

Business**Issue: Business****How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: OSFStJamesSafe****Date: 10.11.13****Time: 7a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

OSF St. James-John W. Albrecht Medical Center in Pontiac is the safest hospital in Illinois, according to Consumer Reports Magazine. OSF St. James-John W. Albrecht President and CEO David Ochs says this top ranking in Illinois is gratifying, because the data was collected from outside sources, not from the hospitals themselves. Ochs says the ranking is a reflection of the hospital's ongoing commitment to patient care.

Issue: Business**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: Ameren-Updates****Date: 10.16.13****Time: 11a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

Ameren Illinois is investing nearly three-point-one million dollars into several electric infrastructure improvement projects around Bloomington-Normal. Ameren spokeswoman Stacy Shangraw says the projects will improve reliability and meet expected customer load growth. Ameren plans to spend \$1.3 million adding a second transformer to the Washington Street substation.

Issue: Business**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: Washington-Animals****Date: 11.22.13****Time: 5a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

Almost a week after the devastating storm in Washington, families are reuniting with their pets. Director of Tazewell County Animal Control Bob Marshall says even though residents knew to call Animal control to locate their lost pets, the chaos after the storm made it difficult to find out where animals wound up. Marshall says more than 30 animals have found their homes, but the organization still has about 9 animals that are still lost, including cats, a dog and one turtle.

Issue: Business
How Issue Was Treated: News story
Title: Triple-D-Galore
Date: 11.25.13
Time: 7a
Duration: Story runs 12 hours
Description:

A new promotional campaign through six Illinois communities is highlighting the best in diners, dives, and drive-ins. The web and brochure promotion is called Triple-D Galore Along Interstate-74. Bloomington-Normal Convention and Visitors Bureau Communications & Tourism Marketing Manager Amanda Borden says food is becoming a destination and not just a side attraction. Bloomington-Normal joined the Quad Cities, Galesburg, Peoria, Champaign, and Danville to show off hidden gems like Gene's Dairy Delight or Lucca Grill.

Issue: Business
How Issue Was Treated: News story
Title: Pregracke-StateFarm
Date: 12.11.13
Time: 4p
Duration: Story runs 12 hours
Description:

A Heartland Community College alum is seeing newer, bigger opportunities to continue his environmental efforts after being named as CNN's Hero of the Year. Chad Pregracke, a 2009 distinguished alumnus at HCC, is the founder of Living Lands and Waters. With the help of over 70-thousand volunteers the non-profit group has removed 7 million pounds of garbage from 23 rivers across the U-S. Pregracke is already in contact with State Farm insurance about expanding his national efforts.

Issue: Business
How Issue Was Treated: News story
Title: CountrySurvey
Date: 12.25.13
Time: 7a
Duration: Story runs 12 hours
Description:

The latest Country Financial security survey brings good tidings and joy. Country's manager of financial security support, Joe Buhrmann, says Americans banking on increased income expectations are driving the rosier outlook while some anticipate decreased debt and an improving economy. But a drop in the ability to save is causing concern for many. Buhrmann says that's not surprising since this is the time for holiday spending.

Issue: Crime**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: Learning-from-Bassnectar****Date: 10.9.13****Time: 2p****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

The Bassnectar concert at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum last Friday received the full attention of local law enforcement. McLean County Sheriff Mike Emery says his officers have learned from previous events - including another Bassnectar concert last year - that extra attention and extra jail space might be needed. At least 15 inmates were temporarily sent to Woodford and DeWitt Counties to make room for extra visitors.

Issue: Crime**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: Pontiac-Officer-Death****Date: 10.31.13****Time: 5a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

Published reports say a Pontiac police officer died in an accident on Interstate 55 last night. There are few details available, and it's not known if last night's weather played a role in the incident. The accident reportedly happened near an exit ramp. Livingston County coroner Michael Burke is handling the investigation. The flags in front of the police and fire department in Pontiac are flying at half-staff.

Issue: Crime**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: BPD-DUI****Date: 11.11.13****Time: 2p****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

A Bloomington Police Officer has been arrested and placed on administrative leave following a suspected DUI accident early Sunday. Bloomington Police responded to the single vehicle accident on Fox Creek Road at around 1 a.m. to find off-duty officer Troy Doza. A State Police report says Doza's vehicle left the roadway, struck a utility pole, and overturned. He suffered minor injuries and was transported to OSF St. Joseph Medical Center. The BPD turned over the official incident investigation to State Police District 6 while the department conducts its own internal investigation.

