

Turning Data Into Stories

Ryan Denham, WGLT

What's Our Biggest Threat?



What I Worry About...

City of Bloomington - Police
April 5 at 10:45am · 📍

Shots Fired - One Person Shot

On Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at approximately 9:31 p.m., Bloomington Police Officers responded to the 2100 block of Rainbow Avenue for multiple reports of shots fired.

Officers arrived in the area and a witness reported seeing two black males, both holding handguns. After hearing some yelling, gun shots were heard and the same two males were seen running west from the area.

Shortly after officers arrived on scene, Bloomington Dispatched received a 911 call of a 25-year-old male with a gunshot wound to his leg. The victim's injuries appeared to be non-life threatening. The male was transported to a nearby hospital by Bloomington Fire Department Rescue.

During a subsequent canvass of the area, a handgun and several shell casings were recovered.

The investigation is ongoing, anyone with information is asked to contact BPD Detective Engle at (309) 434-2371 or jengle@cityblm.org

If you wish to remain anonymous, please call McLean County Crime Stoppers at (309) 828-1111. If your call leads to the arrest and indictment of suspect(s) you may be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000.

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About See All

(309) 820-8888
Typically replies within a few hours
Send Message
www.cityblm.org/police
Police Station - Government Organization - Law Enforcement Agency
Price Range \$\$
Hours
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- Bloomington Park... Liked
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- LeRoy IL Police D... Liked

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- Bypass the media
- Bigger audience
- More to monitor



Differentiation

BREAKING TOP STORY

Residents escape Friday morning fire at apartment building

Edith Brady-Lumry 5 hrs ago

SUBSCRIBE FOR 30¢ / COPY



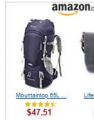
A maintenance worker for RCS Properties exits a six-unit apartment house that was damaged after fire broke out in a basement apartment Friday at 1410 Croxton Ave. Five of six families in the building were displaced according to a firefighter on the scene.

DAVID PROEBLER, THE HANTAGRAM



BLOOMINGTON — Residents of a six-unit apartment complex at 1410 Croxton Avenue escaped injury in a Friday morning fire that remains under investigation.

Bloomington firefighters responded to the blaze shortly after 5 a.m. It was centered in a first-floor unit but left all the other apartments with smoke damage and soot on the fire-damaged unit.



RECOMMENDED



NATIONAL
The Latest: Mourners commend Barbara Book's literacy efforts



REGIONS
Carolina coach Bill Peters resigns after 4 seasons with club

view | edit

Morning Fire Damages Apartment In Bloomington

By RYAN DENHAM • 4 HOURS AGO

Tweet Share Google+ Email



Seven residents were displaced Friday morning after an apartment fire on Croxton Avenue. There were no injuries.

ON AIR NEWS SPORTS FEATURES & EVENTS CONTENTS SWEET DEALS GAMES

7 Bloomington residents displaced by fire

Posted on April 20, 2018



Seven residents were displaced from their Bloomington apartment following an early-morning fire that officials say could have had a different ending were it not for a working smoke alarm. (Photo courtesy Pixabay)

By Eric Stock

BLOOMINGTON — Fire officials say a working smoke alarm may have saved lives following an early-morning apartment fire.

Fire crews called to an building in the 1400 block of Croxton Avenue shortly after 5 a.m. for a report of fire. Bloomington Fire Department Public Information Officer Stuart Blade said a caller to 911 reported all seven residents were out of the six-unit apartment building before fire crews arrived.

"That means we can just go in and focus

merry maids
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MUSIC AWARDS

BLOGS

WIBC Voices: Son of a preacher man
My dad was a preacher, but not in the Reverend Mc Black sense.

