

This is a recap of issues covered in the third quarter of 2017.

The issues were covered in newscasts <sup>twice</sup> each hour between 6 am and 9 am. They were also covered in full newscasts at 12 noon, 4 pm, and 5 pm, ~~as well as 90 newscasts around the clock.~~

A list of pertinent stories covered on the newscasts is featured below. The list is by no means comprehensive.

(SR 550 closure delay) (Friday 6/30/17 ... tlz 6a)

The scheduled closing for State Road 550 between Wheatland and Bruceville is now set to start on Wednesday, July fifth. The closing will affect 550 between Robinson Road and Deckard Road.

(UEA-- Extension approved) (Friday 6/30/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Urban Enterprise Association Board has approved a waiver of a May 15th U-E-A application deadline for Marriott TownPlace Suites on Willow Street.

The waiver allows a TownPlace Suites extension to be added to the hotel's current U-E-Z tax status.

Vincennes Stabbing Arrest  
GAM 7-13-17

Six people, including four juveniles, were arrested Tuesday evening in Vincennes in connection with an attempted armed robbery. Vincennes Police were called to the 600 block of Cullop Street Tuesday around 11:30pm for reports of a stabbing. When they got there, they found an 18 year old Braxton Ikemire with several stab wounds.

Child Struck By Train  
GAM 7-13-17

Vincennes City Police continue to investigate an accident Tuesday night after an 11 year old girl was struck by a southbound CSX train. Police say the accident occurred just after 9pm, just south of the North Sixth Street crossing. The girl was taken by ambulance to the emergency room at Good Samaritan Hospital before being airlifted to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.

Van Go - for 7 12 17 - mrl

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Even though members of the Knox County Council support the program, they took officials from Vincennes Van Go to task last night for not reporting to the council their status. Commissioners President Kelly Streeter and acting YMCA CEO Joe LaRocca came before the County Council asking for a \$25 Thousand dollar check to help support the local public transportation effort. The YMCA operates the program.

Monroe City Boil Order  
GAM 7-11-17

The town of Monroe City is issuing a boil order for residents which live from Buchanan Street along Highway 241 to Grant Street and from Grant Street to residents along Monroe City Road.

Second Death Reported from Monday Night Crash in Oaktown  
Jds 7-7-17

The Knox County Sheriff's Department says a second person has died as the result of a motorcycle/pick-up truck accident Monday night on US 41 in Oaktown.

The Sheriff's Department tells the Vincennes Sun Commercial 39-year-old Viktoria Jarvis of Buffalo Grove, Illinois died Tuesday at an Indianapolis Hospital.

Jarvis was a passenger on a motorcycle driven by 46-year-old Boris Fayman of Buffalo Grove, Illinois.

Fayman died at the scene.

(EMA-- Helping His Hands trailer) (Wednesday 7/19/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County Emergency Management Agency has a new mobile command center trailer-- thanks to the work of Helping His Hands. The 43-foot semi was recently donated to the county's agency to help with future emergencies that may hit Knox County.

(Movie fund-raiser) (Thursday 7/20/17 ... tlz 6a)

A preview of the concept for the movie "Farouks!" will be featured this Saturday evening at Vincennes University's Shircliff Theater. The concept of the film, and a related music video screening, will be featured from five to seven p-m inside the University building.

(Fair-- Jacob Williams booth) (Friday 7/21/17 ... tlz 6a)

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Remembrances and donations continue in the memory of Jacob Williams. The Oaktown teen died earlier this month in a drowning incident near Emison.

A booth in Williams' honor has been set up at the Knox County Fair. The booth is selling "Live Like Jacob" items and taking donations. All proceeds will go toward the Jacob Williams Scholarship Fund.

(Robbery-- adult arrest waiver) (Friday 7/21/17 ... tlz 6a)

A Vincennes teen will be tried as an adult on three counts of robbery from an July 11th incident in Vincennes.

16 year-old Madison Mitchell is charged with robbery of property by force, robbery taking property by force with a deadly weapon, and robbery while armed with a deadly weapon resulting in bodily injury. The incident happened late on the evening of July 11th in the area of Washington and Emison.

