

This is a recap of news stories covered in the **first quarter of 2018** by the radio stations WAOV, WZDM, and WUZR. The stories were covered in Newscasts of varying length throughout the day. A list of pertinent stories covered on the newscasts is featured below. The list is by no means comprehensive.

(Watermelon Drop)(Monday, 1/1/18 ... t1z 6a) **Quality of Life**

Downtown Vincennes was alight with dropping watermelons and rising fireworks to bring in the New Year this morning at midnight. The watermelons and fireworks signaled the crowning moment of the 10th annual National Watermelon Drop. The activity took place at Patrick Henry Square.

(Fatal fire-- names released)(Monday 1/1/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

Two people have been identified as having died in a fire that destroyed an apartment building in Vincennes. Knox County Coroner Brian Hagen identified 57 year-old Cindy Horvath, and 39 year-old David Bradley Greenwell, as the two who died from the fire.

(Baldwin motions)(Friday 1/5/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

The scheduled Robert Baldwin trial at this time will remain in Knox County. Baldwin is accused of murder in the death of his son Gabriel in April of last year. Baldwin's defense attorney Dale Webster withdrew the change of venue motion at the beginning of yesterday's hearing. He also did not disagree with a denial of his motion against a Prosecution request for a sentence of life without parole.

(Duke Energy grant)(Tuesday 1/9/18 ... t1z 6a) **Education Improvements**

Duke Energy has granted the Vincennes University Foundation just under 55-hundred dollars to fund the second annual Phillip Summers Innovative Teaching Summit. The event will be held on V-U's main campus on March 23rd.

United Way of Knox Co. Offering Free Tax Service in February **Quality of Life**
Jds 1-10-18

The United Way of Knox County will offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program again this year during the month of February. VITA is a free service with no age or other program requirements.

(Yochum-- stoplight updates)(Thursday 1/11/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

Vincennes Mayor Joe Yochum is asking Vincennes City council to upgrade various lights across the City of Vincennes. The issue came to light with the re-installment of the light at Sixth and State, and the failure of the light at Sixth and Saint Clair.

(Citco-- new location)(Wednesday 1/17/18 ... t1z 6a) **Government Transparency**

Vincennes City Council and the Vincennes Board of Works will have a new home for its meetings in the near future. The new location for the meetings will be across the street from Vincennes City Hall, at the Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

(Hampton Inn ribbon cut)(Friday 1/19/18 ... tiz 6a) **Economic Development**

A ribbon cutting happened yesterday for Vincennes' newest hotel, as the Hampton Inn held its official grand opening. The business is located at 2863 Ford Road.

(Cullen dies in helicopter accident)(Monday 1/22/18 ... tiz 12n) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

Knox County native Lieutenant Clay Cullen has now been confirmed as one of two people who died in a helicopter training accident in southern California. The confirmation came late this morning from officials at the 25 year-old Cullen's home base at Fort Carson, Colorado. The other man killed in the accident was Chief Warrant Officer Two Kevin F. Burke, of California.

(Half staff flags)(Wednesday 1/24/18 ... tiz 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

The Knox County Commissioners request that all flags be lowered to half staff in honor of the late Lieutenant Clay Cullen. Cullen lost his life over the weekend in a helicopter training accident at Fort Irwin in southern California.

(Pantheon-- OCRA grant)(Thursday 1/25/18 ... tiz 6a) **Economic Development**

Efforts to get a half-million dollar state grant for the Pantheon Theater got an un-expected boost earlier this week. The Office of Community and Rural Affairs-- or OCRA-- announced an extension for environmental studies for this grant cycle. The extension was due to the shortness of the cycle itself.

(United Way-- new record raised)(Monday 1/29/18 ... tiz 6a) **Quality of Life**

The United Way of Knox County is wrapping up its fund-raising campaign in the next couple of weeks with a record fund-raising total. The campaign is expecting the final tally to be over 300-thousand dollars.

(Fatal accident in Oaktown)(Sunday 2/3/18 ... tiz 12n) **Safety, Security, Abuse**
(updated 2/4)

Two Oaktown-area women died yesterday after their Humvee ran into the Wabash River. The accident happened around one a-m yesterday. Indiana State Police say the vehicle was driven by 34 year-old Kyle Mason. Mason's passengers included 33 year-old Cody Meeks, and their wives-- 33 year-old Breezie Mason and 32 year-old Meaghan Meeks.

