

**QUARTERLY ISSUES PROGRAMMING REPORT**  
**WEHT-TV**  
**Henderson, KY / Evansville, IN**

**Third Quarter (July 1-Sept. 30) 2016**

**ISSUE ONE: POLITICS**

This year's presidential election has taken the nation by storm with two candidates who have been unpopular among some voters with their polarizing policies. Eyewitness News has followed the process from Trump and Clinton's nominations to debates ahead of November 8.

How the issue was treated on a local basis: In-depth coverage and live news stories.

Brad Byrd In-Depth: Bob Glenn Discusses GOP Convention

Guest: Political Analyst Bob Glenn

July 19, 2016

TRT: 9:39

Synopsis: On the second day of the Republican National Convention, the GOP chose its nominee. The Republicans held their vote on Tuesday on the convention floor to make Donald Trump officially the Republican presidential nominee. Tuesday's nomination followed a turbulent first day of the convention. A key part of Melania Trump's speech on Monday night had almost the exact same verbatim from First Lady Michelle Obama's speech at the Democratic National Convention in 2008. Brad Byrd talks with Owensboro Political Analyst Bob Glenn about the alleged plagiarism of Melania Trump's speech, and what's next for Donald Trump now that he is officially the GOP presidential nominee.

Brad Byrd In-Depth: Dr. Matt Hanka Talks Democratic Convention

Guest: University of Southern Indiana Associate Professor of Political Science Dr. Matt Hanka

July 25, 2016

TRT: 12:33

Synopsis: The Democratic National Convention got underway on Monday in Philadelphia and got off to a rocky start with Democratic leaders calling for party unity. Over the weekend, thousands of private Democratic National Committee emails were leaked and posted online, raising questions about whether Democratic Party leaders actively supported Hillary Clinton's campaign during the primary season. Outgoing DNC Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz announced on Sunday that she would resign after the convention. And after continued questions about her leadership, she announced Monday afternoon she was going to reduce her role for the convention. Brad Byrd sits down with Dr. Matt Hanka, an associate professor of political science at the University of Southern Indiana, to discuss what to expect during this week's Democratic Convention and the fallout from the leaked DNC emails.

Trump, Pence Arrive in Tri-State for Fundraiser - Live news package

August 15, 2016

TRT: 2:45

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, and his running mate, Indiana Governor Mike Pence touch down in the Tri-State. The two were at a fundraiser dinner at the home of Evansville businessman Steve Chancellor.

## ISSUE TWO: Community

The Summer Olympics undoubtedly has a global audience, but it seems like a small world as Evansville native Lilly King brought home the gold for swimming events while in Rio.

How the issue was treated: In-Depth Coverage.

### 1. Brad Byrd In-Depth: Brad Speaks with Lilly King

Guest: Olympic Gold Medalist Lilly King

August 24, 2016

After returning from the Rio Games, Lilly King returned to her hometown of Evansville on Wednesday as a two time Olympic gold medalist. King won her two gold medals in the Women's 100 Meter Breaststroke and the Women's 4x100 Meter Medley Relay. Brad Byrd sat down with Lilly King to discuss the pressure, hard work, and perseverance that led her to her two gold medals.

### 2. Brad Byrd In-Depth: Anne Audain, Dave Baumeyer React to Lilly King's Gold Medal

Guests: Former Olympic Runner Anne Audain and Reitz High School Swimming Coach Dave Baumeyer

August 9, 2016

TRT: 11:09

Synopsis: Evansville native Lilly King achieves glory on the global stage after winning the gold medal Tuesday night in the women's 100 meter breaststroke at the Rio Olympics. King also made headlines for her comments on athletes in the middle of doping allegations, including her Russian rival Yulia Efimova. Brad Byrd sits down with Anne Audain, a former Olympic runner from New Zealand, and Reitz High School Swimming Coach Dave Baumeyer to discuss King winning the gold medal and doping scandals among Olympic athletes.

Eyewitness News is there for our veterans. Honor Flights throughout our community provide veterans the opportunity to see the capitol.

How the issue was treated: In-depth coverage.

### Brad Byrd In-Depth: Patrick Savage, David Hale Preview Honor Flight Expo

Guests: Vietnam War Veteran and Director of Veteran Outreach Patrick Savage and Evansville Radio Control Model Aircraft Club President David Hale

August 10, 2016

TRT: 9:08

Synopsis: On Saturday, August 13, The Evansville Radio Control Model Aircraft Club (ERCMAC) will be hosting the Honor Flight Expo. The event begins at 9 a.m. at Jack Charlier Field off Interstate 69. All proceeds go to the Honor Flight of Southern Indiana. Brad Byrd talks with Patrick Savage, a Vietnam veteran and director of Veteran Outreach, and ERCMAC President David Hale about Saturday's Honor Flight Expo.

In Louisiana, people are still suffering the wrath of historic floods, with more recorded rainfall than Hurricane Katrina. In South Bend, hundreds more were hit with flooding. In the Tristate, the American Red Cross, with the help of local media, did what it could to help the affected areas.

