

WGLT ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

January, February, March 2011

Key: The following issues were addressed during WGLT Newscasts at 6:33 and 8:33 AM (during *MORNING EDITION*) AND 4:30 PM (during *ALL THINGS CONSIDERED*.)

Date Length Summary

ARTS & CULTURE

01/11 6:00 People are always the products of their particular place and time. A gathering of scholars this week at Eureka College looks at that common culture from which sprang President Ronald Reagan. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports on Reagan and the Midwest in this the centennial year of Reagan's birth...

01/13 6:00 People are always the products of their particular place and time. A gathering of scholars this week at Eureka College looks at that common culture from which sprang President Ronald Reagan. Remember a time when the Midwest really was the heartland? When the broad rivers of population, finance, and industry all flowed strongly through the states of the region? This was before the west and the south sang loudly to those seeking opportunity and before manufacturing ebbed in this country. John Miller of South Dakota State University says that was Ronald Reagan's America and the region that helped make him what he became...

01/27 7:00 When singer Catherine Russell takes the stage to perform, she brings with her a unique musical pedigree improvised out of jazz, blues, pop rock and more. WGLT's Laura Kennedy has more:

02/01 5:30 When prominent people retire they tend to write books and hawk them on the road. The rest of us usually don't have that outlet. But, WGLT's Charlie Schlenker has this report on several people who will never get a book tour, but whose stories THEY hope will explain their lives as well...

02/08 4:00 The Old Main building at Illinois State University may be gone, but not forgotten thanks to a pair of Illinois researchers. IPR's Jenna Dooley has more on a project by the Illinois State Museum Research and Collections Center.

02/23 6:00 Running up and down the field at the Super bowl this year was a man from Normal. But, number 67 wasn't playing. He was wearing stripes. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker has more on a Field Judge from Central Illinois and his first shot at the biggest game in football...

02/28 6:00 One of the big winners in last night's Academy Awards was the movie "The King's Speech," starring Colin Firth as King George the Sixth of Britain. It shows attempts by the monarch to overcome stuttering:

03/14 3:00 There is more at stake than money in a contract dispute between central Illinois television station owners and many of the employees. News anchors and staff say the future of local T-V news hinges on the outcome. Every weekday evening,* thousand of central Illinois residents tune in to a Peoria Television station to get their news:

03/22 9:00 The photos that fill our albums, drawers and frames can sometimes fill us with more emotion than we can handle. WGLT's Laura Kennedy looks at an exhibit at the Illinois State University Art Galleries that features examples from an archive of photos deemed too hard to keep...

03/25 5:00 There are five candidates for three openings on the Normal Town Council in next month's municipal elections. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports what makes the two challengers different from the three incumbents....

03/31 6:00 In an entertainment universe where pink and princess go hand-in-hand, a children's author has written a series of books about real-life princesses that aim to empower as well as entertain. WGLT's Laura Kennedy talks with the author, who is appearing at Illinois State University next month, about what inspired the books and what a princess-to-be can do to be a positive force for change:

BUSINESS, ECONOMY & LABOR

- 01/19 6:00 People arrested for being undocumented immigrants in Illinois are sent to holding centers. There are two in southern Illinois. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker talks with a U of I law school student from Bloomington who has been active in supporting immigrant rights. ..
- 01/21 6:00 The chair of a task force looking into making Bloomington-Normal an electric vehicle friendly community says the progressive nature of the area make it a good place to test the feasibility of electric cars. WGLT's Jim Browne has more with Jeff Pritts:
- 01/30 5:00 The U-S Department of Agriculture is announcing the first changes in school lunch guidelines since 1996. The changes are meant to address a growing childhood obesity problem, and to improve overall student nutrition. As dramatic as the proposal is, the people in charge of feeding children at the public schools in Bloomington-Normal would like take things even further. WGLT's Jim Browne takes a look at the local impact of the changes:
- 02/04 5:00 The April Municipal Elections are about two months away and Council Candidates in Bloomington are already knocking on doors asking for votes...weather permitting. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports on the three way race for Alderman in the Eighth Ward, the seat being vacated by John Hanson...
- 02/04 2:30 The Mitsubishi Motors North America plant in Normal has made more than three million vehicles in its twenty five year history. That history will continue. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports the Company says it will begin central Illinois production of its new Outlander Sport Crossover SUV in the middle of next year
- 02/07 5:30 Illinois is sixth in the nation in wind power production states, and it could move higher as the state shifts more power generating from old obsolete coal plants toward wind farms. A Wind energy conference is taking place Wednesday at the Marriott Hotel in uptown Normal.
- 02/09 5:00 A bill meant to get more tax revenue from online retailers is on Governor Pat Quinn's desk. It's a measure the governor probably would not be considering if people paid more attention to paying the state use tax.
- 02/24 6:00 When Congress returns to session next week lawmakers have four working days to pass a spending bill before the current temporary measure expires. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker has more on the prospects for a government shutdown with a central Illinois Congressman...