(Power outages-- Sunday storm) (Monday 7/24/17 ... tlz 6a)

Several Knox County and other area customers lost power for a time yesterday morning due to storms that rolled across the area. The hardest hit areas were in Knox, Gibson, and Sullivan counties. High winds and dangerous lightning caused the damage to power lines across much of southwest Indiana.

(Salters-- ordinance review request) (Tuesday 7/25/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes City Councilman Tim Salters made a request to Vincennes City Council last night to review and update older City ordinances.

Salters says the move ensures the City's ordinances are clear and relevant.

TH Construction on Schedule - for 7 25 17 - mrl

Renovations and additions to Tecumseh-Harrison Elementary School are on schedule. That's the report from Chris Roberts of Garmong Construction. The multi-million dollar project began full time on June 1st and is on target for completion in time for the 2018-2019 school year.

(Vincennes YMCA -- CEO reception) (Wednesday, 7/26/17 ... tlz 6a)

Community leaders, YMCA patrons, and the public joined together yesterday afternoon to welcome Pat Herman to his new position as Vincennes YMCA Chief Executive Officer. Herman started his new job on Monday at the

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College Avenue facility.

(2018 Lilly Apps ready) (Thursday 7/27/17 ... tlz 6a)

Applications for the 2018 Lilly Scholarship are available through the Knox County Community Foundation. The scholarship is for incoming Knox County high school seniors. The deadline to apply is August 31st. The winner will be announced in early December.

(Ninth Street fire) (Wednesday 7/27/17 ... tlz 5p)

Arson is determined as the cause of a fire that damaged a vacant home yesterday at 713 North Ninth Street.

Firemen got the call around two p-m, and stayed on the scene through the rest of the afternoon.

(Barmes' top 10 finish) (Monday 7/31/17 ... tlz 6a)

Indiana's Outstanding Teen-- Vincennes' Ellie Barmes-- finished in the top 10 of the weekend's America's Outstanding Teen contest. The finals were held over the weekend along with the Miss America pageant in Orlando, Florida.

(CCD tax-- petition process) (Monday 7/31/17 ... tlz 6a)

Knox County landowners affected by a recently-restored county property tax have 30 days to petition for a state hearing. Under Indiana state law, if 50 or more affected landholders petition the Knox County Auditor's office, the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance will hold a public hearing before deciding on the tax increase.

On Friday, the Commissioners voted 2 to 1 to re-instate the levy to recover 300-thousand dollars of revenue lost a year ago.

(Back to School-- VCSC) (Tuesday 8/1/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes Community School students will head back to school on Thursday. Final preparations are coming into place now to welcome the students back to the books later this week.

(VCSC-- Back to the books) (Thursday 8/3/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes Community Schools officials and students start back to

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school today. V-C-S-C becomes the second Corporation to return to school in Knox County, one day behind North Knox Schools, who started classes yesterday.

(Watermelon Festival-- Friday) (Friday 8/3/17 ... tlz 6a)

The annual Vincennes Watermelon Festival will start later today at Patrick Henry Square in downtown Vincennes. The event was restarted in the 1990's as a revival of an event held in the city in the 1950's and 1960's.

GSH's Thacker Named Rising Star in Health Care for Leaders Under the Age of 40  
Jds 8-7-17

Adam Thacker, the Chief Operating Officer of Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes, was named on the 2017 Becker's list of Hospital Review for the top 60 Rising Stars in Healthcare Leaders under the age of 40.

(SK-- Preliminary budget publishing) (Wednesday, 8/9/17 ... tlz 6a)

The South Knox School Board approved the publishing of a rough draft of the South Knox School Corporation budget for 2018. The just over 14 million dollar estimated budget includes just under eight and a half million dollars for the Corporation's General Fund. The next largest account is two-point-three million dollars for Capital Projects.

(Vincennes-- Stellar chances) (Friday 8/10/17 ... tlz 6a)

September 25th has been set as the day for a group of Stellar Award Committee members to visit Vincennes. The committee is visiting the City as part of Vincennes' status as a Stellar Award finalist.

Opioid Misuse/Addiction Education Workshop Scheduled for September 7th in Vincennes  
Jds/TLZ 8-11-17

Anyone interested in learning more about the Opioid Epidemic and how Narcan is used to reverse the effects of an overdose is encouraged to attend a September workshop in Vincennes. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, September 7th from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at the Vincennes Fortnightly Club.