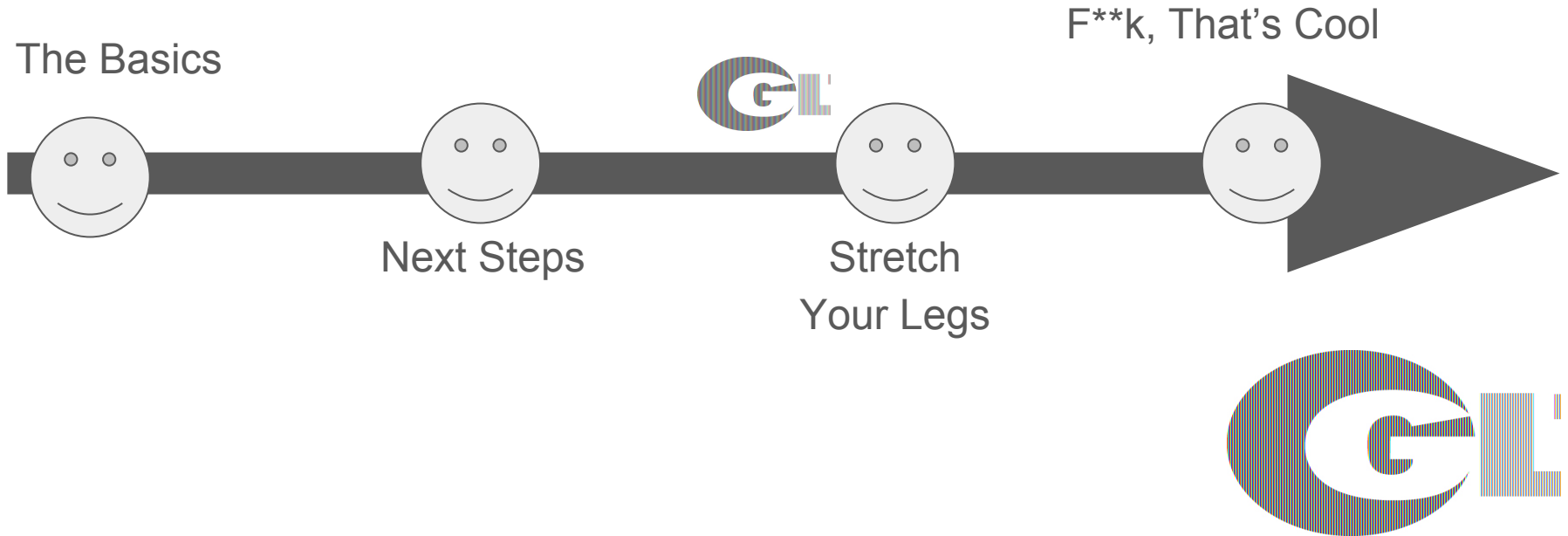
WIBC Voices: Obama's children
On Saturday, March 24, there is a march in downtown Bloomington against gun violence.

WIBC Voices: They still don't get it
One of the questions posed in "Down" in the "Bill" is "How many times did a man look away and pretend that he just doesn't see?"

WIBC Voices: Paying our fair share
No one wants to pay more taxes. I do understand the struggle and agree to support...



Spectrum of Digital Awesomeness



The Basics: Links

- Linking to data
- Linking source documents
- Linking to Facebook posts, tweets

President Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin talk at a November 2017 summit in Danang, Vietnam. (Jorge Silva/AP)

By **Tom Hamburger, Rosalind S. Helderman and Ellen Nakashima** April 20 at 11:01 AM [✉ Email the author](#)

The Democratic National Committee filed a multimillion-dollar lawsuit Friday against the Russian government and the WikiLeaks organization alleging a far-reaching conspiracy to disrupt the 2016 campaign and tilt the election to Donald Trump.

The complaint, filed in federal district court in Manhattan, alleges that top Trump campaign officials conspired with the Russian government and its military spy agency to hurt Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and help Trump by hacking the computer networks of the Democratic Party and disseminating stolen material found there.

“During the 2016 presidential campaign, Russia launched an all-out assault on our democracy, and it found a willing and active partner in Donald Trump’s campaign,” DNC Chairman Tom Perez said in a statement.

“This constituted an act of unprecedented treachery: the campaign of a nominee for President of the United States in league with a hostile foreign power to bolster its own chance to win the presidency,” he said.

The case asserts that the Russian hacking campaign — combined with Trump associates’ contacts with Russia and the campaign’s public cheerleading of the hacks — amounted to an illegal conspiracy to interfere in the election that caused serious damage to the Democratic Party.

[\[Read the DNC lawsuit against Russia and the Trump campaign\]](#)



The Basics: Callouts

- Don't be shy
- Not just soft stuff
- Engagement 101

I want to hear from people in downstate Illinois and other small and mid-size cities who are living in public housing, federally subsidized private properties or who rent homes using Section 8 vouchers. Please get in touch if:

- You are a resident living in HUD-subsidized housing that has problems (such as: heat doesn't work, infestation, leaking ceilings, plumbing or electrical problems, mold or lead paint that hasn't been removed).
- You have been forced to relocate from a complex that was closed because it was considered unsafe.
- You work or have worked as a HUD contract inspector or as an agency quality assurance inspector.
- You are a current or past manager of HUD-assisted housing.
- You are a housing advocate, community leader or citizen with concerns about a HUD-subsidized housing complex in your town.