CHILDREN & FAMILY/EDUCATION

- 01/11 6:00 People are always the products of their particular place and time. A gathering of scholars this week at Eureka College looks at that common culture from which sprang President Ronald Reagan. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports on Reagan and the Midwest in this the centennial year of Reagan's birth...
- 01/28 5:30 Today marks a quarter century since an event that's burned into the collective consciousness of our nation, WGLT's Jim Browne has more:
- 01/30 5:00 The U-S Department of Agriculture is announcing the first changes in school lunch guidelines since 1996. The changes are meant to address a growing childhood obesity problem, and to improve overall student nutrition. As dramatic as the proposal is, the people in charge of feeding children at the public schools in Bloomington-Normal would like take things even further. As long as there have been school lunches, there've been complaints by children. Now, in announcing new guidelines, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack says there's reason to complain about the food kids get in the cafeteria
- 02/08 4:30 The Old Main building at Illinois State University may be gone, but not forgotten thanks to a pair of Illinois researchers. IPR's Jenna Dooley has more on a project by the Illinois State Museum Research and Collections Center.
- 02/24 4:30 According to the Centers for Disease Control ... nearly 4 million concussions are sustained in sports and recreation in the United States every year. A statistic made more sobering considering that studies show only a sliver of concussions are ever diagnosed. Research shows the long-term damage that violent shaking of brain cells can do, particularly to athletes who often suffer repeated blows to the head. Members of an Illinois House committee gave their full support to a measure that seeks to raise awareness of head trauma ... and what to do about it ... when it affects student athletes.

03/07 5:30 A new study done for and by Illinois State University shows the higher education institution creates directly and indirectly more than ten thousand jobs in the local economy.....or one in nine workers in the entire county labor force. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker has more about the study and the huge numbers of dollars those workers and students add to the economy....

03/14 6:00 The topic of polygamy is moving into the mainstream. WGLT's Laura Kennedy talks with a woman who rejected that lifestyle and has turned her experiences into a book...

03/23 5:00 An agreement on a Palestinian state would be much easier if U-S leaders stopped listening to Israeli lobbyists. That's what this year's speaker at Illinois State University's Bone Distinguished Lecture Series claims. John Mearsheimer says politics and national security are inseparable. He has been involved in both, dating back to a stint in Air Force Intelligence following his West Point graduation in 1970. He says a lot of the blame for the impasse between Israel and the Palestinians can be laid at the doorstep of the United States:

03/31 6:00 In an entertainment universe where pink and princess go hand-in-hand, a children's author has written a series of books about real-life princesses that aim to empower as well as entertain. WGLT's Laura Kennedy talks with the author, who is appearing at Illinois State University next month, about what inspired the books and what a princess-to-be can do to be a positive force for change:

ENVIRONMENT

01/05 2:00 An ISU Biologist says it's a little odd to have several large scale bird deaths happen close to the same time. Three have been reported...in Arkansas, Louisiana, and now in Sweden. Angelo Caparella says such incidents do happen and according to U-S Geological Survey records Caparella says they seem to average about one a year...

01/06 2:00 Monsanto has announced progress in research projects on genetically-engineered crops. The Company's vice president of biotechnology, Steve Padgett [PAD - jet], says several collaborations with the Germany-based BASF Plant Science will be moving forward this year. One project involves genetically-modifying corn plants to make them use nitrogen more efficiently...

01/21 5:30 The chair of a task force looking into making Bloomington-Normal an electric vehicle friendly community says the progressive nature of the area make it a good place to test the feasibility of electric cars. Pritts is the General Manager of the Marriot in uptown Normal. He says the E-V task force has been in touch with the makers of electric vehicles, including Mitsubishi, to gauge interest in undertaking a cooperative effort:

01/24 2:00 The Constitution Trail could be more usable next winter. Town of Normal and City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation officials are discussing clearing snow off the trail starting next winter. Normal Parks and Rec Director Gary Little says he is recommending that move when two or more inches of snow falls...