(Information session) (Monday 8/14/17 ... tlz 6a)

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An information session about the Opioid Epidemic, and how Narcan is used to reverse the effects of an overdose, will happen early next month in Vincennes.. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, September 7th from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at the Vincennes Fortnightly Club.

(Obit-- Dr. Charles Hedde) (Monday 8/14/17 ... tlz 6a)

The community is mourning the death of Good Samaritan Hospital Chief Physician Charles Hedde. Hedde passed away at the age of 65 Sunday morning in Vincennes.

Community leaders and G-S-H officials praised Hedde for his work for both the Hospital and the community.

(GRC-- Eclipse and kids) (Thursday 8/17/17 ... tlz 6a)

George Rogers Clark National Park officials are working with the public and school students alike to prepare for Monday's eclipse. Around 97 to 98 percent of the sun will be blocked during the eclipse that will start shortly before one p-m that day in Vincennes.

(Vinc. Parks-- Knox Rocks event) (Friday 8/18/17 ... tlz 6a)

The community will gather this evening at Gregg Park in Vincennes for a "Knox Rocks" rock painting event. The event will run from five to eight p-m.

(IL SR 1-- bridge closure) (Friday 8/18/17 ... tlz 6a)

A long-awaited bridge closure on Illinois State Road 1 will be in place on Monday.

The closure will be for bridge repair on State Road 1 over the Embarras River. The bridge will be closed to all traffic. A marked detour will use U-S Route 50 and Business 50 through Lawrenceville.

Linton Bank Robbery Under Investigation  
Jds 8-19-17

The Linton Police Department is investigating a bank robbery that occurred early Friday afternoon.

Linton Police say the Linton Bloom Bank was robbed by a white male wearing a blue shirt.

He was last seen getting into a grey vehicle behind McDonald's

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heading towards the shopping center.

If you have information on who he is, contact Linton Police at 812-847-4411.

Indiana Jobless Rate Staying at Record Lows  
Jds 8-19-17

State unemployment rates are staying at record lows.

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development says the state's jobless rate inched slightly higher to 3-point-1-percent in July, still much lower than the national rate of 4-point-3-percent.

Workforce Development Commissioner Steven Braun says the Governor's Next Level Jobs push will help promote a lower unemployment rate.

(VU-- back to class) (Monday 8/21/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes University students are headed back to class today. The students spent the weekend moving in, in preparation for the start of the fall semester.

(VHA-- Budget approval) (Tuesday 8/22/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Housing Authority has approved its tentative budget for the next year. The V-H-A is expecting revenue of just over one point six million dollars, with expected expenses of just over one and a half million dollars. The budget is based on income from rentals and other local revenue, as well as federal subsidies from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(Eclipse-- GRC) (Monday 8/21/17 ... tlz 4p)  
(updated 8/22)

Thousands of area residents were wearing special glasses to view yesterday's solar eclipse. The moon covered between 97 and 98 percent of the sun at its peak over Vincennes. The eclipse phase started just before one p-m yesterday, before reaching its peak around two-25 p-m. The last traces of the solar eclipse were seen around three-50 yesterday afternoon.

(Comm-- Sunrise Coal's progress) (Wednesday 8/23/17 ... tlz 6a)

Officials from Sunrise Coal have updated the Knox County Commissioners on progress with a new man entrance to their mines. The new man-shaft is in a remote area north of Bruceville, to serve the two mines

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located just off U-S 41 near Oaktown. The company estimates the twin Oaktown mines will help them meet contract needs of six million tons of coal each year.

(Comm--CCD tax remonstrance) (Wednesday 8/23/17 ... tlz 6a)

Knox County Commissioner Tim Ellerman is reporting a remonstrance has been filed over the proposed resumption of a County property tax. On July 28th, in a two-one vote, the Commissioners approved a resumption of the Community Capital Development tax for Knox County landholders.

(Lawrenceville water mains) (Wednesday 8/23/17 ... tlz 12n)  
(updated 8/24)

The City of Lawrenceville has repaired a couple of water main breaks reported on Tuesday.

