

WGLT ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

October, November, December 2015

Key: The following issues were addressed during WGLT Newscasts at 6:45 and 8:45 AM (during *MORNING EDITION*) AND 3:45 PM (during *ALL THINGS CONSIDERED*.)

Date Length Summary

ARTS & CULTURE

- 10/1 3:00 The Illinois State Fair ended in August. But many who worked there are still owed money. IPR's Sean Crawford reports.
- 10/2 13:00 Quiet unsexy policy priorities can shape a city. In GLT's final interview focusing on the Normal 1-5-0 celebration, we unravel some of the choices made in recent decades that are shaping the town's present and future.
- 10/6 17:00 First lady Michelle Obama is visiting Connecticut this weekend to christen a submarine named after her home state.
- 10/19 16:00 In less than two weeks, Illinois Wesleyan University President Richard Wilson will retire and give way to Eric Jensen.
- 10/21 2:00 The Illinois State Museum is in danger of losing its accreditation after Gov. Bruce Rauner closed the museums due to the state budget impasse. The Accreditation Commission voted 7-to-0 to put the museum system on probation.
- 10/27 2:00 Governor Bruce Rauner has honored a 75-year-old Morton chess instructor who fought off a knife-wielding man threatening to kill children at a library.
- 11/03 2:00 The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency board of directors has dismissed the director and appointed its general counsel to hold the post on an interim basis. The preservation agency's board of trustees voted Monday to replace 45-year-old Amy Martin with Garth Madison.
- 11/09 2:00 The Virginia Theatre in Champaign is having a big year, bringing in more than \$1 million in ticket sales so far in 2015.
- 11/11 2:00 Illinois State University remembers and honors soldiers on this Veterans day. Those who served in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf wars were in the audience listening as Mayor Chris Koos told of his struggle adapting after Vietnam.
- 11/18 15:00 Like most of the people working at the soon to close Mitsubishi Plant in Normal Jerry Harcharik (har-CHAR-ik) faces uncertainty.
- 11/24 2:00 Mayor Chris Koos of Normal is speaking out against a wave of xenophobia aimed at Syrian refugees. Koos is among 62 U.S. Mayors who have signed an open letter to Congress saying a ban on Syrian refugees is not warranted....
- 11/27 2:00 A Bloomington Normal Brewery has won several national medals for its products. Destihl's Dosvidanya Bourbon Barrel-Aged Russian Imperial Stout won a bronze medal
- 12/1 6:00 Something dandy in candy and a new indian cuisine offering featuring street food are developments in the Bloomington Normal Restaurant Scene.
- 12/9 12:00 The low unemployment numbers in Bloomington Normal do not reflect the entire economy. Another side often appears to the owners of Monster Pawn, Kathy and Ed Pierce. They talk with Charlie Schlenker about the off the books economy in the twin cities.

12/16 2:00 The Moline City Council has given final approval to selling the city's historic train depot for \$500 to the Illinois Department of Transportation, which plans to demolish the 115-year-old building. Previous efforts to move and save the building failed, but the contract does say that the sale is final unless an alternative for moving the depot is found and approved before Feb. 1.

12/17 3:00 The December twenty-first Winter Solstice has long been associated with spiritual ceremonies. Bloomington's Unitarian Universalist Church is marking the upcoming solstice with a public performance of international dances of peace.

12/23 2:00 The 40th annual Martin Luther King Junior Awards in Bloomington Normal will feature 13 nominees.

12/25 2:00 Actor Morgan Freeman has visited an Illinois prison to interview a serial killer for an upcoming documentary for the National Geographic Channel.

12/30 10:00 Money is still being raised to help run the Illinois State Museum in Springfield, even though its doors have been closed to the public for three months.

BUSINESS, ECONOMY & LABOR

10/1 16:00 ConAgra Foods will receive an unspecified amount of Illinois tax credits in exchange for 150 new jobs in the state as it moves its headquarters from Omaha, Nebraska, to Chicago.

10/2 2:00 The Sierra Club of Illinois is calling an Illinois Pollution Control Board decision covering the Powerton Coal Powered generating station at Pekin.

10/3 5:00 For the first time ever, a staunchly pro-business group is declining to make an endorsement in the race for Illinois Governor.

10/6 3:00 A federal agency has filed a lawsuit against a Missouri company over allegations of racial slurs directed at some of the company's black employees. 10/9 3:00 Bloomington food pantry Clare House is closing. Tina Sipula founded the pantry in December of 1978, and says she's retiring.

10/12 3:00 The potential developer of a boutique hotel in downtown Bloomington has a complex legal history with the city. David Bently has extensive holdings in the downtown area and recently bought the Pantagraph Newspaper building.

10/13 2:00 A tiny, but speedy piece of aviation history has been hung from the ceiling of the Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington. McLean County Museum of History Curator Susan Hartzold says the Tilbury Flash set an American speed record in 1933 winning the Polish Trophy at air races in Chicago...

10/15 3:00 By working together, McLean County will be able to overcome some short term setbacks. That's the general theme of this year's "State of McLean County" event. Along with Matt Sorenson, chair of the McLean County board, and Bloomington-Normal mayors Tari Renner and Chris Koos, Lexington mayor John Mohr say collaboration is key.

10/19 3:00 Schools in Illinois' neediest districts including Peoria 1-50 are being forced to spend federal funds to prop up the state's Teacher Retirement System. Public schools that serve a significant number of low-income students receive federal Title One grants, earmarked for initiatives to close the achievement gap. If a school uses those funds to hire certified teachers, the school has to pay into that teacher's retirement account.

10/23 2:00 United Airlines has reached a tentative deal to combine more than 8,600 maintenance workers from United and the former Continental Airlines under one contract. The deal announced Friday with the Teamsters would boost top pay immediately by 25 percent to an

industry-leading \$46.15 per hour, and result in 33 percent higher pay by the end of the six-year contract.

10/29 14:00 Other than a house or a college education, buying a car is the largest purchase many Americans make. There's a lot of stress associated with it. WGLT's Charlie Schlenker talks with Dan Deneen, a McLean County Attorney who frequently represents car buyers against dealerships. To buy a car the low stress way, Deneen says approaching a car purchase should be done systematically...

