

## **WGLT ISSUES AND PROGRAMS**

### **July, August, September 2016**

**Key: The following issues were addressed during WGLT'S Sound Ideas, M-F Noon and 6pm)**

Date   Length   Summary

#### ARTS & CULTURE

7/1    12:00    The 2016 Tony Awards take place June 12th in New York. The acclaimed hip-hop-infused show "Hamilton" -- about America's first Treasury Secretary -- seems a sure bet for best musical. The show received a record 16 nominations. But there's more to what makes this an historic season on Broadway, as GLT's Judy Valente discovered.

7/1    12:00    Washington, IL native Corey Doremus was a band nerd of sorts. He says growing up he watched all kinds of bands, and says his heroes were the local drummers and musicians that performed in jazz and marching bands. Doremus is currently the founder, leader, and drummer of the central Illinois based "Original Skazz Band," which fuses his love of Ska, Big Band, and swing music.

7/3    12:00    The Illinois Shakespeare Festival opens its 39th season in July, but the theater is already abuzz with actors, designers and directors, shaping the Bard's best and exploring new festival territory. Laura Kennedy has more with the festival's artistic director...

7/3    8:00    An increasing number of senior citizen facilities are using music therapy to help the elderly improve their cognitive abilities, avoid depression and even stay more physically fit. Rory Bolton recently completed graduate studies in music therapy and piano performance at Illinois State University.

7/3    7:00    The emo-rock band "Real Friends" released their latest record last Friday at a theater in Kingston, a royal borough in southwest London. That's quite a feat for the suburban Chicago band that as recently as 2012 was playing house shows in Bloomington-Normal

7/7    9:00    Openings, closings, and changes are all part of the Bloomington Normal Restaurant Scene and are what Larry Carius writes about on Facebook. In this conversation with Charlie Schlenker, Carius starts by marking a couple anniversaries, the first one, on the west side of Bloomington

7/7    5:00    Twenty-five summers ago, the gospel-tinged pop song "Walking In Memphis" was in heavy rotation on Top-40 radio across the country, including stations in central Illinois. The song was the first single released from Marc Cohn's eponymous major label debut. It peaked at #13 in July of 1991. Though Cohn continues to record and tour, no other song he has written or recorded since has come close to matching the commercial or chart success of that song. In this conversation with WGLT's Jon Norton, Cohn said Memphis hit his radar when he was in his 20's, when he understood the historical significance towns like New Orleans and Memphis had on American music.

7/11   14:00    Jazz has taken 25-year-old Normal native Adam Larson to nearly all points on the globe. The U-High grad has also been on the receiving end of critical praise

from high places. Longtime Chicago Tribune jazz critic Howard Reich says Larson is “a player for whom the word ‘prodigious’ was coined.” Despite the acclaim, Larson tells GLT's Jon Norton he still struggles with high, self imposed expectations.

8/17 13:00 “Transcendental Folk” is a term often used to describe the music of the Colorado based group “Elephant Revival.” The five member band with individual roots in Oklahoma and Colorado makes a stop in Bloomington Friday night to play the Castle Theater.

8/23 15:00 A piece of home entertainment technology has gone into the light, decades after revolutionizing how we view our favorite movies and TV shows. Laura Kennedy has the obit.

### BUSINESS, ECONOMY & LABOR

7/1 22:00 Town of Normal elected officials are continuing discussions with City of Bloomington aldermen about sharing sales tax. Town of Normal city manager Mark Peterson says at this point town staff is not involved.

7/7 6:30 There's a new business institute at Illinois State University. WGLT's Willis Kern has more in this edition of Sound Money.

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8/22 8:00 The second quarter SCOPE report--that's the Stastical Composite of the Peoria Area Economy--looks much like the first quarter. The report is compiled from economic data by Bradley University's Center for Business and Economic Research.

9/28 8:00 Every quarter, the Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council presents its "BN By the Numbers" luncheon, spotlighting a segment of the central Illinois economy. This quarter's event--over the noon hour tomorrow in Normal--focuses on recent trends in the housing industry, on both a regional and national scale.

### CHILDREN & FAMILY/EDUCATION

7/2 14:00 Think of this as Story Corps for Strangers. Illinois State University has what's called a Human Library. It exposes students to the experiences of people who have endured adversity and stereotypes and shown perseverance in the face of discrimination or social exclusion. GLT's Charlie Schlenker talks with a human book and with Emily Vigneri (vig-NAIR-ee) of ISU's University College about the roots of the program and its growth

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7/7 6:30 There's a new business institute at Illinois State University. WGLT's Willis Kern has more in this edition of Sound Money.