Lawrenceville Mayor Don Wagner says the first break happened at a hydrant in the 16-hundred block of Lexington Tuesday morning. Crews were repairing that problem, when Tuesday afternoon, a main water line burst near 13th and State Street.

(Drowning victim-- cause of death) (Wednesday 8/23/17 ... tlz 4p)

An autopsy showed a Vincennes man drowned accidentally in the Wabash River across from Russellville, Illinois.

The drowning victim was identified as 40 year-old Donald E. Rickard. Rickard's body was recovered Tuesday night around seven-30 p-m. He was last seen on Saturday while swimming in the river.

(VU-- Kimmel Park re-opening) (Friday 8/25/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes University will hold a grand re-dedication of Kimmel Park at 11:30 on Tuesday morning. The re-opening will be part of a celebration picnic including hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, drinks, and ice cream.

(VPD-- Sheffield armed robbery arrest) (Monday 8/28/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes Police have arrested a Vincennes man this morning for a weekend armed robbery at the Stop and Go store at 2001 Hart Street.

Officers arrested 28 year-old Rusty Sheffield around three-20 this morning at a location in the City's North End. The arrest came after Vincennes police detectives followed up numerous tips identifying Sheffield

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as the suspect.

(Citco-- Fire Department-- Merit Commission) (Tuesday 8/29/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes City Fire Chief Sonny Pinkstaff is calling for firemen to come together to craft a new Fire Department Merit Commission. City Council is considering an idea to set up the Commission to handle hiring and promotions on the City Fire Department-- much like the City Police Merit Commission.

VCSC - Building Report - for 8 29 17 - mrl

"Some areas ahead of schedule. Some on time. None behind schedule." Those were the words of Chris Roberts, Construction Manager for the Vincennes Elementary School Renovation Project.

(Citco-- Downtown apartments rezoning) (Wednesday 8/29/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes City Council has approved on first reading a renewed re-zoning request of the Robinson Grain property on First Street. The proposed re-zoning from I-1 to C-2 would allow for the demolition of the current facility, and construction of new apartments on the land.

(Kimmel Park-- DNR approval) (Wednesday 8/30/17 ... tlz 6a)

Indiana Department of Natural Resources officials were among the admirers yesterday of the renovated Kimmel Park. Kimmel Park was re-opened to the public yesterday by its new owner-- Vincennes University.

(Portee arson-- probable cause) (Wednesday 8/30/17 ... tlz 12n)  
(updated 8/31)

More information has been released on the arrest of a Vincennes woman for arson. 51 year-old Linda Portee is charged with setting fire to her bed at 12 East Swartzel Avenue.

Court records state Portee allegedly set her bed on fire in the early-morning hours of August tenth.

(VU-Cummins partnership) (Thursday 8/31/17 ... tlz 6a)

Officials with Cummins Diesel and Vincennes University joined together yesterday to announce a new job-training partnership. Both V-U and Cummins officials held a joint conference at V'U's Diesel and Heavy Equipment Facility to discuss the new program. The first 13 class members started

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the program on August 21st.

(Three Nails-- Texas help) (Friday 9/1/17 ... tlz 6a)

Officials with the Knox County-based Three Nails Project are preparing to head to Houston to help victims of Hurricane Harvey. The Three Nails volunteers are taking their time, since the floodwaters are still cresting throughout south Texas.

(United Way Kickoff) (Friday 9/1/17 ... tlz 6a)

A good crowd came out for yesterday's United Way of Knox County annual campaign kickoff. The kickoff was held yesterday afternoon at the Riverfront Pavilion in downtown Vincennes. The event is the official start for the United Way of Knox County's fund-raising efforts for this year.

(Comm-- Handbook updating) (Wednesday 9/5/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County Commissioners are considering suggested updates to the County employee handbook. The handbook updates were presented for consideration yesterday by Knox County Attorney Yvette Kirchoff.

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(ISTEP spring results) (Friday 9/7/17 ... tlz 12n)

Many Knox County schools joined statewide students in struggling on the spring ISTEP standardized tests. The tests cover both English and math comprehension.

In grades three through eight, Flaget Elementary fared best, with 82 percent passing both sections of the test. Next in line was South Knox Junior High students, at 69 and a half percent. South Knox Elementary students passed the ISTEP test at a 58-point-two percent rate.

