

The following is a summary of issues filed for the radio station WZDM for the period between October first and December 31st, 2012. The issues were covered in overnight newscasts from seven p-m to five a-m seven days a week, as well as in newscasts every half-hour from five a-m to nine a-m, and at 12 noon, 4 p-m, and five p-m. This list is by no means comprehensive.

(Grant writing conference)(Friday 10/5/12 ... tlz 6a)

Area non-profit groups are encouraged to attend a coming grant workshop on October 29th at the Fortnightly Building in Vincennes. The Knox County Public Library is hosting the grant-writing seminar to assist non-profits in writing and submitting grant applications to various groups. The seminar is also co-sponsored by the Indiana Non-Profit Resource Network.

(Skillman's grant)(Thursday 10/4/12 ... tlz 6a)

Indiana Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman has officially given a 500-thousand dollar grant to the City of Vincennes. The grant will assist with installation of a 42-inch sewer line and five new manholes, and with removal of two sewer lines from near the City levee. The affected lines are a 36-inch sewer line and two manholes, and a collapsed 30-inch sewer line.

Indiana State Police Remind Hunters About

Dangers of Meth Lab Trash

Jds 10-10-12

Indiana State Police are warning hunters about coming into contact with meth lab trash.

The Indiana State Police Meth Suppression Section says that trash may contain chemicals that are toxic, flammable, corrosive and acidic.

The combination of the chemicals could cause an explosion, fire or burns if they come into direct contact with the skin.

Items to look out for include 1 ½ gallon gas cans; battery casings; Ziploc style bags; empty blister packs; back packs; and various containers that contain a granular material.

Also, be aware of any type of cylinders found in an odd place that can contain anhydrous ammonia.

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(Exec Hearing) (Wednesday 10-10-12...JT)

A hearing on the fate of the Executive Inn took place Tuesday in Knox Superior Court One.

The short hearing allowed both sides to state their arguments about three issues in the case. The first motion was to dismiss a demolition restraining order filed by the plaintiff Mark Valdes (val-DESS). In the motion, Valdes claims the city doesn't have jurisdiction to demolish the structure. The second motion was by the City; City officials allege the appeal for a demolition restraining order was untimely. The third legal argument concerns whether or not earlier hearing minutes should be provided to presiding Judge Sherri Gilmore.

Judge Gilmore told both sides she would rule at a later date. The judge has 90 days to issue a ruling; however, several legal issues could stall the ruling past the 90-day window.

(UEA-- Pocket park design) (Thursday 10/11/12 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Urban Enterprise Association considered designs for a Main Street "pocket park" during last night's session at City Hall. The designs were forwarded by Vincennes architect Larry Donovan. The park would be located in former storefront area in the 400-block of Main Street.

Donovan's design includes a brick front facing Main Street, along with landscaping, a reflecting pool, and restrooms near the entrance. The park's brick front would blend in with downtown's other storefronts.

(North Knox Gym Hearing) (Thursday 10-11-12...JT)

The North Knox School Board has approved the financial forms to move on its new auxiliary gym project. The approval came during a special Board meeting last night at North Knox High School.

North Knox Superintendent Darrell Bobe told those attending that the nearly five-million dollar facility will be funded by a 15-year bond issue, if the bonds are issued this year. He told taxpayers their taxes will rise regardless of gym construction, despite district property values nearly doubling since last year. The property value rise is being fueled by Duke Energy's power plant project in Edwardsport.

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(Battles-Borders debate) (Friday 10/12/12 ... tlz 6a)

The two candidates running for the 45th Indiana House District seat debated the issues last night at Vincennes University. Incumbent Republican Bruce Borders, and Democrat challenger Kreg Battles, gave different opinions on many issues during the debate. Battles is the current 64th District State Representative; however, redistricting has moved Battles' home into the 45th District.

(Sandborn overnight fire) (Friday 10/13/12 ... tlz 6a)

Several units were called last night to an overnight fire involving four abandoned shops in downtown Sandborn, and a second fire in Sandborn involving a mobile home.