8/16 9:00 A study released earlier this month by the National Partnership for Women & Families gave each state a letter grade based on its implementation of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. Illinois received a B letter grade, one of 11 states to do so. Only 1 state, California, got an A. Most states got a C or lower. Vicki Shabo (SHAY-boh) is the Vice President of the group that conducted the study.

8/17 10:00 Kids are heading back to school in Bloomington Normal. GLT's Charlie Schlenker talks with District 87 Superintendent Barry Reilly, who says enrollment is about what they expect in the historically stable 10 square mile district

9/9 6:00 Unit Five continues to have troubles with its bus contractor First Student getting children to school on time. There have been multiple instances of kids having to wait hours for pickup.

9/26 17:00 October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. And advocates for those who have gone through that problem are talking with GLT's Charlie Schlenker.

### ENVIRONMENT

8/11 20:00 The most visible and widespread waterway in Bloomington-Normal is getting some T-L-C. The Ecology Action Center is looking for volunteers to participate in Sugar Creek Stewards to help improve the waterway during the next work day on Saturday, August 20th. This is National Water Quality Month and this week you've been hearing our series "How's The Water." Sugar Creek eventually connects to the Salt Creek watershed, which empties into the Illinois River. Ecology Action Center Executive Director Michael Brown says the creek and its impact downstream makes it a great choice for the stewards program.

8/16 9:00 An interesting shift happens in nature once the sun goes down. Laura Kennedy previews a new local event that reveals the beauty of the nighttime landscape.

9/29 7:00 In a small pond in Wisconsin, a recent study took place that could have some big implications when it comes to the spread of Asian Carp. The invasive species threatens to take over waterways, including the Great Lakes. It's already become a major problem in the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers and elsewhere.

### HEALTH & MEDICINE

7/6 8:00 Does your dog hound you for hot dogs? Does your cat crave milk? You put a lot of thought into the pet foods you buy your animals, and you should be just as informed and careful about the people food you share with your pet. Laura Kennedy has more on this edition of Animal House

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### LAW ENFORCEMENT & COURTS

7/6 7:00 Monday morning ... Independence Day ... Urbana police arrested 22-year-old Bryton Mellott on charges of flag desecration and disorderly conduct. Mellott posted pictures on Facebook showing him burning the US flag ... and received multiple threats of violence against him and his employer. Mellott was released from custody after police consulted with the Champaign County State's Attorney's Office about the constitutionality of Illinois's flag desecration law. IPR's Brian Moline spoke about Mellott's case with Kurt Lash ... who directs the University Of Illinois College Of Law's Program in Constitutional Theory, History, and Law ... starting with some of the history of flag desecration laws in the United States.

7/7 14:00 The absence of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia made a big difference in the last session of the high court. That's according to ISU scholar Meghan Leonard. Leonard tells Charlie Schlenker not only were the four to four cases a big deal, but some of the 5-3 decisions would have had different emphasis if Scalia were there.

7/11 20:00 The fourth amendment to the constitution prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures. It requires warrants to come from judges and be backed by probable cause. We often think of the fourth amendment as routine. But, in a new book, ISU Criminal Justice Sciences Professor Michael Gizzi says the amendment is actually in the middle of change in the way courts have interpreted it.

8/11 5:00 Undocumented groups in Illinois and the residents who help them are closely watching this year's presidential election. The next president could do away with the current deportation protections for certain youth, including tens of thousands in Illinois. The next president will also likely choose the next Supreme Court justice.

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### POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

7/1 22:00 Town of Normal elected officials are continuing discussions with City of Bloomington aldermen about sharing sales tax. Town of Normal city manager Mark Peterson says at this point town staff is not involved.

8/11 15:00 In the mid-1970s, Democratic vice presidential candidate Tim Kaine was a student at a Catholic high school in Kansas City run by the Jesuit order of priests. As a senior, Kaine traveled to the village of El Progreso (ELL Pro-GRAY-soh) in Honduras to observe the work of Jesuit missionaries. He later interrupted his studies at Harvard Law School to return to Honduras -- this time not merely to watch, but to work. One of his mentors was Father Mauricio Gaborit (Mor-EET-see-oh Gab-or-EET), a Honduran Jesuit. The two have remained friends ever since.

8/16 10:00 The town of Normal is taking another step toward building a pedestrian underpass at the railroad tracks in Uptown. At last night's regular council meeting, councilmembers okayed spending one and a half million dollars with the firm WSP-Parsons Brinkerhoff which will help broker a feasibility study over the next two year, which will determine how the town should proceed.

