

Quarterly Issues Report

**WLFI-TV 18**

Third Quarter, 2019

**Broadcast issues contained in this report:**

*Agriculture, Business and Healthcare*

*Crime*

*Diversity*

*Education*

*Transportation and Infrastructure*

**Lafayette TV, LLC**

**Lafayette, IN**

### **Agriculture, Business and Healthcare**

Multiple counties in or around the WLFI viewing area have found mosquitos testing positive for West Nile Virus. What the health department says you can do to help combat that infection. Crops in the area are on the rise, but are they where they're supposed to be for this time of year? The fourth is just around the corner and people will be taking to the highways to get there. How much will you be paying at the pump?

### **7-1 Ran 5 P.M. News (:26)**

Mosquitos in Clark and Elkhart counties have tested positive for the virus. No human cases have been detected so far in 2019 , but the state department of health says it expects the risk to increase statewide as the season progresses. West Nile virus can lead to inflammation in the brain and spinal cord, muscle paralysis and even death.

### **7-1 Ran 6 P.M. News (:34)**

The move could provide millions of dollars in gambling revenue - as in bordering states. IGT Indiana runs the state lottery. The company says it will study the technology, marketing strategy, capital investment and crews needed to launch online games, as well as projected profit. If the Hoosier Lottery Commission likes the plan - it could give the go-ahead without first going through lawmakers at the statehouse.

### **7-3 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

The area plan commission voted to approve the plans last week. It will replace the Purdue village Preschool located on Nimitz Drive. It will be moving just west of the intersection of State Street and Airport Road. This area is part of a bigger development plan called the Provenance District. The land is owned by the Purdue Research Foundation, which is a private nonprofit created to advance the mission of Purdue. Ryan O'Gara with A-P-C says they are a couple of months ahead of schedule for the daycare center.

### **7-3 Ran 5 P.M. News (:60)**

This time last year crops typically were \*shoulder length but now they don't reach an inch in many places. Purdue Agricultural Economist Chris Hurt says too much moisture this spring delayed farmers from planting their crops. Hurt says he estimates between eighty and ninety percent of crops were planted late.

### **7-3 Ran 6 P.M. News (:75)**

Sage says she is going to be okay but as you can imagine she is terrified. She told me she does not want to be on that ride ever again. Sage and her dad went to IU Health White Memorial Hospital Sunday late afternoon and the doctor diagnosed her with electric shock.

### **7-3 Ran 6 P.M. News (:40)**

Fourth of July is expected to break travel records while people can pay less to do it. Purdue Agricultural Economist, Wally Tyner says typically around this time you will see a higher demand for gas because of people traveling on Holidays. He says he believes gas will not increase and will stay at a steady price and maybe even lower than usual.

#### **7-4 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

We reported in May, it was hit hard with major flooding throughout its kitchen, which made the restaurant close up shop. There was over 100,000 dollars of damage to the bistro. After long hard work it is set to open tomorrow, July 5th, just in time for the Fourth of July weekend. Owner, Theresa Buckley says with the reopening will come a brand new menu.

#### **7-8 Ran 5 P.M. News (:65)**

Garmong and Berglund construction partnered to work on the project a little less than a year ago. Berglund focuses on historical conservation. City leaders were adamant the Morton Community Center keep most of its classic look. The 90-year-old building is on the National Historical Registry list. Within the last 10 days, Garmong decided Berglund would no longer be a part of the construction team. That violated the contract between West Lafayette and Garmong. Carlson says the city is making the right call.

#### **7-10 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

The U-S Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service says the agency expects Indiana's 2019 corn to be the fifth-lowest in quality since 1986. The new report from the agency rates just 38 percent of Indiana's corn crop as currently of good to excellent quality.

That comes after heavy spring rains significantly delayed the planting of corn and soybeans, likely lowering crop yields.

#### **7-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

A note posted on the business tells customers they are currently undergoing repairs and renovations. According to the sign, Chumley's closed its doors on Monday. Along with repairs and renovations, the company also says it is looking to acquire a new majority owner. People like Johnathon McGregor say he didn't even know they had closed temporarily.

#### **7-14 Ran 6 P.M. News (:55)**

Beauty Zone Salon has officially reopened after a car crashed into its store-front early last month. The day of the crash just so happened to be the \*same day\* the salon planned to celebrate its 20-year milestone. Instead, they've spent the last few weeks working with cleaning crews and construction companies to repair the store. Beauty Zone owner Malena Salazar says her passion is what keeps her going.

#### **7-15 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

Sweetener Supply corporation makes products such as corn syrup, brown sugar, and Molasses. The corporation distributes to all major food producers throughout America and internationally. Sweetener Supply Joe Gardella says they are looking to employ 30 people once the building is fully completed.

**7-17 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:30)**

Another new construction project is making its way into Discovery Park, Provenance was approved by Tippecanoe county planners today to start its 7-8 year long process. I talked with the developer and the Director of the 450-acre Discovery Park. They both say the new neighborhood is built strictly with people in mind.

**7-18 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

Also today on Purdue's campus, a major announcement from the College of Engineering. Purdue's new Cislunar Initiative could help put astronauts back on the moon. Fifty years ago today, Apollo 11 crossed into the moon's gravitational sphere -- or cislunar space. That's the area encompassing the Earth and the moon. Purdue Engineering says this initiative will supply the building blocks for the development of the earth-moon economy. Purdue knows it will be no easy feat to have a permanent habitat on the moon. They need to protect humans from extreme temperatures, radiation and space debris. That's where Engineering Dean Mung Chiang says Purdue comes in.

**7-18 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

The eatery – Crave Food Hall will be home to nine food stall operators. The stalls include a variety of food options such as pizza, tacos, burgers and hot wings. National Food Hall President, Pat Garza says they're hoping to expand food options for every student.

**7-19 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Hemp is becoming more popular to grow throughout the Midwest. Purdue Crop Diagnostic Training Research Center and the Midwest Hemp Council hosts "Hemp Field Day" every other year. The field day covers several topics including pest management, marketing, planting, and harvesting. Hemp Specialist, Marguerite Bolt says they want potential growers to understand the basics of growing the plant.

**7-20 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

The business closed its doors, eight months after the company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. All Scotty's Brewhouse and Thr3e Wise Men Brewing Company locations would be ceasing effective July 20, 2019. The Company has been struggling for some time and unfortunately could not overcome the deficit," the sign read. The announcement comes just weeks after Scotty's Brewhouse in Fort Wayne closed. News 18 has reached out to Scotty's for more information, but has not yet heard back.

#### **7-24 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

This time last year almost all of the corn throughout Indiana were silking but this year has seen a dramatic shift of less than half of the corn is thriving- that is according to the USDA Crop Progress report. Purdue Agricultural economist, Chris Hurt says the crops are extremely damaged from the heavy rain fall we saw earlier this year and now he's worried they could be exposed to hotter temperatures.

#### **7-24 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

As News 18 previously reported, neighbors in the county are not happy about the possibility of an 8 thousand hog farm being built near their homes. Montgomery County is one of a handful of Indiana counties that does not have ordinances about where these C-F-O's can be built.

An ordinance proposal is up for discussion tonight. County Commissioner John Frey says an operation would have to get a number of points through a scoring system before given approval. The public hearing is happening at 6 o'clock tonight at the Montgomery County Courthouse.

#### **7-25 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Southwire is a family owned company that makes electrical wires and cables. It's Lafayette location is at the corner of Sagamore Parkway and Union street. The company plans to invest 22 million dollars into upgrading its Lafayette plant. This will help modernize equipment and bring in 15 new jobs.

The Lafayette Redevelopment Commission approved a seven-year tax abatement for the company today. Mayor Tony Roswarski says this is a major investment in Lafayette.

#### **7-28 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

This year, fair-goers were able to experience phase one of the county's fairground renovation project. This includes more parking availability, electrical and sewage updates, a new shelter and a new barn. All of these improvements were put in place to enhance the fair experience moving forward. Parking on the fairgrounds this year was a potential problem with the rainy weather and the unsettled ground. Byers says despite issues with parking earlier in the week, the numbers did not disappoint.

#### **7-29 Ran Noon News (:30)**

Both Chick-fil-A and Jersey Mike's Subs will be built in the new Third Street Suites North residence hall. That will be located on North Russell Street. A Purdue spokesperson says the two restaurants will be run by Purdue Dining and Catering. No timeline has been set.

#### **7-29 Ran 5 P.M. News (:25)**

Subaru of Indiana Automotive has begun production on the brand-new 2020 Subaru Outback and Legacy models. The models will come with the standard all-wheel drive and eye sight technology. The technology in the cars will assist with crash avoidance and create a better driving experience. Scott Brand says it has taken three years to perfect the quality of the two new models.

**7-29 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

The Fog Foundry has locations in Lafayette, Frankfort, and Kokomo. All three sites put up signs on the July 26th stating they no longer cater to 18-year-olds. The FDA reported 3.62 million current users of vapes are among middle and high school students. Fog Foundry Co-owner Chad Myers says after he found out there may be a chance that 18-year-olds are supplying to minors, he knew his company needed to make a change.

**7-29 Ran 6 P.M. News (:32)**

We've been following the long road to opening since Needlers first bought the old Marsh building in late 2017. Most recently, store owners said they expected an April opening, but later said "other projects required more resources than expected." Marketing Director Julie Needler- Anderson says the store is now stocked and ready for customers. Needler's is a family- owned grocery chain with several locations in Indiana and Ohio.

**7-29 Ran 10 P.M. News (:30)**

Main Street garage is taking over a plot of land that has sat vacant for more than 1 year. The new fast-casual restaurant will be built on 10007 Main Street across from East End Grill. It will serve American food and have a patio on the second floor. The goals of the restaurant are to add a good bite to eat for the community and to maintain the local downtown aesthetic. Dennis Carson says Main Street Garage will fit right in.

**7-31 Ran 6 P.M. News (2:00)**

There's another setback to the highly anticipated promenade in Lafayette. More structural problems have led to another delay to a project that's already more than a year and a half behind schedule. With more delays, come more unanticipated costs. News 18's Samantha Thieke spoke with those involved with the project. She tell us what's led to another cost increase in the project already over budget.

**8-1 Ran 10 P.M. News (:50)**

Goodrich Quality Theater Eastside 10's IMAX Theater is officially open. The theater had a soft opening in early June. City and state officials celebrated the new amenity with the Eastside 10 staff. The IMAX theater features a state of the movie-going experience with enhanced picture and sound. 300 seats pack the theater and has a 75 by 45 foot screen. Sean Edwards says the community has received the new theater very well.

**8-2 Ran 10 P.M. News (:31)**

Purdue's Board of Trustees has approved amendments to extend Athletic Director Mike Bobinski's contract. The extension comes with a salary increase..And it's based on the performance of the university's varsity coaches and teams..

#### **8-4 Ran 6 P.M. News (:30)**

Lafayette Aviators spent this baseball season giving back to the community. Each game the team partners with a different non-profit to donate proceeds from ticket sales. Today the Y-W-C-A is benefiting. The money will go towards funding its Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program. 50-percent of the proceeds from tickets using the YWCA flier or promotion code go back to the organization. Aviator's general manager says the partnership has been a positive this season.

#### **8-5 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

The Tippecanoe County Health Department says the sheriff's office was notified about the case on August 2nd. The two agencies are working together to vaccinate all inmates that were exposed. If you were incarcerated at the jail between July 13th and August 2nd, you're asked to call your doctor or the health department to check your vaccination record. Hepatitis A is communicable and affects the liver. Symptoms include abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhea.

