

FREE Midweek Brief

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 | communitybrief@gmail.com | 309-421-0761 | Briefly Covering Your Local News

U.S. News Recognizes WIU as Best in Multiple Categories

MACOMB/MOLINE, IL -- Western Illinois University has been recognized as a "Best Regional University in the Midwest" for 2024 by U.S. News and World Report.

WIU has been ranked 38 out of 167 public and private colleges and universities on the "Best Regional Universities (Midwest)" list in the U.S. News and World Report 2023 rankings. Additionally, WIU is named one of only two public institutions in Illinois to make it to the top 50 of the Best Midwestern list.

Apart from the recognition as the "Best Midwestern" institution, Western has also been acknowledged as a "Top Public School" (#10), "Best for Veterans School" (#18), "Best Value School" (#38) and "Top Performer on Social Mobility" (#36) in the Midwest region by U.S. News. The university is recognized for its undergraduate engineering programs, least amount of debt and highest proportion of classes under 20 students.



See BRU on page 2

With Respiratory Viruses Ticking Up, IDPH Encourages Illinoisans to Get Fully Protected

Twenty Illinois Counties at Medium Level for COVID-19

CHICAGO – With hospitalizations for COVID-19 rising in the state ahead of the holidays, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is urging Illinoisans to stay informed about conditions in their area and to take steps to get fully protected from the range of seasonal viruses as cases. Twenty counties in Illinois are listed at a medium level for hospitalizations according to the CDC's national COVID Data Tracker. Although McDonough is currently in the low level, Fulton is at the medium level. The uptick in COVID-19 hospitalizations across the state comes as hospital data is also showing increases in flu and RSV.

"As hospitalizations for COVID-19, RSV, and flu increase across Illinois, I want to encourage our residents to use all of the tools at their disposal to protect themselves and their loved ones this holiday season," said IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra. "Vaccines for COVID-19, flu and RSV remain the most effective tool in preventing severe illness, but we can all take proper precautions to enjoy family, food, and fun while keeping those germs away."

Dr. Vohra stressed that holiday hosts should enhance the safety of guests by providing proper indoor

See IDPH on page 7



POLICE REPORTS

McDonough County Sheriff

11/9

Melissa Sue Smith, 43, Canton, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant

Zane Nathaniel Melton, 21, Macomb, was charged with driving with suspended license

Paige Marie Johnson, 29, Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant, McDonough County warrant

11/20

Rufus Robert Porter, 22, Macomb, was charged with criminal trespass to land, resisting a peace officer

Brandon Douglas Gutierrez, 51, Galesburg, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant

Macomb Police Department

11/19

Mario Zuniga, Jr., 18l, Beardstown, was charged with careless driving

Michael L. Columbus, 39, Bushnell, was charged with expired registration

Daniel A. Moncelli, 39, Macomb, was charged with trespassing

11/20

Maris L. McKee, 17, Macomb, was charged with careless driving

Aidan M. Scharf, 20, Ballwin, MO, was charged with careless driving

Mark D. Behymer, 43, Industry, was charged with careless driving (cell phone)

Bradley K. Kestner, 68, Clayton, was charged with careless driving (cell phone)

Samantha E. McLeish, 34, Macomb, was charged with careless driving (cell phone)

BRU

continued from page 1

WIU President Guiyou Huang praised the faculty and staff for their dedication and commitment to ensure student success.

"We are an institution that believes in preparing students through knowledgeable faculty and skilled professionals to take on the world and challenges outside of the University," WIU President Guiyou Huang said. "WIU is always adapting and changing to meet the workforce needs and provide students with the best education possible."

The U.S. News Best Colleges ranking includes institutions that offer undergraduate majors and master's programs. The rankings are based on various measures, including graduation and retention rates, social mobility, faculty resources, expert opinion, financial resources, student excellence and alumni giving.

Copy By: University Communications

TODAY'S JOKES

Q: What did the mama cow say to the calf?

A: It's pasture bedtime!

Q: Why is a snake difficult to fool?

A: You can't pull its leg!

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Community News Brief

The Community News Brief is a product of Community News & Market.

