer is expected to cause a five and a half percent drop below average. The U-S Department of Agriculture says farmers will harvest around 156 bushels per acre this year, compared to last year's record of 188.

11-9-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Production of a new car in Lafayette will lead to new jobs at Subaru of Indiana Automotive. Subaru announced plans for the Lafayette plant to start producing a new three row crossover vehicle. This will be the fourth model for the Lafayette plant, replacing the retired Tribeca.

11-10-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :30)

As the economy grows in Greater Lafayette, employers say they're looking for more workers with advanced skills. This was one of the topics of discussion at this morning's Eggs-n-Issues meeting of community leaders. Local workforce Development Manager Kara Webb says companies are looking to expand in the area.

11-10-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

The controversial White County confined animal feeding operation may move locations. The Rice family originally wanted the operation to go on their own land, but neighbors feared the smell from the hog barn would negatively affect them and local tourist attractions. News 18's Kayla Sullivan spoke the family about why they decided to withdraw their original plans and what they hope to do moving forward.

11-12-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Members of the water industry were at the Beck Agricultural Center today to talk about using and regulating water in agriculture. The group met for the Indiana Water Forum. They discussed drought planning, resource planning, and creating a smart industrial water supply.

11-14-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

The family behind a White County confined animal feeding operation or CAFO, recently withdrew their petition after complaints about the proposed location. The Rice family originally wanted to house 4,000 hogs on their farm on County Road 300 East in Monon. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports how some residents are still continuing to protect the lake should another proposal arise.

11-19-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :25)

Today is also the last Drug Take-Back event of the year. Lafayette police will be accepting all unwanted and unused medications like pills, tablets or syrups.

11-20-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:50)

One of the area's largest employers is out with a new product line and it's fueled, in part, by the growth of online shopping. Executives at Wabash National call it a shift in the trucking industry. News 18's Dustin Grove went there for a look at what's now rolling off the assembly line and onto the streets.

11-20-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

More changes are coming to Lafayette's downtown landscape. This morning Old National Bank broke ground on its new campus and multi-use development project at 101 Main Street. News 18's Brittney Verner reports what changes we should expect to see with this new project and how long until it is completed.

11-24-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The Tippecanoe County Assessor is holding an open forum to let people know about new tax exemption eligibility. Monday night the public is welcome to come and find out if they qualify for new tax exemptions under new House bill 13-88 and Senate bill 4-36. State Representative Randy Truitt and Tippecanoe County Assessor Eric Grossman will be discussing the new legislation.

11-25-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

You could be walking out of the grocery store with more money in your wallet compared to last winter season. As News 18's Cameron Hardin reports, a drop in food inflation could help your dollar go further.

11-27-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:25)

Retailers may break records this holiday season. With lower gas prices and fewer people out of work, retail experts predict a large increase of holiday shoppers and of holiday purchases. News 18's Brittney Verner reports big and small retailers may both profit and also has a look at this year's trendy gifts.

11-28-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

Between Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes Small Business Saturday. It's a day designed to spread the word about independent retailers and "mom and pop" shops. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports how the day serves as a reminder to shop locally.

11-29-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

Keeping traditions alive is the name of the game for the Matterns, opening a Christmas tree farm on a whim forty years ago and now operating one of the area's most popular Christmas attractions. News 18 photojournalist Ryan Delaney got to see first-hand what goes into keeping those seasonal traditions alive.

12-1-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A new website through Purdue is now available to help farm operators manage risks. The website is available through the university's Center for Commercial Agriculture and the Indiana Soybean Alliance. It helps farmers understand and manage risks.

12-6-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

The USDA says it's stockpiling millions of bird flu vaccines. That comes after a year that's seen the nation's biggest outbreak. But one expert is raising concerns. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports how the strain of the next outbreak is unknown.

12-11-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Purdue University has set aside two million dollars to help agriculture researchers launch start-up companies. The "Ag-celerator" fund is designated for Purdue researchers trying to commercialize crop-boosting innovations.

12-11-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:20)

If you are one of the millions living with type two diabetes, experts say it can be reversed and it all starts with your diet. News 18's Brittney Verner tells us what foods you can and should eat to help reverse this disease.

12-13-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:40)

Many of us are enjoying the unseasonably warm weather, but businesses who rely on the snow and ice say they're ready for things to change. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports how businesses are coping with the warm temperatures.

12-15-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A newly finished multi-million dollar road project may help bring jobs to Carroll County. The Camden-Flora Connector now joins State Road 75 to the Hoosier Heartland Corridor.

12-17-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:00)

The proposed deal to retrofit Logansport's power plant is dead. In six weeks, because of new federal EPA rules, the coal-fired plant must shut down. In two weeks, a new mayor will take office, needing to find a long-term solution to provide power to citizens for decades to come. As for who to blame, or credit, there's plenty of finger pointing. But one of the three major parties refuses to talk. Dan Klein reports.

12-18-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Indiana's November unemployment rate held steady at the state's lowest jobless rate in more than 14 years.

12-18-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:05)

Lafayette city and business leaders hope a site for a new industrial park draws new businesses and new jobs to the area. As announced yesterday, the site has been certified gold by the state. News 18' Brittney Verner reports leaders hope shovels are soon seen at this shovel- ready site.

12-18-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:00)

Logansport city leaders have officially pulled the plug on a deal to retrofit its power plant. The council voted this evening to revoke the mayor's authority to negotiate with developer SG Preston. As we reported yesterday, there's plenty of finger- pointing from various sides for what caused the deal to die. That continued today. What's also unclear: What's the best path for the city to take going forward? Dan Klein reports.

CRIME

A loud explosion in Lafayette leads police to a meth lab. Four Indianapolis residents are charged with robbing a West Lafayette CVS that ended in a high speed chase. With numerous break-ins in the viewing area, police remind viewers the steps they can take to keep themselves and their property safe. A Lafayette man receives 45 years in prison for shooting another man. Lafayette police investigate a written threat that put Central Catholic on lockdown. News 18's Kayla Sullivan looks back on some of the most notable crimes of 2015.

10-7-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :25)

A Lebanon man is recovering this morning after police say his ex-girlfriend stabbed him. Officers were called to Kise Estates Apartments on Lafayette Avenue Tuesday afternoon where they found 21-year old James Mossburg suffering from stab wounds. Medics took him to an Indianapolis hospital where he was last listed in serious condition. Police arrested 24-year old Autumn Copeland on preliminary charges of battery with a deadly weapon.

10-9-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

One man is taken to the hospital after a stabbing in the 2,400 block of Greenbush Street. Police say he was stabbed in the chest around 4:30 this morning. At this time, we don't know the extent of injuries. But police don't believe this was a random incident. They say multiple people were involved in a fight before the stabbing.

10-9-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

A Lafayette man has been sentenced to 45 years in the department of corrections for shooting a man earlier this year. 25- year- old Sidney Greenleaf was sentenced this morning in Tippecanoe County. He pleaded guilty in August to attempted murder and unlawful use of a firearm. Greenleaf is accused of shooting a man on February 2 at the Marathon Quick Pantry at the intersection of 9th and Ferry Streets.

10-12-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :45)

Lafayette police are still searching for the people who hurt a liquor store employee on the city's south side. It happened Saturday night just after 11 at the Bar Barry Liquor store on South 9th Street.