#### **8-5 Ran 6 P.M. News (:35)**

Today commissioners approved a change order for downspouts on the shelter house. This was done so that underground drainage would tie into other areas of the fairground. Before, the downspouts were draining out onto the sidewalk. Commissioner Dave Byers says this is unrelated to the over saturated soil during the Tippecanoe County Fair. Which caused parking problems for many attending. He says the change today was just another step forward for the fairgrounds.

#### **8-6 Ran Noon News (:45)**

The department has been awarded it every year for more than a decade. The grant is usually split with the Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Chief Brad Bishop says the money is usually used for new equipment. In the last two years, it was used to expand the special operation division.

#### **8-6 Ran 66 P.M. News (:45)**

Purdue University's commercial agriculture director James Mintert says the Corn Belt is finally seeing better crop conditions and that farmers can now breathe a sigh of relief. The USDA extended the deadline for prevented plantings- which means the failure to plant insured crops. Most farmers filling a claim were already starting to see an improvement in their fields. Twenty-five percent of all corn growers filled for a prevented planting claim. Mintert says the economic barometer jumped from 126 in June to 153 in July.

### **8-7 Ran Morning News (:60)**

I spoke with business owners who say a lot of the tourists come from the Chicago area and Michigan. They say those students head back to school in late August or even after Labor Day, so the vacationers are still in summer mode long after the white county students stop working. And that makes it hard for businesses to keep up. The superintendent of Twin Lakes School Corporation says there's a reason for starting so early in August. The goal is to finish the semester, including final exams, before Christmas break. He says there has been conversations with the teacher's association about whether or not the schedule should be changed. But this is a good option for students.

### **8-8 Ran 11 P.M. News (:40)**

30 Tippecanoe County homes and businesses without access to broadband internet could soon have an option through Tiptmont REMC. The company won a 444- thousand dollar grant from the state to bring fiber-optic service to the northwest corner of the county. The expansion will also improve internet for nearly 300 homes nearby. It's part of the governor's "Next Level Broadband" initiative, which awarded 22- million dollars in total.

### **8-9 Ran Morning News (:30)**

New this morning - you could soon be paying more to get cash back while grocery shopping. Kroger is rolling out a new fee that could reach Indiana stores by early September. Right now. Kroger is testing out the new fee at three locations in Indiana and Illinois. It's a 50-cent charge for any cash back request between 1 and 100 dollars. A Kroger representative says the money will help offset the cost of bank fees. Customers have mixed reaction - including one who says it's still cheaper than an out-of-network ATM fee.

### **8-9 Ran 5 P.M. News (:29)**

Needler's has taken the old Marsh Supermarket building. The chain filed for bankruptcy in 2017. Needler's Fresh Market then purchased the property. After much anticipation, the store announced its opening on July 30th. The last time News 18 reported in February, we told you Needler's was to open in April of this year. We were never given a reason behind why they didn't choose to open in April. Owner, Michael Needler says he's glad the store is open now and that it's better late than never.

### **8-9 Ran 5 P.M. News (:60)**

Jeff Martin runs Triple B Tilapia with his family. Martin calls himself a true entrepreneur. After getting out of the motor sport industry, he turned buildings on his land into a hatchery and fish farm. T-B-T has been running for three years now. Most people think Indiana farming is limited to corn, soy beans and traditional livestock. He says he has enjoyed the challenge of starting a fish farm in a land locked state. And that he prides himself on providing a local product that is healthy and full of protein. Martin says it's an honor to be one of 17 featured farmers at this year's fair.

**8-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Purdue released its annual Crop Report at the Indiana State Fair today. The panel says current crop production is down. The estimate for the number of acres that were never planted because of the wet season was surprisingly low. Purdue Climate Scientist Beth Hall says sunny weather in September and October will be key to farmers' success. Experts also say yields will be 20-percent lower this year. Purdue Agronomy Professor Bob Nielsen, says because of the extremely wet spring and heat farmers were out planting much later than usual.

**8-15 Ran Noon News (:30)**

A spokesperson for the fast food chain says a new location is going on the northwest corner of South Street and Creasy Lane in Lafayette. That's the site of the former Don Pablo's restaurant. It's currently being torn down to make way for the new fast food chain. The newest location is less than a half mile away from another Chick-Fil-A on South Street. We are still working to learn what will happen to the current location.

**8-15 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:39)**

The Monon Health Clinic is celebrating one year of helping the community in its new location. As I found out today, this clinic is a labor of love for all who have had a part in seeing it have a successful first year.

**8-16 Ran Noon News (:33)**

The late summer and early fall months are prime time periods of growth of the algae due to the warm waters. The algae has proven to be dangerous to dogs, killing several throughout the country. When infected, side effects in dogs can be immediate as the poison attacks the liver and nervous system. Stephen Hooser says Blue Green Algae has a distinct look, but it is difficult to tell the toxicity by eye.

**8-18 Ran 11 P.M. News (2:02)**

Tenants at The Hub on campus in West Lafayette are able to settle into their new apartment for the first time tonight. This comes after two delayed move in dates. Students were able to get their keys to their apartment this morning. News 18's Micah Upshaw talked to students who say the room doesn't meet their expectations. She'll have that story on News 18 at five and six tomorrow evening.

**8-19 Ran 5 P.M. News (1:45)**

The Indiana State Department of Health is warning the public of a severe illness affecting people who vape. This comes after three other states in the mid-west reported multiple people being hospitalized with vaping-related problems. News 18's Marvin Bills spoke with health professionals about the problem.

**8-19 Ran 10 P.M. News (:45)**

Responding to natural disasters can be one of the most challenging tasks counties have to take on. Now the Purdue extension office has launched a new program to help provide resources to rural communities during trying times. It's called the Indiana Purdue Rural Emergency Preparedness Program otherwise known as IN-PREPared. The program aims to help businesses, rural residents, and first responders in rural areas have the proper tools and resources they need when responding to any type of natural disaster.

**8-20 Ran Morning News (:35)**

The Tippecanoe County Health Department is raising the cost of its tuberculosis screenings by ten dollars. According to Nursing Supervisor Khala Hochstedler, there is a national shortage for tuberculosis skin testing material, making it more expensive. The total cost of a test is now \$25.

**8-20 Ran 10 P.M. News (:45)**

The creators of Skype are behind this new device. It's called the Starship Technology Robot. The company reached out to Purdue a few months. After thorough research, the university decided this would be a good fit for staff and students. The robot is run through a food-delivery service app. Rob Wynkoop with Purdue's Technology Center says it's easy and efficient.

**8-20 Ran 11 P.M. News (:20)**

And Franciscan Health released these renderings of what the area will look like once the buildings are torn down. The Chapel as well as another building behind are being renovated. The hospital system is also planning on adding a healing garden to their campus, but have not decided on where it will be located.

**8-21 Ran 5 P.M. News (:32)**

Owner Greg Lintner says the bakery is moving to get more seating and parking space. Greg and his wife Judy plan to turn the new location into a sit down restaurant bakery. It will offer lunch while continuing to sell baked goods. Lintner says the new location is planned to go near the intersection of State Road 26 and Creasy Lane or along US-52 on the city's south side.

**8-21 Ran 6 P.M. News (:23)**

General Manager Andrew Holtan says they wanted to find a larger space for customers. The pub offers a selection of 450 playable board games. Its new location will feature a full kitchen and bar. Holtan says the new location offers more than double the seating space.

**8-22 Ran 5 P.M. News (:34)**

Today the Lafayette Redevelopment Commission approved a tax abatement for the company to come to the city. According to its website, Engineering and Industrial Services, L-L-C has been serving manufacturing and the automotive industry since 1977. Curt Hillenberg is the operations manager for the company. He says they are excited about the company's future in Lafayette.

**8-26 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

It would increase income taxes from one-point-one percent to one point two-eight percent. The money would be used to fund public safety needs. According to County Auditor Bob Plantenga, two thirds of the state's counties have such a tax. Tippecanoe County currently does not. Plantenga says county residents would still have among the lowest income taxes with the new tax.

**8-27 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Nurse Beth Bangs has worked with West Lafayette Schools for fifteen years. Over the years, she's seen just about every type of illness in her office. She emphasizes the importance of washing your hands. The C-D-C says routine hand washing can prevent one million deaths per year. Nurse Bangs says rest and nutrition are the building blocks to good health for students.

**8-27 Ran 6 P.M. News (:60)**

Lafayette leaders broke ground on Loeb stadium this afternoon. The final game at old stadium was held on August 6th. Lafayette City Engineer Jeremy Grenard says demolition is tentatively set for September 4th. Construction crews will be hauling away thousands of pounds of dirt. The new stadium will be about seven feet lower than the current field. Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski says they want to see the new Loeb Stadium become a multi-use facility.

**8-27 Ran 11 P.M. News (:45)**

City officials certainly would have chosen a controlled demolition over a collapse if they could. But now that it's happened, some are hopeful that the situation could get the ball rolling on other renovations in the area. The E-M Weaver building demolition was part of a plan to renovate the five-points area. The plan would bring new townhomes, apartments and single family homes to the neighborhood. And make it more pedestrian friendly with larger sidewalks and bike lanes. But the initial changes depend on action from the current landowners. City Development Director Dennis Carson says he hopes starting work at the Weaver Building, and Loeb.

**8-29 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

So this evening is strictly to hear from the community and present initial plans for the downtown area. Area planners have been working on this for several years and they know once these plans are final it'll take 10-20 years for the vision to be complete. The overall idea is to connect the Chauncey Village and Levee to Downtown Lafayette. O'Gara one of the area planners says developers and community members want to see those areas more like a traditional downtown.

**8-29 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:44)**

Employers are having problems finding workers...and low unemployment is the reason why. Nationally, unemployment is at three-point-seven percent, the lowest it's been in decades. Here in Tippecanoe county the unemployment rate is even lower. The tight labor market is making it harder for employers to fill the job openings they have.

### **8-30 Ran 6 P.M. News (:50)**

New at 6 o'clock, Governor Holcomb has announced that farmers in all 92 Indiana counties are eligible natural disaster assistance. The aid will cover losses from heavy spring rains and a late planting season this year. Holcomb applied for a natural disaster designation in 88 counties this spring. It was granted to 74. But the aid also covers counties that border a disaster county, which includes the remaining 18. In order to qualify, farm operators must show at least a 30 percent loss in crop production, or a physical loss to livestock, livestock products, or real estate

### **9-4 Ran Noon News (:45)**

Members of the President's Council can stay in the houses for home football weekends. We told you in April Purdue took extra careful steps to bring the company 'Try it Tiny' to campus. That's because the owner has a particular tie to the university. 'Try it Tiny' founder Maggie Daniels is Purdue President Mitch Daniels' daughter. In fact, "Hammer Down Town" is just a stone's throw away from the president's house.

### **9-5 Ran Noon News (:35)**

There have also been some major changes to RV tailgate parking lots. RV lot Four is moving from the state street and airport road, to the northwest athletic complex. That's just west of where we are standing right now, by the Grand Prix track. RV lot two is also moving here to the IM North lot. Thankfully we are expecting beautiful weather this Saturday. So we won't have to worry about muddy grass lots.

