

WJDK-FM Issues and Program Report Quarter Four, 2022

Most stories first aired at 6am, unless otherwise noted.

Convicted Triple Murderer Sentenced – A 55-year-old Cullom man will spend the rest of his life in prison for killing three people on Christmas morning in 2019. Clifford Brewer was sentenced by Livingston County Judge Jennifer Bauknecht to three consecutive life prison terms without parole during a sentencing hearing on October 6th. This comes after Bauknecht denied a new trial motion and another motion by Josh and Steve Richards, who represented Brewer throughout the case. Livingston County State’s Attorney Randy Yedinak spoke to the media after the sentencing about the two denied motions. Brewer was convicted on six counts of First Degree Murder by a Livingston County jury after a trial that started on August 8th and concluded on August 16th. The Livingston County State’s Attorney Office displayed evidence throughout the case that showed Brewer shot and killed his wife 48-year-old Shirley Brewer, his 27-year-old son Christian Brewer and his neighbor 51-year-old Norman Walker at a house in the 400 block of East Jackson Street in Cullom on Christmas morning in 2019. **Air dates:** 10/6 - 10/7

Morris Lithium Battery Fire Site Update – No more batteries are on the site of the old federal paper board property. Several first responders were called to the massive lithium battery fire on the east side of Morris that started shortly before noon on June 29th of 2021. Over the next several days, firefighters monitored the blaze and also used a concrete method to help put out the fire. More than 3,000 residents were also forced to evacuate on the east side of Morris from June 29th until July 2nd due to potential hazards from the fire and smoke. The fire was officially considered extinguished on July 11th. The U.S. EPA officially took over the cleanup process in late 2021. Leonard Zintak with the US EPA said the last shipment of batteries were taken off the property on October 13th. Zintak explained to WJDK where the batteries were shipped to and gave other details. **Air dates:** 10/13 -10/15

Village of Diamond Getting a Jewel-Osco – The Diamond Village Board approved several items allowing for a Jewel-Osco on November 9th. Diamond Mayor Terry Kernc said it will be located at the southeast corner of Will Road and Route 113. Kernc spoke with WJDK about a timeline of construction and other aspects of the project. **Air dates:** 11/10 – 11/11

Major Morris Route 6 Construction Project Announced – Major constructions on Route 6 throughout Morris could happen within the next five years. Illinois Department of Transportation District 3 Studies and Plans Engineer David Alexander spoke with WJDK about several details of the project. **Air dates:** 12/5 – 12/6

Operation St. Nick Shatters Record – A record breaking amount of money was raised during the 40th annual Operation St. Nick Radio auction on December 11th. St. Nick President Joe Schmitz said \$227,000 was raised in the four hour auction and proceeds

help the less fortunate in Grundy County. The previous record of \$161,000 was set back in 2021. The auction has surpassed the \$100,000 mark 14 out of past 15 years. The four hour auction was broadcast on 103.1 WCSJ. **Air dates:** 12/12, 12/29

Morris Library Announces Expansion - The Morris Area Public Library will be expanding in the near future. That's according to Library Director Resa Mai as they have purchased the house at 114 West North Street. Mai spoke with WJDK about several aspects of the project. **Air dates:** 12/12, 12/29

Also provided important information about state legislation, arrest reports, municipal meetings, and public safety/health reminders throughout the quarter.