10/30 14:00 We've all heard it over and over...think outside the box. Take it to the next level. But, when you do that, often it turns out there's no there there. All this week GLT is talking with speakers at the upcoming TEDx event in Normal.

11/2 3:00 Republican Governor Bruce Rauner made a pitch for his budget vision at a Chamber of Commerce event at the Bloomington center for the performing arts. That vision does not apparently include members of unions, who were stopped by city police before they could enter the theater.

11/5 2:00 Illinois Congressman Adam Kinzinger has issued a one word response to the rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline. That word is "crazy." The Obama Administration has formally rejected the pipeline to carry Canadian oil into the U.S. after seven years of delays and deliberations..

11/12 2:00 Even though the appropriation for McLean County Drug Court counselling services looks like a lot less than the current year budget, Health Department Director Walt Howe says it won't matter....

11/17 16:00 McLean County has approved its first tax levy increase in five years. By a 12-6 vote, board members okayed a 2016 fiscal budget of \$92 million, funded in part by a property tax hike that pumps in about \$400,000 in new revenue.

11/24 13:00 Kent Ferguson has been looking for a job. He's one of the Mitsubishi workers losing his job with the end of production at the plant in Normal. As part of GLT's coverage of the plant transition, Charlie Schlenker visited again with Ferguson.

11/25 2:00 The Illinois Department of Commerce says it has reached tax-break deals with three companies following Gov. Bruce Rauner's recent decision to reinstate corporate tax incentives. The deals through the EDGE tax-credit program, though, would not provide tax incentives until Rauner and Illinois lawmakers agree on the overdue state budget.

12/1 3:00 Two Bloomington Aldermen say the rental inspection plan is failing the citizens. 85% of rental units in the city have one or more issues that pose a threat to health or safety.

12/3 3:00 A dietician with the Community Cancer Center in Normal says new data from the World Health Organization reinforces the idea of moderation in diet. Mary Kay Holloway is a specialist in Oncology nutrition.. The WHO report indicates eating red meat and processed meats increase cancer risk.

12/10 15:00 Years of mismanagement led to the state's current fiscal crisis. A recent report from the University of Illinois' Institute of Government and Public Affairs suggests changes to the budgeting process that could prevent future disasters.

12/15 16:00 A village board has voted to make Lincolnshire one of Illinois' first municipalities to bar private employers from requiring workers to join or pay dues to a labor organization. The board approved the plan after listening to an hour of public comments. Only one trustee voted in dissent.

12/21 2:00 The Illinois Farm Bureau and a group of landowners are challenging the state's approval of a 780-mile electricity transmission line.

12/28 11:00 Both Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner and the state's largest government employee union are making preparations for a strike - if contract negotiations continue to limp along. The last contract covering people who work for the State of Illinois expired months ago.

CHILDREN & FAMILY/EDUCATION

10/6 16:00 Low-income, working parents are fighting to once again have help from the state for childcare. IPR's Amanda Vinicky reports.

10/9 3:00 This is Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Illinois, following a Gubernatorial declaration by Bruce Rauner. Domestic violence is often a hidden problem, but takes place in Illinois homes frequently. October is a month to highlight misconceptions about abuse.

10/12 2:00 Illinois State University has received a five million dollar federal grant to help youth in Champaign-Urbana become more effective adults.

10/15 2:00 Mumps have not subsided in Bloomington Normal. The McLean County Health Department has issued a notice that Normal Community High School is the site of the latest cluster of related mumps cases. Outbreaks were reported earlier at University High School, Normal West, BHS, Heartland Community College and ISU. The health department says the latest total is 36 positive cases.

10/29 2:00 Days after an Illinois high school student died from football injuries a Cook County judge has dismissed a lawsuit alleging the sports' governing body didn't do enough to protect athletes.

10/30 2:00 A Cook County judge says he will rule Nov. 6 in a custody battle involving a central Illinois woman who's fighting a state agency's decision to take away her three children. Illinois child-welfare workers took Amanda Ware's three children last year after learning that in 2003 three of her other children drowned.

11/2 15:00 Senior citizens are among those feeling the pain of Illinois' partial government shutdown. A-A-R-P and other groups are calling on the state's top politicians to set aside their differences and pass a state budget.

11/3 15:00 Mayor of Normal Chris Koos said during Sound Ideas he's hopeful the Federal Aviation Administration will allow more time for local soccer enthusiasts to find a new home for the airport playing fields.

11/9 14:00 Gov. Bruce Rauner's administration is changing course and revising eligibility requirements for a state child care assistance program. During the summer, the first-term Republican governor severely restricted eligibility because there's no state budget. But today, Rauner spokesman Lance Trover says eligibility will rise to 162 percent of the federal poverty level.

11/12 2:00 There is a higher concentration of library card holders in the part of Bloomington east of Veteran's Parkway, but a lower usage of the Bookmobile. Carol Koos, president of the library board, says that's a head scratcher.

11/18 2:00 Thousands of families who lost access to state-subsidized child care this summer are once again eligible. Governor Bruce Rauner in July drastically rolled back the program ... which helps low-income working parents afford daycare.

11/24 2:00 Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has released a list of toys and children's products that have been recalled. With her 2015 Safe Shopping Guide, Madigan gives descriptions and supplies photos of nearly 100 children's products recalled in the last year, including toys, children's furniture and playsets.

12/7 3:00 Prayer should always be backed up with a positive action. That's according to

Matt Hickman, associate pastor at the Mennonite Church of Normal. But, during an appearance on Sound Ideas, Hickman said the practice of prayer shaming--calling out those who call for prayers instead of taking action-- isn't helping much.

12/21 15:00 Illinois will stop giving the ACT college entrance exam and instead start giving high school juniors the rival SAT. The company that offers the ACT has reportedly filed a protest with the state seeking to cancel Illinois' contract with the College Board, which offers the SAT.

12/29 5:00 Ahead at 6 this evening its Sound Ideas and an exclusive GLT interview with Illinois' top Catholic church official. It's a wide ranging discussion about many issues, including gun control, with Chicago Archbishop Blase Cupich. The church is taking a prominent position on gun control following the recent mass shootings in San Bernardino and separate instances of street violence.