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309-421-0761

Open 10-5 Monday-Friday & 10-3 Saturdays

135 W Grant Street Structure Fire

MACOMB, IL -- At 11:26 A.M., Saturday, November 25th, 2023, the Macomb Fire Department was requested by the Macomb Police Department to respond to the Macomb National Guard Armory, 135 W Grant Street, for a burning odor and haze within the building. The initial crew arrived on scene at 11:30 A.M. and located a locked storage room with smoke coming from around the door. Fire command initiated a request for all off-duty Macomb Firefighters. Crews forced their way into the storage room and located a smoldering fire from electrical charging equipment and stored batteries. A Carbon Dioxide extinguisher was used, and the crews began ventilating the structure of the smoke.

No injuries to civilians or firefighters were reported.

Estimated loss at this time is approximately \$150,000.

The cause of the fire is believed to have started in the storage room and is under investigation by the Macomb Fire Department and the Illinois National Guard.

Four on-duty Macomb Firefighters initially responded with an additional four off-duty firefighters staged at the fire station. Thank you to Macomb - McDonough County Communications Center, Macomb Illinois Police Department, Lifeguard Ambulance Service of Illinois, and the Illinois National Guard for their assistance with the incident. The scene was cleared at 2:00 P.M.

Community News Brief

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Death Notices

Cheryl Ann O'Malley Knowles

67, of Quincy

Cheryl Ann O'Malley Knowles age 67 of Quincy, passed away Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy.

A time of sharing took place on Sunday, November 26, 2023 at the Jones Mortuary. Memorial is to the family to help with expenses. Condolences and memories can be expressed to the family at jonesmortuaryfh.com.

John A. Lemmons

66, of Macomb

John A. Lemmons, known as "Squeak," passed away on November 22, 2023, at the age of 66 in Macomb. He was born on August 1, 1957 to Wesley and Mary Lemmons, and his departure leaves a void in the hearts of those who loved him.

His family has chosen cremation. Plans are being made for a celebration of life for friends and family, date to be determined.

Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home in Macomb is in charge of arrangements. You may leave condolences and sign the guest book online at clugston-tibbitts.com.

Naomi (Tommy) Frost

32, of Colchester

Naomi Frost (Tommy Frost), age 32 of Colchester, passed away at his home in Colchester on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023. He was born April 18, 1991 in Peoria, to David and Lisa (Kindhart) Frost.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023, at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Colchester with Pastor Gunther Weaver. Memorial is to the family. Condolences and memories can be expressed to the family at jonesmortuaryfh.com.

Death notices (name, death date and services) run free of charge. Families who wish to have a complete obit published in the Tuesday or Friday Community News Brief newspaper (including picture, family, work history and hobbies and other information) should request the Community News Brief to the funeral home that is handling the services OR submit it directly to communitybrief@gmail.com. Cost is \$45 and includes a laminated copy of the obituary.

Dodsworth-Piper-Wallen
Funeral Home
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201 W. Carroll St., Macomb (309) 833-4119

Martin - Hollis
Funeral Home
Established 1942
771 N. Crafford St., Bushnell (309) 772-3116

Marilyn Rae Jacobson

90, of Bushnell

Marilyn Rae Jacobson, 90, of Bushnell, passed away at 1:19 AM on Wednesday Nov. 22, 2023 at her residence.

Cremation rites were accorded by Martin-Hollis Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am on Friday December 8, 2023 at the Walnut Grove United Methodist Church with Pastor Howard Ross officiating. Memorial contributions can be made to the Walnut Grove United Methodist Church or to Shriners Children's Hospital St. Louis. Please sign the guestbook and leave condolences at www.martinhollisfh.com.

Robert Bradley Sherwood

81, of Macomb (formerly Keokuk, IA)

Our beloved father, Robert Bradley Sherwood, passed away peacefully on November 4, 2023 at the age 81.

A memorial service will be held at 11 AM Dec. 2, 2023 at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), where visitation will be from 9:30-11AM. Pastor Kelly Ingersoll will officiate. Memorials can be made to the First Christian Church. Dodsworth-Piper-Wallen Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Please sign the guestbook and leave condolences at www.dodsworthfh.com.