Issue: Crime

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: BPD-Crash-Thefts

Date: 11.15.13

Time: 2p

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

An increase in car thefts over the last 45 days has the Bloomington Police Department warning of taking care of your keys. Public Affairs Officer Sara Mayer says the recent crimes have been widespread across the city and there's a common thread. Mayer says now that the weather is turning cold and you may want to run out and start your vehicle before leaving, you shouldn't venture too far out of sight.

Issue: Crime

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: NormalBreakIns

Date: 12.3.13

Time: 2p

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Police are investigating a string of car burglaries in north Normal. Assistant Police Chief Eric Klingele says six vehicles in a parking outside at an apartment complex on Greenbriar Drive were broken into sometime between 8 o'clock last night and 4-30 this morning. Windows were smashed and electronics and other items were taken. This comes after a string of more than two dozen car burglaries in Normal last month. Bloomington Police report five car burglaries in the last two weeks. Police don't have any suspects.

Issue: Crime

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: OilStationRobberyArrest

Date: 12.31.13

Time: 5p

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Police in Normal say a man has been arrested in connection with the armed robbery of the Freedom Oil Station in October. They say on the evening of October 26th, a clerk reported that a man with his face covered came into the station on south Main Street and demanded money, claiming he had a gun. Police say 21-year-old Trent Orr has been arrested on charges of armed robbery and is being held in the McLean County Jail on 200-thousand dollars bond.

Government**Issue: Government****How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: NormalMoreParks****Date: 10.16.13****Time: 5a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

Several of the items on the Normal Town Council agenda tonight are again for park upgrades. A couple of weeks ago, the council considered new playground equipment for a handful of parks. Now, the council is considering a 64-thousand dollar bid for new lights at Fairview Park, 27-thousand dollars for a new fence around the Fairview ball diamond, and 124-thousand dollars to expand the parking lot at Shephard Park. City Manager Mark Peterson says Fairview also recently had channel work in the creek and the road in the park is being redone now. Money comes from the general fund, parkland dedication and capital investment fund.

Issue: Government**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: CountyBoardNursingHome****Date: 10.15.13****Time: 10a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

McLean County has hired an interim management team for the county nursing home in Normal. The County Board unanimously approved Management Performance Associates of Missouri to oversee the nursing home for four months. They were the only bidder after Heritage Enterprises of Bloomington withdrew its proposal amid concerns that they are for-profit competitors of the county's nursing home. County administrator Bill Wasson says the nursing home operational review that was removed from the contract will be done later. The county board has also okayed a new labor contract for its emergency dispatchers at Metcom. They will get pay raises of about 2 percent each of the next 3 years, plus 500 dollar bonuses.

Issue: Government**How Issue Was Treated: News story****Title: Michael-SameSex****Date: 11.10.13****Time: 7a****Duration: Story runs 12 hours****Description:**

Those in charge of administering Illinois' same sex marriage licenses are still learning the details of the new law. McLean County Clerk Kathy Michael says she hasn't had many calls about the law that made Illinois the 15th state in the U.S. to legalize gay marriage. Michael says she does know that legal, out of state marriages will be recognized by the federal government and out-of-state couples may get married in Illinois but those unions won't necessarily be recognized in their home states. Gov. Quinn plans to sign the legislation on Nov. 20 in Chicago. The law will take effect on June 1.

Issue: Government

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: GOP-Lt-Gov

Date: 11.18.13

Time: 3p

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

For the first time on the campaign trail, all four GOP candidate for Illinois lieutenant governor were in the same place at the same time on Monday. The McLean County Republican Committee hosted a lunch at the DoubleTree in Bloomington, giving each hopeful a chance to pitch their campaign plans to reform Illinois. Dan Rutherford's running mate, Steve Kim, says government should create an environment for business to gain confidence to invest in the state. Evelyn Sanguinetti, Bruce Rauner's number-two, says Illinois can be much more than a safety net. Kim and Sanguinetti are both from families that emigrated to Illinois. They say their hope is the state can once again be a place their children can prosper.