ENVIRONMENT

10/2 2:00 The Sierra Club is blasting the Illinois Pollution Control Board for what it calls permissive emissions standards for a Tazewell County coal fired power plant. The environmental group says the U.S. EPA has designated the air in parts of Tazewell and Peoria Counties as unsafe to breathe because of high levels of sulfur dioxide pollution.

10/9 13:00 Quiet unsexy policy priorities can shape a city. In GLT's final interview focusing on the Normal 1-5-0 celebration, we unravel some of the choices made in recent decades that are shaping the town's present and future. Charlie Schlenker talks with the town's Public Works Director Wayne Aldrich who says the 1-2% annual population growth the town experienced posed challenges and presented opportunities...

10/12 1:00 The Illinois Pollution Control Board has issued new rules about how to handle used tires. State officials say the rules will apply to operators of tire disposal and storage sites and facilities that retread, stamp and die-cut tires.

10/14 3:00 Members of Illinois Public Action and others want politicians to know what they think about the Clean Powers Plan, and other bills before the Illinois legislature.

10/19 1:00 Dry, windy weather has pushed weather forecasters to warn about the high potential for fires in brush and farm fields across northern and central Illinois.

10/20 2:00 Enbridge Energy is nearly done with digging, installing and burying its new pipeline through McLean County.

10/26 2:00 McLean County's latest Household Hazardous Waste collection drew 22% more vehicles than the event held two years ago. Ecology Action Center Director Michael Brown says the 1,600 vehicles tallied was down from the inaugural event in 2012, but that's not necessarily a bad thing...

11/2 1:00 Federal crews have discovered two Asian carp in the Illinois River, 12 miles closer to Lake Michigan than where others of that size previously were seen. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service teams found two silver carp about 6 1/2 inches long late last month in the river's Marseilles Pool near Seneca.

11/5 11:00 The TedX speaker we have today is "Anything But Normal." That's the subject of Ken Myszka, the fourth of the TedX interviews done by Charlie Schlenker in advance of the weekend event at the Normal Theater.

11/13 1:00 A central Illinois landfill won't be allowed to accept certain types of chemical waste without getting approval from local governments under a settlement. Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has announced Clinton Landfill Inc. agreed to a consent decree

prohibiting the landfill from taking waste such as toxic PCBs. The landfill will also be barred from accepting manufactured gas plant wastes.

11/18 1:00 Police say someone used pesticide to kill thousands of Italian honeybees at a suburban Chicago golf resort. Lincolnshire Marriott Resort head chef Pierre Daval found bees wiped out in five of the apiary's 20 hives earlier this month.

11/24 1:00 Officials in a Madison County community in southwest Illinois have decided to allow up to 75 residents to keep chickens within city limits. The Collinsville City Council voted unanimously Monday night to approve an ordinance allowing chickens in residential districts.

11/27 1:00 South Dakota regulators are expected to decide Monday whether to grant a construction permit for a pipeline that will cross through the state as it carries North Dakota oil to southern Illinois.

12/3 1:00 A dietician with the Community Cancer Center in Normal says new data from the World Health Organization reinforces the idea of moderation in diet. Mary Kay Holloway is a specialist in Oncology nutrition.. The WHO report indicates eating red meat and processed meats increase cancer risk.

12/10 17:00 Hunters in Illinois harvested more than 85,000 deer during the seven-day firearm season _ a more than 10 percent increase over last year. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources says preliminary totals show 86,771 deer were harvested during the season that ended Sunday.

12/16 1:00 U-S Senate candidate Andrea Zopp says something has to be done to fight global warming. But the Democrat opposes President Barack Obama's Clean Power Plan.

12/22 3:00 There is a contamination problem in a four block area of Bloomington near the intersection of Linden and Emerson Streets. The source is a Freedom gas station, across from a child care facility, and within yards of Sugar Creek.

12/28 7:00 A winter storm is forecast to move across Illinois bringing high winds, icy precipitation and waves up to 20-feet high along the shores of Lake Michigan.

12/30 10:00 Power crews are making progress in restoring electricity lost during this week's storm. Ameren Illinois reports every county in the state at an outage level below 10% except for Stark and Woodford Counties.

HEALTH & MEDICINE

10/1 16:00 The typical patient seeking to use medical marijuana in Illinois is an older woman in Cook County with either severe fibromyalgia or cancer. That's the picture revealed today in a new report to the Legislature from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

10/5 1:00 The head of a suburban Chicago school district that evacuated because Legionella was found says there is a lack of public health guidance for schools to help deal with the bacteria.

10/7 15:00 An association representing nearly 100 local health departments says the state budget impasse is ``eroding" the ability to respond to public health emergencies.

10/12 1:00 The chair of Illinois' Medical Cannabis Advisory Board isn't holding out a lot of hope for some conditions to be approved for treatment with the drug... even after endorsing them a second time.

10/14 1:00 Illinois wants insurance companies in the small group market to submit changes to their small business policies as quickly as possible following a bipartisan adjustment to the nation's health care law.

10/20 1:00 Authorities are searching for a missing radioactive container in Illinois and

Indiana. A southern Illinois logging company reported Friday that it wasn't able to locate a ``radioactive well logging source holder," which was last known to be in a company vehicle.

10/27 3:00 The potential 49% cut in McLean County Drug Court treatment funding is not popular with other sectors of county government. Judge Robert Freitag told county health committee members the effort to keep non dangerous drug offenders out of jail through intensive services is important to the community...

11/3 15:00 The McLean County Health Department is revising its proposed budget for next fiscal year, after some members of the county board health committee questioned the recommended removal of nearly 50% of drug court funding

11/6 1:00 Medical marijuana growers in Illinois have been notified by state officials that they can start shipping their products to dispensaries today for sale to patients early next week. Department of Agriculture instructions say marijuana can be transported only between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Vehicles carrying it must be staffed by at least two cultivation center employees. Growers must enter product ID numbers into a digital statewide tracking system.

11/12 3:00 A kerfuffle over the source of funding for the McLean County Drug Court continues. In an agreement last week, it appeared the Health Department had restored money in the proposed budget for next year to pay Chestnut Health Systems to counsel drug court participants.