10-12-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

A woman is dead and a driver on the run after a crash in White County. According to the White County Sheriff's office just before 8 o'clock last night, a truck and car driven by 48- year- old Deborah Barkas of Monticello collided at State Road 16 and County Road 800 North. Barkas was pronounced dead at the hospital and a child in her car was flown by helicopter to Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

10-14-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

One man is behind bars after police say he forced his way into a home, choked a woman inside and threatened her with a handgun. Police were called to the 1,400 block of Alabama Street to a report of home invasion.

10-14-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

A second man is charged with obstructing a Lafayette murder investigation. 32- year- old Charles Whitlock faces multiple criminal charges, including obstruction of justice and meth possession. Prosecutors say Whitlock threw a bag with drugs out of the window of a home at 9th and Salem where Wesley Ehrie was found shot in April. Whitlock told investigators the bag belonged to Ehrie and he wanted it out of the apartment.

10-15-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Four Indianapolis residents are charged with robbing a West Lafayette CVS last month, which ended in a high speed chase. They now each face at least 10 felony charges in Tippecanoe County court. According to court documents, Jared Cunningham walked into the pharmacy and got away with an undisclosed amount of narcotics. Carlvion Gates, Meggan Parker and Ashley West were in a car that was chased on I-65 toward Indy before it was finally stopped near Lebanon.

10-16-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Lafayette police were called to a reported stabbing at a south side apartment complex. Just after four this afternoon police were called to a report of a stabbing at an apartment in the 500 block of Westchester Lane at Claystone at the Crossing. When police arrived, they found a 25-year-old woman with a stab wound just below her eye. Authorities say it happened after the victim got into a fight with a 17-year-old girl. During the fight, Police say the 17-year old took a sharp object and slashed the victim's face.

10-19-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:30)

A gang investigation involving local and federal law enforcement in states all over the country has hit locally. The Felony Lane Gang is being investigated in Tippecanoe County. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports how law enforcement is planning to stop the gang.

10-22-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Lafayette police need the public's help finding a man wanted on a warrant. 23-year-old Jermond Williams Junior is the subject of this week's Fugitive Search. He is 5' 11", weighs 160 pounds with black hair and brown eyes. Detectives say in May of 2013 he pleaded guilty to intimidation while drawing or using a deadly weapon. He was sentenced to two years in the Department of Corrections and four years of probation.

10-22-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

A Lafayette woman is sentenced to 2 years in prison after she stabbed her father-in-law in the back. 24-year-old Shaniqua Pratchett pleaded guilty last month to one charge of battery with a deadly weapon.

10-24-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

An explosion rocked a Lafayette neighborhood last night. Emergency crews were called to the 600 block of New York Street just before midnight Friday. Lafayette Police say the explosion was violent enough to blow out several windows in the home. At this time police are unsure what caused the explosion and did not locate any fire in the building. Officers also say they possibly found a one-pot meth lab in a trash can on the side of the building.

10-26-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

The hit and run crash that killed one White County woman has now resulted in the death of the child involved. Police are still looking for the person who was driving the truck that hit them. The crash happened about two weeks ago on County Road 800 North and State Road 16. 48-year-old Deborah Barkas was pronounced dead at the hospital shortly after the crash.

10-27-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :35)

The child involved in a hit and run crash that killed one White County woman earlier this month has died. The crash happened about two weeks ago on County Road 800 North and State Road 16. 48-year-old Deborah Barkas was pronounced dead at the hospital shortly after the crash. The child, whose name has not been released, was airlifted to Riley Hospital for Children where she recently died.

10-28-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

Both a sergeant and an officer from the Frankfort Police Department are under investigation by the Indiana State Police. Frankfort Officer Allan Brown resigned on Monday after being under investigation for his actions during an off duty accident. He was using his personal vehicle at the time. As News 18 reported last week, Sergeant Kevin O'Brien is under investigation for battery on a woman. Chief Troy Bacon says he's disappointed but cannot make any other comments about the investigations until charges are filed. The Clinton County Prosecutor says it's customary to send the investigation to a special prosecutor outside the county in order to stay unbiased.

10-29-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :25)

Lafayette police are searching for suspects after an armed robbery at a gas station overnight. It happened at the Circle K in the 4,200 block of South Street. Police say a man wearing dark clothing walked in just before 3 this morning and showed a weapon to the clerk. He got away with cash and took off. No one was hurt. The Purdue police department assisted with their K-9 unit.

10-29-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Lafayette Police need your help finding a man wanted on two warrants. Dakota Lee Fields is the subject of this week's fugitive search. The first warrant he's wanted on is for charges of Burglary, Theft, and Petition to Revoke Probation. The second warrant is for charges of Possession of Paraphernalia and Resisting Law Enforcement.

10-30-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:10)

Lafayette police are investigating a written threat that put Central Catholic on lockdown this afternoon. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports.

11-1-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

An Anderson man is facing felony charges after police say he paid someone to kill people scheduled to testify against him in court. 44-year-old David Wilkinson was arrested Saturday and preliminarily charged with two felony counts of conspiracy-to-murder. In May, Wilkinson was arrested by Peru Police for child molest and incest. Police say Wilkinson's plan was to murder his alleged victim and her mother to prevent them from testifying.

11-9-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:07)

Lafayette police are getting closer to selecting a vendor to provide the department with body cameras. Officials hope to make a decision by the end of the year. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports that it's just one of the new tools that LPD hopes will modernize the department as well as help them reduce crime.

11-12-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:05)

Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Deputies are searching for a man after he led them on two separate pursuits. Sheriff Barry Richard says they are looking for 23-year-old Dustin Borders. He was last seen driving a 2005 gray two-door Honda Civic on U-S 52 just north of State Road 28. There are no legal plates on the vehicle.

11-13-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:10)

A man is still on the run after leading Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Deputies on two high speed pursuits yesterday. That's after he told deputies he was going to surrender. News 18's Samantha Thieke spoke with Sheriff Barry Richard to find out why deputies called off both pursuits.

11-17-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

In the last week, police say there's been an increase in robberies, both in Lafayette and West Lafayette. Police say this type of crime increases as the holidays approach. News 18's Alexis Moberger has some tips from local police to help keep you safe.

11-18-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

Purdue Police are searching for a missing sculpture in the shape of a giant pencil. Investigators say the sculpture went missing from Pickett Park on the northwest edge of campus.

11-18-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Tippecanoe County sheriff's deputies are investigating after a man was hit in the face with a gun in his apartment.

11-19-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A federal lawsuit involving a Chicago man shot by a West Lafayette Police Officer has been settled. The settlement comes about two months before the jury trial. In 2009, Brandon "Bookie" Winters was shot in the neck by Officer David Smith outside Wabash Landing. Winters has dropped a filed a suit in 2011 claiming Smith used excessive force.

11-19-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Lafayette police need the public's help finding a man wanted on multiple warrants. 21-year-old Tyren Barnes is the subject of this week's Fugitive Search.

11-20-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :25)

Police in West Lafayette are investigating a reported armed robbery in the 300 block of Vine Street. Around 10:15 last night, a man told officers he was walking in an alley next to the Village Bottle Shoppe when someone with a silver handgun robbed him and then took off.

11-21-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Police are investigating an armed robbery that took place on Purdue's campus last night. It happened just after 11p.m. at the Dairy Queen in the 1,400 block of State Street. Purdue police say a man entered the restaurant just before closing time wearing all black winter attire and a ski mask over his face. The man lifted his jacket to show the employees a silver handgun in his waistband.