02/07 5:30 Illinois is sixth in the nation in wind power production states, and it could move higher as the state shifts more power generating from old obsolete coal plants toward wind farms. A Wind energy conference is taking place Wednesday at the Marriott Hotel in uptown Normal.

02/09 2:00 The head of the Illinois Farm Bureau is asking congress to take back climate policy. Phil Nelson of Seneca is testifying before a House committee that the Farm Bureau opposes EPA regulation of greenhouse gases through administrative rules. Nelson says the agriculture industry will get hit twice by the new rules....

03/16 3:00 The Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington has added to the limited population of Walleroos...the third largest kind of Kangaroo. A joey, or baby Wallaroo, is peeking out of the pouches of two female Walleroos. Zoo Superintendent Jay Tetzloff says Walleroos are a protected species and the Miller Park Zoo is part of the species survival plan. Tetzloff says the breeding pool is shallow because only 25 zoos in North America have Wallaroos...

03/24 3:00 Nuclear power continues to have the support of a central Illinois congressman even after the problems in Japan. Republican Adam Kinzinger says, even though the nuke plants there and in Illinois are nearly identical, the exact disaster in Asia can't happen here...

03/29 6:00 Nuclear Power plant fuel storage is an issue taking a lot higher profile since the huge earthquake in Japan and the tsunami -related disaster at the Fukushima reactor complex. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports ...

HEALTH & MEDICINE

01/07 2:00 Those waiting for Illinois to approve medical marijuana will have to keep waiting as state lawmakers again rejected the idea. This was the second attempt in recent weeks to get a medicinal marijuana measure through the Illinois House. Both came up short.... the latest effort was four votes shy. Sponsor Lou Lang.... a Democrat from Skokie... says this is more than just another piece of legislation to him:

01/11 2:00 It's flu season, and the McLean County Health department wants you to get a vaccine, if you haven't already. Erin Tolle-Link says there are two common excuses she hears for not getting vaccinated:

01/19 3:00 Congressman Aaron Schock urges repeal of the healthcare reform law saying it places too costly a burden on employers. The Peoria Republican said during debate over the rollback bill that employers will have to pay more than 12-thousand dollars per full time worker for the minimum government approved health plan....

02/01 3:00 The large amounts of snow coming down in central Illinois also creates the need to remove it...and the potential for injuries. Michael Vogel, a Physical Therapist for Advocate BroMenn Healthcare, says people should stretch out before shoveling and try not to do the entire driveway at one time if they are not used to physical activity...

02/09 3:00 Bloomington Police say they are seeing signs of so-called bath salts being sold in the area, though they are really used to get high. Spokesman Dave White says the product is generally known as Ivory Wave in this market, though in other places it's sold as Vanilla Sky and White Rush. When smoked or snorted it produces a meth like high and sometimes violent behavior in users...

02/24 6:00 When Congress returns to session next week lawmakers have four working days to pass a spending bill before the current temporary measure expires. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker has more on the prospects for a government shutdown with a central Illinois Congressman...

02/25 3:00 Central Illinois Congressman Adam Kinzinger voted recently to cut all federal funding for Planned Parenthood. The Bloomington native says that's even though he is not against long term family planning...

02/25 2:00 Governor Pat Quinn says cuts to state-funded drug and alcohol rehab centers won't be as deep as originally feared. Quinn's office had proposed major financial cuts to social services, but the Governor is now saying those cuts aren't final yet.

02/28 3:00 The president of Planned Parenthood of Illinois says Republicans who voted to defund the women's health services organization aren't considering the big picture of services provided. Carol Brite says central Illinois Congressman Adam Kinzinger's explanation that he went along with defunding Planned Parenthood because its non-taxpayer funded abortions are controversial...is misguided..

03/11 3:00 The state's worker's compensation system will now be subject to an audit. Members of the Illinois House today (Thursday) ordered an examination, following an in-depth media investigation.

03/16 2:00 Big upgrades to the state's infrastructure were supposed to start up as soon as the weather cooperated. But the funding for Illinois' 31 billion dollar construction plan hit a legal snag. It's now tied up in the court system. Senate President John Cullerton says he has a solution... raise the tax on cigarettes.