11/13 1:00 University of Illinois Springfield researchers are using crowdfunding to raise money to test homeless people for hepatitis C.

11/20 1:00 A Springfield bank will process Illinois sales taxes from cash medical marijuana purchases after submitting the only bid for the contract.

11/24 1:00 Officials in a Madison County community in southwest Illinois have decided to allow up to 75 residents to keep chickens within city limits. The Collinsville City Council voted unanimously Monday night to approve an ordinance allowing chickens in residential districts.

11/30 1:30 After two incidents last week in which potentially deadly accumulations of carbon monoxide built up in homes, the Normal Fire Department wants to make sure everyone invests in a device built to detect the deadly orderless gas.

12/2 1:00 The number of Illinois patients getting state approval to use medical marijuana jumped a bit higher during November, the first month of legal sales of the drug.

12/9 1:00 Less than a week remains for Illinois consumers to buy private health insurance for coverage starting January 1 on the marketplace created by President Barack Obama's health care law.

12/15 3:00 McLean County Coroner Kathy Davis is drawing attention to suicides in the community. Davis says 20 people have taken their lives so far this year with a recent cluster of four. She also says particularly for the young, suicide tends to be an impulsive act that happens within ten minutes of the idea occurring to someone.

12/22 1:00 A proposed merger of two of the largest hospital systems in northern Illinois faces increasing opposition. Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and the Federal Trade Commission on Monday sought to block the merger of Advocate Health Care and NorthShore University HealthSystem in U.S. District Court in Chicago.

12/24 1:00 A summer Legionnaire's disease outbreak that killed 12 residents of an Illinois state veterans home and sickened dozens more was likely spread by an aging water system at a 129-year-old facility that lacked several safeguards.

12/28 1:00 The nascent medical marijuana business in Illinois is off to a slow start with fewer than 4,000 approved patients. That hasn't kept away a cadre of cannabis entrepreneurs who once

relied on guns, badges, tough drug laws and lengthy prison sentences to fight the drug.

LAW ENFORCEMENT & COURTS

10/1 0:30 Attorney General Lisa Madigan says her office has asked for detailed information from Volkswagen in an investigation conducted by dozens of state attorneys general.

10/6 14:00 The information age has opened new possibilities of both establishing relationships with other people and abusing them. "The Virtual Enemy" is a new book co-authored by Shelly Clevenger of ISU.

10/9 3:00 Governor Bruce Rauner has declared October Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Illinois, and many groups are taking the opportunity to do some "mythbusting," about the problem.

10/14 0:30 A deadline for former House Speaker Dennis Hastert's lawyers to file pretrial paperwork has passed without the attorneys submitting any new documents. Legal observers say that strongly suggests the prosecution and defense are making progress on a plea deal in the federal hush-money case. Former U.S. prosecutor Jeff Cramer says the passing of the deadline means Hastert's lawyers must be confident that there is not going to be a trial.

10/20 3:00 A 50-year old man arrested for soliciting an underage boy for sex in Decatur is a recent applicant to be McLean County Coroner. Police reports indicate Vincent C. Peters was arrested after posting an ad on Craigslist seeking a young male for sex.

10/27 0:30 A Peoria woman has been sentenced to 24 years in prison in her boyfriend's stabbing death. 26-year-old Janay E. Hayes agreed to a plea deal with Peoria County prosecutors on Monday, the same day her case was to go to trial.

10/30 3:00 After a legal career of more than four decades, McLean County Circuit Judge Charles Reynard says he's retiring at the end of the year. Reynard has spent 13 years as a judge and nearly 16 before that as McLean County State's Attorney.

11/2 15:00 A committee in charge of distributing money to victims of last June's tornado in Coal City says it will start sending out checks this month. The Long Term Recovery Committee had hoped to send checks out in October.

11/6 1:00 After cracking a burglary case with 21 victims, Police in Bloomington want to make special arrangements to return the stolen boodle. Officers say the September and October break-ins happened in several areas including Arcadia, Keisha, and Currency Drives, Croxton and Rainbow avenues, and Park Street and Willedrob Road.

11/12 16:00 The University of Illinois will pay a professor who lost his job offer over a series of anti-Israel tweets \$600,000 plus legal costs. The school's board of trustees approved the settlement with Steven Salaita (suh-LY'-tuh) by a 9-1 vote after releasing terms of the deal.

11/18 0:30 Illinois utility regulators are launching a formal investigation into whether Peoples Gas executives misled them about the price tag of a pipe replacement project that could cost Chicago consumers about \$8 billion. The Illinois Commerce Commission has voted to initiate the probe.

11/23 0:30 The number of Illinois inmates released on parole has increased as lawmakers look to reduce the prison population, but funding to help parolees stay out of trouble has dropped dramatically because of the state budget crisis.

11/26 0:30 A Bloomington man charged with killing his ex-wife has been released on bond after spending nearly four months behind bars awaiting trial.

Kirk Zimmerman has pleaded not guilty in McLean County Court to a charge of first-degree murder in the November 2014 death of 53-year-old Pamela Zimmerman.

11/30 0:30 A judge has ordered Illinois to pay more than \$13 million to cover the cost of health insurance for home health care workers. SEIU Healthcare Illinois took legal action against Gov. Bruce Rauner and Comptroller Leslie Munger earlier this month to force the payments.

12/1 1:00 Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel has fired the city's police chief after a public outcry over the handling of the case of a black teenager shot 16 times by a white police officer. Emanuel announced at a news conference he has dismissed Superintendent Garry McCarthy, who only days ago insisted to reporters that the mayor had his ``back."

12/4 0:30 A man convicted of multiple counts of predatory child sexual assault and abuse in McLean County will get a new sentence. An Illinois Appeals court has sent the case back to Judge Scott Drazewski saying the life sentence imposed on Brett Wilson constituted cruel and unusual punishment.

12/11 0:30 A Champaign Police officer once fired for excessive force is back on the job. Documents released this week explain why Matt Rush got his job back with the help of the police union.

12/17 0:30 The lawyer for Dennis Hastert says the former U.S. House Speaker had a stroke during the first week of November and has been hospitalized since then. Tom Green says Hastert had a stroke, has been treated for sepsis and had two back surgeries while in the hospital.

