

This is a recap of news stories covered in the second quarter of 2015 by radio station WZDM. The stories were reported from April first to June 30th, 2016.

The stories were covered in full newscasts at 6 am, 6:30 am, 7 am, 7:30 am, 8 am, 8:30 am, 9 am, 12 noon, 4 pm, and 5 pm, as well as at the top of the hour around the clock from 6 pm to five am.

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

(Merit Comm-- new officers) (Wednesday 4/13/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Police Civil Service Merit Commission has advanced five names for possible employment into the City police force. Merit Commission members are waiting to release the advancing applicants' names until all have been notified of their status. Officials believe the notification will be completed by the end of the week.

Knox County Council Report - for 4/13/16 - mrl

Knox County Prosecutor Dirk Carnahan has reported that about 75 percent of old criminal and civil cases that had been waiting for action when he took office have been handled. But he also asked the County Council for permission to hire another clerical employee and give a pay increase to a Deputy Prosecutor who is woefully underpaid. Council approved the personnel changes and also approved the spending of about \$14 thousand dollars for other Prosecutor's Office expenses.

(Citco-- amended rate increase) (Wednesday 4/13/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes City Council made a final unanimous approval of a staggered water and sewer rate increase. The staggered increase was approved as an amendment to the original water and sewer rate.

The staggered rate would cut the initial water and sewer user rate increase by just under five dollars per month. The new average rate for in-City users would be just over 66 dollars per month for in-City users. The increase will fund a lower initial water and sewer bond issue; the remainder of the bonded projects would be funded by a second round of bonds planned for 2018.

(Chamber Banquet wrap) (Friday 4/15/16 ... tlz 6a)

Knox County business and industry leaders got together last night for the 100th Knox County Chamber of Commerce annual banquet. The annual business promotion event happened last night at Vincennes University's

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Green Activities Center.

(VCSC-- school agreement) (Friday 4/15/16 ... tlz 6a)

A group of Vincennes churches have agreed to give their space for temporary housing of classes for Vincennes elementary schools. The churches will house elementary classes displaced by coming school renovations. The Vincennes churches agreeing to take the classes include the Free Methodist Church, the First Christian Church, and the United Methodist Church.

(Accident affects traffic) (Tuesday 4/19/16 ... tlz 12n)
(updated 4/20)

One person has died in a two-vehicle head-on accident on U-S 41 at Industrial Drive.

One of those involved was 22 year-old Raigen Bailey of Farmersburg. Bailey was driving an INDOT dump truck crossing the northbound lanes to go south on U-S 41. Indiana State Police claim Bailey did not see a northbound white car driven by 38 year-old Derek Kelly of Vincennes. Kelly was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes, where he died from his injuries.

(LC Board-- New Insurance) (Thursday 4/21/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Lawrence county Illinois Board has agreed to switch the County employees' insurance policy. In its meeting yesterday afternoon, the Board unanimously agreed to switch from Blue Cross-Blue Shield to Snedeker Risk Management. The County will work directly with Snedeker officials; previously, the policy had been handled through Lawrenceville's Cochran Insurance Agency.

(Car-train accident) (Tuesday 4/26/16 ... tlz 12n)
(updated 4/27)

One person was injured in a collision between a Jeep and a train at the Hart Street crossing.

The Jeep was traveling eastbound on Hart Street, when police claim it went around the crossing gates. The vehicle was then struck in its right front side by the C-S-X train. Both the train and the damaged car came to rest near the already-closed Shelby Street intersection.

(SEVERE WX) (Wednesday 4/27/16 ... djf 6a)

Knox County, for the most part, escaped damage as a round of Severe

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storms moved through the area yesterday evening. The only Knox County damage reported was some downed tree limbs in the South Knox area.

Energy providers were also mostly spared from damage. Duke Energy only reported 21 Knox County outages, mainly near Felt King Road and Main Street Road. Win Energy didn't report any outages.

(VU-- Craft champions) (Wednesday 4/27/16 ... tlz 12n)
(updated 4/28)

A group of apprentice trade workers associated with Vincennes University have won awards in the recent National Craft Championships. The trades-based competition was held in Orlando, Florida. V-U program instructor David Tucker spoke about the students' accomplishments during yesterday's V-U Board session. The Indiana-based competitors are part of a V-U partnership with, and employed by, companies aligned with Associated Builders and Contractors.

(VPD-- Accident investigation) (Thursday 4/28/16 ... tlz 4p)
(updated 4/29)

Three people were injured in a two-vehicle accident yesterday at the intersection of 16th and Willow.

The accident happened when a car driven by 63 year-old Terry L. Johnson of Vincennes tried to cross 16th Street. His car then was struck by a truck driven by 19 year-old Jordan Clore of Hazleton. Clore was westbound on Willow when the accident happened.