Sandborn firemen were called to the fire scene on College Street around eleven-20 last night. A total of four vacant shops were on fire when crews arrived; firemen say two of them were completely involved upon arrival. Firefighters brought the fire under control around twelve-30 this morning; crews are expected to stay on the scene throughout the day today. At least two of the vacant shops are considered total losses; the other two suffered some damage from the fire.

(Gimbel-Bond Hearing) (Wednesday 10-17-12...jt/tlz 12n)
(updated 10/18)

A hearing scheduled for yesterday on a lawsuit concerning the former Gimbel-Bond property did not take place. The City's court motion was to remove Travis Tarrants from the City's related suit against former property owner Darl Lommel. The property at Second and Main Streets in Vincennes was destroyed by fire in mid-December of last year.

(BZA Meeting) (Wednesday 10-17-12...JT 6a)

The Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals deadlocked on a vote to allow a special exception for a turkey-brooding facility in Bicknell.

The meeting was packed with people opposing use of property near Pine Bluff Drive in Bicknell for the facility. The property is being considered for use by Farbest Foods' coming turkey-processing plant.

Farbest representative Jay Houchins said the proposed facility would have six, thirty thousand square foot turkey barns that would bring in a

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cycle of freshly hatched turkeys every eight weeks. The facility would be a bio-secure facility that would have three full time employees. Houchins said the facility would have a low impact to the community.

However, several nearby residents spoke against the facility. Some accused Farbest of acquiring the property through "underhanded" means. Other neighborhood concerns include property values, air quality, and increased vehicle traffic on Miller Road.

(LC Board Budget)(Thursday 10-18-12...JT)

The Lawrence County Board voted to amend their tentative 2013 budget at last night's meeting, but not without a fight.

Board Member David White presented the 2013 budget to file in the county clerks office. As presented, the county's budget was projected at an 85,000 dollar deficit--as opposed to a 300,000 deficit projected last year. The improvement was due to departmental cutbacks.

However, Board member Bonnie Hann pointed out the salary for the Assistant State Attorney had been left out of the budget. White explained that the 27,000 dollar salary had been cut because the budget committee did not know if they could fund it. Hann argued it would be "the wrong move" to eliminate that position, because of the already overwhelming case load of the county's State's Attorney Office.

(Comm-- Hillcrest property) (Thursday 10/18/12 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County Commissioners have started the process of reverting the Hillcrest building to the Knox County Parks Department. Parks Department director Rama Sobhani is seeking jurisdiction to deal with the burned-out structure at Hillcrest Park.

The property was given to Southern Indiana Homeownership, Incorporated for development. However, a plan to refurbish the building into senior-based apartments fell through, and no action has taken place on the building. The county's contract with S-I-H-I states the County would regain control of the building if no action happens on the structure.

(Citco-- Budget passage) (Tuesday 10/23/12 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes City Council has approved its 2013 budget-- but not without opposition from two City Council members. The budget passed five-two, with T-J Brink and Tim Salters voting agsint the measure.

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Vincennes Budget and Finance Committee chair Scott Brown supported the budget as submitted. Some opposition was raised over a third deputy being added to assist City Clerk-Treasurer David Culp; however, Brown says the extra deputy will make up for the departure of Don Kirk from City Council.

(Pence at Zander's) (Tuesdday 10-23-12...JT)
(updated 10/24)

Indiana Republican Governor's Candidate Mike Pence made a campaign stop in Vincennes yesterday to meet and greet supporters.

Pence told a large crowd he's heard the same story in Southern Indiana he's heard everywhere else: job creation is priority one.

(8th District debate-- Story "A") (Thursday 10/25/12 ... tlz 6a)

The major parties' candidates for western Indiana's Eighth Congressional District position debated the issues last night at Vincennes University. Incumbent Republican Larry Bucshon (boo-SHAWN), and Democrat challenger Dave Crooks, faced off in last night's event. Libertarian candidate Bart Gadau was scheduled to be in the debate, but was unable to attend.

One issue the two candidates debated was the Affordable Care Act. Bucshon believes the Act as a whole is not good for either small business, or the state of Indiana. Crooks also stated his disagreement with the Affordable Care Act. He feels on the balance, the Act does not represent small business.