You can reach me via the following ways: emailing housing@propublica.org or by texting or calling 618-924-0826.

Molly Parker is an investigative reporter, focusing on public housing, for The Southern Illinoisian. Email her at molly.parker@thesouthern.com and follow her on Twitter @mollyparkerSI.

Candidate Debate - 105th House District



State Rep. Dan Brady, left, and primary challenger David Paul Blumenshine.

You're invited to a GLT Candidate Debate on Monday, March 5, between state Rep. Dan Brady, R-Bloomington, and his primary challenger, David Paul Blumenshine.

Join us to learn more about the candidates and their positions. You'll also get the opportunity to hear them answer your questions, which you can submit using the form below.

Candidate Debate - 105th House District
Dan Brady and David Paul Blumenshine
6 p.m. Monday, March 5
Location: University Galleries

Brady and Blumenshine are both vying for the Republican nomination in the 105th Illinois House District, which includes parts of Bloomington-Normal. The primary election is March 20.

The debate is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of McLean County and the McLean County Republican Party.

Name*

First Name Last Name

City/town of residence.*

Email*

Do you plan to attend the Candidates Forum?*

Yes No

What is your question?*

Submit Question

The Basics: Working with Data



Lifestyle / Home & Garden

Is your pet's name one of the most popular on the Peninsula?



ADVERTISEMENT

Based on available data, the Daily Press examines the most popular pet names in the Peninsula area.

By **Kate Mishkin** · Contact Reporter

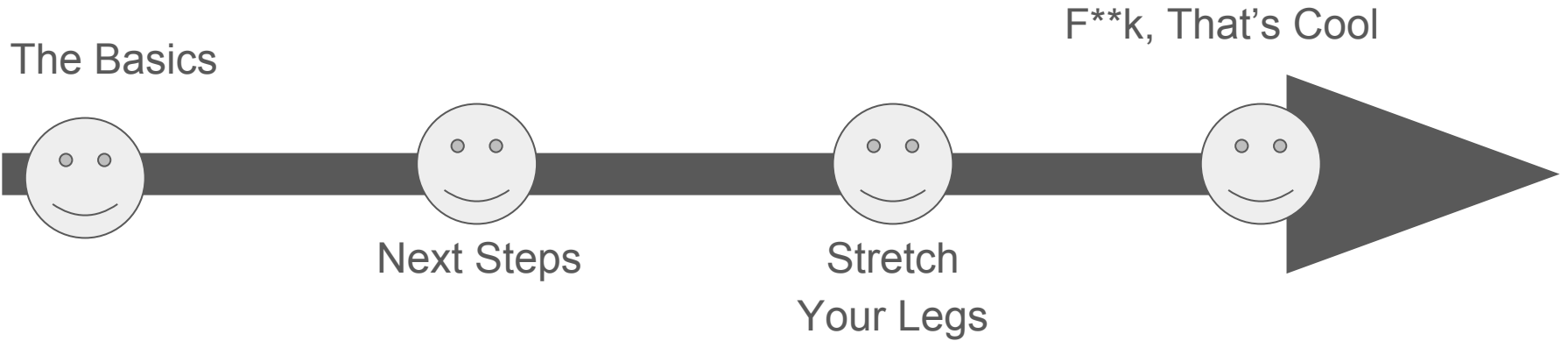
DECEMBER 10, 2017, 1:05 PM

Move over, Spot.

- Smart small
- Google how to use Excel
- Bonus points for students



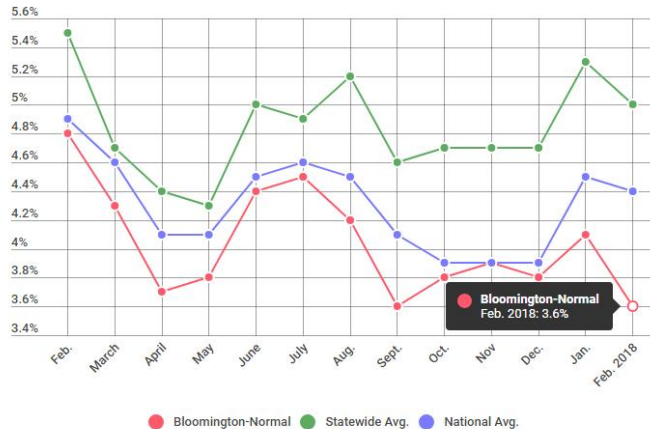
Spectrum of Digital Awesomeness



Next Steps: Infographics

There were still 3,500 people out of work and looking for a job last month in Bloomington-Normal. That's down about 400 from January of this year. Some may have found work. Others may have stopped looking for employment.