The impact caused Johnson's white Chevrolet Impala to hit a telephone pole, causing entrapment.

Two New Businesses - for 4 29 16 - mrl

There will be two more businesses in Vincennes according to documents filed with the city. Vincennes Hotel Developers LLC has applied to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a permit to build a Hampton Inn Hotel on Ford Road near Kohls. The company's legal agent is hospitality developer James Dora of Indianapolis. The Vincennes Board of Zoning Appeals has also been asked for a variance to allow the construction of a new Dollar General Store at Willow Street and 15th Street.

(Elex-- Final early voting) (Tuesday 5/3/16 ... tlz 6a)

Just over 1,900 voters cast early votes this year in Knox County. The early voting period ended at noon yesterday.

The early voting period was highlighted by a heavy final push to vote at the Knox County Clerk's office. Nearly 470 people came to the

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office to vote from Friday through noon yesterday.

(GABC-- Kimmel donation) (Tuesday 5/3/16...tlz 12n)
(updated 5/4)

German-American Bancorp is the latest in a line of donors supporting the improvements at Kimmel Park. Yesterday, German-American officials gave ten-thousand dollars toward Kimmel's ongoing renovation. The donation was announced in a ceremony yesterday at Kimmel Park.

(Citywide Cleanup) (Monday 5/9/16 ... tlz 6a)

Groups of volunteers came out Saturday for Vincennes' annual spring cleaning. The trash collection effort is part of the Vincennes Citywide Cleanup. The event is sponsored each year by Burkhart Insurance.

Various non-profit groups earned ten dollars per filled trash bag, with a cap of 250 dollars. The checks will be given out during the May 27th Knox County Chamber of Commerce Bandwagon session.

VCSC Awards Bids - for noon + 5 9 16 - mrl
(updated 5/10)

Construction will begin May 26th on the first phase of the Vincennes Elementary Schools Renovation project. The School Board awarded a total of just over \$6.3 Million Dollars in various elements of the project at all four local elementary schools. Arc Construction got the majority of work at Riley Elementary for its general construction bid, Kerns Excavating got the largest portion of this coming year's work at Tecumseh-Harrison for the outside parking and traffic changes.

(Weather Balloon launch) (Monday 5/9/16 ... tlz 12n)
(updated 5/10)

Physics and engineering students at Vincennes University launched a new weather balloon yesterday as part of a University project. The balloon will help University physics and engineering students monitor various weather and physical balloon readings.

(LHS Teacher Injured in incident) (Thursady 5/12/16 ... tlz 4p)
(updated 5/13)

Vincennes City Police arrested a 16 year-old Vincennes Lincoln student following an attack Wednesday at L-H-S. City Police were called around four-30 Wednesday afternoon concerning a

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teacher who had been assaulted and needed medical assistance. The victimized teacher had been badly beaten, and was semi-conscious when police arrived. She was first taken to Good Samaritan Hospital for treatment, then transferred to an Evansville hospital. Right now, she is under care in the hospital's Intensive Care Unit.

(Riley-- info session) (Friday, 5/13/16 ... tlz 6a)

A good crowd of parents and interested patrons came to an information session last night at Riley Elementary School in Vincennes. The meeting concerned renovation plans for the school. Riley will be the first of Vincennes' elementaries to have interior renovations.

The renovation work will begin on May 26th-- the day after school lets out for the summer. The Riley students will be out of their school for only half of the school year-- they are scheduled to return to Riley in early January, 2017.

(New Hampton Inn coming) (Friday 5/13/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Board of Zoning Appeals has approved a special exception for a new Hampton Inn to be built on the corner of Ford Road and Dixie Orchard Drive. The new hotel will be a three-story, 79-room facility, with 91 parking spaces, and providing an estimated 25 to 30 jobs. It also features room for a future restaurant on the property. The new hotel will have its entrance off Dixie Orchard Drive.

The Hampton Inn will be located in the City's TIF zone, in land proposed for City development back in 2010.

(KCCF-- Grant applications) (Tuesday 5/17/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County Community Foundation is accepting applications now for this year's community grant cycle. The grants usually range from one-thousand to ten-thousand dollars. They are given as one-time support of a project, or for expansion of an intial project.

(Teacher injury update) (Tuesday 5/17/16 ... tlz 6a)

The teacher injured in an incident last Wednesday at Vincennes Lincoln High School is expected to recover from her injuries. The word came in a release yesteraday from the Vincenes Community School Corporation.

(KC Library Bd-- Policy review) (Wednesday 5/18/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Knox County Library Board has decided to take the next month to

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review and update various Library policies. The move came after some Board members disagreed with spending by Library director Emily Bunyan to unilaterally remove some interior walls in the Library Annex building. The Board is considering a possible use for the building as collaborative workspace; however, some Board members wanted to wait for more information before doing any physical work on the structure.

