

THE TELEGRAPH



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Friday, April 19, 2013

Sheriff on lookout for phony cop

By STEVE WHITWORTH
The Telegraph

KAMPSVILLE — Calhoun County Sheriff Bill Heffington wants to squelch rumors of abduction attempts in Kampsville, but he also emphasizes that he and his deputies are on the lookout for a possible

police impersonator. Heffington said Thursday that he believes someone is trying to impersonate a police officer while approaching young people in Kampsville, apparently asking where other young people live. The sheriff said it all started about 9 p.m. Saturday, when a

man approached a juvenile boy in Kampsville. The boy described the man as bald, with a medium stocky build and driving a two-door silver sports car. The boy said the man was wearing a badge on a chain suspended around his neck and also was wearing a dark blue shirt.

“He was inquiring where three young subjects lived at,” Heffington said. “He was inquiring about some information. The boy thought he was a police officer, but this guy never did identify himself.” The sheriff said he is “assuming it has something to do with Facebook.”

“He apparently knew (the three young subjects) but didn’t know their address,” Heffington said. “He was trying to get information from the boy about where they lived and get their phone number.” A possibly related incident

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Wood River man gets probation in gun sales case

By SANFORD J. SCHMIDT
The Telegraph

EAST ST. LOUIS — A Wood River man pleaded guilty and was placed on probation Thursday on illegal gun sale charges after his lawyer told the judge his client sold the guns after his wife’s cancer put him deeply in debt.

John Stobbs of Alton, the defense attorney for Verle Traub, also told the judge that Traub had been victimized by a rigged Madison County tax sale, which caused him to lose two properties he owned.

“We’re obviously very thankful that the U.S. Attorney’s Office exercised its prosecutorial discretion. This discretion and the sentence are fair under the circumstances,” Stobbs said.

Traub, the owner of Wood River Glass Co., was indicted after federal authorities performed four undercover buys.

The indictment charged him with engaging in the business of dealing firearms without a federal license.

The indictment listed about 100 guns that Traub was accused of offering for sale. The indictment also specified that

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Ameren Illinois gives tips for storm, flood safety

For The Telegraph

COLLINSVILLE — The Ameren Illinois Emergency Operations Center was activated for this week’s storms.

Beginning with the EOC’s opening at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Ameren Illinois began monitoring weather conditions, placed all its company and contractor personnel on alert, and got its trucks fueled and loaded with supplies to be ready for immediate deployment.

Ameren Illinois was prepared to deploy the special Ameren Illinois Storm Trailers. These trailers are filled with materials field crews need to perform their service restoration work. The trailers can be moved to various staging sites to provide materials when outside crews come in to help with the restoration efforts and to provide a store of materials close to the area with the most damage.

In the event of widespread service outages, service restoration work will be directed by Ameren Illinois Emergency Operations Center.

“Safety is our priority every day of the year, but it takes on added significance when severe weather strikes,” said

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Rains bring flooding, road closures

By JILL MOON
The Telegraph

GRAFTON — Constant heavy rain across the state Thursday caused the Illinois and Mississippi rivers to start rising at their confluence and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to issue flood warnings.

While the Chicago area experienced 5 inches of rain in five hours Thursday, the National Weather Service predicted the flood stage on the Mississippi River at Grafton would peak at 30.6 feet next week. As of 1 p.m. Thursday, the Mississippi River at Grafton stood at approximately 20 feet; flood stage at Grafton is 18 feet.

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The Telegraph/JOHN BADMAN

A driver splashes his way past a Madison County deputy sheriff on the curve of Old Edwardsville Road in Roxana near Thomas Street on Thursday, just before Roxana police called for barricades to close the road. Heavy all-day rains caused several roads to flood around the area. A woman uses her umbrella to try to stay dry Thursday as she loads her groceries in her car at the Alton Shop ‘n Save store. The National Weather Service says the rain should be gone from the area today.

WEATHER D6
COOLER
53 | 34

AREA A2,7
CLASSIFIED C5
EDITORIAL A4
NATION C4

SPOTLIGHT A3
SCOREBOARD D3
STOCKS D4
TELEVISION B4

OBITUARIES A5
Bailey, Booth, Carson, Clark, Corbin, Gardner,
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