### **9-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

Bob Plantenga is here to fill the public in. Bob i know this proposed income tax would cover public safety costs. How does this affect Tippecanoe County residents paystubs? What would the additional money actually fund for public safety? So this is a new tax - how does this differ from what residents already pay? Okay again if you want your voice heard this meeting is at 6 p.m. at the County Office building here in downtown Lafayette on third street.

### **9-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana National Guard all met with local, emergency managers to inform them about their capabilities. It also gives emergency management response both on the state and local levels an opportunity to create partnerships ahead of any emergency situations.

### **9-5 Ran 6 P.M. News (:40)**

A new coalition is bringing attention to hundreds of events in Greater Lafayette. Eight local non-profits teamed up to form "Out and About." The goal is to promote concerts, workshops, and other events that people may not know about on their website- Out and About Arts dot com. Out and About Committee Chair member, Sara Mumney, says she hopes it gets people more involved.

### **9-9 Ran Noon News (:50)**

More than 40 John Deere representatives will be on campus recruiting future employees. That includes those interested in careers in supply management, engineering, marketing and I-T. Different tractors and equipment are on display. There are also informational booths with activities. Farmers may be their customer base, but Kevin Hendress says the company is much more than agriculture.

### **9-9 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The program began last week. Assistance is being provided by Indiana Legal Services. They will help parents prepare a Child Support Worksheet. That's a state-required document in any family law case involving children under 19 years old. The program was created by Tippecanoe Superior Court 2 Judge Steven Meyer. He says the program will help eliminate errors when filling out the document.

### **9-9 Ran 5 P.M. News (1:15)**

The Wabash Township Fire Department is in a financial crisis. Now the township trustees want to fix it with a property tax increase. For at least the last two years, the volunteer fire department was using cash reserves to help fund its operations. Township Trustee Jennifer (TIE-sing) Teising says the department is five years behind in hiring staff and it's running low on resources. The proposal includes using the tax money to employ more full-time and part-time firefighters. It'll also help provide retirement and health insurance benefits, which they don't currently have. Teising says they're working to fix the problem and get the firefighters more compensation.

### **9-9 Ran 6 P.M. News (:50)**

The robots will allow customers to order food and drinks anywhere on its campus- by using their Starship Deliveries app. Students will have the opportunity to use their meal plan through the new service with a fee of a dollar- 99. Starship technologies Business Development Senior Manager Chris Neider says their main goal is to provide safety for their customers and their orders.

### **9-13 Ran 10 P.M. News (:45)**

If you're looking for a job, The Indiana Department of Transportation is hosting a statewide hiring fair on Tuesday, September 17. It's at INDOT's West Lafayette Sub-District. The job fair runs from 10 in the morning to three in the afternoon. The state is seeking to recruit candidates for over 100 winter seasonal and full-time positions. Seasonal Positions run from November through March, and has a starting pay of 16 dollars per hour.

### **9-16 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

As we first reported last week, E.On wants to place 35 to 52 turbines in the eastern half of the county. The project would invest 250 million dollars into the county. According to E.On, more than 300 lease agreements have been signed supporting the wind farm. But it faced opposition from members of Responsible Harvest of Clinton County. The group works to educate Clinton County residents about wind farms. According to member Andy Robertson, several questions arose after an economic study was published.

**9-17 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Revolution Barbeque will move into Spurlock's former location on Main Street. Owners Jonathan and Sarah McGregor plan to travel to various southern cities for inspiration. They plan to serve brisket, ribs and smoked meats with a Texas flare. Pies from the bake-shop will also be available as dessert items. Sarah says opening the restaurant has been a family dream for years.

**9-18 Ran 10 P.M. News (:35)**

The health department says an employee who handled food has been diagnosed with hepatitis A. An investigation revealed the employee worked while ill on September 13th and 14th, before being diagnosed. The health department says it has been working closely with Arni's to prevent any new cases. The restaurant has also been thoroughly disinfected. Owner Brad Cohen says they're doing everything they can to keep their customers safe.

**9-19 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

The two-year study by the Wabash Heartland Innovation Network will consist of finding broadband solutions for rural counties that have difficulty connecting to the internet. WHIN Regional Development Vice President, Melinda Grismer says with the collaboration of local internet service providers this will help increase education as well as quality-of-life.

**9-23 Ran 10 P.M. News (:55)**

Americus, Buck Creek and Colburn all have outdated sewer and water systems. The County Commissioners say dealing with the waste water is the number one priority. The study established that having a centralized waste water plant located in Americus is the most economical over time. Barbara Knochel is the Washington township trustee. She says the size of property lots is a major road block for this project.

**9-24 Ran 6 P.M. News (:35)**

PepsiCo's Frito Lay will be investing \$70 million dollars towards its Frankfort plant. The new investment will help increase the work force throughout the city. The new investment will provide 45 new jobs throughout Clinton County. Frito Lay says it is looking for highly skilled IT positions and as well as entry level factory associates.

**9-30 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

According to Business Success Consultant Mark Lowe, 45-percent of Lafayette shoppers prefer local shopping. 37-percent prefer online shopping. And around 18-percent of shoppers prefer shopping nationwide brands. Lowe says, one thing a majority of shoppers want is an experience when they shop in-stores. He says many downtown Lafayette business owners are adjusting their stores to have a more open layout. Although a large majority of shoppers prefer online, Lowe says retail isn't going anywhere.

### **Crime**

County deputies track down and apprehend a criminal in what the Sheriff called “the most difficult case of his career.” A SWAT standoff in a Lafayette neighborhood prompts neighbors to say enough is enough. What they are doing to curb violence on their streets. An Indiana adoption of a little Ukrainian girl goes wrong, but was she the little girl she claimed to be?

#### **d7-1 Ran Noon News (:28)**

Today the revenge porn law will take effect. The law bans people from sharing intimate pictures of another person without their consent. The law also allows the victim of such "non-consensual pornography" to collect damages up to 10-thousand dollars. Chelsea Newerth wishes she could turn her ex-boyfriend in. She says her future brother-in-law accidentally saw her pictures and told her they were sent-out for many others to see. Newerth says there's nothing she can do about it now.

#### **7-1 Ran Noon News (:33)**

Another law going into effect will protect Hoosier pets. Senator Alting was confident about this bill passing from the beginning. It prevents convicted animal abusers from owning, harboring or training any animal while they're on probation. Before this bill, a person convicted of animal cruelty was able to get a cat or dog from any shelter or pet store as soon as they got out of jail. Tippecanoe County Prosecutor Patrick Harrington helped to write the legislation. It passed unanimously from both the Indiana House of Representatives and the Indiana Senate.

#### **7-1 Ran 5 P.M. News (:23)**

Sheriff Bob Goldsmith says the search for Etter was the most difficult one he's ever undertaken. Right now, the Sheriff's Office is focusing on figuring out how he managed to get to Boone County. Goldsmith says Etter's suicide makes this investigation difficult because he can't be questioned. Despite these challenges, Goldsmith says they'll continue investigating until they get answers.

#### **7-1 Ran 6 P.M. News (:28)**

Today, DCS Director, Terry Stigdon responded to the lawsuit filed on June 25th by The Indiana Disability Rights, a Better Childhood, and Kirkland & Ellis. The three organizations say they failed to provide children with a safe environment. Stigdon says she wants Hoosiers to know that she takes the concerns for all children very seriously.

#### **7-2 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:25)**

Neighbors who witnessed a SWAT standoff are saying its time for illegal behavior to stop in their community. Lafayette police and SWAT were called to the intersection of Washington and Jefferson Streets around 1:20 p.m. It ended with 38-year-old Robert McGill under arrest, and no reported injuries. McGill was arrested for allegedly intimidating his wife and kids with a machete. Neighbors say there used to it. I found out why.

#### **7-4 Ran 5 P.M. News (:25)**

Lafayette police were called to the 1200 block of Hedgewood Drive. Officers found 45-year-old Arianne Bisher had been shot. Sgt. Mike Brown with Lafayette police was unable to say how many gunshot wounds she suffered, or where she was injured. Bisher was taken to Franciscan Health Lafayette east and is in serious, but stable condition, according to Brown. The suspect has not been found.

### **7-5 Ran Noon News (:25)**

Police were called there for a burglary alarm. They say they found Hollingsworth exiting the front doors with a bin full of drugs. Prosecutors say surveillance video reportedly showed Hollingsworth jacking open the back loading door and crawling in. Police say the bin contained hydrocodone pills and liquid, as well as a thousand pills of xanax.

### **7-8 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

Both county courts teamed up to adopt the statewide Bi-County Accountability Court Program into their systems. It's designed to help fight the drug epidemic. Those enrolled in the program were on a path of serving jail time or even death from drug overdose. Now 55 to 60-percent of the program's graduates are on a path of not recommitting their drug crimes. Judge Stephanie Campbell says it's intensive - requiring two drug screenings a week as well as multiple substance abuse therapy sessions a week. She says the purpose is to wean addicts off drugs and help them get back on their feet.

### **7-9 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

They recently dug up the body of what is believed to be a mid 60-year-old white woman in Fowler. She has been buried at Sacred Heart Cemetery for the past 43 years. Back in 1976, a Fowler farmer found the body in his field. It was lying in a cardboard box with a gunshot wound to the head. This discovery lead to a several years long investigation. Benton County Coroner Matt Rosenbarger says now time and technology are major factors as they work to identify her.

### **7-10 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Leaders in Reynolds are left picking up the pieces at the town's historic elementary school after vandals broke in. It happened a month ago on June 11th. But they just recently got the estimate for all the damage. The vandals caused more than 35 thousand dollars in damages. Investigators determined a group of elementary and middle school aged kids were behind it. Two have already confessed and they are still looking for the others. The Honey Creek Township trustee says the community has been helpful as the search for the other vandals continues.

### **7-10 Ran 10 P.M. News (:55)**

Incarcerated felons will have to pay the department while they are in jail. The amount and the frequency of payment is still yet to be determined. The department is in the early planning stages of the new process. Carroll County Sheriff Tobe Leazenby says the department is following the lead of Clinton County. County Commissioners there approved a similar program in June. The use of these funds will help take some burden off taxpayers.

### **7-12 Ran Morning News (:60)**

Happening today in Lafayette, the trial will start for a man accused in the August 2017 murder of his wife. According to prosecutors, it was all recorded on cell phone audio. News 18's Samantha Thieke joins us live with what we know about the case so far. And what a neighbor and family friend is saying about it. Sam?

**7-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

A West Lafayette man has been charged in connection to a burglary. Police were led to the suspect by a trail of blood. 19-year old Cameron Benefiel is charged with burglary, theft and criminal mischief. As News 18 previously reported, the incident happened back on June 17th.

**7-16 Ran 10 P.M. News (:30)**

Police took the child and drove around the neighborhood until they found a home with an open door. Michelle Lovvorn was inside and said the boy was hers. Officers say there was rotten food, used diapers, old trashbags and empty vodka bottles through the home. Lovvorn blew a blood alcohol test of point-two- two. D- C- S has removed two children from the home.

**7-17 Ran Morning News (:35)**

Today a man charged with animal abuse will appear in court for the very first time. As News 18 previously reported, one man has been arrested in connection to the fair oaks farms animal abuse case. This is after a vegan activist group called Animal Recovery Mission went undercover at the farm. The group filmed and released videos showing Fair Oaks employees mistreating animals.