Jeannette B. Stambaugh

87, of Astoria

Jeannette B. Stambaugh, 87, of Astoria, passed away on Friday, Nov. 24, 2023 at her home. She was born on June 12, 1936 in Beardstown, the daughter of Cecil and Edna (Lucas) Norton.

Services were held at 2p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 28th, 2023 at Shawgo Memorial Home in Astoria. Interment in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Astoria. Memorials may be given to the Rushville Help Center or the Astoria Fire and Rescue Squad.

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Clyde H. Prater

65, of Cuba, IL

Clyde H. Prater, 65, of Cuba, IL, passed away at 8:05 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2023 at The Loft in Canton.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A graveside service will be held at 1pm on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023 in the Summum Cemetery. Pastor Matthew Thiner will be officiating. Memorials may be made to the Fulton County Humane Society.

View the obituary, sign the guestbook and leave condolences at shawgomemorialhome.com.

In Loving Memory of Darrell J. Hocker

THE FAMILY WISHES TO THANK ALL RELATIVES AND FRIENDS FOR YOUR GENEROUS OUTPOURING OF FOOD DONATIONS, FLOWERS AND MEMORIALS.

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Community Calendar

Blandinsville

EVERY SATURDAY

Story Hour and Crafts

Saturdays at The Blandinsville-Hire Library at 10 AM. Snacks available. Check out the many new kids and young adult books. Spend some time at the library and take a book home to read!

WEDNESDAYS

Christian Church Youth Program

Every Wednesday for 5th grade through High School students from 4-5:30 pm throughout the school year.

THURSDAYS

After-School Program

Blandinsville Christian Church After-School Program will be held every Thursday for Kindergarten through High School students from 4:00pm until 5:00pm throughout the school year.

Bushnell

EVERY MONDAY

Coffee Club

from 9-10am at Courtyard Estates of Bushnell. calling the Elementary office 309-772-9464.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

Breakfast with Santa

Christmas is coming and so is Santa. Join Santa for breakfast on Saturday, December 2nd. We will be serving from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Post 1422 Hall located at 181 E. Hail in Bushnell. Santa will greet the children beginning at 8:00 am. Children will eat for free. We provide on-site, takeout, and curb service. For takeout and curb service please call 3093339919. We are serving biscuits and gravy, sausage, eggs, hash browns, pancakes and French Toast. Santa would like to see all the children on Saturday.

SUNDAY, DEC. 3

Annual Holiday VFW Craft show

at the Bushnell VFW from 12-4 pm. Crafts, baked goods, Paperpie Learning (formerly Usbourn Books), jewelry, gnomes, 31 bags, Kipling Lavender, Scentsy, hot chocolate bombs, wood products, tumblers and much, much more. A few spaces available \$20.00 per table. Contact Dawn Duckwiler @ 309-313-2031.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

Community Children's Event

from 2:30-4:00 at the Bushnell Methodist Church. Inclement weather date December 13.

Colchester

EVERY MONDAY

Colchester Library Story Hour

from 10:45-11:45am. Books, crafts, songs and fun!

FRIDAY, DEC. 1

Christmas Around the Prairie

Colchester's Christmas Around the Prairie will be held on Friday, December 1 from 6-8pm. Come and celebrate the Holiday season and visit our Colchester businesses.

Macomb

SATURDAY, DEC. 2

Feminist Writing Women Deadline

The Macomb Feminist Writing Women into History Nominations are due December 2. More information is available on Macomb Feminist Network web site macombfeminists.org or Macomb Feminist Network Facebook page.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2 & 3

Holiday Festival of Choirs

at Wesley United Methodist Church on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 2pm & 7:30pm and Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2pm. Reservations are required. Tickets \$10 general admission and WIU students free, call the Box Office 309-298-2900, stop by Hainline Theatre lobby or online at westernpresents.com.

Breakfast with the Grinch

at Macomb Hy-Vee from 8-11am. There will be a breakfast buffet, coloring pages, cookie decorating and candy canes.