(Federal arrest near Vincennes) (Thursday 10/25/12 ... tlz 6a)

Federal, state, and local authorities joined together to arrest a Vincennes man late yesterday afternoon on a federal warrant out of Kentucky. The man was identified as David Schlomer; he was arrested at his residence at 302 Schlomer Road. The arrest happened around six p-m yesterday.

Schlomer was charged with a single federal count of possession of a firearm by a seriously violent felon. A State Police trooper who is part of the U-S Marshal's Task Force transported Schlomer to Henderson, Kentucky, where he was taken into federal custody.

(Lincoln Band To State) (Monday 10-29-12...JT)

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A Top 10 finish for The Lincoln Pride of the Green Marching band means it will be heading to state competition in Indianapolis this weekend.

The top 10 bands from each class moved on to the State Finals Competition at Lucas Oil Stadium. The state finals will be held at the stadium on November third. Lincoln is one of 40 bands-- 10 from each of the four classes-- to move onto state finals.

(WorkOne--VanGo press conference) (Tuesday 10/30/12 ... tlz 6a)

WorkOne of Vincennes and Vincennes Van Go are teaming up to offer a van route to help job seekers. Details of the coming route will be announced at a press conference on Thursday, November eighth, at ten a-m at Work One's Vincennes location. WorkOne is located inside the Indiana Center for Applied Technology at Vincennes University.

WorkOne Executive Director Jim Heck says the program will provide free ride tokens to job seekers to travel to Work One's offices. Ride starting points include one stop near Jamestown Place, and one stop in downtown Vincennes. The route will run Tuesdays and Fridays from both locations, starting Tuesday, November 13th.

(Duke's Edwardsport milestone) (Thursday 11/1/12 ... tlz 6a)

Officials at Duke Energy have announced another milestone toward operation of its new coal-gasification plant at Edwardsport. Duke officials completed a successful test of using gasified coal to generate electricity.

In an interview with "Inside Indiana Business," Duke spokeswoman Angeline Protogere says the test run is the first of many between now and mid-2013.

The same Inside Indiana Business report also found the plant's final cost estimate also increased by 174 million dollars-- to just over three billion dollars. Protogere states the project's size caused the cost increase.

(Demo control of County Boards) (Wednesday 11/7/12 ... tlz 6a)

Knox County Democrats will keep control of both County boards, as all five Democrats running won in the Commissioners and Council races. Donnie Halter defeated Brett Bobe by around 750 votes in the race for County Commissioners District One; Larry Holscher was un-opposed in the race for Commissioners District Two. The two newcomers will join returning Commissioner Rowe Sargent on the Board of Commissioners in 2013. Halter and

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Holscher will join together to keep a 2-1 Democrat advantage on the Board of Commissioners.

All three incumbent Knox County Council At-Large candidates won re-election as well. Steve Thais (TACE) was the leading vote-getter, with Mike Thompson and Terry Johnson finishing second and third. Republican Savannah Linenberg finished fourth, after staying close to the top three throughout the evening.

(Battles boots Elvis) (Wednesday 11/7/12 ... tlz 6a)

Former 64th District State Representative Kreg Battles will now become new 45th District State Representative Kreg Battles. Battles won a razor-thin 89-vote margin over incumbent 45th District Republican Bruce Borders.

An over one-thousand vote advantage in Knox County helped give Battles the overall victory. Battles thanked Knox County voters for their overwhelming support.

The race came down to the final precinct-- Borders' home precinct in Greene County. Battles won that precinct by seven votes, and cemented his victory. Battles is thrilled to win Borders' home precinct to sew up the election.

(Pence-- Governorship) (Wednesday 11/7/12 ... tlz 6a)

Mike Pence defeated Sandborn's John Gregg in a close race to become Indiana's next Governor. Pence held on after Gregg had trimmed a comfortable polling advantage to single digits in the days before the election.

In his victory speech, Pence held out an olive branch to those who did not vote for him on Election Day. Gregg says he is thankful for the chance to campaign for the state's top position.

Pence will keep the Governor's office in Republican hands for a third term in a row.