**7-18 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:04)**

Today both the defense and prosecution lawyers got the chance to make their final arguments. The prosecution had more than 50 power point slides detailing contradictions between Patrick's testimony and the evidence. Defense lawyer Mike Troemel wanted the jury to focus how Patrick had been lead to giving a confession about planting the knife. And how none of Patrick's DNA was actually found on the knife. In the end, it wasn't enough. Tippecanoe county prosecutor Patrick Harrington said this case shows the importance of having a high tech crime unit. As well as recovering digital evidence. He also wanted to thank the sheriff's office for their hard work and collaboration.

**7-21 Ran 6 P.M. News (:50)**

WLPD received a report around 1 pm Saturday that someone had been attacked. The victim said she was walking the trail system alone that afternoon when she was attacked and sexually assaulted by a black male. She said the male looked to be 5 foot 8 inches with short hair, no facial hair and a slim build. The unknown male was reported wearing gray shorts with white boxer briefs, white socks, black tennis shoes, no shirt, and possibly a black bandana. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the West Lafayette Police Department at 765 775-5200.

**7-22 Ran 11 P.M. News (:20)**

An traffic stop in Warren County has netted four pounds of marijuana - and landed an Illinois man in jail. Indiana State Police say it happened around two o'clock this morning on State Road 63, just north of U-S 136. That's about four miles west of Covington. ISP says a trooper pulled over a car for speeding.

### **7-23 Ran Morning News (1:10)**

This is the man who has been taken into custody. Joshua Freshour is 22-years-old. The West Lafayette man was taken booked at 10:17 p.m. last night. According to Sergeant Donald Miller, Freshour blew over the legal limit in his breathalyzer test. He is facing preliminary charges for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, OWI endangerment and OWI with .10 percent or more BAC causing serious bodily injury.

### **7-26 Ran Morning News (:30)**

Brandon Messer was found dead Thursday morning in rural Medaryville. According to the Pulaski County Coroner's Office, he had been shot multiple times. More than eight agencies responded to the incident including Indiana State Police. Pulaski's Detective Sergeant Chris Schramm says there is no immediate danger to the public.

### **7-26 Ran Noon News (:60)**

This all started about four o'clock this morning. Police say a man went through the drive-thru at the McDonalds on Sagamore Parkway near the Tippecanoe Mall. The clerk said the man showed a gun, demanded money and sped away. That led police to Phipps Court in the Romney Meadows neighborhood. About 4:30 this morning, police went to serve a search warrant for the man. He refused to come out and police began five hours of negotiations. Darryl Campbell lives in the same building. He has seen the man often, and believes the man worked at the place he's suspected of robbing.

### **8-2 Ran Morning News (:30)**

Police were called to the apartment complex at 12:40 a.m. A man was shot and taken to Franciscan Health East. Police say he died at the hospital.

### **8-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:60)**

Sergeant Mike Brown says he walked into the bank, displayed a handgun and demanded money - and got away with cash. Police tell us no shots were fired during the robbery and no one was injured. They were unable to identify which direction he went. If you have any information on the robbery - you're asked to call Lafayette police.

### **8-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

This morning they approved a new ordinance to strengthen the penalty on a person who dumps non-recyclable items. Now, if a person is caught they will be fined between \$250 and \$2500 dollars. In the past the county was dealing with people dropping off file cabinets, construction equipment, and bicycles. Commissioner Tom Murtaugh says he is glad to see these changes being made.

### **8-8 Ran 11 P.M. News (:30)**

Lafayette police have launched an investigation into a report of child pornography being viewed at IU Health Arnett hospital. An Arnett employee says they observed a person watching child porn in a patient room. The employee said it happened Monday. However, it wasn't reported to police until Tuesday evening. Police couldn't say whether or not the person was a patient or visitor. News 18 reached out to an IU Health spokesperson. They said the company couldn't comment on a police investigation.

**8-12 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:30)**

The Tippecanoe County Drug Task Force is continuing its investigation into a narcotics raid earlier today. It happened at a Lafayette home on North 14 and Morton Streets. Many neighbors who knew about the drugs say they're relieved law enforcement raided the home. One couple I talked to says it's about time.

**8-13 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Officers say Robinson was strangling a woman. That's when police say she pepper sprayed him and stabbed him with a kitchen knife. Robinson is reportedly in stable condition with a single stab wound to the back. The woman is not facing any charges.

**8-14 Ran Morning News (:25)**

Police confirmed a call came in at 2:44 a.m. of a reported shooting in the 2800 block of Dorsett Drive. You can take a look at your screen now to see where that is. That's just south of Beck Lane and west of Armstrong Park. Lt. Sherer says he's not sure if this was a random shooting, but it was a shooting into the house.

**8-15 Ran 5 P.M. News (:32)**

Between 2017 and 2019 aggravated assaults have gone up thirty percent. This year police have responded to 24 cases of shots fired and 11 shooting incidents. That's compared to 18 cases of shots fired in 2017. Lafayette Police Sergeant Mike Brown says while there has been an increase, there aren't any particular areas of the city where crime seems to be prevalent.

**8-16 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:21)**

The search continues for a bank robber that got away with an undisclosed amount of cash from Regions Bank. It happened in Lafayette around 2:40 in the afternoon. Police say it could be in connection to another bank robbery that happened 3 weeks ago today. I talked to customers that say the same thing, but ultimately they just want LPD to find the robber.

**8-28 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Officers from Jasper, White and Tippecanoe Counties arrived at the home. As well as the Drug Enforcement Administration. The DEA says they uncovered a large amount of controlled substances. Mother of two Julie Marsh says she worried for her family's safety.

**9-4 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

He is described as a man about 200 pounds according to the sheriff's office. He was also wearing a fake gray beard. This is important because on May 10th and August 26th there were bank robberies and those bank robbers were also wearing fake beards. May 10th robbery happening in Hillsboro in Fountain County and the August 26th one was at the Regions bank in Lafayette. The suspects for all three bank robberies are still on the loose.

### **9-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:33)**

A federal civil rights lawsuit has been filed after social media video surfaced of an Indianapolis Metro Police officer punching a student. The incident happened last week outside Shortridge High School. According to the lawsuit, a conflict arose involving one of the teens and police were called to the school. The lawsuit claims Officer Robert Lawson punched the student in the jaw, then put him in a headlock and hit him in the stomach with his knee. The suit also alleges that Lawson lied about his conduct. Lawson has been placed on administrative leave.

### **9-6 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

The grounds keeper noticed the two headstones missing when he was mowing the area on September 3rd. The headstones that were stolen were in a family plot and are believed to have matching last names. The sheriff's department reached out to the Wabash Township trustee to see if the family may have removed them but they had no knowledge of that happening.

### **9-10 Ran 10 P.M. News (:55)**

The neighbors who live in the Watkins Glen neighborhood are keeping a close eye out tonight. Many were victims of the latest reported car break-ins in the county. The Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Office reports a spike in reported break-ins since late August. There have been at least a dozen reports since August 25th. Captain Woody Ricks says the doors did not appear to be locked on any of the vehicles affected. That was the case for resident David Gray and his car.

### **9-17 Ran Morning News (:35)**

when police arrived here, they found an 18 and 20-year-old who both suffered gunshot wounds. Police told News 18 the shooting happened in the apartment's rooftop pool area. Both men were shot below the waist and are expected to survive. Police say the two men who were shot are not students at Purdue, or residents of this apartment complex. The Chauncey Village area was packed with people Sunday night after the home football game. Police say the shooting was the result of a disagreement.

### **9-17 Ran 10 P.M. News (:35)**

Someone spray painted offensive words on the fishing pier at Columbian Park over the weekend. Lafayette Police say it happened on Saturday at the pier just north of the Jenks Rest building. Those who work at the park want to remind people that it's a safe place to enjoy the outdoors. Claudine Laufman is the superintendent for Lafayette parks. She says this most recent act of vandalism is ranked low on the scale of destruction. But it's still just as discouraging to see happen.

### **9-18 Ran Morning News (:35)**

L-P-D did not leave the area until about 11:45 last night. Police say the man is not a harm to the public. At this time, we do not know the victim's condition, but we know the injuries are not life threatening. We are going to continue to make calls on this story and we will bring you any updates we get on air and online at W-L-F-I dot com.

**9-18 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:26)**

Michael Barnett surrendered to Police today. Barnett is the Westfield father who allegedly abandoned his adopted daughter at a Lafayette apartment in 2013. News 18's Anna Darling was there when he walked out of the jail.

**9-19 Ran Noon News (:45)**

Krstine Barnett surrendered to the Tippecanoe County Jail at 6:20 a.m. She is accused of abandoning her daughter in Lafayette, changing the child's age and fleeing to Canada. Barnett's bond was 5000 dollars.

**9-20 Ran Morning News (:40)**

We reported that one man was sent to the hospital after the stabbing on Union Street. The call came in about 8 p-m and police remained on scene until just before midnight. Investigators told News 18 at the time they already had an idea of who was responsible for the stabbing - it was just a matter of finding him. Police said the victim was expected to survive.

**9-26 Ran Noon News (:40)**

According to Sheriff Rich Kelly a citizen made a 9-1-1 call. They said a vehicle was swerving in and out of lanes going north on State Road 39 in Rossville. When the town marshal initiated a traffic stop at a Marathon gas station, the driver began making abrupt movements. The driver then barricaded themselves in the back seat of the vehicle. After a 30 minute standoff the driver came out of the vehicle with a strong odor of alcohol. Sheriff Kelly says the driver was still under the influence at the time of the arrest.

### **Diversity**

With a contentious battle raging at our southern border many around the country are letting the White House know what they think. That includes many people here in the GLA. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first moon landing is here and one of the men responsible for helping our very own Purdue graduate land is here to talk about it. What does it mean to be “rehabilitated”? Micah Upshaw talks with a local group that helps answer that very question.

**7-2 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

Dozens of groups protesting immigrant detention centers sprang up across the country today including Montgomery County. The so-called "Close the Camps" is protesting the Trump administration's treatment of migrant children. In Crawfordsville, a small crowd gathered at the Montgomery County courthouse. Agata Szczeszak-Brewer says the demonstrations are a non-partisan issue.

**7-3 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:47)**

The world is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the moon landing this month and Purdue University claims the first man to walk on the lunar surface as one of -- if not its greatest alums. But how did Neil Armstrong get from Wapakoneta, Ohio to West Lafayette, Indiana? News 18's Trevor Peters and Purdue historian John Norberg tell us the untold story you have to hear to believe.

**7-4 Ran Noon News (:20)**

Some sad news to pass along this midday. Holocaust survivor and Terre Haute resident Eva Kor has passed away. The CANDLES Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute says Kor died while on her annual trip to Krakow, Poland. She died at 7-10 this morning local time. We'll have much more on her passing, coming up tonight on News 18 at Five.

**7-6 Ran 6 P.M. News (:55)**

Dozens of local Veterans, active soldiers and families participated in Greater Lafayette's first Battle of the Brave Ruck and Run Race. The event was created to honor those serving in the military while providing activities for the community. The race is through a locally based company called Momentum Event Management. Co-Founder Lucas Woody says it's not necessary to leave Lafayette when you're looking for something fun to do.

**7-8 Ran 11 P.M. News (:60)**

As we previously reported, the program is run by the YMCA. It's offered at all LSC elementary schools except Murdock. Murdock has its own childcare program. The Y is keeping its prices the same as last year. Les Huddle says it can help parents who need help choosing a before and after school care program.