How the issue was treated: Live media-thon and live news package.

Tri-State Gives Back Media-thon

August 31, 2016

Package TRT: 2:00, Live coverage spanned 12 hours.

Eyewitness news teamed up with other local media and the Red Cross for Tri-State Cares, a media-thon to bring relief to those affected by recent natural disasters. Volunteers at the Evansville American Red Cross took phone calls all day Wednesday, raising donations for victims of storm damage in central and northern Indiana, and Louisiana.

### **ISSUE THREE: CHILDREN/YOUTH**

A number of local businesses and organizations step up with programs that bring opportunities for children that may not be normally accessible.

How the issue was treated: In-depth and live news coverage.

Dream Bigger Weekend stories:

#### **1. Brad Byrd In-Depth: Dream Bigger Weekend Preview**

Guest: Evansville Police Chief Billy Bolin and Sgt. Jason Cullum

August 22, 2016

TRT: 8:19

Synopsis: The Evansville Police Department, Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office, and Media Ministries Dream Center will celebrate the 2nd annual "Dream Bigger Weekend" at the Dream Car Museum at Bennett Motors. It lasts from Friday, August 26, until Sunday, August 28. Evansville Police and the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office will be raising money to help finance "Cops Connecting with Kids" for its third annual trip to Disney World. More than 40 students from Cedar Hall Community School and Glenwood Leadership Academy will take the trip of a lifetime in 2017. Media Ministries Dream Center will also use proceeds to purchase non-perishable food, turkeys, and bagged fruit to fill 2,000 Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes to feed families during the holiday season. Newburgh BBQ Coalition will be selling BBQ ribs, pulled pork sandwiches, and tenderloins all weekend. Brad Byrd sits down with Evansville Police Chief Billy Bolin and Sgt. Jason Cullum to preview the "Dream Bigger Weekend" event and discuss the impact the "Cops Connecting with Kids" program has on local youth.

#### **2. Dream Bigger Weekend - Live news coverage**

August 26, 2016

TRT: 4:15

It's a big day and weekend ahead for the Evansville Police Department, Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office and Media Ministries Dream Center and they are kicking off their second "Dream Bigger Weekend."

Meteorologist Joe Bird is at Bennett Motors at Diamond and Heidelberg, talking with Evansville Police Chief Billy Bolin about raising money to take a group of Evansville kids to Disney World.

Logan's Promise is an organization created in the wake of Logan Brown's death. Logan died in a drunk driving accident in 2015. Logan's Promise provides scholarship opportunities to students and encourages drinking responsibility.

How the issue was treated: In-depth coverage.

Brad Byrd In-Depth: More Logan's Promise Scholarships

Guest: Logan's Promise President Charles Brown

September 7, 2016

TRT: 7:16

Synopsis: In May, eight students receive \$1,000 scholarships from the Logan's Promise Foundation. Scholarships were handed out to students from seven Evansville high schools and Castle High School. The program is a way to honor the memory of Logan Brown, a Reitz High School student who died in a drunk driving crash in March 2015. Brad Byrd talks with Logan's father, Charles Brown, who is the president of Logan's Promise, about new scholarships the organization will be presenting next spring. The Logan's Promise Foundation will be growing to 10 scholarships and students from Warrick County, Posey County, Gibson County, and Henderson County will be eligible. Logan's Promise will also be holding two upcoming events to raise funds. It will be hosting a sand volleyball tournament on Saturday, September 10, starting at 9 a.m. at Wesselman's Park. Logan's Promise will also be holding a "Promise and Drive" campaign on September 17, at Dempewolf Ford located at 2530 U.S. 41 North in Henderson.

#### **ISSUE FOUR: CRIME/LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Aleah's family reported her missing from her home in July. Beckerle, a special-needs teen, disappeared without her wheelchair and without any answers as to who took her and where she went. Eyewitness News has followed the search efforts from the beginning.

How the issue was treated: News stories and live coverage.

##### **1. Search for Aleah Beckerle Grows**

July 23, 2016

TRT: 1:30

Lydia LaRue is doing anything she can to see her granddaughter, 19-year-old Aleah Beckerle, home safe. "I know we're going to find her. I know we are. It's going to be any minute, any time," she said. "We miss her so very much. The house is so empty without her."

##### **2. EPD Serves Search Warrant at Aleah Beckerle's House**

August 4, 2016

TRT: 1:00

Evansville Police served a search warrant in the 400 block of East Iowa St. at the house of Aleah Beckerle on Thursday. It's unclear at this time what police took out of the house, but they were seen walking out of the house with large bags. The search warrant was for electronic devices. Aleah's mother, Cara Beckerle, has not been listed as a person of interest and has not been labeled a suspect.

### 3. EPD Says Found Remains are Not Aleah Beckerle

September 21, 2016

TRT: 2:00

Several Evansville Police officers are on scene at Weinbach Ave. and I-69. Evansville Police say they did not find the remains of Aleah Beckerle. It turned out to be animal bones.