(Citco-- Match funds approval)(Tuesday 2/6/18 ... tiz 6a) **Economic Development**

The Vincennes City Council approved a 27-thousand dollar match for a combined Vincennes City-Knox County grant application for the Pantheon Theater. The grant is half the match needed for the application; the other half is expected to come later this morning from the Knox County Commissioners. The plan is to turn the structure into a business incubator known as the "Pantheon Business Theater."

(HRB-- Old Chicago plans)(Wednesday 2/7/18 ... t1z 6a) **Economic Development**

The Vincennes Historic Review Board has approved plans to update the exterior of the planned Old Chicago restaurant slated to open in the old New Moon building. B-D-E Dining, LLC, want to make some changes to the current outside of the structure.

(VTFD-- two firemen deaths)(Monday 2/12/18 ... t1z 12n) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

The Vincennes Township Fire Department is mourning the loss of two of its volunteer firemen within the last week. Over the weekend, 24 year-old Robert Stangle passed away, of what is being called unknown causes. An autopsy is being conducted today to determine the cause of death. No foul play is suspected.

(LAM-- Haskins stepping down)(Wednesday 2/14/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

The Knox County-based group Life After Meth-- or LAM-- will have a new director for the first time in its existence. LAM founder Peter Haskins is stepping down to become interim pastor at First Christian Church in downtown Vincennes.

(VU- Court of Appeals returns)(Thursday 2/15/18 ... t1z 6a) **Education Improvements**

Vincennes University's Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in a Knox County-based case a week from today. The arguments will be heard at 12:50 p-m at V-U's Red Skelton Performing Arts Center.

The case concerns Vincennes-based KCARC vs. Melissa Davis.

(Villwock--- Crop insurance)(Monday 2/19/18 ... t1z 6a) **Economic Development**

Knox County farmer Don Villwock is urging Congress to allow reasonable Crop Insurance language in the new Farm Bill. A new Farm Bill is currently under consideration. Villwock-- a former president of the Indiana Farm Bureau-- is lending his voice to the lobbying effort by federal farm groups.

(Lib. Bd-- New Youth Department director)(Wednesday 2/21/18 ... t1z 6a) **Education Improvement**

The Knox County Library Board has approved the hiring of a new Director for the Library's Youth Department. The name of the person hired for the position has not been released, pending notification of receiving the job. (Lib. Bd-- New Youth Department director)(Wednesday 2/21/18 ... t1z 6a)

The Knox County Library Board has approved the hiring of a new Director for the Library's Youth Department. The name of the person hired for the position has not been released, pending notification of receiving the job.

(LAM banquet)(Friday 2/23/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

A record number of churches and other groups participated in the ninth annual LAM banquet last night at Highland Woods Community Center. LAM stands for Life After Meth; it is a chance to celebrate the program's successes.

(Appellate Court hearing)(Friday, 2/23/18) **Education Improvements**

The Indiana Court of Appeals heard arguments yesterday in a requested reversal of an earlier decision against Vincennes-based KCARC. The Indiana Civil Rights Commission ruled in favor of Melissa Davis in a wrongful-termination case against KCARC-- a decision KCARC appealed to the state Appellate Court.

(Citco-- Grouseland renovation)(Tuesday 2/27/18 ... t1z 6a) **Quality of Life**

The Vincennes City Council has approved a transfer of 100-thousand dollars toward a planned renovation of Grouseland. Grouseland is the historic site that was the home of former Indiana Territory Governor-- and later ninth President-- William Henry Harrison.

(VCSC-- Vigo bid opening)(Thursday, 3/1/18 ... t1z 6a) **Education Improvements**

Bids were opened yesterday afternoon for coming work for Vigo Elementary School. Vigo is the third of the four Vincennes Community schools slated for renovation as part of the Vincennes Community Schools' rehabilitation program.

(Gas leak-- Riley)(Thursday 3/8/18 ... t1z 4p) **Safety, Security, Abuse**
(updated 2/9)

Authorities had to vacate Riley Elementary School for a time yesterday, due to a gas leak about a block away from the school.