**7-9 Ran Morning News (1:33)**

Warren and Fountain County judges are finding success with a court-issued rehabilitation program for drug addicts. The two county courts adopted the program five years ago. Now more than half of its graduates are on a drug free path. News 18's Micah Upshaw tells us why.

### **7-9 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:35)**

Tyler Trent's fighting spirit and inspiring message continue to be heard around the country. The Purdue Superfan will be honored posthumously this evening with the Stuart Scott ENSPIRE award at the Sports Humanitarian Awards. It honors those who have a positive influence throughout the world using the power of sports. I asked Tyler's father, Tony, what this would mean to his son and while filming this story a man stopped me and told me how he runs to remember those who have lost their life to cancer.

### **7-11 Ran Morning News (:45)**

As we've reported, Arconic is demanding cuts in medical and drug benefits. The company is also increasing employee health care contributions. The proposal reduces premiums for single employees but increases family premiums by \$120 per month. Arconic also wants to freeze benefits under the current hourly pension and replace them with age-based contributions to the 401(k) savings plan. USW members have been rallying against these changes since May. Today they will vote to either accept or reject the new agreement. All the master locations are voting across the country today- that's around 3500 people.

### **7-11 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The mural features a tree on 51 West Event Center with heart-shaped flowers floating off, and also includes a painted swing. Frankfort Future Leaders Advisory Council, Tippecanoe Arts Federation and the city of Frankfort, made the Mural possible. The goal for the painting is to spark local interest into downtown Frankfort. TAF Chief Operating Officer Ann Fields Monical says she believes this will show the community of Frankfort a good message.

### **7-13 Ran 6 P.M. News (:35)**

Purdue University has collaborated with Special Olympics Indiana to host its third annual Football Clinic. Today 21 Purdue football players volunteered their afternoon to train Special Olympics athletes. The athletes rotated through five stations practicing different football techniques. This program started as a way to keep the Olympians active in between competitions. Now it's grown into something more valuable for many.

### **7-15 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:51)**

What does it mean to get a second chance? For Clinton County jail inmates, it's an opportunity for employment despite their criminal record. As News 18's Micah Upshaw reports the Second Chance program works to break the cycle of breaking the law.

### **7-18 Ran Morning News (:32)**

As we previously reported, TAF temporarily moved its office to the Tippecanoe County Historical Association downtown. TAF officials tell me they're very happy to be back home in the Wells Community Cultural Center. They worked out of TCHA for 10 months before moving back to north street. Now, TAF is proudly showing off its fresh look and new space. Updates include a new stage on the main floor, more natural light, a dance studio, conference rooms and much more. Executive Director Tetia Lee says the new space is achieving all the things TAF wants.

**7-30 Ran Noon News (:34)**

County Commissioner Tracy Brown and West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis have collaborated to create a group called ACT. ACT is an advocacy program to promote A-D-A accessibility throughout the county. The group is holding a public meeting tonight at the county building. West Lafayette's ADA Coordinator says they're looking to share information about the group's plan moving forward. They're also looking to address concerns and hear from the community.

**8-7 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Eight year old Jack Wietbrock sent a hand written letter to West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis. He asked a turtle crossing sign be put up on Cherry Lane to help the animals and turtles stay safe while crossing the road. Mayor Dennis was impressed with Jack's dedication to helping those in need. He didn't hesitate in getting the sign installed. Mayor Dennis says he had an obligation to do so.

**8-8 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:30)**

Tippecanoe County's plan to extend Yeager Road is changing after county leaders were notified of historic land. News 18's Marvin Bills tells us more about what this property is and how the county is planning to preserve it. Spencer says the county is still in the early stages of planning. You can also learn more about the James Pierce Jr. House at the Tippecanoe County Historical Association.

**8-9 Ran Morning News (:60)**

In 1915, it was the first place where players were paid to play football. "The Villagers" couldn't be beat. In 20 years, they had just 6 losses. Now, more than 100 years later, the town is bringing football back. This Saturday, they're hosting a Vintage Football Game. Eric Brutus' great uncle played for the original Villagers. Brutus knows his Uncle Lee would be excited to see Pine Village's history getting the attention it deserves.

**8-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The Lafayette police department swore in two new officers today and promoted 4 others. Tyler Gregory and Robert Hine are the two new hires to the department. The hire manager for the force says finding qualified candidates is a challenge for law enforcement not only in Lafayette but across the country.

**8-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

There's a new man in town who's embracing the arts in Lafayette. John Hughey is the new Executive Director of the Long Center. Hughey has only been the long center's executive director for about six weeks now, but he's already got big plans.

### **8-15 Ran Morning News (:45)**

There are several different rooms all designed for people with certain disabilities. There is a sensory room for kids with autism. There is a music room, an art room, a rec room, library, and so much more. I'm told the community was able to raise 3.6 million dollars to make this all happen. Cooper house, grant's brother, says it's very humbling to know people were supporting his family every step of the way. He says it shows how people coming together can help create something.

### **8-15 Ran Noon News (:40)**

Purdue President Mitch Daniels says the university will dedicate the Tyler Trent student gate at the first home game. The university plans to unveil it about 30 minutes before the gates open. Construction on the T-2 Student Gate has been going on all summer. It's the location where the world first met Tyler at homecoming in 2017. He died on New Year's Day after a cancer battle that inspired the country. Daniels says it will be a 'significant event' and he hopes a lot of fans will show up for it.

### **8-16 Ran 5 P.M. News (:30)**

The Indiana branch of Moms Demand Action is hosting an August Recess Rally. A Federal Red Flag Law is up for vote in the U-S Senate. This rally is to appeal to our Indiana Senators to vote in favor of the bill. Rabbi Harvey says there is support from both sides of the aisle for this bill.

### **8-16 Ran 6 P.M. News (:25)**

Happening this weekend- Lafayette's annual pride celebration kicks off. OUTfest starts tomorrow. The event aims at increasing awareness of the L-G-B-T-Q-plus community in Greater Lafayette. Tickets are 7 dollars. It features more than 70 vendors, plus guest speakers. Vice President for Pride Lafayette, Lorne Sadler says this will send a positive message to the city.

### **8-21 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:39)**

A Cyclist is raising awareness for his late brother Neal Eckard. He died from stomach cancer back in November. News 18's Hannah Poynter sat down with the brother and others who knew Neal, and tells us why this ride was so important.

### **8-23 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:18)**

Invasive species are an issue in just about every community across the country - including right here in Tippecanoe County. They can sometimes be hard to identify and eradicate. Now a new task force is dedicated to tackling the issue by educating people both in rural and urban communities

**9-2 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

For the Fourth consecutive year the city has taken away the title of Indiana's 21st safest city to live in. The list is put together by Back ground checks dot org.- which calculates how much crime is happening in the area. Logansport stands at an index of 1.0 percent- which means their crime rates are down. Cities close in size compared to Logansport ranked Shelbyville at number two and Seymour at number 25. Logansport Native Pearl Parks says she wasn't too surprised to see their name listed.

**9-3 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:30)**

Stress happens all around us - every day to everyone, but for kids those stressful times are especially difficult to deal with. The Lafayette Kiwanis Club partnered with the Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Office to try to help. 100 comfort dolls were made for deputies to give to children during trying times. I talked to both organizations to see the benefits and what these dolls look like.

**9-7 Ran 11 P.M. News (:45)**

The Festival has been a staple in the community for the past 14-years. This year brought everything from live music, dancing and food all showcasing the German culture. St.Boniface hosts the event. The festival helps raise money for the church while providing activities for the community to enjoy. Last year the festival was cancelled because of bad weather. Father Alkire says he has great expectations for this year's fundraising.

**9-17 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

This bright yellow sticker will soon be displayed in businesses that fully-meet ADA requirements. The sticker is part of ACT's mission to easily notify those with disabilities whether a business is ADA accessible. It's also made to keep local establishments accountable. Right now, ACT leaders are investigating businesses to be able to award the first sticker. Tim Clark says this movement is long-overdue.

### **Education**

It's a game of musical chairs for many of the primary schools in and around the GLA. One of the local middle schools received a facelift over the summer and is extending an invitation for any and all to come in to take a look. Purdue is receiving some help from the federal government on some very exciting research projects being conducted around campus.

### **7-1 Ran 5 P.M. News (:28)**

Today Suresh Garimella began his new role as president at the University of Vermont. He told reporters his focus will be on student success. He says another top priority will be making higher education more affordable and accessible for students. At Purdue, Garimella was executive vice president for research and partnerships and a professor of mechanical engineering.

### **7-2 Ran Morning News (:55)**

Noah Scott will serve the next two years on the Board of Trustees. Scott is a rising senior studying industrial engineering technology and organizational leadership from Warsaw, Indiana. Since 1976, a Purdue student has served as one of the ten members on the board. Scott was selected by the governor from ten finalists. In his previous role as Indiana's governor, Purdue President Mitch Daniels would select the student trustee. Now, whomever the current governor chooses becomes his boss.

### **7-2 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:23)**

Purdue University is getting a boost from the department of labor. Their focus is to expand apprenticeships for information technology. News 18's Hannah Poynter talked with the program committee about the new award.

### **7-9 Ran Morning News (:50)**

As News 18 previously reported, the program is run by the YMCA. It's offered at all LSC elementary schools -- except Murdock. Murdock has its own childcare program. The Y is keeping its prices the same as last year. Les Huddle says it can help out parents who need help choosing a before and after school care program.

### **7-10 Ran Noon News (:45)**

Local students traditionally are in need of backpacks, notebooks and index cards but they also need things like ipod headphones, and tablets. You can find the full supply list on our website - that's wlfi dot com. We're partnering with a few local businesses to make this happen.

### **7-10 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

Kindergarten Countdown Camp is a local program preparing future students for their first year in school. The program serves multiple schools in Tippecanoe county, including Miami Elementary in Lafayette. They cover the basics, including letters, shapes, and colors. However, the program's main goal is getting them familiar with a school environment and the rules. A community and United Way pact associate says that this head start will do the children some good.

**7-10 Ran 10 P.M. News (:50)**

Sarah Gustin is now in charge of the staff and students over at Southwestern Middle School. She has 15 years of education experience. Gustin most recently served as principal at Delphi Community Middle School. Before that, she was the assistant principal at Wea Ridge Middle and taught English for several years at McCutcheon.

**7-11 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:33)**

Graduate students at Purdue are not happy about changes to their pay. It's impacting them this summer. News 18's Anna Darling sat down with two students to hear their concerns. She breaks down the complicated situation for us now.

**7-11 Ran 10 P.M. News (:50)**

Duke Energy awarded the money to the GLCA yesterday. The money is being used for hardware in the engineering department. It is custom built and will help students with their coursework. The GLCA director says she's thankful and ready to put the money to good use.

**7-17 Ran Morning News (:30)**

Before he was the assistant principal and athletic director at Covington High School. Tri-County Junior Senior high school also hired Mark Gretencord to lead the school's football team. Gretencord is also a junior high math teacher. The new varsity volleyball role now belongs to head coach Jennifer Dawson. This is Dawson's first varsity coaching job.

**7-17 Ran 5 P.M. News (:35)**

Jeff doesn't elementary school just feel like yesterday? The principal of Glen Acres Megan Hatke organized this community open house to anybody who is interested in seeing and touring the new school. With only three weeks left before the school year begins, it gives parents and current students a great understanding of what they are walking into. When I toured it, I was impressed from the new playground that is accessible to anyone to the new interactive gym and the best part is the shcool is 20-thousand square feet bigger...