12/18 0:30 Nine people from Illinois are among the 95 whose prison sentences have been commuted by President Barack Obama. All of those from Illinois were convicted of non-violent drug offenses. Most involved cocaine distribution.

12/24 1:00 A judge has set bond at \$4 million for a Houston-area man charged with killing his 19-year-old wife 42 years ago in suburban Chicago.

12/29 11:00 A father of one of two people fatally shot by Chicago police has sued the city. A lawyer filed the wrongful death lawsuit in Cook County Circuit Court on behalf of Antonio LeGrier. Police on Saturday shot his son, 19-year-old Quintonio LeGrier, and a neighbor who lived in the same building, 55-year-old Bettie Jones.

POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

10/2 0:30 Illinois Treasurer Mike Frerichs says the state budget impasse could affect "critically important" services run by his office. The Democrat from Champaign wrote a letter to top state leaders this week saying banking and financial services may stop if he can't pay vendors.

10/7 1:00 An association representing nearly 100 local health departments says the state budget impasse is ``eroding" the ability to respond to public health emergencies. The Illinois Public Health Association president said in a letter released Wednesday that 16 of 97 public health departments have cut back on staff, hours and services.

10/12 1:00 A federal judge has granted class action status to a lawsuit filed on behalf of deaf and hard-of-hearing Illinois Department of Corrections inmates. They say the prison system denied their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act and other federal laws.

10/15 3:00 Congressman Rodney Davis says he is disappointed in a couple choices by the Cuban regime. Speaking with reporters following a visit to Cuba, Davis said the Cubans need to do away with their dual currency system....

10/21 14:00 Kelly McEvers is one of two new co-hosts on NPR's news Magazine All Things Considered. She has won many awards for her coverage of the conflict in Syria and joins us on Sound Ideas. Charlie Schlenker has more on how McEvers does her job...

10/26 2:00 Wait times were about an hour for the most recent household hazardous waste

collection in McLean County. Ecology Action Center Director Michael Brown says the number of vehicles was down from the 2000 cars, trucks, and vans that dropped off materials during the first collection in 2012...

10/30 4:00 There's no end in sight to the political gridlock in Springfield. But one group says it has an education plan it's convinced both Republicans and Democrats could support. That plan is a new twist on an old idea: corporations paying money into a special fund. They'd get tax breaks. And parents would get cash to use for the school of their choice. IPR's Tony Arnold explains.

11/2 3:00 Republican Governor Bruce Rauner made a pitch for his budget vision at a Chamber of Commerce event at the Bloomington center for the performing arts. That vision does not apparently include members of unions, who were stopped by city police before they could enter the theater.

11/9 2:00 Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner is backing off of his much maligned cuts to state-subsidized child care for working parents. It's not expected to be enough to ward off the legislature tomorrow (Tues). IPR's Amanda Vinicky reports.

11/13 2:00 If at first you don't succeed with an enterprise zone application....McLean County governments are saying...try try again. The existing enterprise zone formed back in 1982 to bring the Mitsubishi plant to Normal expires next June.

11/16 11:00 An ISU Political Scientist says the attacks in Paris say something significant about ISIS. Professor Ali Riaz (ah-LEE-ree-AHZ) is the Chair of ISU's Department of Politics and Government. In this interview with GLT's Charlie Schlenker, Riaz says the Egyptian plane bombing, other bombings in the mideast by ISIS, and now the assaults in Paris, show a shift....to a strategy of asymmetrical warfare...

11/23 2:00 Three candidates have filed to run as Republicans for McLean County Coroner. Current Coroner Kathy Davis was appointed to fill a vacancy. Challenging her in the GOP primary next year will be Ryan Gibson and Gary Morefield. Monday is/was the first day of the petition filing period.

11/27 1:00 Higher education is a difficult industry right now. That's according to new Illinois Wesleyan University President Eric Jensen. Many colleges have gone for years without worker pay raises. Jensen tells GLT costs have been pared down ruthlessly and an equilibrium is still developing...

11/30 2:00 Mitsubishi worker Kent Ferguson has a job offer already. But, as the long time tool and die maker at the auto plant in Normal signs his severance papers this week, Ferguson acknowledges it's not so easy for everyone...

12/1 3:00 Two Bloomington Aldermen say the rental inspection plan is failing the citizens. 85% of rental units in the city have one or more issues that pose a threat to health or safety.

12/7 20:00 The election for U.S. Senate in Illinois is expected to be one of the most competitive contests in the nation next November. Incumbent Republican Mark Kirk has opposition, though it may not be well funded or organized. But, there are significant candidates running on the Democratic party side battling for the right to face Kirk.

12/14 0:30 Some areas of the midwest including central Missouri are expected to see average summer temperature increases of four degrees fahrenheit by the end of the century. Keith Cherkauer (CHUR-cow-er) is a civil engineer and hydrologist at Purdue University in Indiana....

12/18 2:00 Though property tax receipts from the soon to be vacant Mitsubishi auto plant will likely take a hit for area governments, some public officials say they are hopeful home values will not go down much, if at all. About half the 12-hundred workers at the Mitsubishi

plant live in Bloomington Normal. McLean County Board Chair Matt Sorenson says analysis suggests many will remain in town...

12/22 3:00 There is a contamination problem in a four block area of Bloomington near the intersection of Linden and Emerson Streets. The source is a Freedom gas station, across from a child care facility, and within yards of Sugar Creek. The city council was going to discuss the situation at last (Monday) night's meeting, but the alderman for the area asked it be pulled.

12/28 3:00 Some Republicans say Illinois could play a significant role in the GOP presidential nomination process - even though it's late in the primary calendar.

In most modern presidential cycles - the nominee is usually clear by the time Illinoisians cast their ballots in March. But Pat Brady - the former chairman of the state's Republican Party - thinks there may not be one frontrunner in 2016 - and he says Illinois could be more of a factor.

12/30 3:00 Money is still being raised to help run the Illinois State Museum in Springfield, even though its doors have been closed to the public for three months. A not-for-profit that deals with grants and private donations continues to solicit, sending out pleas for donations in the mail.