FRIDAY, DEC. 8-10

MAC Art and Craft Market

The Macomb Arts Center 2023 Art and Craft Market will be held Friday, December 8 from 5-8pm; Saturday, December 9 from 10am-4pm; Sunday, December 10 from 1-4pm at the Macomb Arts Center, 25 E. Side Square.

SATURDAY, DEC. 9

McDonough County CEO Trivia Night

at Park Place, 127 E. Carroll, Macomb at 7pm. Tickets are on sale now at \$20 (individual) or \$150 (team of 8). Purchase tickets at <https://buytickets.at/mcdonoughcountyceo/1058216>.

SUNDAY, DEC. 10

Breakfast with Santa

at the Macomb Elks Lodge from 8-11am. Santa will be there from 9-10am. Breakfast will include: Eggs, hashbrowns, bacon, sausage, french toast, biscuits & gravy, pancakes, juice & coffee. Please RSVP at 309-837-1009 or email bpoe1009secretary@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, DEC. 10

Winter Farmers Market

at the Macomb American Legion on Saturday, December 10 from 8:30am-12pm. Vendors include honey, microgreens, baked goods, meat, crafts and more! Winter Farmers market-12/10, 1/20, 2/10, 3/19

Table Grove

SUNDAY, DEC. 3

Table Grove Winter Play Day

will be held on Sunday, December 3 at 2pm. Make sure you all get planning your float for this year's parade!

Submit your calendar item or photo to
communitybrief@gmail.com

The Macomb Prairieland Chorus

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2:00pm

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The Cafe

We have a great evening planned with Dan Eilers on Wednesday, Nov. 29 from 5:30-7:30pm.

Twin Oaks Golf and Country Club

Bocephus Wayne will be in Blandinsville on Friday, December 1 from 7-10pm!! Come kick off December with great music and friends!

Forgottonia Brewing

King Neptune will be playing Piedmont Blues and Early Jazz with a Twist on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7pm.

Wesley United Methodist Church

Holiday Festival of Choirs at Wesley United Methodist Church on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 2pm & 7:30pm and Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2pm. Reservations are required. Tickets \$10 general admission and WIU students free.

Macomb Elks Lodge

Mark your calendars for the Demons of Country playing December 8.

Send Calendar events to communitybrief@gmail.com

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DEC. 3RD
12-4PM

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IDPH

continued from page 1

ventilation, encouraging good hand hygiene, and reminding guests to cover coughs and sneezes. If someone is feeling symptoms of a respiratory virus – such as coughing, sneezing, sore throat, a runny nose or fever – it's best to get tested and stay home if sick."

IDPH is also encouraging all healthcare settings to consider masking in patient care areas especially if caring for those with weakened immune systems as both RSV and Covid-19 are rising. Per CDC recommendations: Universal masking should be considered facility-wide or, based on a facility risk assessment, targeted toward higher risk areas (e.g., emergency departments, urgent care) or patient populations (e.g., when caring for patients with moderate to severe immunocompromise) during periods of higher levels of community COVID-19 or other respiratory virus transmission.

It is easy to track data by county on a new national respiratory virus dashboard launched by the CDC this fall that allows the public to view weekly updates on the levels of COVID-19, flu and RSV.

In addition, the federal government announced that as of November 20, every household in the U.S. is eligible to receive four free at-home tests through the COVID.gov website.

For those who are uninsured or under-insured, the CDC this summer launched the Bridge Access Program that will cover the cost of COVID-19 vaccines this fall. The Vaccines for Children Program will cover vaccines for eligible children.

On September 22, ACIP recommended seasonal administration of one dose of RSV vaccine during weeks 32 through 36 of pregnancy, to maximize protection for babies after birth. Given limited availability of nirsevimab to protect newborns, those who are pregnant are encouraged to get this vaccine from now through January if they expect to deliver during RSV season.

For treatment of COVID-19, Illinoisans who experience symptoms can access no cost-share telehealth services through the SIU School of Medicine Covid Test to Treat services or call (217) 545-5100.