Employment in the government, and leisure and hospitality sectors improved in Bloomington-Normal last month compared to February 2017.



Share

infogram

Unemployment

- Start with a known, repeating story
 - Unemployment %
 - Home sales
 - Annual crime stats
 - Economic index



Next Steps: Quote Graphics



- Photoshop template
 - One-time cost
 - Quick to create

- Handy for stories w/o good images



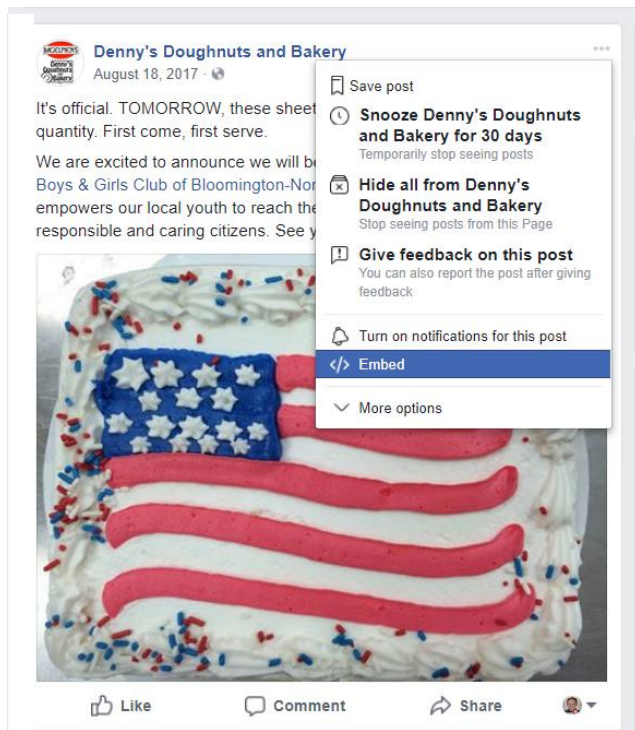
Next Steps: Embeds

Denny's Doughnuts and Bakery responded with a Facebook post Friday announcing an American flag sheet cake special, going on sale Saturday morning.

"It's official. TOMORROW, these sheet cakes are only \$7.95 each! Limited quantity. First come, first serve," Denny's said in its Facebook post. "We are excited to announce we will be donating #sheetcaking proceeds to Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal! This incredible organization empowers our local youth to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. See you all tomorrow!"



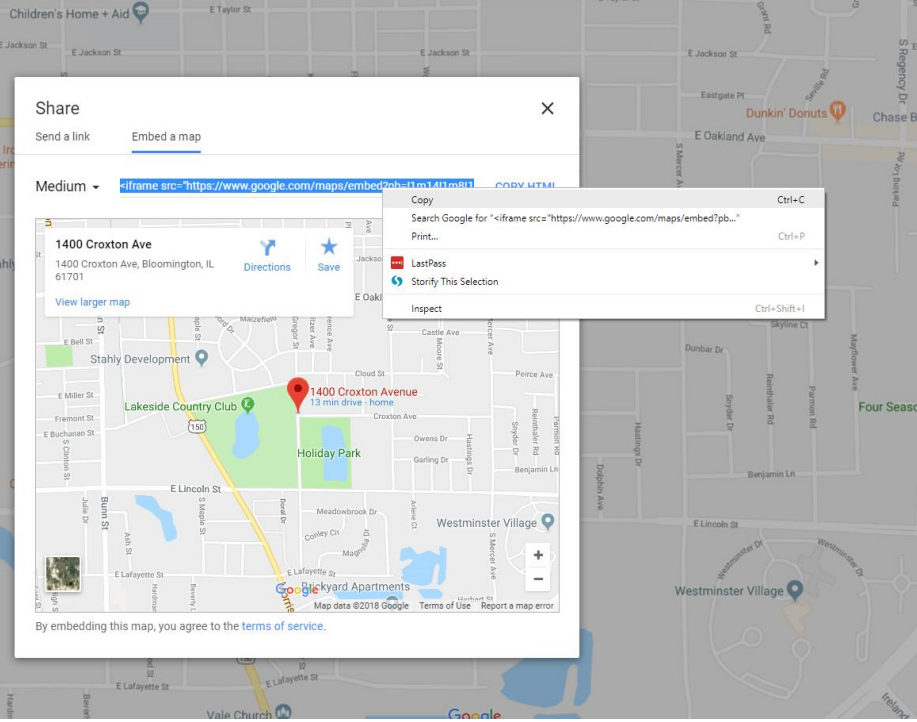
The post is going viral locally. It's been shared hundreds of times and has drawn



- Facebook posts
- Tweets
- YouTube videos



Next Steps: Embeds



The fire broke out around 5 a.m. at an apartment building in the 1400 block of Croxton, the Bloomington Fire Department said. It was under control in about 45 minutes.