The Chicago Democrat says rather than run the risk of missing out on the approaching construction season, lawmakers should tack one dollar on to each pack of cigarettes sold in the state. Cullerton says he's gathering support from both parties on the tax hike:

03/28 3:00 The Second year of implementation for the Affordable Care Act covering healthcare insurance and delivery will see even more changes for Illinois citizens. That's according to Mike McRaith, the Director of the State Insurance Department. McRaith says one of the priorities for those who want healthcare system improvement is to change the payment and reimbursement process.....

LAW ENFORCEMENT & COURTS

01/03 2:30 Town of Normal Police reports on students will be given to the University for use in student discipline under a new agreement up for Council consideration. The Town and ISU have shared such data sporadically for years. Now, Police Chief Kent Crutcher says he wants a formal agreement...

01/05 2:00 A plan to abolish the death penalty in Illinois is awaiting a vote in the legislature. But some victim's families say a repeal would be irresponsible.

01/05 3:00 About a third of Illinois State University's student disciplinary proceedings come out of off

campus police reports and ordinance violations. The University's Coordinator for Community Rights and Responsibilities is Suzette Walden. Walden says a new intergovernmental agreement to share police reports will bring a few more cases dealing with more serious criminal offenses....

01/10 2:30 Former U-S Attorney General Ed Meese says pundits and ordinary people should not blame the shooting of an Arizona Congressman on harsh political rhetoric. Speaking with WGLT in advance of a conference on Ronald Reagan at Eureka College, Meese said it's just a sad case of another wacko, and not a problem of politics...

01/24 3:00 If the Governor signs a measure that would eliminate the death penalty in Illinois, Mclean County State's Attorney Bill Yoder says it would shift the high costs of those prosecutions to counties. That's because a fund to assist the defense would be eliminated. Yoder says that could be a big financial burden on smaller counties, but it won't change the costs. He says any death penalty case is complex enough to require extra work even if capital punishment is not an option....

02/07 2:00 Governor Pat Quinn has to act by March 12th on a bill to abolish the death penalty. But, in appearances in Bloomington Normal, Quinn refused to tip his hand on how he's leaning....

02/16 3:00 A citizen advocacy group is recommending Bloomington, Normal and other home rule cities and towns regulate payday loan operations by capping interest rates they charge. Jack Porter of Illinois People's Action says courts have generally ruled that's well within the authority of local leaders to do....

02/24 2:00 The Obama Administration decision to abandon legal efforts to support the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act bothers a central Illinois Congressman. Republican Adam Kinzinger says it potentially sets a bad precedent for how the executive branch is supposed to act on laws approved by Congress...

03/08 3:00 Crime last year was lower in almost all categories in Normal, which has gone over two years without a homicide. WGLT's Jim Browne has a breakdown of the Town of Normal's annual report for 2010:

03/16 2:00 Former Chicago Police Commander Jon Burge reported to federal prison today. But as IPR's Tony Arnold reports - there are still many outstanding legal issues surrounding his legacy...

POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

01/04 3:00 As the 112-th Congress goes into session tomorrow (later today) with new and Republican leaders, a long time central Illinois Representative says he looks forward to changing priorities. Congressman Tim Johnson of Urbana says he wants to do more than the GOP did at the end of last session in forcing tax compromise and holding the finger in the dike on spending....

01/05 2:00 Lawmakers taking the oath of office today in Washington include the five G-O-P freshmen from Illinois. The state's U-S House delegation now includes more Republicans than Democrats. With their first votes, Joe Walsh, Robert Dold, Randy Hultgren, Bobby Schilling and Adam Kinzinger voted to make John Boehner the new speaker of the House....

01/11 5:30 The "accidental" governor has come into his own. Though he has led the state for two years ... Pat Quinn had been filling out the remainder of Rod Blagojevich's term. Yesterday ... Quinn was sworn in to a full, four-year term he rightfully won himself.

01/19 6:00 People arrested for being undocumented immigrants in Illinois are sent to holding centers. There are two in southern Illinois. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker talks with a U of I law school student from Bloomington who has been active in supporting immigrant rights. ...

02/08 3:00 A program that let deadbeat taxpayers settle their affairs with the state without penalty brought in millions more than state officials expected. The final tally shows the state's tax amnesty program brought in 64 million dollars more than the 250 million dollar estimate. The goal was to get individuals and businesses who'd avoided paying their taxes to pay up.