11-23-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

22- year- old Jaaz Jones is sentenced for helping rob a pregnant woman's apartment in Lafayette last year. Jones has been sentenced to 22 years in the department of corrections and eight years suspended, after being found guilty on five felony counts in late August. As News 18 has reported, the woman was taken to the hospital for minor injuries because she said she was beaten by Jones and two other men.

11-24-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :20)

West Lafayette police are investigating an early morning robbery near Purdue's campus. Police say it happened just before 5:30 at the intersection of Wood and Pierce Streets. Police say they're looking for two men wearing all black. No weapons were displayed.

11-24-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:30)

West Lafayette police are using a new social media tool that may help prevent crime. It's something Lafayette Police have had for a couple of years. And even though West Lafayette is new to the game. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports, they say it's already been successful.

11-24-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

West Lafayette police are stepping up patrols after a series of robberies over the last week. The latest happened this morning near Purdue's campus. Police say it happened just before 5:30 at the intersection of Wood and Pierce Streets.

11-25-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

The West Lafayette Police Department is offering a program to help you "refuse to be a victim." And with the recent increase in crimes, the prevention program comes just in time. The program is set for December 12 at the police department. It will teach safety essentials and how to avoid dangerous situations at home, in public or at school or work. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports.

11-25-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Police remind everyone to take steps to keep themselves safe. It's a reminder that's comes in light of several robberies in West Lafayette and the murder of an Indianapolis pastor's wife during a home invasion earlier this month. One way that you can do so is through a surveillance camera. While it may not deter all criminals, it can help investigators catch them

11-26-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :55)

A man who led authorities through two pursuits through Tippecanoe County has been arrested. Tips led deputies to a house in West Lafayette where they found 23-year old Dustin Borders hiding in a crawl space last night.

11-26-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Lafayette police need the public's help finding a man wanted for several charges, including 'unlawful possession of a firearm by a serious violent felon.' 30- year- old Randy Farrell is the subject of this week's Fugitive Search.

11-26-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration)

Three Peru residents, Steffen Dines, Christina Bowen and Denise Roberts are arrested after authorities say the trio beat up a man in a drug deal. The three were found at the Merry Manor Motel in Logansport.

12-2-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

A hate crime bill is expected to come up during the next Indiana legislative session. News 18's Alexis Moberger joins us and reports how it's been an ongoing effort.

12-2-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :29)

The woman accused of robbing Kathy's Kandies at knife point has pleaded guilty to the crime. On Monday, 43 year old Amber Crank admitted to holding up the store in May while under the influence. Back in May, News 18 talked with store owner Kathy Logsdon who said Crank held up a knife and demanded all of the money in the register. She got away with some money and was caught shortly after. Crank faces a sentence of three to sixteen years and a 10 thousand dollar fine. Her sentencing is scheduled for later this month.

12-3-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

Body cameras will soon be a part of the Frankfort Police uniforms. But it's been a long process for the department. News 18's Samantha Thieke joins us with more on the latest efforts to get the cameras.

12-8-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Three men have been arrested in connection to a burglary at a Fowler home. Sheriff Don Munson arrested two of the three suspects, 26 year old Sebastian Smith and 23 year old Darren Gray, both of Lafayette, following a traffic stop on U.S. 41 and State Road 18 a short time after the burglary Monday afternoon.

12-16-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Formal charges have been filed in a West Lafayette armed robbery case. Cory Heathcote and Andrea Smith face charges including armed robbery, criminal confinement, and theft. According to court documents, the victim identified the two in a photo lineup. He told investigators he only knew the pair by their first names, but they had stayed in his apartment at least one night.

12-16-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

It happened about 9:30 last night in the 27-hundred block of Klondike Road. Police say a man walked into the store wearing a ski mask, grey coat, light colored pants and a sweatshirt, pulled out a handgun, and demanded cash. Nobody was hurt. Anyone with information on the case is asked to call the Sheriff's Office or the We Tip hotline at 800-78-CRIME.

12-18-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :25)

The Benton County Sheriff's Office is forming a new neighborhood crime watch. After recent burglaries in the county deputies are promoting the 'See Something, Say Something Program'. It encourages people in the community to look out for one another and to speak up if they see any suspicious activity. Benton County Sheriff Don Munson says people are often afraid to report a situation if it doesn't directly affect them.

12-18-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :35)

Deputies were called to a home in the 2,500 block of Derbyshire Court early this morning for a report of intimidation with a deadly weapon. A little after 2:30 am, Tippecanoe County Sheriff's deputies said a male caller said another male pointed a firearm at him. The man with the gun had fled on foot and was not located by deputies.

12-19-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

West Lafayette Police are searching for a person wanted for an attempted armed robbery. It happened around 10 o'clock last night in the 200 block of West Fowler Avenue. Police say a delivery driver was approached by a man after completing a delivery in the area. The victim says the man then displayed a handgun and demanded money. The delivery driver did not have any money on him so nothing was taken.

12-20-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

Lafayette Police are investigating a shooting at a home on Schuyler Avenue this evening. It happened just before 6 pm in the 19 hundred block of Schuyler Avenue. Lafayette Police Sergeant Chad Robinson told News 18, officers are unsure what led to the shooting. But says they do not believe it is a random crime. Detectives investigated the scene and detained multiple people including one possible suspect.

12-21-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Lafayette police are called to a robbery at a Village Pantry on the city's south side.

12-21-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Lafayette police are investigating a possible home invasion. They say the victim suffered a serious head wound. Upon arrival, officers detained several people in the home and found a victim in the basement. He was transported to Saint Elizabeth East for treatment. Officers are now looking for

12-27-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:15)

Lafayette police are still searching for two men wanted in connection with an armed robbery that left one man hospitalized this evening News 18's Alexis Moberger has more from the scene and reports the latest details from police.

12-28-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration 2:45)

Tippecanoe County Prosecutor Patrick Harrington says 2015 was the most challenging for his staff due to the unusually high number of criminal cases. He says the county has filed over 7 thousand hundred criminal cases so far this year. News 18's Kayla Sullivan looks back on some of the most notable crimes of 2015 and what Harrington says is causing the increased crime.

12-28-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

A man is offering \$5,000 to anyone that has information on a recent burglary. The burglary happened in a Lafayette strip mall over Christmas. Police are investigating but one store owner is determined to offer a lot of cash to help speed up the process. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports, why this isn't the only burglary under investigation.

12-29-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :49)

Three people are under arrest on drug-related charges. And it all started after a false report, that a man was forced into a vehicle. Early Christmas Eve morning, police were trying to locate the vehicle.

12-30-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :40)

Six people are waking up behind bars after police find a mobile meth lab during a traffic stop. Around nine o'clock last night, Brookston police pulled over a car on State Road 43 driven by 34 year old Lewis Plybon the Second of Lafayette. After searching the vehicle, police say they found an active meth lab and arrested Plybon and five other passengers. All six are facing charges for an illegal drug lab. State Police, Monticello and Monon police, the White County Sheriff's Office and the Brookston Fire Department were all involved in the stop.

DIVERSITY

The Salvation Army launches its Red Kettle Campaign with a goal of \$170,000. The fourth quarter sees Indiana dealing with a shortage of O negative blood donations. WLFI kicks off its annual Coats for Kids campaign. Nearly \$138,000 is awarded to 16 charitable organizations. 900 guests visit the 29th Annual LUM Thanksgiving Dinner to enjoy 75 turkeys and six different kinds of pie. Local homeless shelters reach capacity; the YWCA tells News 18 that they cannot accept anyone new, saying it's the fullest they've seen. The YWCA and Ivy Tech are joining together to help raise awareness for domestic violence.