U.S. government supplied courses of antivirals will continue to be provided free of charge to those with Medicare, Medicaid and the uninsured until supplies run out. Paxlovid and Lagevrio are now commercially available as well.

The federal government has established a website that provides an all-purpose toolkit with information on how to obtain masks, treatment, vaccines and testing resources for all areas of the country at: <https://www.covid.gov/>.

HOMETOWN TEES

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LIVE & ONLINE - McDONOUGH COUNTY, IL



LAND AUCTION

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023 - 10 A.M.

AUCTION VENUE: Macomb V.F.W.
1200 East Jefferson St., Macomb, IL 61455

163.36 ACRES - 1 TRACT

CLASS A PRODUCTIVE CROPLAND - 139.2 PI

Physical Address: 11425 N. 2300th Road, Good Hope, IL 61438 - 4 miles north of Good Hope or 9 miles North of Macomb, IL on Route 67 to N2300th Rd. then one-half mile west. Selling 163.36 taxable acres (m/l) in 1 tract located in the NW Quarter of Section 12, Sciota Township (T.7N.-R.3W.), McDonough County, IL. FSA records indicate 151.56 cropland acres featuring Ipava and Osco silt loam soils with a PI rating of 139.2. The balance of the acreage consists of managed waterways providing excellent drainage for the property.

NOTICE: The auction will be conducted both In-Person and Online. Online bidding is powered by Proxibid.

View the full listing online @ www.vanadkisson.com

D3 FARM PARTNERSHIP

Attorney: Jeff W. DeJode | McMillan, Hennenfent & DeJode P.C.
402 E. Jackson St. | Macomb, IL 61455 | Ph. 309/837-2904
Auctioneers: Van Adkisson 309-337-1761 & Jeff Gregory 309-337-5255



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VIRTUAL ONLINE



HANCOCK & McDONOUGH COUNTY, IL LAND AUCTION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT 10:00 AM^{CT}



737.49 ACRES • 8 TRACTS

The tracts are located in eastern Hancock & western McDonough Counties in IL. Tract 1 is located in Section 31, T5N - R5W, Tennessee Township. Tract 2 is located in Section 9, T5N - R4W, Tennessee Township. Tract 3 is located in Section 4, T5N - R5W, Hancock Township. Tracts 4 & 5 are located in Section 23, T6N - R5W, Fountain Green Township. Tracts 6 & 7 are located in Sections 1 & 12, T6N - R5W, Fountain Green Township. Tract 8 is located in Section 31, T7N - R5W, La Harpe Township.

All tracts represent productive tillable farmland which sell free & clear for the 2024 crop year! In addition to the tillable cropland, some of the tracts offer excellent hunting & recreational opportunities. Make plans to check out this major Western Illinois land auction!

HTFF REIT, INC.

Representing Attorney: R. Seth Hampton | (501) 379-1774
Quattlebaum, Grooms & Tull PLLC | shampton@qgtlaw.com
Auction Managers: Jim Sullivan 217-440-8172
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Festival of Trees
Santa Claus
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Carolers
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For more information
contact Savannah Ballard
309-575-3015
sballard@cityofmacomb.com