(USB-- Bid advertising) (Thursday 5/19/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Utility Services Board has approved advertising for bids for the City's new water treatment plant. The bids will be advertised in the next couple of weeks, with a bid deadline of four p-m on Wednesday, June 15th. The bids will be opened that afternoon during the next Vincennes Utility Services Board session. The bid advertising follows the completion of engineering work on a new water plant facility.

(Relay--opening) (Friday 5/20/16 ... tlz 6a)

The annual Knox County Relay for Life begins tomorrow at and just outside Vincennes Lincoln's Alice Arena. Teams of Relay walkers will begin the Relay with opening ceremonies at ten a-m.

(Semi driver injured in accident) (Thursday 5/26/16 ... tlz 4p)
(updated 5/27)

A semi truck driver is reported in critical but stable condition following an accident yesterday on State Road 67 north of Westphalia.

The accident happened when heavy thunderstorm winds blew a truck off the roadway. The truck turned on its side, crossed the road, and entered a roadside ditch. The truck was owned by Vincennes' Ford Sawmill; the driver was identified as Mark Ridgeley.

(Memorial Day ceremonies) (Monday 5/31/16 ... tlz 6a)

A group of veterans and the general public came together yesterday at Memorial Park Cemetery for the annual Memorial Day remembrance. The remembrance included the laying of wreaths to remember fallen soldiers representing all American wars.

(Weekend domestic) (Tuesday 5/31/16 ... tlz 12n)
(updated 6/1)

A Monroe City woman is dead after a Sunday night incident starting in Vincennes and ending in Monroe City.

The incident allegedly started with a reported domestic incident

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involving 44 year-old Kevin Pickett and his girlfriend, 26 year-old Patricia Grostephon. Grostephon and Pickett had left Vincennes on Hillcrest Road, when Grostephon allegedly jumped from the car, striking her head on the pavement.

(July 4th Parade) (Thursday 6/2/16 ... tlz 6a)

The City of Vincennes has announced its Fourth of July Parade theme this year is "Celebrate Freedom." All parade entries are encouraged to decorate colorfully, and with a patriotic theme.

Lineup for the parade will start at three-30 p-m on Monday, July fourth; the parade will step off at six p-m.

(City- Chinese trip) (Monday 6/6/16 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes Mayor Joe Yochum and Knox County Development Corporation director Kent Utt are about to head to China. Both men will leave for Chicago tomorrow night, and fly to China on Wednesday morning.

(VPD-- Reserve office sworn in) (Tuesday 6/7/16 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes City Police swore in the Department's first reserve officer yesterday, as Frank Medlen, Junior took the oath of office. The swearing-in ceremony came during yesterday's special session of the Vincennes Board of Works.

(Bicknell-- officer reprimand) (Tuesday 6/7/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Bicknell Board of Works decided last night to issue a letter of reprimand against City Police officer Kevin Carroll. The decision came after a thorough investigation by Bicknell City Attorney Michael Edwards, the Bicknell Board of Works, and the Indiana State Police.

(BPW-- Blight Elimination Award) (Tuesday 6/7/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Board of Works has awarded the first of its Blight Elimination projects to Kerns Construction. The award is for tear-down of the property at 710 North Eleventh Street. Kerns' winning bid is for 55-hundred dollars.

(Person airlifted following tracks incident) (Friday 6/10/16 ... tlz 6a)

One person was airlifted from Good Samaritan Hospital yesterday

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evening following an injury incident along the C-S-X tracks in Vincennes. Vincennes City Police reported to the incident around seven p-m.

The crews were called to the tracks along Mississippi Street, near the crossing at Saint Clair Street.

City Police are still investigating the incident. No official information on it has been released at this time. The name of the injured person also has not been released.

(Supreme celebration) (Monday 6/13/16 ... tlz/NI 6a)

Members of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission will be in the area today and tomorrow to honor some early Indiana Supreme Court justices. The first remembrance will be held at ten-30 this morning in Carlisle; two more remembrances will happen tomorrow in Knox County.

(SK-- Renovation info session) (Tuesday 6/14/16 ... tlz 6a)

An information session is planned for Monday, June 20th to provide details on the South Knox School Corporation's 2018 renovation project. The hearing will begin that evening at six-30 in the South Knox Middle-High School cafeteria.

(VFD-- Eleventh Street fire) (Tuesday 6/14/16 ... tlz 6a)

Vincennes City firemen responded to a fire this morning at 710 North Eleventh Street. Firefighters were called to the fire just after one a-m; crews found the vacant house covered in flames when they arrived.