The leak was found yesterday morning in the 12-hundred block of North Eleventh Street.

(Walkout numbers)(Wednesday 3/14/18 ... t1z 12n) **Safety, Security, Abuse**
(updated 3/15)

Over 300 Knox County students were involved in the national walkout yesterday to remember the victims of the recent school shooting in Florida. The walkout was sponsored nationally by the group EMPOWER. The nationwide event was held at ten a-m on Wednesday. It is designed to show solidarity to those killed in Florida, and call for stricter gun laws

(Fatal Fire-- victims identified)(Wednesday 3/14/18 ... t1z 12n) **Safety, Security, Abuse**
(updated 3/15)

The two victims of a house fire in Wheatland have been identified as 72 year-old Mary Louise Wallace, and her son, 45 year-old Danny Wallace. The identifications were confirmed by Knox County Coroner Brian Hagen.

The fire was reported around two-15 Tuesday morning in the home at 713 Nimnicht Road.

(Coal miner fatality)(Saturday 3/17/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

A Bloomfield man lost his life yesterday afternoon in a coal mining accident in a Sunrise Coal mine, headquartered near Oaktown.

34 year-old Jason M Williams lost his life inside the mine. No information about the cause of death has been released at this time. Knox County Coroner Brian Hagen says an autopsy is scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

(Knox County Government Transparency) 3/26/18 **Government Transparency**

WAOV broadcast County Report Live 6pm-7pm plus WAOV, WZDM, and WUZR broadcast news stories about the Report to the County 3/26 – 3/27 – 3/28

(Sheriff-- SRO's prepared)(Tuesday 3/27/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

Knox County Sheriff Mike Morris is confident the county's School Resource Officers are prepared in case of an active shooter incident. The County Sheriff's office works with both the North Knox and South Knox School districts. The Vincennes school districts have S-R-O's through the Vincennes Police Department.

(VU-- Hate crime report)(Tuesday 3/27/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

Vincennes University Police are investigating a hate crime reported yesterday on the V-U campus.

The incident was reported just before noon. The report claims around eight a-m, an unknown male made racial slurs at a University student.

(Citco-- Wi-Fi in City Parks)(Tuesday 3/27/18 ... t1z 6a) **Quality of Life**

The Vincennes City Council heard a plan last night toward placing wireless Internet in the City's parks. The idea was first presented last night by Vincennes City Councilman Tim Salters.

(State of County Address)(Tuesday 3/27/18 ... t1z 6a) **Government Transparency**

Jobs, infrastructure, and transparency were the main topics of last night's State of the County session. Knox County Commissioners President Kellie Streeter was one of three speakers during last night's meeting; the other speakers were Knox County Council president Bob Lechner, and Knox County Development Corporation president Kent Utt.

(KC Parks-- Thais Memorial Bench)(Wednesday 3/28/18 ... t1z 6a) **Quality of Life**

The Knox County Parks Board has approved a motion to dedicate a Fox Ridge Nature Park bench in honor of the late Steve Thais. Thais was a Knox County Councilman who was killed in May of 2015 in an accident at his home near Vincennes.

(New KC Website)(Wednesday 2/28/18 ... t1z 6a) **Government Transparency**

A new Knox County government Website is about to launch, as part of making county government more accessible to the public. Knox County Commissioners' president Kellie Streeter discussed the new Website at Monday night's "State of the County" session.

(VU-- Hate crime investigation)(Thursday 3/29/18 ... t1z 6a) **Safety, Security, Abuse**

Vincennes University officials have referred an alleged hate crime to the Knox County Prosecutor's office. However, the referral may lead to a false informing arrest, instead of a hate crime arrest.

(Way of the Cross Walk)(Thursday 3/29/18 ... t1z 6a) **Quality of Life**

The tenth annual Way of the Cross Walk will happen tomorrow across downtown Vincennes. The walk begins at noon on the steps of the Old Cathedral. From there, it stops at 14 stations in a circle, with the final station back at the Old Cathedral.

(State of County-- Lechner)(Thursday 3/29/18 ... t1z 6a) **Government Transparency**

Knox County Council president Bob Lechner believes the county is still on solid footing so far in 2018. Lechner gave his assessment as part of the State of the County address earlier this week.