Issue: Government

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: Pension-Passes

Date: 12.3.13

Time: 5p

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Illinois lawmakers have approved a plan designed to fix the worst pension shortfall in the nation. The state Senate OK'd the proposal on a 30-24 vote and the House followed on a vote of 62-53. State Rep. Dan Brady says he is concerned over some of the actuarial numbers and a lack of fundamental fairness in leaving the judges' system out. Brady, State Rep. Keith Sommer, and former House Minority Leader Tom Cross voted against the bill. In the Senate, State Senator Jason Barickman voted no while Senator Bill Brady voted yes. Legislative leaders say the plan will save Illinois 160-billion dollars over 30 years by cutting retirement benefits for hundreds of thousands of workers and retirees. Labor unions have vowed to sue.

Issue: Government

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: BLM-Retail-Recruiting

Date: 12.30.13

Time: 5a

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

The City of Bloomington is still working to gain the competitive edge with new retail after reviewing its survey of what stores and businesses residents want to see in the community. Economic Development Coordinator Justine Robinson says the survey, which launched in August, was record-setting. Robinson says the highest feedback was in favor of bringing a Trader Joe's to the Twin Cities, along with Whole Foods Market, Cooper's Hawk, H&M, and Home Goods. She says everyone who took the survey also added their own choices and she will be working to contact the businesses. No deals have been struck but Robinson adds timing and prime locations will play a big factor in luring small or large business.

Issue: Schools

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: IWU-Kiplingers

Date: 10.16.13

Time: 8a

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

For the seventh straight year, Illinois Wesleyan University has made Kiplinger's Personal Finance list of best value among the nation's private liberal arts colleges. IWU is ranked 60th this year, down from a ranking of 54 last year. Spokesman Matt Kurz says Kiplingers looks at academic quality and affordability. Kurz says IWU gives out more than 33 million dollars in financial aid each year.

Issue: Schools

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: U5-AYP

Date: 10.23.13

Time: 12a

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Unit 5 did not meet the required Adequet Yearly Progress level this year, but it doesn't mean the district isn't progressing. Assistant Superintendant of Curriculum and Instruction Sandy Wilson says the state changing different variables made it difficult to meet the required level. As a whole Unit 5 had 68 percent of students meet or exceed on standardized testing. 92 percent was the state benchmark the district needed to achieve in order to meet AYP.

Issue: Schools

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: ISU-Principals

Date: 11.16.13

Time: 7a

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

The Center for the Study of Educational Policy at Illinois State University has been awarded a grant to will help train highly effective principals. Senior Policy Analyst Erika Hunt says ISU will partner will several other state universities to train aspiring principals at high needs school districts. One of the districts ISU is partnering with is Bloomington's District 87. The five year grant is worth 4-point-6 million dollars, about 263-thousand of which is allocated for the first year.

Issue: Schools

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: Pontiac-Super

Date: 11.23.13

Time: 7a

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Pontiac's elementary school district has a new Superintendent, but he's no stranger to Livingston County education. Retired Livingston County educator and administrator Jim Davis is stepping into the Superintendent's office at Pontiac's District 429 schools. Davis is taking over for Superintendent Kevin Lipke who was granted an indefinite leave of absence, as State Police investigate an accusation of improper conduct made against him. Davis says he's happy to help the district, and he says he's impressed with what he's seen so far, and through the transition he wants to stay focused on the positive. There is currently no word on the status of the police investigation, or how long Lipke's leave of absence might be. Davis moves into his new position immediately.

Issue: Schools

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: Pontiac-Super

Date: 12.16.13

Time: 12p

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Bloomington High School students are hoping to give power to kids with cancer in Central Illinois. Annmarie Steffen's Clothing Construction class has been making capes for children at OSF St. Francis in Peoria. Freshman Emily Glasscock says the project involves encouragement and empowerment. Junior Michelle Irwin has an even deeper connection. She was once a patient in a children's hospital and enjoys giving back. The capes will include a personalized "power" story for each patient. Steffen says 16 were made and several students are working on a second.

Issue: Schools

How Issue Was Treated: News story

Title: HCC-GED

Date: 12.20.13

Time: 7a

Duration: Story runs 12 hours

Description:

Heartland Community College is urging awareness of new testing procedures for the GED in McLean County. Jill Blair, Dean of Adult Education, says changes will start with the new year. The biggest change is the cost. The five-part test has traditionally cost exam takers 50 dollars. The new four-part test will run participants 30 dollars per section.