"Thanks to the early warning of smoke alarms, lives were saved this morning," the fire department said.

The fire caused around \$50,000 in damage, including fire damage in two apartments and smoke damage to four additional units. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

The Red Cross is assisting the seven displaced residents.



People like you value experienced, knowledgeable and award-winning journalism that covers meaningful stories in Bloomington-Normal. To support more stories and interviews like this one, please consider making a contribution.

TAGS: BLOOMINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
Tweet Share Google+ Email



Next Steps: Know Your CMS

- Talk to peers at other stations who use same CMS as you
- Workarounds?

committee.

"Through many years of service to Illinois, Brendan Heffner has demonstrated strong qualifications to serve as United States Marshal," Durbin and Duckworth said in a statement. "We expect him to serve with professionalism, responsibility, and a clear focus on the mission of the Marshals Service. We look forward to seeing his nomination through the full Senate."

Heffner has served as Bloomington's chief since 2013. He retired from the Illinois State Police as a lieutenant colonel in 2010. He began his career as a Normal Police officer in the mid-1980s.

"Anytime that your country would seek your services, it's a great honor," Heffner told GLT.

The U.S. Marshals are responsible for security at federal courthouses, for those in federal custody, and fugitive task forces, among other duties.

Heffner said he was approached about the job.

Get the **SCOOP**

Find out about the latest local news and GLT events. And don't worry: We won't spam you, bore you, or sell your email address to weirdos.

Email *

First name

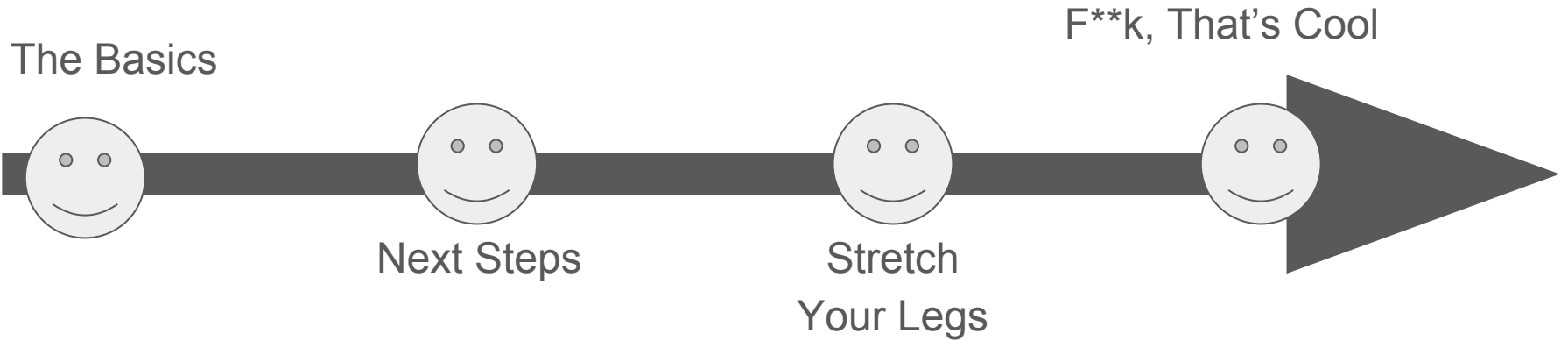
Last name

* = required field

SUBMIT



Spectrum of Digital Awesomeness



Stretch Your Legs: More Graphics

They get their time back together in the next time they both find common ground, said Day. "That was probably the worst thing for them (being together)."

Their baby girl was born July 4, 2017. The next day, a nurse overheard an agitated Hedrick reference the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting and his ability to get a gun despite having a mental illness, DCFS records show. Hospital officials were concerned about Hedrick's behavior that was recorded in DCFS records.