02/14 3:00 Two central Illinois Republican Lawmakers say they are introducing a package of bills to crack down on welfare recipients.

02/23 3:00 The Director of the Illinois High School Association says he believes a house proposal on concussions could be implemented with zero additional cost. Marty Hickman says the Bloomington-based IHSA is out in front on the issue....

02/25 3:00 Central Illinois Congressman Adam Kinzinger voted recently to cut all federal funding for Planned Parenthood. The Bloomington native says that's even though he is not against long term family planning...

03/07 5:00 A new study done for and by Illinois State University shows the higher education institution creates directly and indirectly more than ten thousand jobs in the local economy.....or one in nine workers in the entire county labor force.

03/15 3:00 Bloomington Mayor Steve Stockton gets his way by naming his first choice as the new third ward city alderman. Mboka Mwilambwe was nominated by the Mayor last month, but the council refused to confirm him.

03/17 3:00 Illinois Republicans have come out with their budget proposal to counter Governor Quinn's spending plan. The GOP budget cuts education by 725 million dollars, and other state spending across the board, government pensions, and aid to the poor. GOP Senate leader Christine Radogno says the proposal would save six point seven billion dollars.

03/23 5:30 An agreement on a Palestinian state would be much easier if U-S leaders stopped listening to Israeli lobbyists. That's what this year's speaker at Illinois State University's Bone Distinguished Lecture Series says.

RACE, EQUALITY & RIGHTS

01/06 2:30 An Illinois State University Scholar says current controversy over a new edition of the classic book Huckleberry Finn is only the latest instance of an argument that began in the 1950s. The new book eliminates author Mark Twain's repeated use of the N-word. Roberta Trites is an expert on Mark Twain. She says censored versions of Huckleberry Finn have come out several times before and every time they end up off the shelves remarkably fast...

01/17 3:00 The speaker at Illinois State University's Martin Luther King dinner on Friday says America will never become "post-racial." CNN's Soledad O'Brien says she was irked when she heard that phrase bandied about following the election of President Obama. The veteran anchor and reporter says America will always deal with the issue of race...

01/31 3:00 A long time same sex couple from Bloomington Normal is very pleased with today's scheduled signing of the Civil Union Bill. Tom McCulley and Ron Frazier have been together for more than 30 years and raised a child together. McCulley says he does not love the term civil partnership....but it's a great first step...

02/14 2:30 An Egyptian ex-patriot says the fall of Hosni Mubarak may take other leaders down too in the Arab world. Sohair Wastawi (SO-hair wah-STAH-wee), the Dean of ISU's Milner Library says her country's economy and population have always had influence on neighbors....

02/25 2:30 Central Illinois Congressman Adam Kinzinger voted recently to cut all federal funding for Planned Parenthood. The Bloomington native says that's even though he is not against long term family planning...

03/09 3:00 When told of the news banning capitol punishment, one central Illinois death penalty opponent said simply...wonderful. Susan Heiser with the Bloomington Normal Interfaith Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty says she's filled more with peace than happiness about the decision. She says convicted murderers will still face a just penalty...

03/23 5:30 An agreement on a Palestinian state would be much easier if U-S leaders stopped listening to Israeli lobbyists. That's what this year's speaker at Illinois State University's Bone Distinguished Lecture Series says.

SOCIAL SERVICE & PROGRAMS

01/10 5:00 Organizations like the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and American Legion, are seeing younger soldiers join up. That reverses a long trend, and changes the face of veteran's groups.

01/25 2:30 After being down more than a million dollars late in the campaign, the McLean County United Way fall fundraising effort was able to exceed its four-point two-six million dollar fundraising goal. Campaign chair Bob Lakin of Commerce Bank says State Farm Insurance and a few other businesses exceeded expectations when it came to employee and corporate giving...

01/27 3:00 Welfare recipients would need to pass a drug test before collecting benefits under a plan at the Illinois Capitol.

02/01 3:00 Stranded motorists and others in need can seek help at one of six shelters set up by the American Red Cross of the Heartland. Spokesman Scott Vogel says the shelters are primarily intended for

out of town motorists...

02/09 3:00 Bloomington Police say they are seeing signs of so-called bath salts being sold in the area, though they are really used to get high. Spokesman Dave White says the product is generally known as Ivory Wave in this market, though in other places it's sold as Vanilla Sky and White Rush. When smoked or snorted it produces a meth like high and sometimes violent behavior in users...