**7-18 Ran 10 P.M. News (:35)**

Tippecanoe School Corporation is receiving more than 1 million dollars of the total from North Central Health Services. The money will be used to add resources and programs to the classroom to fulfill the mental and emotional needs of students. TSC's superintendent says its school will hire people who can best help students overcome any obstacles. He adds this will greatly benefit the 20 schools within TSC.

**7-22 Ran 10 P.M. News (:50)**

Jeff High School experienced around a 20 percent decrease in truancy cases. Meanwhile Miami Elementary and Murdock saw a slight increase. Dr. Clevenger says teachers and administrators will send home letters and even make home visits. This is to make sure families are aware of the state laws for truancy. She says it's great to see overall improvement.

**7-23 Ran 10 P.M. News (:45)**

After being off the air for the summer, WJEF is back up and running. The radio station will continue playing oldies and classic rock hits through the school year. They feature live sports broadcasts during the football and basketball seasons. This will be Jamie Long's second year as the Radio/TV Director. He says he looks forward to the opportunities students will have in running the station.

**7-25 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

On Tuesday Purdue sent out a press release saying they would be implementing new student ID's that would be viable for students to vote with. Those IDs will not be fully integrated for several years- Students can however trade in their existing Purdue ID for an updated version of ten dollars. Student Emily, says she's concerned that her fellow students will not have enough money to get a replacement which would hurt their chances on being able to vote.

**7-31 Ran 11 P.M. News (:25)**

With the school year just a week away, the newly dedicated West Lafayette Elementary is celebrating the recent renovations. After two years of work, the public now has a chance to see what that construction has brought. As for the name change, its an effort to create a West Lafayette brand for the schools. The plan has been in the works for longer than you may realize.

**8-5 Ran Morning News (:48)**

Superintendent Rocky Killion says most of the positions opened due to teachers retiring, leaving the profession or moving on to states that pay educators more. Killion says filling the jobs is becoming harder and harder due to a dwindling number of candidates. He says the state isn't funding education enough to allow school to pay teachers well. Killion says another reason for the problem is state mandates. He says it gives teachers less freedom when it comes to curriculum, instruction and assessment. According to Killion, W-L-C-S-C has a rich history of long tenured teachers. But now, that just isn't the case.

**8-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:60)**

Police want to make sure that drivers are driving safely in areas where students will be walking. They are reminding drivers that they are required to stop for school busses throughout the city. However, there are exceptions for stopping when travelling on a divided highway.

**8-6 Ran Morning News (:45)**

Students in LSC will head back today with access to 1 to 1 technology. TSC also participates in the program that allows certain grade levels get their own electronic device to use at school and home. Killion believes some children are over exposed to technology. Instead of taking part in a one to one program, the corporation is taking a different approach. The goal is to teach kids technology constructively.

**8-11 Ran 11 P.M. News (:45)**

Purdue students are gearing up for the semester to start with a week of activities. Boiler Gold Rush is in full effect for international students. Other students will start their experience tomorrow. The themed week takes place before Fall classes begin. It's aimed at welcoming all incoming Purdue students. Students learn about campus traditions, Purdue culture, and University resources. Team Leader, Ashwini, says this is an awesome thing for incoming students to be a part of.

**8-13 Ran Morning News (:45)**

There's about 200 high school students enrolled this year. Those students are from Harrison, Jeffereson, Mccutcheon, Oakland and west Lafayette high schools. There's even some Benton county students enrolled. Today students are having an orientation day and being introduced to their respected programs. Some of the programs offered include education, IT, auto service, cosmetology and health science. Miranda Hutcheson says students are getting a hands-on, authentic experience.

**8-13 Ran 11 P.M. News (1:40)**

Purdue University was awarded a ten-million dollar grant from the United States Agency for International Development. The mission is to establish a new lab that will help enforce food safety and security throughout the world. News 18's Hannah Poynter LEARNED WHY EXPERTS SAY IT COULD BE LIFE- SAVING WORK.

**8-16 Ran 10 P.M. News (1:48)**

Our top story tonight -- Tippecanoe School Corporation students are getting started in the world of technology early with Chromebooks. I found out today how the technology is impacting the student's now in the classroom and their futures. The chromebooks TSC 6th graders received this year are brand new. Parent's pay a technology fee over the course of their schooling to help pay for the chromebooks. Students are given a brand new chromebook at the start of their freshman, which if they graduate, they get to keep.

**8-19 Ran Morning News (:30)**

That's the higest number ever. Purdue President Mitch Daniels also reports the university has hired 140 new faculty members. The incoming class of 2023 is expected to be the second largest in university history with about 8-thousand Boilermakers. That's just shy of last year's 8-thousand 3-hundred.

**8-22 Ran 5 P.M. News (:25)**

The Indiana Department of Education has named one Tippecanoe School Corporation teacher as a top 10 Finalist for teacher of the year. Lauri Vitale has taught for seven years with the Tippecanoe School Corporation at Klondike Elementary. Principal Scott Peters says Lauri has a passion for teaching that can be seen in how her students reacted when in her classroom.

**8-26 Ran 10 P.M. News (:54)**

The Governor is asking state Schools Superintendent Jennifer McCormick and the General Assembly to hold schools harmless. The standardized test are used to evaluate teacher performance and give schools an overall performance grade. All three Tippecanoe County superintendents say the tests shouldn't be used to grade schools or evaluate teachers in the first place, since standardized test weren't created for that purpose.

**8-28 Ran 11 P.M. News (:50)**

This evening at 6 o'clock school leaders hosted a ribbon cutting and let people check out the ins and outs of the 94-thousand square foot building. Approximately 170 kids are taking nursing, Project Lead the way, culinary arts and IT courses among a few others. The 100 million dollar investment was in collaboration with Tippecanoe County, Lafayette and West Lafayette Schools. An engineering teacher at the GLCA says it's worth it.

**8-29 Ran Morning News (:45)**

As News 18 previously reported, the intersection's history of serious crashes led INDOT to add a U-Turn. Here's how it works. To turn onto 800 West, northbound drivers on State Road 25 will merge into a left turn lane. Then, they travel along State Road 25 South before being able to make the right turn onto the county road. The intersection won't have a median crossing as shown in this INDOT animation. Driver Alicia Harding says she's not sure if it's causing more harm than good.

**9-3 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Nuclear reactors power 20-percent of the country's electricity and more than 50-percent of the carbon free electricity in the U-S. The reactor will not only benefit students studying engineering, it also has the potential to break barriers in the commercial landscape as well.

**9-4 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:48)**

The governor has pledged an agreement to schools that there will be no harm held to schools for the lower test scores. Superintendents in Tippecanoe county would like to see a standardized test have less affect on schools' over all grade and some parents agree.

**9-9 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:29)**

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security recently increased the amount of matching dollars they usually offer to school corporations for safety initiatives. Both Tippecanoe School Corporation and Lafayette School Corporation are using the grant to make their schools more secure, but how they are doing it differs.

**9-9 Ran 10 P.M. News (:50)**

The number of undergraduates applying rose to more than 54-thousand in 2018. A jump of more than 14,000 from 2014 and 6,000 from last year. As we previously reported this year's class is the second largest in Purdue history and Purdue President Mitch Daniels says that was by design. The campus is trying to support more and more growth, but students say they can feel how crowded it is.

**9-11 Ran 10 P.M. News (:50)**

The money will be used to outfit classes and students with tools and equipment for construction classes. The money was donated from local companies across the greater Lafayette area. Those with the association say they wanted a way to create a relationship with the career center so future grads know that there are jobs available right here the greater Lafayette area.

**9-13 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The law states that a charter school can take unused public school property and lease it for just one dollar. Currently, the city of west Lafayette is renting the old school temporarily. As the Morton Center is under construction. Dr. Killion says they have not had any charter schools approach WLCSC about leasing the school. But that he wants to be proactive. He says tax payers are the reason that Happy Hollow Elementary exists. And this law suit is about protecting the citizen's interests.

**9-18 Ran Noon News (:35)**

Sheriff's Deputy Beth Kidwell has been serving the community as a patrol officer for ten years. She has also taught RAD Kid's classes during her tenure. Kidwell says becoming a resource officer has been the ultimate goal for her since she joined the force. She's excited to play a positive role in children and parents' lives.

### **Transportation and Infrastructure**

The long awaited county fairgrounds renovations have wrapped and just in time for the fair. How will they look and how will people react to some of the new parking restrictions. The Hoosier Line Amtrak route has closed with mixed reaction from the community. Project leaders are working to figure out other modes of public transport to connect Lafayette with the rest of the state. The Sagamore Parkway bridge is final open after two years of demo and construction. How does the new bridge compare to the old one?

### **7-1 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

Phase one of the fairgrounds renovation project is wrapping up. That phase included the new horse barn, the expansion of restrooms, three dry detention ponds and additional parking. Phase two will go out for bids in late July and will focus on constructing a new coliseum. Their plan is to see the building up by November of this year. County Commissioner, David Byers says the newest parking lot will accommodate everyone attending and space for the carnival.

### **7-1 Ran 11 P.M. News (:60)**

A driver could be fined one hundred dollars for the unsafe opening of a car door. They could also face a one-thousand dollar fine for the careless operation of a vehicle causing injury or death to a bicyclists or pedestrian. The person operating the bicycle must be a lawful rider for any of the fines to be valid. Mayor John Dennis says this is a good way to help the community of bicyclists get around the city worry free.

### **7-2 Ran Morning News (:60)**

Although the DNR says this expansion is all part of the park's master plan, the main purpose is to relocate power lines in the park. When the DNR first started discussions, there were three options for the power line issue. Build the power lines on land the DNR plans to develop. Purchase new land to put the lines. Or relocate them to the 1920's farm at Prophetstown, which would be the cheapest. Leslie with the farm says the final solution to build the lines in a new area benefits the farm and the park. She also says it won't affect the beauty of the park either.

### **7-2 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

They say bussing is still a viable option for traveling to Chicago or Indianapolis. There are currently three bus services available in Lafayette. Greyhound, Hoosier-Ride and a new bus service called Our Bus. All three pick-up and drop-off near the city bus terminal. Arvid Olson with the Greater Lafayette Commerce says more transportation options are still in the works. He says with the cities large traveling population, more services are a necessity.

### **7-2 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The city is putting in these temporary spots while they close the park's parking lot to build a wellness center. City leaders say they will re-evaluate if these spots are necessary for use after the project is complete. Assistant City Engineer Marcus Smith says residents in the neighborhood across from the park may find this additional parking useful.

### **7-2 Ran 6 P.M. News (:34)**

If approved, the increase would start as soon as this time next year, with a 13- percent bump, and then another 2- percent the year after. It would net Duke an extra 395- million dollars a year. The company says it wants to use part of that money to invest in greener infrastructure and improve outage restoration times. It also says right now, the company offers some of the lowest rates in Indiana.

### **7-2 Ran 10 P.M. News (:30)**

An ordinance was approved by city leaders at West Lafayette's city council meeting, it says the land will be rezoned to allow Continuum Apartments to be built. As we reported, there will be 249 units. That includes 166 one-bedroom apartments and 83 two-bedroom apartments. 350 spaces will be in the parking garage and almost 15,000 square feet of commercial space will be available.