10-1-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

The YWCA and Ivy Tech are joining together to help raise awareness for domestic violence. October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Dozens were at Ivy Tech this afternoon to talk about the effects of abuse and how to spot it.

10-2-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

When veterans come home from war, some enter a new battle, homelessness. That's why Purdue's Military Family Research Institute hosts its annual 'Stand Down' event to help relieve homeless veterans in the Greater Lafayette area. In preparation for the event, Lafayette's Daughters of the American Revolution are collecting all types of clothing, new or gently used. You can drop off your donations now until November 5 at either Blessed Sacrament Church or the West Lafayette Public Library. Event volunteers serve meals, distribute clothing and provide companionship to homeless veterans.

10-11-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

For many, Zumba dancing is a fun way to stay fit, but tonight it was also a fun way to help support the YWCA. For the fifth year in a row, downtown Lafayette's Studio B has held a Zumba Pink Party. This annual event helps raise money for the YWCA's women's cancer center. Dancers were encouraged to don their brightest pink clothing and to Zumba their hearts out at the St. James gymnasium. Donations were taken to partake in the pink party Zumba class and all donations went to the YWCA.

10-13-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

A group of students from IVY Tech is hosting its annual community service project, Water Steps. The students are asking members of the community to join them in donating old shoes to help save lives. Last year they received more than one thousand used shoe donations. Those donations will be sold to help promote clean water projects in countries where clean water is scarce.

10-14-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:40)

Nearly \$138,000 is being awarded to 16 charitable organizations. The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette recognized the non-profits at a ceremony this afternoon. Almost Home Humane Society, Food finders and Lafayette Symphony were among the recipients. Right Steps Child Development Centers was given \$18,000 to purchase books for their library program.

10-14-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Some area residents chowed down on cheese sticks all for a good cause. Mad Mushroom organized the second round of a cheese stick eating contest tonight. The top 4 advanced to the next round. It's to help Food Finders Food Bank. Each contestant had to bring five pounds of donations. The goal is to raise 1,500 pounds of food, 250 pounds more than last year's total.

10-15-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Runners get ready for the shortest race you'll ever run point one kilometers. The YWCA is holding its third annual Point-one-K race on Sunday in West Lafayette. The route goes from Rubia Flower Market on Brown Street and finishes literally across the street at Nine Irish Brothers Tavern.

10-16-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Renovations are on schedule to the historic Oppenheimer house. The home will become the new YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter. Each year the YWCA brings in more than 500 women and children who are victims of Domestic Violence in need of shelter.

10-17-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

It's always the season to give back to those in need. Today, students at Ivy-Tech Community College proved it by hosting their annual community service drive, Water Step. News 18's Brittney Verner has the story.

10-17-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Today's brisk weather didn't stop people from participating in Lafayette's Annual Heart Walk. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports why many people in the community hold the fundraiser close to their hearts.

10-19-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

More than 100 people ran a few feet for a big cause Sunday. The YWCA's Point-One-K race benefits the YWCA of Greater Lafayette Women's Cancer Program. It began at the Rubia Flower Market and ended about 140 steps later in the parking lot of Nine-Irish Brothers.

10-19-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

Collection for the Coats for Kids campaign begins today. Last year, WLFI and the Salvation Army teamed up to help deliver more than 1,400 coats to children in need. This year, coats can be dropped off at any of these sponsor's locations: Pay Less Supermarket, Regions Bank, Executive Dry Cleaners, Sparkleton Dry Cleaners, Wabash or Alcoa.

10-22-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

This Saturday is your chance to Stuff the Bus and help out Food Finders Food Bank. For the third year in a row, CityBus is hosting the Stuff the Bus food drive as a part of Food Finders' Drive Away Hunger Fall Food Drive campaign. The goal is to fill the bus with non-perishable food items.

10-23-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Indiana is dealing with a shortage of O negative blood donations. The Indiana Blood center says the supply of O negative blood has been declining over the last two months. The Center has been unable to fill hospital orders and says donors are urgently needed. It usually houses about 52 units at a time and currently only has seven on its shelves.

10-24-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Two buses were stuffed full of food to help feed those in need this winter. Food Finders Food Bank's partnered with City Bus to Drive Away Hunger during the Stuff the Bus event today. Community members donated non-perishable food items at the two local drop-off locations. The event kicked off Food Finders annual Drive Away Hunger Fall Food Drive. The goal is to raise 150,000 meals during the six week food drive.

10-30-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

There is still time to donate winter apparel to the Coats for Kids campaign. Today is the last day to drop off donations at participating businesses. The drive is hoping to collect about 1,500 coats this year. In addition to coats, the Salvation Army is also collecting hats, scarfs and gloves.

11-4-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

After multiple offers, Timothy Lucas and his dog Moe have found a place to live together this winter. As News 18 reported last week, Lucas recently became homeless and was looking for someone to take his dog just for the winter. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports the response Lucas received was more than he ever imagined.

11-7-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Hundreds of people gathered today to experience a taste of the Indian culture while raising money for local charities. The sixth annual Celebration of India was held at the Faith West Community Center this afternoon. This event raises money for the YWCA and the International Research Center for Women. Organizers say in the last two years they raised about \$20,000 from fundraising.

11-8-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

The City of Monticello and local community members gathered to dedicate the Liz's Lift and Memorial Butterfly Garden in Altherr Nature Park. The lift and garden was dedicated in honor of former City Clerk, Treasurer and Rotary Club President Elizabeth "Liz" Oilar. Oilar was still serving in all three positions when she died after a short battle with a brain tumor in October of 2014.

11-12-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

The Kokomo Police Department is stepping in to help find a temporary place for homeless people to stay on these cold winter nights. The Kokomo Rescue Mission has been so full this week that men have been sleeping on the floor and the mission has had to turn people away. When the police department found out, they opened their garage, so no one was left to sleep in the elements.

11-14-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A group of local cyclists took to the streets of Lafayette to help combat hunger. Bicycle Lafayette hosted their annual Cranksgiving event to benefit Food Finders Food Bank. The event began at the Payless on Greenbush Street. More than a dozen participants loaded up their bikes with non-perishable food. From there, the bicyclists took off on a nearly five mile ride to the local food bank on Olympia Court.

11-14-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The Lafayette area NAACP held their annual Freedom Fund banquet. Members from Lafayette area government and Police forces were having discussions with group members discussing initiatives they have been working on for the past years as well as initiatives they plan on starting in the years to come.

11-16-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration 2:40)

New this morning, we're taking a look at an issue many people normally think as a big-city problem. Really, though, it's happening everywhere. Last year, social service agencies here in Greater Lafayette saw more than one thousand people: men, women, and children who didn't have a place to call home. And many of these people are not who you might think of when you hear the word 'homeless.' We're taking a look at the problem, how advocates say it could very well happen to anyone and one woman's mission to help. News 18's Dustin Grove has the story.

11-18-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:07)

A large donation will allow the Lyn Treece Boys and Girls Club in Lafayette to expand. News 18s Cameron Hardin reports, the future plans for the facility aim to draw more kids in.