RACE, EQUALITY & RIGHTS

10/6 15:00 The information age has opened new possibilities of both establishing relationships with other people and abusing them. "The Virtual Enemy" is a new book co-authored by Shelly Clevenger of ISU. It focuses on the relationships of intimate partners and cybercrime. In this conversation with GLT's Charlie Schlenker, Clevenger says the two have historically been treated as separate issues, but there is an intersection...

10/6 3:00 The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is suing the owners of the Uptown Normal Marriott. The lawsuit, filed last week, alleges black employees at the hotel were subject to racist comments, including remarks about slavery.

10/12 0:30 A federal judge has granted class-action status to a lawsuit brought by deaf inmates alleging the Illinois Department of Corrections violates their civil rights. The complaint, first filed in 2011, claims deaf and partially deaf prisoners have limited access to sign language interpreters, hearing aids and other accommodations.

10/28 1:00 The potential 49% cut in McLean County Drug Court treatment funding is not popular with other sectors of county government. Judge Robert Freitag told county health committee members the effort to keep non dangerous drug offenders out of jail through intensive services is important to the community...

11/3 0:30 Educators in suburban Chicago say they've forged a ``creative" accommodation for a transgender student who wants unrestricted access to a girls' high school locker room and say they are prepared to go to court to defend it.

11/12 0:30 OSF Healthcare is raising the lowest wage it is paying workers to ten dollars an hour. That's a buck seventy five an hour higher than the minimum wage in Illinois. Kristin Williams is the OSF's Vice President for Compensation and Benefits.

11/19 3:00 Human rights groups in Illinois say they'll continue programming for Syrian refugees, despite the governor's calls to suspend accepting them. IPR's Rachel Otwell reports.

11/24 2:00 The Mayor of Normal is among 62 U.S. Mayors urging Congress to avoid passing bans on Syrian refugees. Chris Koos says it's a humanitarian issue. He says often groups have opposed refugees coming to American shores and it's wrong....

11/30 10:00 Protests continue in Chicago following the release of the video of a police officer shooting and killing a 17 year old African American man in October of last year. It is not just a hot button racial issue, but as we hear from the Illinois Politics Roundtable, a deeply political

situation....starting with this assessment from WBEZ reporter Tony Arnold.

11/30 5:00 In the wake of Ferguson, Missouri and the Black Lives Matter movement, conversations about racial climates are becoming common on many college campuses. Sometimes in a deliberate fashion, in others like the University of Missouri, it happens in an abrupt and urgent manner.

12/2 13:00 Social critic Curt White has a new argument...and a new book. The retired ISU scholar talks with GLT's Charlie Schlenker about "We Robots: Staying Human In The Age Of Big Data." White usually falls into a topic because he has a strong reaction to someone else's work. This is no exception. In this case, he he rebuts Libertarian Economist Tyler Cowen's "Average Is Over: Powering America out of the Great Stagnation."

12/8 1:00 A large menorah knocked over earlier this year outside a University of Illinois Jewish center has been repaired and rededicated. The center candle of the menorah at the university's Chabad Center was lit Monday by center director Rabbi Dovid Tiechtel and interim university Chancellor Barbara Wilson.

12/16 2:00 Members of the Muslim community in Bloomington Normal say they greatly appreciate the Not In Our Town interfaith solidarity event this/last evening outside the old McLean County Courthouse in downtown Bloomington. Mohammed Zaman (zuh-MAHN) is one such member...

12/18 1:00 The FBI is investigating why an African-American homeowner in one of Springfield's most affluent neighborhoods received Nazi propaganda. Letitia Dewith-Anderson found a flyer in her mailbox featuring a swastika, "white power" slogans and an application to join the American Nazi Party. She checked with neighbors; they had not received the same flyer, and Dewith-Anderson, who's black, realized she had been singled out.

12/23 1:00 The 40th annual Martin Luther King Junior Awards in Bloomington Normal will feature 13 nominees. Four winners will be announced January 1th at ISU's Bone Student Center...two adults and two high school students will be recognized for promoting tolerance and understanding.

12/24 0:30 Protesters plan a Christmas Eve demonstration in Chicago's best-known shopping district. Organizers of the noon-hour march along Michigan Avenue are again trying to draw attention to the killing of black teenager Laquan McDonald by a white police officer in 2014.

SOCIAL SERVICE & PROGRAMS

10/6 14:00 The information age has opened new possibilities of both establishing relationships with other people and abusing them. "The Virtual Enemy" is a new book co-authored by Shelly Clevenger of ISU. It focuses on the relationships of intimate partners and cybercrime. In this conversation with GLT's Charlie Schlenker, Clevenger says the two have historically been treated as separate issues, but there is an intersection...

10/9 3:00 Clare House, the Bloomington food pantry that's helped area citizens since 1978, is closing. The final distribution of food will be just before Thanksgiving. Tina Sipula founded the food pantry as part of the Catholic Worker Movement, and says it has thrived because of the generosity of the community.

10/12 3:00 A long term approach is key to addressing the problems of poverty. That's according to Ani Yazedjian (AH-nee yah-ZEHD-ih-jan) who chairs Illinois State University's Family and Consumer Sciences Department. ISU has received a five million dollar five year federal grant to help at risk youth in Champaign County...

10/16 1:00 Six catholic parishes have banded together to continue the Loaves and Fishes

Soup Kitchen in Bloomington. It appeared last week the decades old institution would close with the coming retirement of its director Tina Sipula. The last day was to have been November 24th.

10/21 2:00 After feeding the hungry for nearly four decades Clare House food distribution center in Bloomington will close after Thanksgiving. Director Tina Sipula is retiring and on GLT's Sound Ideas she talked about the poverty cycle, though she is not sure how to break it.

10/29 4:00 The recent emphasis in McLean County on boosting mental health programs and services may have hit a snag. Or it may not. the matter is unclear from the results of a recent county board health committee information session.

11/2 1:00 Senior citizens are among those feeling the pain of Illinois' partial government shutdown. A-A-R-P and other groups are calling on the state's top politicians to set aside their differences and pass a state budget. IPR's Brian Mackey has more.