### **7-3 Ran Morning News (:34)**

The project- starting Monday- will separate storm water from waste-water. A small sewer will be added to an existing larger sewer. During a storm, the large sewer will fill up with water and the smaller one will help to flush the water out. That water will then flow to a pump station that dumps into the Wabash. City Engineer Jeremy Grenard says this system will save so much money that the project will pay for itself. Grenard says the sewer will operate like a dry pond.

### **7-3 Ran Morning News (:31)**

Greater Lafayette leaders are looking into new ways of transportation since the Hoosier State Line service was cut. They say busing is still a viable option for traveling to Chicago or Indianapolis. There are currently three bus services available in Lafayette.

### **7-3 Ran 11 P.M. News (:29)**

We're just a few minutes out from the closing of Harrison Bridge over the Wabash River. The reason? It's the new location for city's Stars and Stripes fireworks tomorrow night. The bridge will close at midnight and stay that way through tomorrow so crews can set up the pyrotechnics. The event kicks off at seven p-m with a performance by the Purdue Jazz Band. The Lafayette Citizens Band, the Freedom Singers and the Tippecanoe Fife and Drum Corp will follow at eight. Fireworks begin at 10 p-m.

### **7-5 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

It happened just before one o'clock at the CSX Railroad crossing at County Road 900 north and Harrison Road. The Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Office says the semi was hauling four passenger vehicles when it crossed over the tracks - and got stuck. The driver was able to get out before a southbound train ran into the semi. The semi and all of the passenger vehicles were heavily damaged. The train was also damaged, but was able to continue on its way. No one was injured in the crash.

### **7-8 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Yoder says he purchased the home from an older woman who he used to cut grass for. The woman moved out and approached him with the offer to buy the home. This is one of four other properties he owns. He says that he spent more than ten thousand dollars out of pocket for renovation and rebuilding. The city's attorney says they have filed a suit to demolish the home. Yoder says the city claims to have a conveyance but hasn't specified what that is. He has hired a lawyer in order to keep the home. He says there's no reason to tear down something that can be saved and re-used.

**7-11 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Town Marshal Jerry Burk says this problem has grown since the State Road 18 construction closure. Routing devices often take drivers through town to avoid the road closure. However he says these heavy trucks need to take state-designated detour routes. A town ordinance established in 1993 says the heaviest vehicle weight allowed in town is 20-thousand pounds. Burk says a concrete truck can weigh 80-thousand pounds

**7-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:35)**

The solar panel farm is going up on Purdue Discovery Park land. It will be built on the open green space that sits behind the Rolls-Royce Aerospace building located off U-S 231. Duke Energy plans to use the 10-acres of land to install 7-thousand panels. That can power at least 200 homes. Discovery Park District Director Jeremy Slater says this farm is fitting for that stretch of land. He says that area was deemed non-developable because of where it sits on the highway until now.

**7-16 Ran 10 P.M. News (:55)**

State Representative Chris Campbell is taking a proactive step in child safety. Today, she requested to have a bill drafted saying children must be in a rear facing car seat until the age of 2. Indiana does not currently have any law regarding kids in rear facing car seats. It has been appointed to legislators who will submit the bill and then Campbell will read it over. She says it's about protecting Indiana's children.

**7-17 Ran Noon News (:20)**

Starting Thursday at 8 a-m, INDOT will close the State Road 18 on-ramp to I-65 northbound. It's part of a resurfacing project along a 13 mile stretch of I-65. The State Road 18 exit will reopen Saturday at midnight.

**7-22 Ran Morning News (:20)**

Happening today, a part of State Road 114 through Rensselaer will be closed. Crews will work to repair a railroad crossing. The C-S-X tracks are between County road South 150 E east and County Road South 20 East. The road is expected to reopen Friday. Find information about the detour for this project on our website, WLFI .com

**7-22 Ran 5 P.M. News (1:20)**

We first reported that the fairgrounds would receive upgrades last spring. Now, fair-goers will be able to enjoy some of those improvements at this week's fair.

**7-23 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

This morning, city leaders announced the four companies they're looking to interview. Three of them are Indianapolis based and the other is based in Lafayette. These companies are among the ones who originally applied to take on the construction project. As we reported, West Lafayette mutually cut ties with the previous contractors working on the building. Mayor John Dennis says the city is serious about finding the right company in a timely matter.

**7-23 Ran 5 P.M. News (:20)**

A traffic alert for drivers in Lafayette - a lane restriction is coming to the five- points intersection. The restriction begins tomorrow on South Street between Main and 18th streets. The city of Lafayette says it will continue until the old Weaver building is torn down.

**7-24 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Thursday at 7 a-m, the left turn lane will close on U.S. 52 westbound at the intersection with Maplepoint Drive. Crews are installing a pipe and inlet. It's part of a more than 10-million dollar resurfacing project along U-S 52. The lane will reopen late Friday.

**7-25 Ran Noon News (:30)**

As we reported, the three-point- 5-mile stretch between Soldiers Home Road and Happy Hollow Road closed May 13th. The detour doubled the amount of travel time. Officials are urging drivers to still be cautious in the area, as landscaping and utility work is still being done. Construction signs and flaggers may still be in the area.

**7-29 Ran Morning News (:26)**

You can see where that is on your screen right now. There's little information at this time, but I can tell you a suggested detour that Lafayette Police have posted on social media. If you are driving South on 18th Street, you will be detoured to go East on Brady Lane. That will allow you to take Concord Road South. If you are driving North on 18th Street you will be detoured to go East on Veterans Memorial Parkway. You can then head North on Concord Road.

**7-31 Ran 10 P.M. News (:18)**

An intersection in Tippecanoe County is set to reopen - after being closed for nearly two months. The county says the intersection of Concord Road and County Road 430 South Intersection will reopen tonight. It has been closed since early June. Since then, crews have been busy reconstructing the intersection.

**8-4 Ran 6 P.M. News (:34)**

The Sheriff's Office made a post on Facebook telling everyone not to pass a school bus with a stop arm out. They also shared that 250 buses will be on the streets in all of Tippecanoe County once schools are in session. Along with that information, the post had a picture reminding drivers when they must stop and when they can continue their route. Lafayette Schools start on August 6th, West Lafayette schools go back August 8th and TSC begins on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

**8-5 Ran Morning News (:60)**

There will be a new water main replacement in that area. Northbound traffic will be closed and southbound traffic will still be open. ddThis second phase of the project will also include a new sidewalk along the east side of 4th Street.

### **8-6 Ran Morning News (1:15)**

Data shows the northwest part of the county is growing the fastest. Superintendent Scott Hanback says the corporation has preliminary drawings to renovate Klondike Elementary and Middle Schools. There are also renderings to build a new middle school. The current Klondike buildings would then be turned into two elementary schools. One would house Kindergarten through second grades. The other would include third through fifth.

### **8-7 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

The town of Brookston experienced a 3-hour power outage this week. Raising concern in the town. City officials say the cause of the outage was extreme heat. So many people were running their air conditioners, which caused the grid to become over-worked. The town says they are making changes to lessen the odds of an outage happening again.

### **8-11 Ran 6 P.M. News (:50)**

WLPD says power was out in the East and Western part of the city near US 231. They say it was due to a Duke Energy sub-station on Lindberg Road that caused the outage. Residents say the power went out this morning around 9 am. Parts of Sagamore Pkwy suffered from loss of power. WLPD says the power was restored around 2pm today in most areas. Although streetlights near Lindberg Road and Purdue University were out until around 3.

### **8-11 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

We have a good update to a story we first brought you at the end of June. Drivers in Clinton County are celebrating the success of their petition to have a stop sign put at an intersection. After nearly 200 signatures County officials, have place a stop sign at the intersection of County Road 950 West and 400 North. This is near Mulberry. Previously we reported that people living in Clinton County were concerned. They said the intersection was dangerous. That's when 22-year-old Brooke Michal put together the petition. She says she's glad the county listened and hopes it sends a message to the community.

### **8-12 Ran 6 P.M. News (:30)**

The town of Fowler is working to repair a water line break. Town leaders say it will put all of Fowler under a boil order until Wednesday, when they can be sure the system is back up to normal operating pressure. That's August 14th. We reached out for the cause of the water main break and haven't heard back yet.

**8-13 Ran Noon News (:36)**

You can expect demolition to begin soon on Lafayette's historic E.M. Weaver building. This morning, the Board of Works waived a 60-day waiting period on the building. That means demolition can begin immediately. The historic preservation committee argued the demolition would be a loss of a historic resource to the city. However, the police and fire departments said it was a safety hazard and could come down at any time on its own. As we reported, the 152-year-old building has severe cracks in its walls. The building commissioner expects it to be about a week before crews start the demolition process.

**8-14 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:31)**

Construction has come to a halt on State Road 18, causing residents in White and Carroll Counties to ask questions. News 18's Anna Darling found out why the construction stopped. And learned how a local brewery is trying to see the positive side of the situation.

**8-15 Ran Noon News (:25)**

The center is set to finish and open in January of 2021. The project is funded through the west Lafayette redevelopment commission and over all will cost \$30 plus million dollars. Mayor Dennis was at the event and said the city has been working on this for almost 25 plus years. The Contractor for the wellness and aquatic center is Brad Skillman from Skillman Corporation.

**8-15 Ran 5 P.M. News (:35)**

The Sophia Brumm Reconstruction projection is repairing the drainage ditch which stretches across Tippecanoe, Benton and White Counties. The project will cost more than 300-thousand dollars. The project is paid for by land owners in the area, one land owner understand the need for the drainage ditch to be updated but feels she is paying too much for the project, especially in a year where farmers are already having other issues.

**8-16 Ran Noon News (:26)**

This all comes after the fatal accident that happened on Friday July 7th. That accident involved a motorcycle and minivan and left one person dead. Drivers say people speed through the intersection, don't pay attention, and often times run red lights. Sgt. Mike Brown with LPD says crash stats at this intersection are actually going down from previous years. Driver Christopher Nees disagrees and says something needs to be done in this area.

**8-19 Ran 5 P.M. News (:48)**

A traffic alert to pass along to Lafayette drivers. A part of Veterans Memorial Parkway is now closed. The Indiana Department of Transportation is closing the road for a concrete patching project. The project is expected to last one week.

**8-19 Ran 6 P.M. News (:40)**

It's the end of an era for Lafayette. The former St. Elizabeth Hospital is being torn down today. Parts of the building date to 1885. Local resident Lee Coleman calls the demolition a "tragedy." She had hoped the building would be used a homeless shelter or a social agency. The city plans to turn the space into a park once demolition is complete.

**8-20 Ran Noon News (:30)**

It will take water and sanitary sewer services from the city limits near Sagamore Parkway to the I-65 interchange. That's about a one mile stretch. According to Lafayette City Engineer Jeremy Grenard, the project will have multiple phases. Grenard says lane restrictions will be enforced at times during the project.

**8-20 Ran 5 P.M. News (:25)**

A little after two o'clock this afternoon, strong winds and heavy rains brought the line down. The Lafayette Police Department blocked the area for about two hours. After the fire department came they cleared out debris and re-opened the road. No injuries were reported.

**8-20 Ran 6 P.M. News (:37)**

Elton Road by Old US Highway 231 South in Lafayette has reopened after a power line fell on the road. A little after two o'clock this afternoon strong winds and heavy rains brought the line down. Lafayette Police redirected traffic while the fire department cleared the road. No injuries were reported. Duke Energy's online outage map also shows an outage affecting a couple dozen homes in West Lafayette right now - and a few other scattered reports affecting only one or two homes.