11-19-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :25)

A new sculpture celebrating Indiana's Bicentennial will soon go up in downtown Lafayette. A ceremony was held this morning to kick off a fundraising campaign for the Bicentennial Gateway Sculpture. The cost of the project is about \$200,000. After a \$50,000 grant from the state and donations from local businesses and individuals the campaign still needs \$90,000.

11-19-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Almost two dozen of area charities are breathing a sigh of relief tonight as United Way announces it has made its five million dollar goal. The goal was reached with just \$1,126 to spare. Because of when the holidays fall this year, there was a little bit of an extra challenge. The campaign had to average \$70,000 in donations over a 72 day window to meet its goal.

11-20-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :30)

One of the long-standing traditions of the holiday season starts today. The Salvation Army will kick off its Red Kettle campaign at the Tippecanoe Mall at noon. This year, in addition to the bell ringers, there will be an "angel tree." The tree will have tags representing a local child in need that shoppers can make a donation to.

11-20-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

A Lafayette woman hopes by walking for the next 45 hours, she can draw attention to the area's homelessness problem. Criselda Marquez started her journey this evening joined by Mayor Tony Roswarski and State Representative Sheila Klinker. We first brought you Marquez's story earlier this week. She left her job at Purdue almost a decade ago to pursue a relationship in California. But when she came back in 2009, the economy tanked and even with having a master's degree she became homeless for almost a year. She hopes her walk around Lafayette and West Lafayette through Sunday afternoon raises more awareness of the problem.

11-21-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

Residents gathered to help combat hunger today. It was part of the Hanna Community Center's Annual Community Thanksgiving dinner. Dishes served included turkey, green beans and of course pie.

11-23-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Before the shopping season begins, a local non-profit organization is ready to serve turkey and stuffing to more than one-thousand people. Lafayette Urban Ministry is inviting everyone to its 29th annual Community Celebration. More than one-hundred volunteers dish out more than one-hundred turkeys to the public on Thanksgiving Day.

11-26-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration 2:20)

If you haven't started your holiday shopping, Purdue University is offering a way to find gifts for children. But there's a twist, all the toys on this list are designed to bring out their inner engineer. News 18's Samantha Thieke reports on what toys made this year's Purdue's Engineering Gift Guide.

11-26-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :20)

More than 1,000 people showed up for the fourth annual Race against Hunger 5K this morning. Fleet Feet Sports puts on the race every year. Participants donate food or money to benefit Food Finders Food Bank. Their goal this year was to create 15,000 meals.

11-26-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :30)

While some people got up early to start preparing their Thanksgiving feasts, others strapped on their running shoes to work up an appetite. More than 400 runners turned-up at the Turkey Trot five-K at McAllister Park in Lafayette. Tri-N-Run shoe store puts on the annual event to benefit Lafayette Urban Ministry.

11-26-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

All were welcome at the 29th Annual LUM Thanksgiving Dinner today to enjoy 75 turkeys and six different kinds of pie. About 900 guests were served free dinner, dessert, good company and even some live entertainment. The tables were decorated with placemats made by LUM's after school care kids.

11-27-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :45)

Purdue and IU will face off on the football field tomorrow for the Old Oaken Bucket game. And Food Finders Food Bank is giving social media-savvy Boiler football fans another way to beat Indiana on Saturday. Allonco Foods along with Rose Acre Farms are hosting a Twitter competition between Boilermaker and Hoosier fans during the Old Oaken Bucket game. It's called "Hatch the Holidays" and it pits Food Finders in Lafayette against Hoosier Hills Food Bank in Bloomington.

11-27-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

We are now learning more about the new Purdue committee created as a result of demands made by student protesters. As News 18 reported earlier this week, it's called the 'Campus Safety Relations Committee.' Purdue Police Chief John Cox is the co-chair for the committee. He says it will be made up of various groups including students, faculty and West Lafayette police.

12-1-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration 1:40)

As it gets colder outside, the number of homeless people needing shelter increases. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports what Lafayette Urban Ministry is doing for those who can't find shelter but still need a warm place to stay at night. The LUM warming station will stay open every night until April 15th.

12-1-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :20)

And we all know about Black Friday and Cyber Monday. But did you know today was "Giving Tuesday?" It's a national movement dedicated to charitable donations. Lafayette Transitional Housing has a goal to reach \$5,000 to help provide services to homeless people or those at risk of becoming homeless.

12-5-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

You could hear the jingling all the way of runners through the streets of Lafayette this morning. Runners participated in the YMCA's Annual Sleigh Bell 5K. It's the 33rd year for the event which raises money for the Y'S financial assistance program. Race director, Stacy Lods says today's race raised almost 4 thousand dollars.

12-7-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :28)

Buying presents for your kids is not an easy thing to do. Studies show parents don't usually purchase STEM toys for girls like they do for boys. Experts say STEM toys can help strengthen critical thinking skills and they are equally important to buy for all children. Engineering Professor Monica Cardella says studies show adults purchase toys connected to physics, building or construction for boys two thirds of the time and for girls only a third of the time.

12-9-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :24)

The Salvation Army continues to work towards its Red Kettle Campaign goal of \$170,000. There are a little more than two weeks left for the campaign. Salvation Army Lieutenant Steven Dahl says so far only \$54,000 have been raised. That means about \$115,000 is still needed. The money goes towards social services such as the homeless shelter and food pantry.

12-12-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

Lafayette Urban Ministries and its member churches spent today making the holiday season a little brighter for people in the community. News 18's Brittney Verner shows us what the LUM Jubilee Christmas looks like and how it helped many families have a better holiday.

12-12-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Local groups are working to help those in need to feel a little cozier this holiday season. The YWCA Domestic Violence Intervention and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated held a furniture drive this morning. The groups collected donated furniture and household items to help families affected by domestic violence. Items will also go to the homeless. Donations were collected from 8 to 11 am in the YWCA parking lot.

12-21-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Wabash Valley Alliance is hoping to make Christmas a little bit cheerier for those in need. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports how one Christmas tree is making a difference for some local families. Case managers and therapists identify which families could use some holiday spirit and those are the families that receive the gifts. April Hawkins says presents are distributed from now until Christmas.

12-23-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :32)

With just two days to go before Christmas, local homeless shelters are reaching capacity. The YWCA tells News 18 that they are not accepting anyone new at this time and that this is the fullest they've ever been. They say they haven't had any extra room for the past couple of months. The Salvation Army is also so full that they are not compiling a waiting list. The YWCA suggests that anyone who needs a place to stay for the holidays should try to get in contact with family members. News 18's Alexis Moberger will have more on this story, tonight on News 18 at five.

12-24-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :27)

People looking for a warm meal and good company can find both at Jefferson High School tomorrow. The Lyn Treece Boys and Girls Club is hosting a free annual Community Christmas Day Dinner. Doors will open at 10:30 am and the meal is served from 11 am to 2 pm. Homebound individuals can call before 1 pm and have a meal delivered.

EDUCATION

A new option for Purdue students to pay for their education takes a step forward. It's called an income sharing agreement. Getting kids to school on time just got easier. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports what Tippecanoe School Corporation's new technology is doing for students and their parents. The Lafayette School Corporation takes another step to keep students safe. I-STEP continues to be an issue during the fourth quarter and News 18 speaks to local administrators for their reactions.

10-8-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:45)

The regular season for high school football is more than halfway over. Yet, tonight, thanks to a tornado, it was the first home game for Southwestern Middle School in 23 months. It's one of the last pieces to be finished. And for students and staff, it's a day they have been waiting on for almost two years.