02/24 6:00 When Congress returns to session next week lawmakers have four working days to pass a spending bill before the current temporary measure expires.

03/14 6:00 The topic of polygamy is moving into the mainstream. WGLT's Laura Kennedy talks with a woman who rejected that lifestyle and has turned her experiences into a book.

03/25 5:30 There are five candidates for three openings on the Normal Town Council in next month's municipal elections. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker reports what makes the two challengers different from the three incumbents....

TECHNOLOGY

01/21 5:30 The chair of a task force looking into making Bloomington-Normal an electric vehicle friendly community says the progressive nature of the area make it a good place to test the feasibility of electric cars.

01/21 2:30 Mitsubishi has apparently chosen the Outlander Crossover SUV Chassis for whatever new models it will announce for production in Normal. The company plans to export significant amounts of product unlike past plant production intended solely for north America. But, analyst Paul Eisenstein of the Detroit-Bureau-dot-com says even though much of the globe prefers smaller vehicles than the U-S, the Outlander frame is small enough to appeal...

01/28 5:30 Today marks a quarter century since an event that's burned into the collective consciousness of our nation. As the space shuttle Challenger was headed into the heavens, America was socked in the gut by reports out of Florida:

02/01 2:00 The Central Illinois native assigned to lead those investigating the BP Oil Spill says deepwater drilling had fallen into a 'culture of complacency' when last year's blast in the Gulf of Mexico killed 11 workers, and caused an environmental disaster.

02/07 5:30 Illinois is sixth in the nation in wind power production states, and it could move higher as the state shifts more power generating from old obsolete coal plants toward wind farms. A Wind energy conference is taking place Wednesday at the Marriott Hotel in uptown Normal.

02/28 3:00 Rising gasoline prices could sap the economic recovery according to Central Illinois Congressman Adam Kinzinger.....

03/25 5:30 There are five candidates for three openings on the Normal Town Council in next month's municipal elections.

03/23 3:00 Controversial evolutionary biologist says there is a string link between disease or parasite prone areas of the world and conservative, and authoritarian core values. Randy Thornhill is speaking tomorrow (this) evening at Illinois State University. The University of New Mexico professor says the correlation of conservatism and diseases works everywhere in the world...

03/29 6:00 Nuclear Power plant fuel storage is an issue taking a lot higher profile since the huge earthquake in Japan and the tsunami -related disaster at the Fukushima reactor complex.

TRANSPORTATION

01/04 2:00 Mitsubishi Motors North America closed the year with a three percent sales increase over two thousand nine, but the industry average gain was ten percent in the U-S. Some companies like Ford saw gains of close to 20-percent excluding its now separated Volvo subsidiary

01/21 3:00 Mitsubishi has apparently chosen the Outlander Crossover SUV Chassis for whatever new models it will announce for production in Normal.

01/21 6:00The chair of a task force looking into making Bloomington-Normal an electric vehicle friendly community says the progressive nature of the area make it a good place to test the feasibility of electric cars.

01/25 3:00 Government incentives to get car buyers to switch to electric vehicles could backfire according to an auto industry analyst. Paul Eisenstein of the Detroit-Bureau-dot-com says that's even though electric powered cars would be better for the environment....

01/31 3:00 If the blizzard forecast for central Illinois really does peak at two to three inches of snow per hour sometime tomorrow or Wednesday (today or tomorrow), it's likely snow ploughs will fall behind. The last time that happened was eleven years ago according to Melanie Overend of the Bloomington Normal Public Transit System...

02/01 2:00 Stranded motorists and others in need can seek help at one of six shelters set up by the American Red Cross of the Heartland. Spokesman Scott Vogel says the shelters are primarily intended for out of town motorists...

02/02 2:00 The Mayor of Normal says there are still some challenges facing snow removal crews in the wake of the blizzard. Chris Koos says the perimeter roads of the community are dicey to drive...

03/02 3:00 Workers at the Bloomington Normal Transit System say there is mending to be done when the board finds a new Manager. The Previous Director left abruptly under a cloud after only a brief tenure and bus driver Renee Williams tells the transit board that when the organizations new headquarters opened on Wylie Drive there was a lot of optimism...that has since gone away....

03/31 3:00 Mitsubishi Motors will not have a summer shutdown. Spokesman Dan Irvin says this may be the first time in the plant's 22-year history production will continue for the two weeks surrounding the July 4th holiday....