11/4 13:00 Young people have a lot of energy and a lot of ideas. But, sometimes that can create problems as well as solving them. Today in our series of interviews leading up to the TedX conference in Normal, we address the idea of empowering young people to get stuff done with the head of the Action Research Center at Illinois Wesleyan University. In this conversation with Charlie Schlenker, Deborah Halperin says to help focus that energy, adults need to create a structure for youth to scaffold their efforts...

11/12 2:00 A kerfuffle over the source of funding for the McLean County Drug Court continues. In an agreement last week, it appeared the Health Department had restored money in the proposed budget for next year to pay Chestnut Health Systems to counsel drug court participants. Now, the health department board is saying that money will only come after Medicaid billing happens. Health Department Director Walt Howe says it is a distinction WITH a difference for taxpayers...

11/18 2:00 The closer the end of production at the Mitsubishi plant comes, the more sober the environment at the workplace in Normal. 27 year company veteran Jerry Harcharik (har-CHAR-ik) says some people started getting ready right after the closure announcement several months ago. But, he says, not everyone...

11/26 2:00 The head of adult education programs at Heartland Community College says the budget deadlock is hurting the economy. Part of the impasse means Heartland has not been paid the grant to hold GED and English as a Second Language courses. And Adult Ed Director Tammy Truitt says that prevents people from entering the workforce...

11/30 2:00 Mitsubishi worker Kent Ferguson has a job offer already. But, as the long time tool and die maker at the auto plant in Normal signs his severance papers this week, Ferguson acknowledges it's not so easy for everyone...

12/2 13:00 Social critic Curt White has a new argument...and a new book. The retired ISU scholar talks with GLT's Charlie Schlenker about "We Robots: Staying Human In The Age Of Big Data." White usually falls into a topic because he has a strong reaction to someone else's work. This is no exception. In this case, he he rebuts Libertarian Economist Tyler Cowen's "Average Is Over: Powering America out of the Great Stagnation."

12/8 3:00 The effect of the state budget deadlock has entered a new phase. Social service agencies such as Collaborative Solutions and PATH Crisis Center in Bloomington Normal are seeking out loans to stay in business. PATH Director Karen Zangerle (ZANG-uhr-lee) says conventional lenders are reluctant, even if they see the state owes the agency about \$200,000, but there is a whole new industry that has popped up to take advantage of the standoff between Governor Bruce Rauner and lawmakers...

12/14 0:30 Lawmakers from the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus say the state's budget

stalemate is having a big impact on the black population as youths miss out on financial aid for colleges and after-school programs.

12/21 0:30 Children will be able to bring canine companions with them to court, starting in the new year. A law taking effect in 20-16 allows dogs to accompany kids, as well as developmentally disabled adults, during trials. The measure's sponsored by Senator Scott Bennett, a Champaign Democrat and former prosecutor.

12/23 2:00 Early this morning at Bloomington's Salvation Army, the take from the previous day was being tallied up, when someone noticed a \$100 bill, and another!

Angie Fulton at the Salvation Army says they were put in a kettle yesterday afternoon.

12/30 1:00 After four DUI convictions, drivers in Illinois permanently lose their licenses. But some who fall in that group could get the chance to drive again under a new law that goes into effect in January. Applicants for the restricted license would have to prove they have been sober for three years. Those who get a license will have to install a breathalyzer ignition lock in their cars.

TECHNOLOGY

10/2 0:30 After scrapping a planned strike authorization vote, leaders of the union covering workers at the Mitsubishi plant in Normal have set an informational meeting on Sunday for members. The meeting will run from two to four p.m on Sunday at Parkside Junior High in Normal.

10/7 0:30 The owner of a Chicago-based aerial photography company is calling the Federal Aviation Administration's proposal to fine his company almost \$2 million dollars ridiculous. SkyPan International owner Mark Segal (SEA-gull) says the F-A-A is trying to catch up after years of neglecting to deal with the drone industry.

10/9 13:00 Quiet unsexy policy priorities can shape a city. In GLT's final interview focusing on the Normal 1-5-0 celebration, we unravel some of the choices made in recent decades that are shaping the town's present and future. Charlie Schlenker talks with the town's Public Works Director Wayne Aldrich who says the 1-2% annual population growth the town experienced posed challenges and presented opportunities...

10/13 2:00 A tiny, but speedy piece of aviation history has been hung from the ceiling of the Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington. McLean County Museum of History Curator Susan Hartzold says the Tilbury Flash set an American speed record in 1933 winning the Polish Trophy at air races in Chicago...

10/20 0:30 The company building a pipeline through McLean County has done some damage to rural roads by having equipment hauling the pipe travel on roads that were not meant to handle machinery that heavy. County Board Transportation Committee Chair Jim Soeldner says Enbridge Energy will make reimbursement to fix the problems...

10/26 1:00 Organizers are calling the household hazardous waste collection event in McLean County a success. Ecology Action Center Director Michael Brown says they had a 22% increase in the number of cars that dropped off stuff that can't be disposed of in usual ways...

10/29 2:00 Exelon Corp. says it will wait a year to decide if it will close a nuclear plant near Clinton, Illinois. Exelon owns Illinois' 11 nuclear reactors. Plant spokesman Brett Nauman (NAW-muhn) says an industry group that arranges power purchases for southern Illinois has agreed to re-think its business practices...

11/5 11:00 The TedX speaker we have today is "Anything But Normal." That's the subject of Ken Myszka, the fourth of the TedX interviews done by Charlie Schlenker in advance of the

weekend event at the Normal Theater. Myszka says a normal chef wakes up and goes to the restaurant, works with staff, purveyors, unpacks food out of boxes and so on...

11/13 0:30 A central Illinois landfill won't be allowed to accept certain types of chemical waste without getting approval from local governments under a settlement. Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has announced Clinton Landfill Inc. agreed to a consent decree prohibiting the landfill from taking waste such as toxic PCBs. The landfill will also be barred from accepting manufactured gas plant wastes.

11/24 5:00 Kent Ferguson has been looking for a job. He's one of the Mitsubishi workers losing his job with the end of production at the plant in Normal. As part of GLT's coverage of the plant transition, Charlie Schlenker visited again with Ferguson. He has interviewed in several places....a tool making test to gain entry to a pool of applicants for Harley Davidson in Menominee Falls, Wisconsin, interviews in Chatanooga, Urbana, Tesla in California...all over the place. Kent's experience shows that in manufacturing, as in any profession....your skillset matters....