10-9-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

A new option for Purdue students to pay for their education takes a step forward today. It's called an income sharing agreement. As we reported in August, it's the concept that an investor signs a contract with a student to pay for their education in return for a set percentage of income for a set period of time once they graduate. News 18's Dan Klein reports, with the consent of Purdue's Board of Trustees today, discussions with possible investors will begin in earnest soon.

10-12-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

It was a night of money management for the Lafayette School Board. The board adopted the 2016 budget. A bond resolution to sell three million dollars in bonds in 2016 was also approved. The funds will be used to refresh the district's technology and finish the heating and AC units at Oakland Elementary and High schools and several roofing projects. Also, the board accepted monthly donations.

10-14-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Enrollment is up across the Wabash River as well. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports the West Lafayette school board received some positive news at its meeting.

10-14-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

The Tippecanoe School Corporation has its highest enrollment in history. The school board heard the news at its meeting. The number is 12,995. In part, it's due to the state fully counting kindergarten students for the first time. But there's also an increase of more than 300 pupils over last year.

10-15-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :25)

The Department of Defense is giving Purdue University a five million dollar grant to look over its STEM programs. The 10 year grant was awarded to Purdue's college of education. It's the largest grant the college has ever gotten. Faculty members will look over which STEM teaching research and programs work for the Army.

10-19-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

The Indiana State Board of Education further explained its decision to delay setting the pass-fail line for last school year's I-STEP test. At its core is a concern over the difference in the test taken on a computer versus one taken with pencil and paper. But the state board and the department of education are on opposite sides.

10-20-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

Getting your kids to school on time just got easier. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports what Tippecanoe School Corporation's new technology is doing for students and their parents.

10-22-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Purdue President Mitch Daniels says offering financial scholarships to students who study abroad is paying off in more ways than one. As News 18 reported in 2013, the university started offering up to \$3,000 to students who study internationally. Two years later, Purdue says it's contributed to a 52 percent increase of students who go abroad.

10-24-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

A couple of contentious issues facing Indiana schools are poised for debate in the Statehouse this week. A discussion Monday in a legislative committee could point toward how the General Assembly addresses concerns about a declining number of new teachers. The State Board of Education meets Wednesday and could set the pass/fail marks for the ISTEP standardized tests. That's after months of delays in schools receiving results. The board put off a vote on ISTEP's passing scores two weeks ago. The teacher shortage and ISTEP have emerged as charged political issues heading into next year.

10-26-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

Indiana lawmakers are discussing possible recommendations to best address the state's teacher shortage this afternoon. Legislators heard from an education panel that's been looking for ways to solve the state's 33 percent drop in the number of teaching licenses issued since 2009. Republicans have disputed arguments blaming recent changes such as additional student testing and allowing private school vouchers. They say the short supply of teachers is also happening in states that haven't adopted similar measures.

10-26-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

A shortage of substitute teachers may force Lafayette schools to hire an outside vendor, which could cost the district a hundred thousand dollars or more. LSC administrators informed the school board this evening that they only have an 87 percent fill rate for teacher absences, a steep drop from 97 percent just two years ago. They believe the statewide teacher shortage, as well as strong economy has shrunk the pool of qualified subs. There's also now new limits due to the Affordable Care Act that keep the district from using the same sub more than three days a week.

10-27-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A nearly 500 thousand dollar grant from the Governor's office has local students getting a cutting-edge education. Students at North and South Newton high schools are using drones and tractors to learn precision farming. Both school received drones to take photos and videos of fields.

10-28-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The Lafayette Catholic School system is hoping to build a new school as part of its new vision for the next 15 years. More than 50 people attended an event as the school administrators unveiled their vision. It included a projection of enrollment growth, a 15-year-vision for infrastructure improvements and a new promotional video. The system hopes to boost enrollment by 450 students and add 24 new classrooms.

10-29-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

A Purdue student has launched a new social media app designed to be free of advertisements. Purdue senior Ryan Ma and his uncle William created the application called memes, which launched about a month ago. The app allows users to message and share texts and pictures without sharing personal information. Instead of generating revenue through ads, the app will eventually take fees for using third party companies through the app.

10-30-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The Birck Nanotechnology Center celebrated its 10th anniversary in the Discovery Park. Past and present Birck officials were on hand to celebrate a decade of research at the facility in West Lafayette. Nanotechnology is making atomic and molecular sized devices. Some of its major uses are in the computer, medical, military and textile industries.

11-4-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :35)

A local elementary school principal receives a national honor for her work in the Lafayette School Corporation. Murdock Elementary Principal Janell Uerkwitz was awarded the 2015 Terrel H. Bell Award from the US Department of Education. Uerkwitz is one of seven principals in the nation to receive the honor. The award is given the principals of National Blue Ribbon Schools for their outstanding work.

11-6-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :30)

Ivy Tech Community College wants to help people with hearing impairments train for a career in computing. The "Deaf Code Jam" workshop is bringing in 20 Greater Lafayette hearing impaired teens for a chance to get hands-on experience in fields like Java coding, video game production and computer-aided design.

11-9-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Tippecanoe School Corporation is adding eight new propane buses thanks to a grant from the state. A \$28,000 grant from the Indiana Office of Energy Development will cover the cost differential of buying eight propane buses over eight diesel buses. TSC was the first school corporation in the state to use propane buses back in 2012 when they added five buses.

11-11-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

An area school district may have to pay twice as much in wastewater fees at some of its schools costing an extra \$100,000 annually.

11-11-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

A Tippecanoe School Corporation employee is the best bus technician in America. Kirk Brooks won the award at a competition in Virginia. Brooks won the Indiana competition earlier this year, then took home the top prize on Sunday by having the highest marks on a written exam, a timed event and a few other challenges. Brooks is a five year employee of TSC.

11-11-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

West Lafayette schools are looking to deal with another issue before it becomes an issue. Drones. The school board had a first reading on a potential drone policy for the district. It would ban the use of drones during school hours or when a school activity is taking place.

11-13-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Time is running out for parents to submit a request to have a portion of their child's ISTEP graded again. Tonight is the deadline for parents to ask for their child's written portion to be reviewed. News 18's Cameron Hardin reports this year's ISTEP problems have been overwhelming.

11-16-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Purdue University ranks third in the nation among public institutions, for the number of international students. That's according to a new report issued today by the Institute of International Education. For the 2014 to 2015 school year, Purdue reported 10,230 international students, making Purdue one of only eight colleges and universities in the country to surpass the 10,000 mark.

11-17-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:30)

Parents have many choices when it comes to their child's education. While some choose the traditional route of public or private school, others are making the decision to home school. News 18's Samantha Thieke looked into why some local parents are choosing to homeschool and why a local educator says it may not be the right path for every child.

11-18-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:30)

Choosing to home school is an option that comes with a lot of responsibility, including making sure your child is ready for college. There are many different options for curriculum. Not all follow the same standards as the state when preparing children for higher education. Last night, in part one of a News 18 special series, 'Traditional versus Home School,' we heard from some parents who are choosing to educate from home and a local educator who says it may not be for everyone. News 18's Samantha Thieke now investigates how a homeschool education compares to the traditional classroom when it comes to college preparation.

11-23-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

The Lafayette School Corporation is taking another step to keep students safe. The LSC received a state grant that will be used to install a new security system. News 18's Brittney Verner tells us how important this new system is to keep schools safe.