### 4. Landfill Search for Aleah Beckerle Continues for Third Day

September 28, 2016

TRT: 1:45

Despite the rain Wednesday morning, federal agents continued looking through trash at the Blackfoot Landfill in Pike County for a third day.

Michael Gann, the man who pleaded guilty to driving drunk and causing an accident that killed an Evansville teen in March 2015, is sentenced.

How the issue was treated: Live news package

#### Michael Gann Sentencing

August 15, 2016

TRT: 1:30

Michael Gann, the man who pleaded guilty to driving drunk and causing an accident that killed an Evansville teen, is sentenced. The accident happened in March 2015. Michael Gann pleaded guilty to driving drunk causing death and injury, and to leaving the scene of an accident. Reitz High School student Logan Brown, 15, was killed in the crash.

Kendra Tooley is sentenced for her involvement in a high-profile case involving Joelle Lockwood, the victim held for two months against her will inside a home who was bound, caged and raped. Tooley's sentencing brings closure to the graphic kidnapping case.

How the issue was treated: Live news package

#### Kendra Tooley Sentencing

July 26, 2016

TRT:

Kendra Tooley, the woman behind Ricky House in the high-profile Joelle Lockwood case, pleads guilty in Posey County court. Tooley and her boyfriend, House bound, caged, and raped Lockwood for two months in their Stewartsville, Indiana trailer. She pleads to one count of rape, and two counts of criminal confinement. As part of the plea agreement, she will spend 25 years in prison.

## **ISSUE FIVE: HEALTH/HEALTHCARE**

Deaconess Health System made a major announcement on an affiliation with the MD Anderson Cancer Network bringing a new level of oncology care to the Tri-State.

How the issue was treated: In-depth and live news coverage.

### 1. Brad Byrd In-Depth: Deaconess Partnering with MD Anderson

September 20, 2016

Guests: Dr. Chris Braden, medical oncologist and Deaconess Health System Oncology Committee Chairman, and Debi Wilson, MSN, RN, Director of Cancer Services

TRT: 9:23

Synopsis: On Monday, Deaconess Health System made a major announcement on an affiliation with the MD Anderson Cancer Network. This will allow local doctors to be certified and allow cancer patients to receive all the needed care with the expertise of MD Anderson at the Deaconess Chancellor Center for Oncology. Brad Byrd talks with Dr. Chris Braden, a medical oncologist and chairman of the Deaconess Health System Oncology Committee, and Debi Wilson, MSN, RN, Director of Cancer Services at Deaconess Health, on why the new affiliation with MD Anderson is so important to people in the Tri-State area.

## 2. Deaconess Announces MD Anderson Partnership – Live news package

September 19, 2016

TRT: 2:15

A new partner and new hope is here for Tri-State patients dealing with the reality of cancer. Deaconess Health officials said Monday the Deaconess Chancellor Center for Oncology is now affiliated with the nation's top cancer treatment network.

The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure is scheduled for September 25. The annual event at Eastland Mall raises thousands of dollars in the fight against breast cancer.

How the issue was treated: In-Depth coverage, live coverage, news stories.

### 1. September 6, 2016

Brad Byrd In-Depth: Pink Out the West Side

Guests: Karen Sue Blaize of Franklin Street Events Association and Susan G. Komen Volunteer Charlie Stuart

TRT: 8:02

Synopsis: The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure is scheduled for September 25. The annual event at Eastland Mall raises thousands of dollars in the fight against breast cancer. But starting on Friday, there will be nine days of events and fundraisers on the west side benefiting the Komen Foundation. It's called "Pink Out the West Side" which is put on by the Franklin Street Events Association. Brad Byrd talks with Karen Sue Blaize of the Franklin Street Events Association and Susan G. Komen Foundation volunteer Charlie Stuart about the upcoming fundraisers and how people can get involved.

### 2. Sept. 25, 2016

Race for the Cure Live Coverage

Duration: 1 hour

Eyewitness News provided live coverage of the Race for the Cure Event in Evansville on Sunday, Sept. 25. The live coverage was followed by a playback of the show later in the evening.

Zika virus has become an international health issue that's made its way on American soil. To better understand the virus and inform viewers on what they need to know, a local medical professional discusses Zika in detail.

Brad Byrd In-Depth: Dr. Payal Patel-Dovlatabadi Breaks Down Zika Virus

Guest: University of Evansville Director of Public Health Dr. Payal Patel-Dovlatabadi

August 29, 2016

TRT: 6:31

Synopsis: The Zika virus has made headlines for several months after reports of the virus in South America, Central American, and the Caribbean. Now, there are reports of mosquitoes testing positive for the virus in Miami, Florida. Brad Byrd talks with Dr. Payal Patel-Dovlatabadi, the director of Public Health for the University of Evansville, about what the public needs to know about the Zika virus.