“Expectations Are Low” Ahead of Trump-Xi G20 Meeting

Reuters reports that U.S. and Chinese officials “have what may be their last chance to broker a ceasefire in an increasingly dangerous trade war.”

Read more here.

Report from Deloitte Predicts 2.4 Million New Manufacturing Jobs Will Go Unfilled

There will be 4.6 million new manufacturing jobs in the U.S. to fill between 2018 and 2028, according to a new report from Deloitte. Over half are predicted to go unfilled.

Read more here.

Oaklawn To Build $100 Million Gaming, Hotel Complex

Oaklawn Racing and Gaming, a State Chamber Peak Pinnacle member, recently announced plans for a $100 million-plus project.

Read more here.

Trump Urged To Submit New NAFTA Deal To Congress Before Democrats Take Over House
Twelve Republican senators urged President Trump to submit the deal to update NAFTA to Congress for passage by year-end, before Democrats assume control of the House of Representatives.

Read more [here](#).

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**Training Delta Workers To Compete with the World**

The Mississippi River Delta region has experienced its share of success, but it has not seen the same level of economic activity realized across much of the country.

Read more [here](#).

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**Durable Goods Orders Fall 4.4 Percent in October; Core Capital Goods Orders Unchanged**

Orders for durable goods decreased 4.4 percent from the prior month in October, the Commerce Department reported. Last month’s decline was the biggest since a 7.4 percent fall in July 2017.

Read more [here](#).

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**Baptist Health Closes on Deal To Acquire Sparks Health System**

Baptist Health, a State Chamber Crown Pinnacle member, has closed on the acquisition of Sparks Health System operations in Fort Smith, Van Buren and clinics in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma.

Read more [here](#).

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**New Government Report Finds Effects of Climate Change Likely To Hurt U.S. Economy**

A recent report issued by 13 federal agencies predicts the damage of climate change could knock as much as 10 percent off the size of the American economy by century’s end.

Read more [here](#).

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**Walmart To Move Bentonville Call Center, 700 Jobs to Springdale**
Walmart, a State Chamber Apex Pinnacle member, recently announced plans to relocate its Bentonville contact center in the spring of 2019 to a 130,000-square-foot building in Springdale.

Read more here.

Global Economy Showing Signs of Weakening

The global economy is showing signs of weakening, with the United States, China and Europe all facing the rising threat of a slowdown.

Read more here.

Construction on New West Memphis Hospital Complete; Opening in December

Construction on the new Baptist Memorial Hospital-Crittenden County has been completed, employees have been hired, and the hospital is slated to open Dec. 3.

Read more here.

Trump Administration Advances Fight Against China’s IP Theft

Claude Barfield, a resident scholar in international trade policy, writes that the Trump Administration “is advancing a groundbreaking attack — if it is sustained — on Beijing’s unceasing theft of American intellectual property (IP).”

Read more here.

Simmons Bank Buys Naming Rights to Verizon Arena for $10.5 Million

Simmons Bank, a State Chamber Crown Pinnacle member, recently acquired the naming rights to Verizon Arena, the North Little Rock 18,000 seat, multi-purpose civic center for $10.5 million.

Read more here.

New York Fed President Says
Gradual Rate Hikes Will Continue

New York Fed President John Williams said the Fed "is pushing ahead with gradual rate-hike plans as it marches toward a more normal policy stance that would keep the economy expanding."

Read more here.

Lexicon Inc. Celebrates 50 Years

Lexicon Inc., a State Chamber Crown Pinnacle member, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary at the Nucor-Yamato campus in Hickman.

Read more here.

Home Builder Sentiment Drops Sharply

The National Association of Home Builders said that U.S. home builder sentiment “recorded its steepest one-month drop in over 4-1/2 years in November.”

Read more here.

Arkansas Heart Hospital Holds Groundbreaking for Bryant Facility

Arkansas Heart Hospital, a State Chamber Crown Pinnacle member, held a groundbreaking ceremony for its newest facility, the Encore Medical Center in Bryant.

Read more here.