11-23-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Lafayette School Board members got their first look at conceptual drawings for the expansion at Sunnyside Intermediate School. As News 18 has already reported, the extra space is needed to handle a looming overcrowding issue that will begin in the fall of 2017. Architects believe 10 classrooms will be needed for the extra 250 to 300 students.

11-24-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:37)

McCutcheon's assistant principal and head baseball coach Jake Burton is coming clean about what really motivated him to retire at the end of this semester. Burton originally said he was stepping down to spend more time with family, but after News 18 requested records of an inappropriate email sent by Burton, he decided to send a different response to the public. News 18's Kayla Sullivan has more on the contents of the email and what Burton has to say about it.

11-24-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

Delphi Elementary Principal Debbie Metzger was named Principal of the Year. Metzger was named District Four Principal of the Year by the Indiana Association of School Principals. She was nominated by a coworker and beat out all principals in District Four's nine counties.

11-28-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :45)

Purdue University is set to offer new types of engineering degrees to its students. The Indiana Commission for Higher Education has approved masters and doctoral degree programs in environmental and ecological engineering at Purdue University. The new degrees will be administered by the university's Division of Environmental and Ecological Engineering.

12-9-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

The West Lafayette school board is looking to switch the night of the week in which they meet. The board would like to see better attendance and more involvement at meetings. For a trial run, they agreed to a plan moving the meetings to the first Monday of the month for the beginning part of next year to not conflict with several school events during their current meeting time on Wednesday nights.

12-11-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration 2:10)

New this morning, it's a global movement, reaching tens of millions of students in more than 180 countries this week. And it's reaching about 4,000 students, within 100 classrooms right here in Tippecanoe County. The 'Hour of Code' is an introduction to computer science. It's designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. This morning, we bring you to Battle Ground Elementary where even first graders are getting this rare opportunity.

12-14-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :55)

The state's I-STEP test could be facing even more issues. According to a report by the Indianapolis Star, a computer malfunction may have caused some students to have been given the wrong score on some questions. Now the Indiana Department of Education is asking the testing company, McGraw-Hill Education CTB to see if that malfunction caused any scores to be inadvertently changed.

12-15-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:45)

Lawmakers say I-STEP testing could be eliminated or only a small percentage could be counted. This comes after a computer malfunction that found scores on student's exams to be incorrect. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports why the Indiana Department of Education is investigating and what steps are being taken.

12-19-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

Purdue Trustees are holding the line for student affordability at the University. But they are making changes to Purdue's domestic partner benefits policy. Those are two of many decisions the board signed off on this morning. News 18's Brittney Verner reports the changes students and employees will see.

12-22-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 5:10)

We're looking back at 2015 as we count down to 2016. Last night we took a look at the top stories of the year. Tonight, News 18's Dan Klein reviews the top education stories of 2015.

12-23-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

A review panel hired by the state to analyze an ISTEP computer glitch found the glitch had no impact on student scores. Earlier this month, the State Board of Education said they were worried the glitch could have led to some inaccurate scores. They were considering throwing out ISTEP results based on the possibility. In response to the report, State Superintendent Glenda Ritz said she's pleased there weren't scoring errors

12-24-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:35)

We're looking back at 2015 as we count down to 2016. Last night we took a look at the top weather stories of the year. News 18's Brittany Tyner takes a look back at an ever- changing year for Purdue University.

TRANSPORTATION and INFRASTRUCTURE

CityBus is adding six new compressed natural gas buses to its fleet. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports what the new CNG buses will do for the city. Purdue's Board of Trustees decides to turn Purdue's Aviation Department into the School of Aviation and Transportation Technology. The Indiana Department of Transportation announces its plans to replace the State Road 26 Bridge over Wildcat Creek. A historic house in Lafayette is set to be demolished. Residents living alongside the construction on interstate 65 express frustration when a sound barrier wall is not built when it was expected to be.

10-2-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

A building that has sat empty for more than a decade could soon be demolished as part of a faith-based community development project. And it's all in one of Lafayette's poorest neighborhoods. News 18's Dan Klein is in the Lower Lincoln neighborhood with the story.

10-5-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

The Tippecanoe County Commissioners have approved some billboard advertising restrictions in certain areas. News 18's Kayla Sullivan found out where billboards will be banned and why.

10-8-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:20)

A West Lafayette charter school will be closing its doors in late December. News 18's Cameron Hadin joins us, and reports how Beacon Academy and students are preparing for the change. Beacon Academy opened in 2008 as an alternative option for students who struggled learning in a traditional environment. But, due to funding issues, the school board voted to close the school's doors at the end of this year. Leaving the academy and students, wondering what the next step is.

10-10-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:50)

As News 18 has previously reported, Purdue's Board of Trustees decided to turn Purdue's Aviation Department into the School of Aviation and Transportation Technology. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports this change creates multiple opportunities for the program, including the chance to create rail, water, and space departments.

10-12-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

It's possible a slaughterhouse will operate in Brookston. Neighbors in the area aren't happy about the idea. News 18's Kayla Sullivan tells us why.

10-13-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Plans to retrofit Logansport's power plant are moving forward. The Utilities Service Board and city council signed off on a purchase power agreement, a lease agreement, an interim agreement to allow SG Preston to test the pellet blend and a build-operate-transfer agreement.

10-15-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

People who want to speak out against a proposed slaughterhouse in Brookston will have the chance to do so tonight. The Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing for a special exception. News 18's Brittany Tyner has the story from the White County Building and reports many neighbors have some concerns about the odor a slaughterhouse might bring.

10-15-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:55)

Hundreds of White County residents are getting their way. A proposed slaughterhouse is not coming to the outskirts of Brookston. After more than two hours-worth of complaints from residents, the White County Board of Zoning Appeals voted down the special exception request by a vote of four to one. And as News 18's Brittany Tyner reports, that comes as a relief to neighbors.

10-21-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Area planners give their blessing to a trio of rezoning requests that could shape some area neighborhoods soon. The Area Plan Commission recommended approval to rezoning a lot at 6th and Hartford in Lafayette in the Lower Lincoln neighborhood. As News 18 broke the story earlier this month, Faith Community Development is looking to build a three story building on an empty corner lot with the first floor serving as community space and apartments on the top two floors.

10-21-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The APC also recommended approval to rezone 21 acres on the southwest corner of State Street and U-S 231 from residential to office- research. The hope outlined by the Purdue Research Foundation, which owns the land, is to build an aerospace technology research facility on the property because it is so close to the Purdue Airport.

10-21-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

There are more delays for plans to retrofit Logansport's power plant. As News 18 reported, the city council and utilities service board approved four agreements with SG Preston. The Board of Works was scheduled to ratify and confirm the votes in a public hearing this morning, but a letter from the developer's attorney asked that the vote be delayed.

10-25-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

The Indiana Department of Transportation is announcing its plans to replace the State Road 26 bridge over Wildcat Creek. INDOT will have a public hearing Tuesday at Faith East Community Center to show proposed plans for the project. The event will also give members of the public an opportunity to give feedback for the project.

10-26-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:00)

Some Tippecanoe County residents living along I-65 are frustrated. They're upset because they were told a sound barrier wall would be built by this fall. Now the State Highway Department estimates it won't be done until the spring. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports neighbors are getting impatient.

10-27-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :20)

A historic house in Lafayette is set to be demolished. A neighboring church bought the home at 1521 Grove Street about a year ago to turn the property into a parking lot. And this morning, the Lafayette Board of Works and Public Safety approved the church's request.