(Vincennes School Board-- story "A") (Wednesday 11/7/12 ... tlz 6a)

Two new members and one holdover member will serve on the Vincennes Community School Board starting next year. Newcomers Barb Toole and Karla Smith will join re-elected School Board member Aaron Bauer on the Board.

Smith was the top vote-getter, with 42-hundred 72 votes. Bauer was second, with 41-hundred 89 votes, while Toole was third at four thousand 62

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votes. Incumbent Melissa Turner lost her re-election bid; she was fourth with 37-hundred 46 votes, while Jim King finished fifth.

(Lawrenceville Citco - Bridgeport Water Controversy)(Thursday 11-8-12...JT 6a)

The Lawrenceville City Council heard from Bridgeport Mayor Max Schauf at their meeting last night.

Schauf was there to dispel some spreading rumors about a water agreement between the two communities.. He said the City of Lawrenceville will be solely responsible for the water supply to the Lawrence Correctional Center, and that Bridgeport will not be responsible for monitoring or treatment of that water. The Illinois D-O-C prison facility is located west of Bridgeport near the Lawrence-Richland county line.

He also said Bridgeport will never shut off the water line to the prison, and that it will be open at all times. Schauf said it would be silly and foolish to close that line off. He also believes that rumor has been one of the most malicious ones spread about the agreement.

(Judge Theobald passes) (Monday 11/12/12 ... tlz 6a)

Former Knox Superior Court One judge Ed Theobald has passed away at the age of 80. Theobald served on the Superior Court One bench for over 20 years, before his retirement in the 1990's. He also served as Senior Judge for current Superior Court One judge Tim Crowley. Before becoming judge, he had also served as the Knox County Prosecutor. He was also very active with juvenile justice, as he served on the Juvenile Justice Committee, and helped found the Southwest Indiana Regional Youth Village. His service also included stints on the Knox County Library Board, and on the board of KCARC.

(Bicknell Moving Money) (11-13-12...JT 6a)

The City of Bicknell is moving some funds around to help cover the deficit in the general fund.

Bicknell City Clerk Treasurer Becky McGlone asked City Council to approve appropriations from the city's rainy day, river boat, economic development income tax and capital improvement funds to offset some of the city's debt and keep business running.

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(Citco-- redistricting) (Wednesday 11/14/12 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes City Council has approved on second and third reading a redistricting plan for the City of Vincennes. The redistricting would shrink the number of Vincennes City precincts from 16 to 12. The plan would go into place on July first, 2013, pending approval by the Knox County Commissioners.

Councilman T-J Brink is the author of the redistricting ordinance. Brink says the July 2013 start is meant to keep the old system in place for May's referendum on a new Rainbow Beach pool.

(Monroe City woman killed in accident) (Wednesday 11/14/12 ... tlz 6a)

A Monroe City woman was killed and three others were injured yesterday afternoon following a crash on State Road 57 near Pike County Road 125 South.

Indiana State Police report the vehicle driven by 57 year-old Kathleen Blagrave of Monroe City was southbound on 57. Her car collided with a vehicle driven by 28 year-old Aaron Craig of Huntingburg. Craig was turning into a private lot; police say his vehicle pulled into the path of Blagrave's vehicle.

A passenger in Blagrave's car-- 53 year-old Nancy Jones of Monroe City-- was airlifted to Saint Mary's Hospital, where she later died from her injuries. Blagrave was treated and released from Saint Mary's. Craig suffered serious injuries; he was airlifted to Deaconess Hospital in Evansville. Craig's passenger-- 60 year-old Tommy Saileau-- was also injured, and treated at Deaconess Hospital.

(Higher ed-- higher funding) (Friday 11/16/12 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes University president Richard Helton has requested more funding in the next two year state budget. Dr. Helton appeared before the State Budget Committee yesterday to make the request of the State Budget Committee. Helton joined representatives from Indiana University to make the request.

Helton told the Budget Committee the University is doing more with less, since the University's state aid has flatlined-- or failed to increase in recent years. The flatlining is a result of statewide budget cuts, and requests to cap tuition costs.

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(Tech review-- Pool specs) (Wednesday 11/21/12 ... tlz 6a)

A technical review committee for an improved Rainbow Beach pool met last night at City Hall to hash out the project's design and cost options. The committee is continuing to look over plans to present to the public as the process continues.