**8-21 Ran 11 P.M. News (:33)**

Crews are beginning work on demolition and rebuilding for the historic ballpark. Because it's part of the construction site, pedestrians won't be able to use the east side of main street or the north side of Wallace Ave in front of the park. The intersection is eventually going to have the entrance to the new stadium, rather than coming in through the Columbian Park side. The sidewalks and the stadium itself aren't expected to be finished until November of 2020.

**8-22 Ran 5 P.M. News (:40)**

The Lafayette-based civil engineering company is working on the Main Street Street-scape Project phases three and four. They have to go into the basements of business along Main Street to look for structural issues. The amendment will allow the company to bring in engineers to look at several sites near 9th and Main streets. Including these glass tiles outside the Bison Financial group building. Which can be a walking hazard in the winter time. Any work that needs to be done to the basements of these buildings is the responsibility of the business owners to pay for.

**8-22 Ran 6 P.M. News (:30)**

A heads up for drivers. Happening tonight, lane restrictions will be in place on Interstate 65 near the Tippecanoe and Clinton county line. According to the Indiana Department of Transportation, crews will be strengthening the shoulder on the bridge over Lauramie Creek. That's about four and a half miles south of State Road 38, near the 164 mile marker. The contractor will have one lane open between nine p-m and six a-m. It's part of an eight million dollar project to repair bridges in the two counties.

**8-23 Ran 5 P.M. News (1:39)**

The Water Rate in Battle Ground increased this summer and now residents are worried about the town's sustainability. News 18's Hannah Poynter sat down with Battle Ground's Conservancy district and discussed why the rate needed to be increased.

**8-16 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

People have asked the city to put cameras out at that intersection. This request followed a fatal motorcycle accident on August 9th that left one dead and another injured. Mayor Roswarski says the city already tried getting a similar bill passed as early as 4 years ago. The state house vetoed that bill. He also says the City of Lafayette has offered to be a trial city for intersection cameras. He says he isn't against the idea although right now it's illegal in Indiana.

**8-28 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

Earlier this year, the city was able to drop the rates by 11.7 percent. Next Era is a Florida-based utility company. It has a purchased power agreement with Logansport Municipal Utilities. The company met with Mayor Dave Kitchell last week. It is proposing an extension of its existing five year agreement in exchanged for a decrease in power costs to the utility. Mayor Kitchell says any new agreement will have to allow L-M-U to build solar panels. This would further reduce energy and transmission costs.

**8-28 Ran 5 P.M. News (:55)**

The three million dollar facility replaces the former unit built in 1966. It serves as the hub for INDOT's Logansport unit. The unit covers more than 300 miles of state highway including the Hooiser Heartland. The new building provides more than two-thousand extra feet of space. Drive through garage bays and indoor washbays were also added. Operations Manager Johnie McIntire says being able to clean and store their trucks inside will make them more reliable.

**8-30 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The road opened around noon today..Cherry lane now extends out to U.S 231 and has been widened to three lanes. It's basically the new entrance into the north side of campus and it will help traffic flow greatly. New lighting was installed and there is a multi-use path for bikers and pedestrians.

### **8-30 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Battle Ground Resident Dawn Greer says for years she has worried over her safety at the intersection. She says she is hoping to make signs that would warn drivers of the five way stop. Other people living in Battle Ground say it is the busiest intersection, but also the most dangerous. Town Marshal Jerry Burk says the morning when everyone goes to work is the worst because drivers will just drive straight through without yielding.

### **9-3 Ran Noon News (:45)**

1626 and 1628 Main Street is a property connected to the E-M Weaver building. As we've previously reported, the Weaver building was already going to be torn down. However, part of it already collapsed last week. Owner Dan Vierk is buying the Main Street property. He says it will become the staging area for the Weaver building demolition.

### **9-3 Ran 5 P.M. News (:45)**

The current construction we see now is to allow for a new deck to be replaced- which is on the west bound bridge. This shifted traffic to one lane in each direction on the eastbound bridge. INDOT Communications director, Debbie Calder, says additional patch-work needed to be completed before opening. West Lafayette Native Gabrielle Myers says it can be dangerous traveling on the bridge because of congestion.

### **9-3 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

The commissioners approved 3-0 that the area be rezoned as a multi family development. The area is being developed by Tippecanoe Development II LLC. Their preliminary plans show that they want to build 22 sixteen unit buildings and 74 duplexes. Several residents who live in the subdivisions just down the road are concerned Concord Road wont be able to handle the traffic. But the commissioners say there is a current study on that road, which will be finished before anything is built.

### **9-4 Ran Morning News (:30)**

The City of Lafayette posted this video on its Facebook page yesterday. You can see one of the lights falling to the ground. The new stadium will be about seven feet lower than the current field. That means crews will need to haul away 40,000 cubic yards of dirt. Mayor Tony Roswarski says the new stadium will be used for much more than baseball. dHe says that includes family nights, concerts and other sporting events.

### **9-4 Ran 10 P.M. News (:45)**

The park started construction in early January- but heavy rainfall we saw earlier this year halted the opening. This resulted in cleaning up the site before construction could proceed. Community Development Director Annie Bacon says she estimates the project will not be completed till late this fall.

### **9-5 Ran Noon News (:45)**

Take a look at your screen. This is video I recorded a few weeks ago of a train stop here on Concord Road. The train sat on the tracks for about a half an hour. As you can see drivers were doing U-turns. Many drivers had already turned off their vehicles to save gas. Mayor Tony Roswarski says there is a statue that would allow the city to fine train companies up to \$200. He says although it can be frustrating, when the city's economy is doing well people see more trains. Roswarski says it's a double edged sword.

### **9-6 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

Wabash Township Deputy Chief Jim Lewis says home proximity is a national issue when it comes to fires spreading. And the more flammable materials in homes don't help either. Tippecanoe County law requires at least a 12-foot distance between each home. While the Lindberg Village homes do meet this requirement, He believes the home proximity laws should be changed.

### **9-7 Ran 6 P.M. News (:30)**

Police cars, fire trucks and helicopters oh my! These were among the 30 transportation vehicles displayed at this years Hands on Transportation event. The vehicle show is Imagination Station's biggest fundraiser of the year. The money benefits the different community programs the non-profit offers. Today's event allowed families to learn the function of the vehicles that drive through the community daily. Event organizer Brian Bettag says it's important the event is hands-on.

### **9-8 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

Purdue University Police say the Cherry Lane extension helped out a lot for the first football game of the season. Cherry Lane was extended through Northwestern Avenue leading to U.S. 231. The change was meant to alleviate traffic headaches during football games. Saturday was the first day the new extension was utilized. With more than 50,000 fans attending the Purdue Football game, the extension was also used as an aid for pedestrians and golf carts. Purdue PD Chief, John Cox, says because of Cherry Lane's extension everything ran smoothly.

### **9-10 Ran 5 P.M. News (:60)**

The new ruling would require applicants to have the state health department sign off on an individual's attempt to be recognized on their driver's license or state ID as anything other than their gender at birth. Not the BMV. Local LGBTQ advocates say they shouldn't have to jump through more hoops to get an I.D.

### **9-10 Ran 6 P.M. News (1:30)**

The West Lafayette Public Library is getting ready for an expansion. It's thanks to an 11-million dollar grant. As News 18's Hannah Poynter reports, the new additions will include maintenance and new space for the library.

### **9-12 Ran Morning News (:44)**

According to John Connell with CityBus, drivers are asked to stop if they are behind or approaching a stopped bus. If you are driving in the opposite lane with oncoming traffic, you are not asked to stop- but you are supposed to slow your speed. Connell told me there's a lot of children that ride on the CityBus, and sometimes they're alone. He explained the biggest challenge with school-aged children is that as riders, they are taught to cross the road in front of a school bus. On a CityBus, riders are encouraged to cross in the back.

### **9-12 Ran 5 P.M. News (:44)**

That road is still closed. And if you live on Lafayette's south side, the traffic from this crash may impact you. That's because drivers are being directed off the interstate at State Road 38. Here's the detour map. ISP has drivers going west on State Road 38 to U.S. 52. Then drivers will head south about 25 miles to State Road 47 and then back on the interstate.

### **9-13 Ran 5 P.M. News (1:26)**

Indiana State Police says crashes on I-65 north and south between Tippecanoe County and Clinton County haven't increased in the last year. This comes after a multi-vehicle crash yesterday that left one dead and another person airlifted. News 18's Marvin Bills joins us live near I-65 with more on what ISP and The Criminal Justice Institute are saying.

### **9-16 Ran Noon News (:40)**

The department is housed in Heavilon Hall. The building was built in the 1950s. Professors say they deal with roaches, flooding, mold, fumes and many other issues. They say one end of the building is freezing cold and the other is burning hot. And they can't open the windows because they're bolted shut. They say it's time for this building to go.

### **9-17 Ran Noon News (:31)**

Both lanes of traffic will not be open for a few weeks.. but one west-bound lane will be open today. One lane will continue to be closed to allow INDOT crews to store equipment they will need to clean up the cross-over lanes built for the project. The cross-over lane cleanup will take a few weeks.

INDOT asks drivers to use caution while their crews work to finish up the last stretch of this project.

### **9-17 Ran 5 P.M. News (:50)**

The shuttle service will be available to anyone with a Purdue account. The app-based service is currently in a pilot stage. It will replace the CityBus Black Loop for the remainder of the fall semester after launch. Riders will be able to travel to about 50 campus locations. Purdue's Transportation Services Director says the shuttles provide a new method of transportation on a growing campus.

**9-18 Ran 5 P.M. News (:35)**

This oil spill was only brought to the attention of police because of a small car accident. A woman driving a van slid on this ramp into the guard rail. She is going to be okay but she called LPD to alert them to what happened. As for a cause we are not sure right now, but the cleanup consisted of ground up corn on the cob. It is the best absorbent for a situation like this and theres a fine layer of concrete on top and they'll top that with sand. As for when it'll open...probably within the next few hours. I'll be live again at 6 for an update.

**9-19 Ran Noon News (:30)**

The fire department will be able to control it when needed. However, it will be activated by sensors and not on the timer used with the rest of the city's signals. There are already flashers in the area. But Mayor John Dennis says it's safer to have a full signal once the Wellness Center opens.

**9-20 Ran 5 P.M. News (:35)**

The sinkhole is located at ninth and south streets in downtown Lafayette. It appeared around 10 o'clock last night. A person contacted the city, thinking it was a large pothole. There was no damage to any cars and no injuries. City Engineer Jeremy Grenard says the sinkhole was caused by sandy soil that created a void in the concrete.

**9-24 Ran 6 P.M. News (:45)**

Right now, the road is cracking and concrete is breaking down. During the reconstruction, crews will add a pedestrian trail. INDOT will pay for 80 percent of the 4-point-one million dollar project. The city will cover the rest. City engineer Jeremy Grenard says it's a much needed improvement.

**9-27 Ran 5 P.M. News (:25)**

It was a year ago when the city announced that the Chauncey Hill Mall would be demolished for new development. Just this week on September 26th, Discount Den moved to its new location on West Stadium Avenue. The City is now concerned that if new development doesn't happen soon, Chauncey Hill could become a ghost town. Co-owners of the Chauncey Hill property are still deliberating on what they'd like to see take place of the famed shopping center. Mayor Dennis says with all of the new construction taking place around Chauncey, that area will soon look like an eye sore.