10-27-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :40)

It was standing room only for a public hearing to rebuild a bridge over the Wildcat Creek used by thousands. The State Road 26 Bridge over the Wildcat Creek about three miles east of I-65 was built in 1941. INDOT crews say although it is a historic bridge, it is not a good candidate for preservation; a decision echoed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Preliminary plans call for the narrow 2- lane bridge to be replaced with a bridge that would be wide enough for 4 lanes if 26 is ever widened in the future.

10-28-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:40)

A new upgrade could be coming to Amtrak. As News 18's Alexis Moberger tells us, the company could make the Lafayette station run close to 14 times a day.

10-29-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:10)

A master plan is in the works to improve West Lafayette Parks. But before work begins, the city says they need some input. News 18's Samantha Thieke has more on why the parks department is asking residents with help creating the plan.

10-29-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :50)

A heated meeting tonight as several dozen Lafayette residents demand answers from the Indiana Department of Transportation; why a wall promised to help block noise along the I-65 widening project still has not been built. It's a story that News 18 has been following since this spring when crews cleared the natural sound barrier of trees early to protect endangered bats. A sound barrier wall was promised by the start of this month. Yet in a meeting designed to give residents a chance to vote on the color and scheme of the wall, its construction is still months away.

11-4-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Safety improvements are planned for a deadly intersection in White County. State Senator Brandt Hershman announced improvements to the intersection of US Highway 24 and 300 East. INDOT will repaint the stop bars on the roadway and install signs under the stop signs to indicate that traffic on US 24 does not stop.

11-6-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:40)

A rural Tippecanoe County community makes a more than 130 thousand dollar investment for residents' safety. But it could take as long as five years before the community will benefit. News 18's Samantha Thieke reports why Washington Township purchased more than 20 acres of land to build a new fire station.

11-6-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

Purdue broke ground on two new buildings today dedicated to Animal Science. The buildings will go up at the corner of Harrison and Russell Streets in West Lafayette. News 18's Cameron Hardin reports, the new facilities will bring a fresh look to the School of Agriculture's largest department.

11-9-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

Lafayette schools can move ahead with some projects at various schools. The school board gave their final approval to a three million dollar bond

11-10-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:45)

West Lafayette's transition to a class-two city means some new leadership positions for city management. News 18's Brittney Verner tells us what those positions are and how this transition will impact West Lafayette.

11-16-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:35)

Residents in the Greater Lafayette Area could be paying more for their sewage bills in the not so distant future. This comes after American Suburban Utilities announced they want to raise their rates. News 18's Alexis Moberger reports how the increase could have residents paying a higher bill than the average Hoosier.

11-17-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :20)

The West Lafayette board of works has given the green light for Victory Drive to be renamed to Joe Tiller Drive.

11-17-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 3:05)

The EPA deadline for Logansport's coal-fired power plant to close is getting ever closer. We now know the reason for a delayed vote by the city's Board of Works last month. But the plant's future, thanks to the election, is anything but certain. News 18's Dan Klein reports.

11-18-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

The Area Plan Commission recommends an expansion of an apartment complex in West Lafayette. The six building, 75 unit addition of Blackbird Farms is proposed for the southwest corner of Lindberg and McCormick streets across the street from the current complex.

11-23-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

Lafayette School Board members got their first look at conceptual drawings for the expansion at Sunnyside Intermediate School.

11-25-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 2:15)

A Carroll County intersection with a history of serious crashes is getting a major safety improvement. But the design may not be something drivers have ever seen before. It's called a J-Turn and the installation will make it one of the first in the state. News 18's Samantha Thieke has the details of the plan and how it will make for a safer route for drivers.

12-2-15 (During the 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

Consultants worked with a steering committee made up of various stakeholders as well as public input. The city council, area plan commission and the county commissioners are scheduled to adopt the plan early next year.

12-4-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration 2:20)

Changes are coming to the West Lafayette City Council in 2016. As of January 1st. the city will have a new Class 2 classification. News 18's Brittany Tyner reports from more council members, to a new member of the audience, the meetings will be different for the first times in years.

12-4-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:16)

A federal bill aims to bring 5 billion dollars to Indiana's infrastructure needs over the next 5 years. It's a bill that is currently before President Obama after passing both houses of Congress this week. News 18's Samantha Thieke joins us now with more on how Congressman **Todd Rokita** says the bill will have an effect on Indiana's roads. The bill is called the FAST Act, an acronym for Fixing America's Surface Transportation. The goal is to improve infrastructure around the country and gives 5 billion to fix Indiana roads.

12-8-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :27)

The Lafayette Board of Works has approved a 724-thousand dollar contract for work to the Long Center. But not everybody's on board. Board members voted four to one this morning to give the job to Commercial Air. There was discussion about some bad letters of recommendation regarding the company's past work including their contract with the Delphi Opera House. The Board asked Commercial Air to explain the negative reviews and voiced their concerns.

12-15-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :35)

West Lafayette's sewage overflow project is also moving forward. This morning, the West Lafayette board of works approved a budget proposal for a 96 inch sewage pipe to be installed along North River Road. The Wastewater utility department was given a budget of about 25 million dollars for the project. As News 18 reported earlier this month, the mandated project will lead to rate hikes. Part of the budget will also be used to build a new roundabout at Williams, Tapawingo and South River road. Permit applications were submitted today for the roundabout project. If approved, construction is set to start early next spring.

12-15-15 (During the noon broadcast, Duration :25)

The Lafayette Board of Works has approved the next phase of a sewage plan that could begin in 2017. As we've reported, Lafayette and other communities across the state have to eliminate combined sewer overflows into the river. The project presented today will continue to help remove those here. The plan will re-route it to the sewage treatment plant. From a study by the Board of Works they found the re-route will save the city nearly eight million dollars.

12-17-15 (During the five o'clock broadcast, Duration :33)

A new building along US 231 in West Lafayette may help keep the roads safer during snowstorms. The ribbon was cut today for the Indiana Department of Transportation West Lafayette Sub district Building. The five million dollar state of the art facility has two maintenance bays, a welding station and a high capacity wash bay for salt trucks. The building also has offices and a conference room. This building is an upgrade from the former Fowler, Indiana location built in 1924. INDOT Commissioner Alan Plunkett says the location of the new building increases response time during emergencies.

12-21-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration :25)

Drivers on Interstate 65 in southern Tippecanoe County will face an overnight lane restriction. The Indiana Department of Transportation will close the left lane on I-65 southbound near the 164 mile marker at nine pm tonight. The lane restriction should lift around six tomorrow morning. Crews will be performing bridge maintenance on the Lauramie Creek Bridge by injecting epoxy to fill voids in the deck to protect against future patching.

12-22-15 (During the six o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:35)

CityBus is adding six new compressed natural gas buses to its fleet. News 18's Kayla Sullivan reports what the new CNG buses will do for the city. With the new purchase, CityBus has a total of 12 natural gas vehicles in their fleet. CityBus hopes the entire fleet will run on Compressed Natural Gas over the next decade.

12-31-15 (During the morning broadcast, Duration :35)

It's been more than four months since the closure of Interstate 65 detoured thousands of drivers through the small town of Romney. Along with all the extra drivers, the detour also brought temporary traffic signals to the intersection at U-S 231 and State Road 28. But as of yesterday, the original red and yellow flashing lights are back. Several residents say they think the four-way stop made the intersection safer.