The current pool budget estimate is around three-point-three million dollars. Vincennes City Parks Department director Steve Beamon says the committee reviewed various pool "wish list" items. The Committee also approved advertising for a request for qualifications. Beamon explains the process to find the right contractor for the job.

(Morris Unhappy with CAD System) (11-21-12... JT 6a)

Knox County Sheriff Mike Morris updated the commissioners on a situation involving the County's computer aided dispatch system.

Morris said that he's ready to switch back to the old system. When the county switched to the new system two years ago, it was part of a state mandate that would allow the state to share data with local law enforcement agencies, and vice versa.

However, in the two years they've had it, Morris said they've had nothing but problems from it. The Department has also spent well over the system's initial 75 thousand dollar investment.

(Vincennes City Council Trash Collection) (11-26-12...JT 6a)

Vincennes City Councilman Tim Salters gave an update last night on the city's efforts to reform its garbage collection.

Salters reported the city is working with other cities, and gleaning ideas from their programs. He also said the city has seen the problems other cities have. The goal is to gather as much data as possible to find a system that works for Vincennes.

Duke Energy Offers Tips for An Affordable And Safe Holiday Jds 11-28-12

Duke Energy has some suggestions to help everyone be safe and save money as they decorate for the holidays.

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On average, holiday lighting costs just pennies a day. However, elaborate displays that use large incandescent bulbs can add as much as \$80 to a monthly power bill, depending on the number of bulbs and how long they are lit each day. The same style bulb that uses a light-emitting diode rated at 65 watts would increase the electric bill by only about \$7 a month. Using mini lights will reduce the cost increase even further -- to about one-dollar a month.

To help customers estimate their holiday lighting costs, Duke Energy has added a calculator to its website.

(Million Dollar Powerball)

A million dollar Powerball ticket is purchased in Vincennes. Powerball officials say the ticket was purchased at the United P-S-M gas station at 601 Old Wheatland Road.

Tickets purchased in Arizona and Missouri matched the numbers drawn Wednesday night for a 580-million dollar Powerball jackpot.

However, a pair of tickets sold at Indiana retailers matched the first five numbers, but not the Powerball number, and are worth one-million dollars. The Vincennes ticket was one of those matching the first five numbers, but not the Powerball.

(Bruceville woman claims million) (Friday 11/30/12 ... tlz 6a)

Bruceville's Pat Wilkerson has stepped forward to claim the million dollar prize in Wednesday's Powerball drawing. Wilkerson claimed the prize yesterday afternoon in Indianapolis. Wilkerson purchased her ticket at the United P-S-M gas station at 601 Old Wheatland Road.

Wilkerson has decided to share the winnings with her daughter, Michelle Cummins, and her son, Sean Wilkerson. Each will receive 333,333 dollars before taxes. Pat Wilkerson is retired from the National Park Service, while Cummins and Sean Wilkerson are employed at Vincennes University.

The winning ticket matched the first five numbers, but not the Powerball. Pat Wilkerson says she hand-selected the numbers, based on the birthdays of her daughter and five grandchildren.

(Daniels-- I-69 optimism) (Friday 11/30/12 ... tlz 6a)

Outgoing Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels is confident that the entire route of I-69 will be completed from Evansville to Indianapolis. Daniels' comments come within two weeks of the opening of first major extension-- from Evansville to Crane. The next link-- from Crane to Bloomington-- is scheduled for opening by the end of 2014. Officials have not set a timeline for the final piece of I-69's upgrade. The final segments would improve State Road 37 to interstate status from Bloomington to its connection with I-

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465 in Indianapolis.

(LC Board Reorganizational Meeting)(11-4-12...JT 6a.)

The Lawrence County Illinois board met yesterday to swear in its 2013 board members.

Newly elected board members John Brookhart, W.R. Brian and James Brewer took the oath of office alongside re-elected members Bill Gray, Pat Spidel, David White and Ryan Curtis.

The Board also re-appointed Gray Chairman of the board and appointed David White Vice Chairman. Brewer was appointed Chairman pro tem. Gray said he was very excited to see the mixture of knowledge and past board experience on the board. He also stated that politics stop at the door, because all board members were elected to serve the people of Lawrence County.

