

April 21, 2010

Norton Wins Two Illinois Associated Press Radio News Awards

Don Norton of Macomb has been awarded two first place designations in the 2009 Illinois Associated Press Broadcast Awards. They were presented during the Illinois News Broadcasters Association annual convention at the Oak Brook Marriot Resort April 17, 2010.

Norton received the awards for his work as a news anchor and reporter at WGN-AM Radio 720 in Chicago in the major-market category. The category includes stations in both the Chicago and St. Louis metropolitan areas.

The awards were given in the Best Spot News Reporting category for the story "Fire on High." The story chronicled a fatal fire in a downtown Chicago high-rise condominium in the early morning hours of December 10, 2009. Norton was the first radio reporter on the scene, filing live reports and interviewing survivors and witnesses of a blaze that took one-third of the city's fire-fighting resources to extinguish. The story is also a finalist in the Illinois Broadcaster's Association Silver Dome awards "Best Live Coverage" major market category.

The second award was given in the Best Light Feature category for the story "Last Ride at Kiddieland." The historic amusement park in suburban Melrose Park closed in September 2009 after 81 years in business. Norton prepared six reports during the last night the park was open, interviewing many of the patrons who came to say good-bye, and the owners who greeted them as they left for the last time.

In addition to his award-winning radio news broadcasting, Norton teaches communications, speech and new media at South Suburban College in South Holland, Illinois. He also is a marketing consultant and professional voiceover artist for Genesis Image Builders.



Don Norton holds his two first place Associated Press awards, recently received at a ceremony in Oak Brook, Illinois.

(Courtesy Photo)