11/30 0:30 As Mitsubishi workers walk out of the plant in Normal for the last time this week, some are still thinking about what ifs and might have beens. Kent Ferguson is a tool and die maker who says the company was not smart about the U.S. marketplace...

12/3 2:00 A dietician with the Community Cancer Center in Normal says new data from the World Health Organization reinforces the idea of moderation in diet.

12/14 0:30 Global climate change means water management will be one of the bigger challenges for midwestern Agriculture. That's according to Keith Cherkauer a civil engineer and hydrologist from Purdue University....

12/15 3:00 The drones are coming, and so are the rules for the unmanned flying machines. Randy Aberle (A-burr-lee) of Flying Ag in Gibson city says he welcomes the new rules, for the most part. One rule that does bother him is a requirement anyone flying for hire must obtain a pilot's license.

12/21 1:00 Add the Illinois Department of Transportation to the list of government agencies closely watching the sales of drones this holiday season. The Federal Aviation Administration's new drone registration program is now in place and IDOT is weighing in. IPR's Herb Trix reports.

12/23 0:30 State regulators have refused to reconsider their approval of a high-voltage electricity transmission line that would cross parts of nine central Illinois counties. Farm Bureau and some landowners challenged the Illinois Commerce Commission's approval of the 780-mile line known as the Grain Belt Express.

12/29 0:30 Illinois residents who want to know the meeting times and agendas for the hundreds of state boards and commissions will be able to get email alerts under a new law.

TRANSPORTATION

10/1 0:30 Attorney General Lisa Madigan says her office has asked for detailed information from Volkswagen in an investigation conducted by dozens of state attorneys general.

10/8 2:00 The Illinois Department of Transportation may be wrapping up its busy construction season, but the upcoming winter will mean more repairs for road crews to work on next summer. But, as IPR's Hannah Meisel reports, that depends on getting a state budget in place first.

10/14 0:30 A report card is out on the Mississippi River basin, and the grade is not good: a

D+, with the river's aging transportation infrastructure topping the list of concerns.

10/16 0:30 Governor Bruce Rauner plans to announce that a tentative agreement has been reached regarding rail traffic in the city of Springfield. Rauner's office says he plans an afternoon news conference on high-speed rail.

10/23 0:30 United Airlines has reached a tentative deal to combine more than 8,600 maintenance workers from United and the former Continental Airlines under one contract. The deal announced Friday with the Teamsters would boost top pay immediately by 25 percent to an industry-leading \$46.15 per hour, and result in 33 percent higher pay by the end of the six-year contract.

10/29 2:00 Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger is the headliner at the 2016 Red Cross "Evening of Stars April 21st. Lynn Hukstra of the Red Cross says she anticipates a lot of interest in hearing what he has to say.

11/3 3:00 Connect Transit is about done with the roll-out phase of it's fixed stop system. General Manager Andrew Johnson says signs have been posted to indicate bus stops.

11/6 3:00 Connect Transit is about done with the roll-out phase of it's fixed stop system. General Manager Andrew Johnson says signs have been posted to indicate bus stops.

11/10 2:00 The most dangerous places for people on bicycles in Bloomington Normal are in Uptown Normal, Downtown Bloomington, and Veterans Parkway intersections. That's according to a look at police data done by the advocacy group Bike Blo-No.

11/18 15:00 Like most of the people working at the soon to close Mitsubishi Plant in Normal Jerry Harcharik (har-CHAR-ik) faces uncertainty. Harcharik has spent 27 years at the plant. Many of his friends have also been there that long. In this conversation with GLT's Charlie Schlenker Harcharik says they all came in together and now most will be leaving together....

11/23 3:00 Some soon to be laid off Mitsubishi workers have jumped into a job search with energy. Tool and die maker Kent Ferguson tells GLT's Sound Ideas tomorrow/today that at least for his specialty there seems to be a lot out there...

11/26 0:30 The Illinois Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether a Moline-based aviation company is entitled to a state property tax break being challenged by a local school district.

12/1 0:30 Even as the last Outlander Sport SUV rolled off the assembly line at the Mitsubishi Plant in Normal, the company is reporting the best November U.S. sales ever for the model that was made in central Illinois. Mitsubishi reports 2,955 Outlander Sports sold in the U.S. and Canada last month. That's up 276 vehicles from last year, or about 10%. Company wide, sales of Mitsubishi vehicles rose 3% in November.

12/9 3:00 The Town of Normal will likely take a pass on federal funding to build a railroad track overpass at Uptown Station. Speaking on GLT's Sound Ideas Mayor Chris Koos says talks with the state and Union Pacific Railroad show an UNDERpass project is now likely. The project to allow pedestrian crossing of high speed rail tracks would take three to five years. This could leave the town holding the bag for the multi-million dollar cost, but Koos says he hopes not...

12/14 2:00 State Farm Insurance is raising its rates for auto coverage in Illinois. The 2.6% average hike goes into effect in February. It's the second time in less than 12 months State Farm has raised Illinois rates. April's increase was less than a percent. Even together, the two hikes are less than the increase most other insurers have announced. Allstate rates are going up 5.7%. Geico has increased auto premiums significantly as well.

12/16 0:30 The Moline City Council has given final approval to selling the city's historic train depot for \$500 to the Illinois Department of Transportation, which plans to demolish the 115-year-old building. Previous efforts to move and save the building failed, but the contract does say

that the sale is final unless an alternative for moving the depot is found and approved before Feb. 1.

12/21 1:00 Add the Illinois Department of Transportation to the list of government agencies closely watching the sales of drones this holiday season. The Federal Aviation Administration's new drone registration program is now in place and IDOT is weighing in. IPR's Herb Trix reports.

12/23 1:00 The state budget standoff has scared away at least one hot prospect to buy the Mitsubishi auto plant in Normal. That's according to State Senator Jason Barickman. Barickman says the serious lead was a large Illinois manufacturer looking to expand. But, The GOP Senator says Illinois does not have a state budget, does not know when a budget might happen, and has no idea what the tax rate will be...