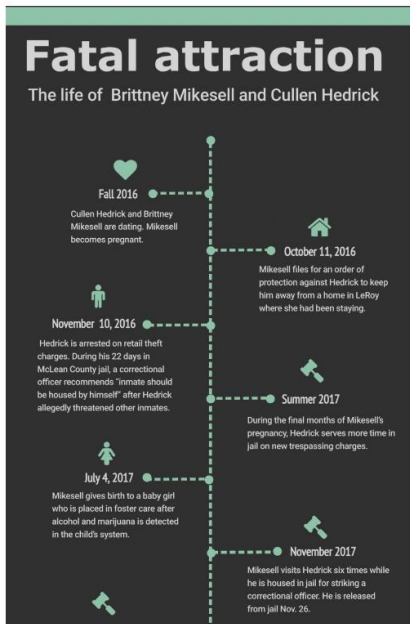
The state put the baby into protective custody after medical staff reported signs of alcohol and marijuana in the baby's system, DCFS records show.

The placement of the baby with Mikesell's aunt further splintered an already divided family. For the next five months, the parents were granted supervised visitation with their child.

Hedrick was arrested again Sept. 12 on a warrant. During booking he struck a guard and served 46 days in jail; he was released Nov. 26, 2017 — the week he was killed.

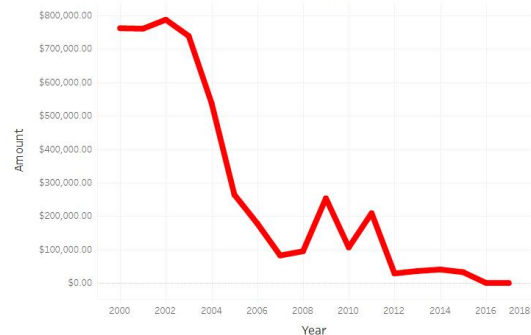
"They were doing numerous things over that time span," said Kathleen

Download PDF



Advanced-looking solutions out there that DON'T require coding/developer skills...

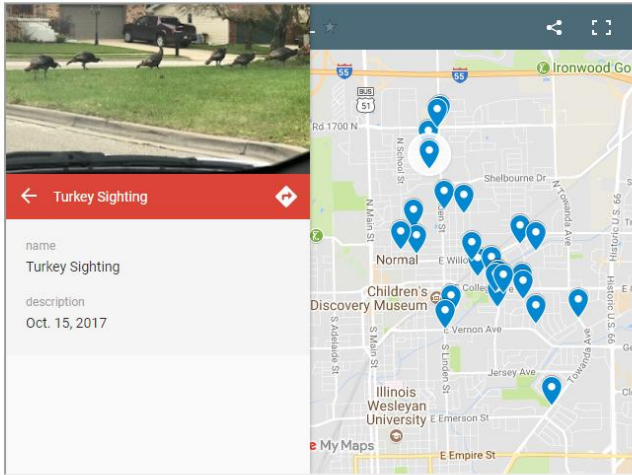
IDOC Spending On Books In Prisons (2000-2017)



+ a b l e a u

Data Source: Illinois Department of Corrections

GLT is tracking the turkeys on an interactive map. It's stuffed with photos submitted by our users:



WGLT depends on financial support from users to bring you stories and interviews like this one. As someone who values experienced, knowledgeable, and award-winning journalists covering meaningful stories in central Illinois, please consider making a contribution.

TAGS: WILD TURKEYS



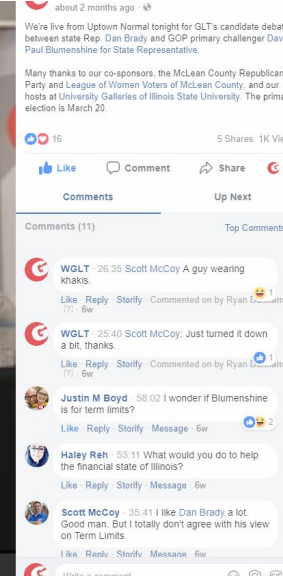
Stretch Your Legs: Loosen Up

When wild turkeys began showing up...

- Google Maps (My Maps)
- Photos via email, Facebook, Twitter
- Embed on a post
- Drive traffic back in, circle of life