(Fire ruled as arson) (Tuesday 6/14/16 ... tlz 5p)
(updated 6/15)

Arson has been given as the cause for a fire that destroyed a Vincennes home and caused damage to two others yesterday. Vincennes City Fire Chief Sonny Pinkstaff has ruled the fire was "incendiary, or intentionally set."

Vincennes City fireman Adam Ray suffered a severe broken leg and ankle while fighting the fire. He is in Good Samaritan Hospital, where surgery is being planned to repair the broken leg.

(USB-- Bonds sold) (Thursday 6/16/16 ... tlz 6a)

Bonds to pay for coming Vincennes Utilities water and sewer work

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were purchased at a sale on Tuesday. Both sets of bonds were purchased by Chicago's Hutchinson, Shockey, Earley, and Company. The firm quoted a winning rate of two-point-oh-five percent for the ten-year sewer bonds, and two-point-six-five percent for the 20-year water bonds.

(Two juveniles arrested in arson) (Friday 6/17/16 ... tlz 6a)

Two juveniles have been arrested in connection with an arson that struck an Eleventh Street house early Tuesday morning. Vincennes authorities reported the juvenile arrests last night; the two are charged with arson causing serious bodily injury, and arson of another's property. Both are felony charges.

INVin gets more funding for 6th and Main Project - for 6/17/16 - mrl

The development group INVin received a pledge of another \$85 Thousand Dollars to help pay for the removal of two buildings and the construction of a public parking lot at the corner of Sixth and Main. The Redevelopment Commission added the money to the \$200 Thousand Dollars it earlier committed to the project. The former sign building and a smaller building next to it will be removed and a parking lot for about two dozen cars will be built.

VCSC Renovations Progress - for 6 20 16 - mrl 12n
(updated 6/21)

Renovations at all four Vincennes Public Elementary Schools are on schedule. According to Lance Gassert from Garmong Construction, Tecumseh-Harrison school has curbing completed for the new parking and student drop off areas. Stone and sidewalks will be added this week.

(HRB-- InVin demolition) (Wednesday 6/22/16 ... tlz 6a)

The Vincennes Historic Review Board has approved the demolition of the vacant buildings at 526 and 530 Main Street. The demolitions will allow downtown development group InVin to put in a new parking lot, to serve the New Moon Theater across the street. Funding for the demolition, and parking lot construction, is being provided by the Vincennes Redevelopment Commission.

(Death investigation) (Monday 6/28/16 ... tlz 6a)

Knox County Sheriff's deputies are checking on the death of a Little Rock, Arkansas woman over the weekend at a Hyde Park Drive home.

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Knox County Coroner Brian Hagen identified the dead woman as 36 year-old Allison L. Adams. The death resulted from an injury that happened while she was staying at the home of her boyfriend.

(Heavy rain problems) (Monday 6/27/16 ... tlz 6a)

Sudden heavy rains from a strong overnight thunderstorm caused the partial collapse of roofing for two Vincennes businesses.

The excess rain struck just after ten-15 last night, and caused the collapse of part of Monical's Pizza along Willow Street.

(InVin-- Downtown development grant) (Tuesday 6/18/16 ... tlz 6a)

Downtown Vincennes group InVin is requesting Vincennes City Council's backing to apply for a 500-thousand dollar grant. The grant would be used to improve between 15 and 18 facades along Main Street in downtown Vincennes.

InVin president Ellen Harper says the next step in the process is a public hearing to discuss the project.

(Toyota Boshoku ribbon cutting) (Thursday 6/30/16 ... tlz 6a)

A ribbon-cutting is planned for tomorrow for the Toyota Boshoku plant in Lawrenceville. The ribbon cutting for the plant will be held at 11 a-m Central time, or noon Eastern time, at the plant location at 100 Trim Masters Drive.

(Paving Affected Monroe City Streets) (Thursday 6/30/16 ... tlz 6a)

Two Monroe City paving projects are scheduled from today through Tuesday of next week.

The first paving project will be today and tomorrow on Buchanan Street from State Road 241 to DeBord Street. The other project is the paving of Cleveland Street from Third to Eleventh Streets.

(Torchbearers set) (Thursday 6/30/16 ... tlz 6a)

Over two-thousand torchbearers-- including 41 from Knox County-- will participate in the annual Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay. The relay will start September ninth in Corydon, and end October 15th in Indianapolis.

(Jim Osborne-- Spirit of '76 Winner) (Wednesday 6/29/16 ... tlz 4p)

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Indiana Military Museum director Jim Osborne has been named as the winner of the City of Vincennes' "Spirit of '76 Award." City officials named Osborne the winner yesterday afternoon.

Osborne established the Indiana Military Museum in 1982 to preserve and display significant military artifacts.

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