Rewards Offered for Information in Sullivan Co. Homicide Jds 12-11-12

Two rewards are being offered for information in the weekend shooting death of a retired Sullivan County farmer.

Wabash Valley Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest in the shooting death of 85-year-old Lowell Badger at his rural Merom home.

In addition, the Indiana Farm Bureau is offering a cash reward of up to \$2000 for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the case.

Detectives are interested in the time frame from 8:00 PM Friday to 9:23 a.m. on Saturday. Anyone who may have noticed a suspicious person or vehicle in the area of the homicide is urged to call the Indiana State Police.

(County Insurance Under Obamacare) (Sat. 12-15-12...JT)

With the Affordable Healthcare Act getting ready to take effect, local businesses are gearing up to make changes. It's no different for local government agencies.

County Council member Nicole Like says the county pays just over 10,000 dollars per year for each employee to have health insurance. After researching the effects of Obamacare on the county's insurance, she said it's likely the cost will increase.

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(L-ville Citco - Pinnick Memorial) (Friday 12-14-12...JT 6a)

All non-essential city business was put aside at last night's meeting of the Lawrenceville City Council as city, state and federal officials honored Specialist Trevor Pinnick. Pinnick lost his life to an explosive device while in the line of duty in Afghanistan. Illinois State Representative Brad Halbrook, and officials representing Senator Mark Kirk and Congressmen Tim Johnson and John Shimkus, all expressed condolences and gratitude to Trevor Pinnick's mother, Nancy Pinnick.

(Exec ruling) (Monday 12/17/12 ... tlz 6a)

The City of Vincennes has won its latest battle in the long-running Executive Inn case. Knox Circuit Court judge Sherri Gilmore has upheld the decision of the Vincennes Building Commission's decision to tear down the structure.

The ruling means the City can now move forward toward tearing down the structure. A meeting of the Vincennes Board of Works has been set for Wednesday at noon to officially let out bids for the demolition.

The structure could see one more round of litigation though. Executive Inn owner Mark Valdes could appeal the ruling to the Indiana Court of Appeals, if he so desires.

(Gimbel-Bond-- downtown safety) (Tuesday 12/18/12 ... tlz 6a)

Downtown business owners are encouraged to think "safety first" to prevent devastating fires. The emphasis comes one year after the destruction of the Gimbel-Bond building at Second and Main Streets. The structure was destroyed in a fire a year ago yesterday.

Vincennes City Fire Chief Gordon Becher says fire prevention should be the top priority for downtown merchants.

(CMS-- Banners for Newtown students) (Tuesday 12/18/12 ... tlz 6a)

Students at Clark Middle School are supporting families of 26 people killed Friday in a shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. Students at Clark have made large banners to be sent to those affected by the tragedy at Newtown's

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Sandy Hook Elementary School. Of the 26 people killed in the shooting, 20 were elementary students at Sandy Hook. The banners were signed by Clark students, and will be sent to the elementary itself, and to families directly affected by the shooting.

(VU security) (Wednesday 12/19/12 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes University is taking a second look at its security system in wake of the tragic shootings last Friday in Newtown, Connecticut. University president Richard Helton says the tragedy does spur them to make sure their security is as good as it can be.

(Commissioners Towerbridge) (Thurs. 12-20-12...JT 6a.)

Tim Trotter of Towerbridge Technologies came before the commissioners Wednesday night and informed them their IT specialist working with the County's new Computer Aided Dispatch system has been working independently for the nearly a month.

Trotter said that Jerry Haggard, who'd been servicing the CAD System, was terminated from Towerbridge at the end of November. He continued to work on the county's systems after that, but Towerbridge did not inform the commissioners.

Trotter also said he'd been working with the County Council for some time to find a way for Haggard to keep working on the systems as an independent contractor.

(Snow-- round 3) (Monday 12/31/12 ... tlz 6a)

The area is bracing for yet another round of snow to ring in the New Year this afternoon and evening. The National Weather Service expects between two and four more inches of snow to fall from this afternoon through the early hours of New Year's Day.