Stretch Your Legs: Facebook Live



Behind the scenes /
not redundant

“Have to see
this/them/it” content

Station events



Stretch Your Legs: Embed PDFs

Embed

Copy Link <https://www.scribd.com/document/374714294/Management-Audit-Lette>

Beginning of document Current page Fullscreen

Embed this in your website

```

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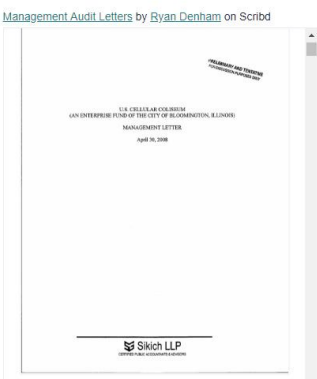
Format HTML Wordpress

Size Autosize 600x600 400x600

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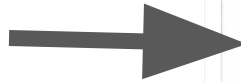
Options
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Management Audit Letters by Ryan Denham on Scribd



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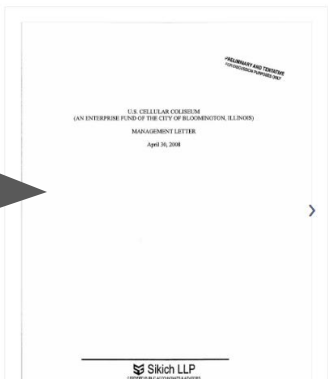
1 of 49



where, after the fact, CIAM's principal officers are accused of wrongdoing over contractual issues related to the operational issues (including cash flow) and the timing of payments to CIAM," Beckett said. "These allegations are brought forward years after the underlying events, and occur in the face of a history of annual audits and regular meetings with city officials during the term of the contract."

Butler is due back in court for a hearing April 3.

Management Audit Letters by Ryan Denham on Scribd



Show me more about this topic ^

SCRIBD 1 of 49

Listen 8:45

GLT's Ryan Denham talks about the audit documents on Sound Ideas.

People like you value experienced, knowledgeable and award-winning journalism that covers meaningful stories in Bloomington-Normal. To support more stories and interviews like this one, please consider making a contribution.



Stretch Your Legs: Deeper Engagement



The image shows a screenshot of a Facebook group page. The group is titled "Election 2018 in McLean County" and is a "Closed Group". The page features a navigation menu on the left with options like "About", "Discussion", "Members", "Events", "Videos", "Photos", "Files", "Group Insights", and "Manage Group". The main content area shows a