(Citco-- Fire Merit Commission delay) (Tuesday 9/12/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes City Council has referred a motion on a proposed City Fire Merit Service Commission to the Budget and Finance Committee. Council approved the motion unanimously.

(SK-- Budget public hearing) (Wednesday 9/13/17 ... tlz 6a)

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The South Knox School Board held a public hearing last night on the proposed 2018 budget. The estimated 14 million dollar budget was finalized during last night's South Knox School Board session.

The new budget contains around eight and a half million dollars for the Corporation's General Fund. South Knox officials say this year's budget is a slight increase from last year.

(Forecast drop-- gas prices) (Wednesday 9/13/17 ... tlz 6a)

Gas prices are dropping at many area stations, as the main impact of Hurricane Harvey goes away. Harvey caused many refineries in the Houston area to cease gasoline production.

(Higher Ed Commission) (Friday 9/15/17 ... tlz 6a)

College and Career readiness was on the minds of the Indiana Higher Education Commission at its meeting yesterday afternoon. The session was held at Vincennes University's Indiana Center for Advanced Training.

(CoCo-- Night 3) (Friday 9/15/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County Council wrapped up its annual budget hearings around eleven-30 last night at the Knox County Courthouse. Council members spent several hours setting next year's budget totals for each County account. The numbers fit into an estimated 15 million dollar budget total.

(Mayor-- Japanese trip) (Tuesday 9/15/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes Mayor Joe Yochum is getting back to work in Vincennes, following a nine-day trip to Japan with Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb and an delegation of Indiana municipal and economic leaders. The Indiana contingent was part of an overall Midwest region group visiting Japanese leaders.

(CCMG-- Sprague on lower amount) (Thursday 9/21/17 ... tlz 12n)  
(updated 9/22)

The City of Vincennes received a lower amount than expected from the State of Indiana from the Community Crossings Matching Grant. The final City amount of grant funding was around 433-thousand dollars. The C-C-M-G amounts were released late Wednesday afternoon.

(LHS-- Distinguished Alumni) (Friday 9/22/17 ... tlz 6a)

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Two people have been selected as this year's Lincoln High School Distinguished Alumni. The nominees will be honored at Homecoming ceremonies a week from today in Vincennes.

(Morning meth bust) (Friday 9/22/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes, Knox County, and Indiana State Police coordinated for part of an area-wide narcotics bust resulting in several Knox County arrests for dealing in methamphetamine and other illegal drugs.

The arrests happened at different places across the county.

(Yochum-- Stellar visit) (Monday 9/25/17 ... tlz 6a)

Today is the day for representatives of the Indiana Stellar Communities team to visit Vincennes. The team will be in town from nine to noon to view the City, and ask questions, toward the possible designation of Vincennes as a Stellar Community.

(Citco-- Fire Merit Commission) (Wednesday 9/27/17 ... tlz 6a)

The language for a potential Vincennes Fire Merit Commission came up again at last night's Vincennes City Council session.

Among the topics of discussion was a lack of time for City Council to review a new pending ordinance, and a lack of discussion between City Attorney Dave Roellegen and a lawyer for the City Firefighters' Union.

(Citco-- Stellar wrap) (Tuesday 9/26/17 ... tlz 6a)

The waiting now begins for the naming of the 2017 Indiana Stellar Community. Stellar Committee members were in Vincennes yesterday to view the City, and ask questions as part of Vincennes' role as a Stellar Community finalist.

(City Budget-- Reedy Financial) (Wednesday 9/27/17 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes City Council heard from consultant Reedy Financial about budget projections for the next five years. The City is using Reedy Financial as a consultant to meet the challenge of setting budgets in the light of state property tax caps.

(CASA conference) (Thursday 9/28/17 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County CASA program held a legal summit and recruiting effort last night at the Vincennes Fortnightly Club. The Legal Summit reviewed problems faced by children in legal matters, and presented the

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work of CASA's in representing them. (City-- ongoing repairs) (Thursday  
9/28/17 ... tlz 6a)

The City of Vincennes is reporting progress on two ongoing road projects. The progress concerns physical repairs at Second and Niblack, and engineering work on the Main Street project.