8/17 14:00 The makeup of Illinois legislature is changing. Late last month a

Republican State Representative suddenly resigned. Ron Sandack of Downers Grove abruptly shut down his social media accounts, filed a police report, complained of cyber security issues, and was no longer a state legislator. Another House Republican, John Anthony, also stepped down this summer; he's going to work for Governor Bruce Rauner's administration. It's not \*just\* Republicans. A longtime Democratic State Senator, Willie Delgado, retired in June. But his was expected. Delgado wasn't running for re-election--Sandack and Anthony were. Those are just the latest examples. Now there's another to add to the list--Republican State Senator Matt Murphy of Palatine.

9/21 22:00 There's not just a presidential election coming in November. There are also a number of local offices at stake. When you receive your ballot here in McLean County, you'll notice many offices ranging from State's Attorney to state representatives, county board members and coroner where candidates are running unopposed.

### RACE, EQUALITY & RIGHTS

7/11 20:00 The fourth amendment to the constitution prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures. It requires warrants to come from judges and be backed by probable cause. We often think of the fourth amendment as routine. But, in a new book, ISU Criminal Justice Sciences Professor Michael Gizzi says the amendment is actually in the middle of change in the way courts have interpreted it.

7/11 10:00 The nation is still reeling after last week's tragic occurrences of violence--first the police shootings of two men...one in Louisiana and the other in Minnesota. Then late Thursday night came the fatal shootings of five police officers who were handling security at a peaceful protest in downtown Dallas. With all of this as a backdrop, we hear from twin cities minister Kelley Becker.

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### SOCIAL SERVICE & PROGRAMS

7/3 8:00 An increasing number of senior citizen facilities are using music therapy to help the elderly improve their cognitive abilities, avoid depression and even stay more physically fit. Rory Bolton recently completed graduate studies in music therapy and piano performance at Illinois State University.

7/6 14:00 A case of vandalism involving a bench frequented by homeless people in downtown Bloomington has opened a dialogue about possible solutions for the chronically homeless. On one side are many downtown business owners who are unhappy about the presence of homeless people. The homeless, meanwhile, complain they are being unfairly targeted. This evening Bloomington police and community members will meet at police headquarters to discuss what's become a simmering problem. GLT's Judy Valente has the first of three reports called "Homeless in

Bloomington."

7/7 12:00 In Bloomington, police closed -- without making an arrest -- an investigation into an incident in which someone smeared what appeared to be tar on a downtown bench in an apparent effort to discourage homeless people from sitting there. A number of business owners are complaining about the presence of street people in downtown Bloomington. In recent weeks, police have arrested several homeless people on a variety of charges from minor offenses to the more serious. In Part 2 of our series "Homeless In Bloomington," GLT's Judy Valente explores how the bench investigation was handled, and how business, law enforcement -- and the homeless -- are responding to the growing tension downtown.

7/8 15:00 Joining us for a round table discussion on issues affecting the homeless are Tricia Stiller, the Executive Director of the Downtown Bloomington Association, Jordan Collins, outreach coordinator of PATH, an agency that tries to match the homeless with services, and Matt Burgess, the Chief Operating Officer of Home Sweet Home Ministries which operates a shelter and provides meals on Oakland Street for adults and children. Welcome all.

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### TECHNOLOGY

8/23 15:00 A piece of home entertainment technology has gone into the light, decades after revolutionizing how we view our favorite movies and TV shows. Laura Kennedy has the obit.

9/9 10:00 One of the US hopes for medaling at the Paralympic games in Rio belongs to Melissa Stockwell of Chicago. Stockwell is among the favorites in the first ever Paratriathlon event to be certified at the games. The Iraq war veteran lost her leg in combat more than a decade ago in the Iraq war, and failed in her first attempt at winning a Paralympic medal in Beijing in 2008.

9/29 7:00 In a small pond in Wisconsin, a recent study took place that could have some big implications when it comes to the spread of Asian Carp. The invasive species threatens to take over waterways, including the Great Lakes. It's already become a major problem in the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers and elsewhere

### TRANSPORTATION

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councilmembers okayed spending one and a half million dollars with the firm WSP-Parsons Brinkerhoff which will help broker a feasibility study over the next two year, which will determine how the town should proceed.

9/7 12:00 A bike share program will launch in Bloomington-Normal, now that the Town of Normal council has unanimously approved moving forward with Zagster.

9/9 6:00 Unit Five continues to have troubles with with it's bus contractor First Student getting children to school on time. There have been multiple instances of kids having to wait hours for pickup.