post by "WGLT" with a video thumbnail of a microphone. The microphone has a logo that reads "WGLT.org 89.1 FM Illinois State University". Below the video are buttons for "Joined", "Notifications", "Share", and "More". The post content includes a "Write Post" field, "Add Photo/Video", "Live Video", and "More" options. The group information section shows "GROUP BY WGLT Nonprofit Organization 6,507 like this". There is also an "ADD MEMBERS" section with a search box and a "MEMBERS" section showing 488 members.

Build a community

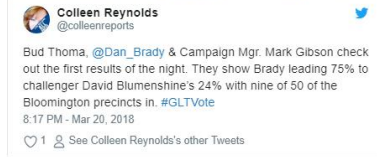
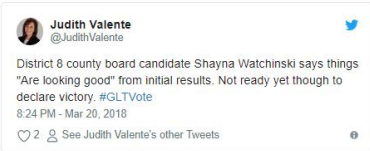
Stir up conversation

Get story ideas

Oh, and link to your work



Stretch Your Legs: Curation Election



Twitter Collections --> embed

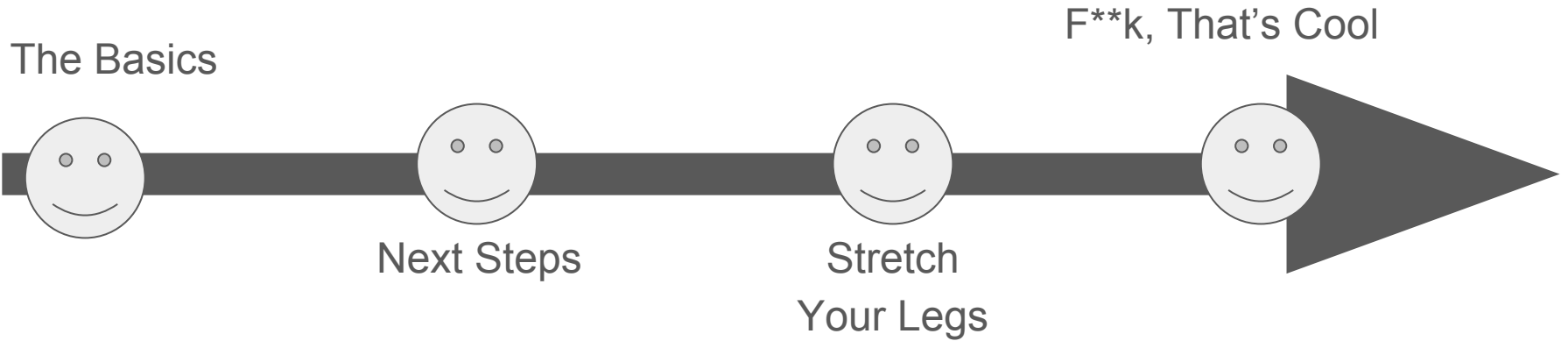
Embed individual posts/tweets

RIP Storify

Election nights!



Spectrum of Digital Awesomeness



That's Cool: Get Good At Email

ILLINOIS



(William Widmer, Special to ProPublica)

THE CROOKED LINE BETWEEN HOLDING ON AND MOVING ON.

Molly Parker is a reporter for *The Southern Illinoisan*, covering public housing. This newsletter is an abridged version of an essay, [published today](#), produced in partnership with *The Southern* and ProPublica, as part of our [Local Reporting Network](#).

- ProPublica
 - From a real person
 - Not obsessed with brevity
 - Calls to action

- Plan for a rainy day
 - Facebook
 - Ownership



That's Cool: News Roundups



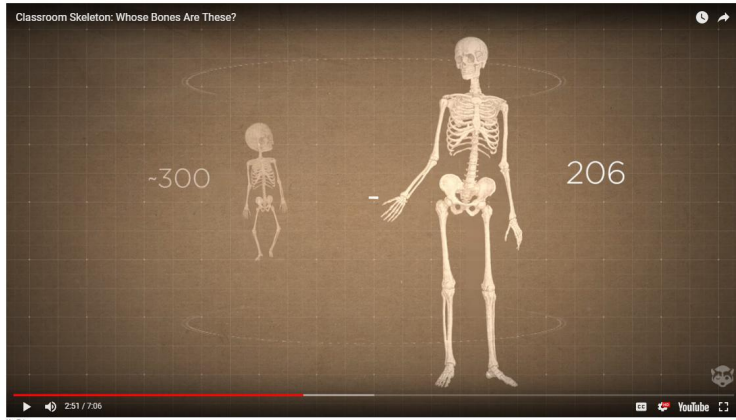
NBA Desktop on The Ringer

Weekly news recap?

Relies on a personality



That's Cool: NPR Skunk Bear



Answer a Question



Explain Something



“This Sounds Really Gimmicky”

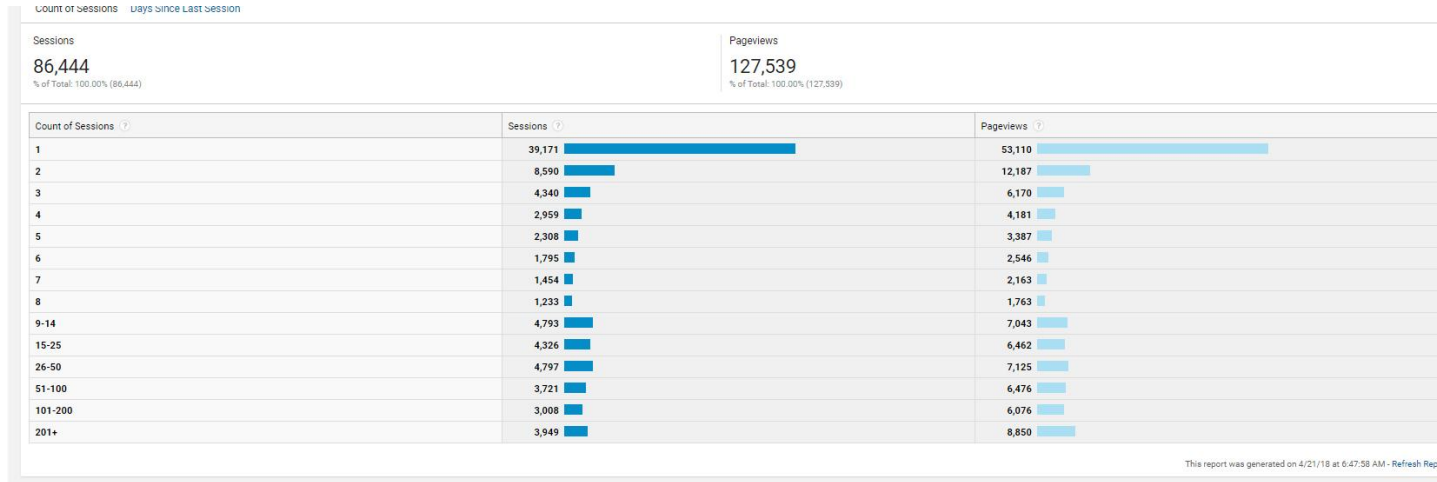


NYTimes video of Vegas shooter surveillance video

Where should I spend my time today?



How Do You Know If It's Working?



Place to start: Monthly stats report to staff

“The More You Know” - new concept monthly



Questions?

Ryan Denham

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ryan@wgl.org