Friday, December 1st

- 7AM-8PM Hot Chocolate Bar, Sullivan Taylor Coffee House
- 4PM-8PM* Festival of Trees Cookies and "I Spy" Game, Macomb Arts Center
- 4PM-5PM* Sandra Mosley (piano), Macomb Arts Center
- 4PM-8PM Mail Letters to Santa, First Mid Insurance
- 5PM-11PM Holiday Ale Special, Forgottonia Brewing
- 5PM-9PM Pinkmas Holiday Shopping Event, The Small Townier
- 5:30PM-8:30PM Reindeer Sleigh Rides, West Side Square
- 6PM 4H Helping Hands Bake Sale, Faith Church of Macomb
- 6:17PM Santa's Zephyr Express Arrives 🚂
- 6PM-9PM Victorian Characters, Strolling
- 6PM-7PM* Maddie MacGregor (piano), Macomb Arts Center
- 6PM-8:30PM Horse Drawn Trolley Rides, East Side Square Departure 🐎
- 6PM-9PM Christmas ornament paint your own pottery, The Crafty Coop
- 6PM-8PM Festival of the Creche (Choir at 7pm), First Christian Church
- 6:20PM Official Lighting of Chandler Park
- 6:30PM-10PM Holiday Light Show, Chandler Park
- 5:30PM-7:30PM Entertainment by the L.A.B, The Wine Sellers
- 6PM-8PM Holiday Music by Yulekulele, Parmassus Antiques & Curios
- 6PM-8PM Buy 2 ornaments get 1 free! (Hallmark excluded), Nostalgia
- 6PM-8PM Bake Sale and Silent Auction, Project Dance Company
- 6PM-8PM Living Windows:
Holiday Barbie, Nostalgia 🎀
Holiday Dancers, The Project Dance Company 🎃
Kittens w/ Macomb Community Cat Project, The Birds Nest 🐱
Display by University Women, New Copperfields 🏠
Annunciation, Assumptions 🙏
How the Grinch Stole Christmas, JBees Designs 🐼
- 6:45 PM-8PM Visit with Santa Claus 🎅
- 7PM-8PM Tuba Christmas, Western Illinois Museum
- 7PM-8PM St. Paul Cookie Walk, City Hall Community Room



Saturday, December 2nd

- 8AM-6PM Hot Chocolate Bar, Sullivan Taylor Coffee House
- 8AM-12PM St. Paul Cookie Walk, City Hall Community Room
- 8AM-8PM Mail Letters to Santa, First Mid Insurance
- 9AM-4PM* Festival of Trees "I Spy" Game, Macomb Arts Center
- 9AM-10AM* Michael Murphy (piano), Macomb Arts Center
- 9AM-12PM* North Pole Village sponsored by Cory Clem, Spoon River College Outreach
- Strolling Strolling Carolers & Victorian Characters
- 10AM-12PM Live Nativity Performance (10AM, 10:30AM, 11AM, 11:30AM), SE Courthouse Lawn 🎅
- 11AM-12PM* Ukulele Macomb, Macomb Arts Center
- 9AM-11AM Old Fashioned Carriage Rides, East Side Square 🐎
- 10AM-12PM Paw'lidas Pet Photo Booth (\$10/image, benefits Humane Society), Clocktower Community Bank
- 10AM-12PM Reindeer Craft Time, Macomb Public Library
- 10AM-12PM Visit with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, Santa's Cabin 🎅
- 10AM-12PM Children's Shopping Mall, Clock Tower Community Bank
- 10AM-5PM Buy 2 ornaments get 1 free! (Hallmark excluded), Nostalgia
- 10AM-6PM Christmas ornament paint your own pottery, The Crafty Coop
- 11AM-1PM Horse Drawn Trolley Rides, East Side Square departure 🐎
- 11AM-2PM Friends of the Library Book Sale, Library Annex
- 12PM-2PM* North Pole Village sponsored by Cory Clem, Spoon River College Outreach
- 12PM-11PM Holiday Ale Special, Forgottonia Brewing
- 2PM* Holiday Festival of Choirs, Wesley United Methodist Church
- 5PM-10PM Holiday Light Show, Chandler Park
- 5:30PM-8:30PM Entertainment by Dennis DeVolder, The Wine Sellers
- 7PM Entertainment by King Neptune, Forgottonia Brewing
- 7:30PM* Holiday Festival of Choirs, Wesley United Methodist Church

Public Restrooms available at City Hall

*Ticketed Event

Dates and times subject to change.
Some events weather dependent.

Holiday Festival of Choirs

By: Brie Coder

Let the merrymaking begin as Western Illinois University School of Music presents the "Holiday Festival of Choirs" this Saturday and Sunday at the Wesley United Methodist Church.

Six different choirs that represent Western Illinois and the Macomb Public High School will join alliances to sing songs to commemorate the current year and ring in the new. These choirs include Western Illinois University singers, concert, chamber and treble choirs. Outside the university singers, Macomb's High School and Holiday Festival Children's Choirs will join, too.

Reservations are required ahead of time. General admission tickets are \$10, and WIU students are free while seats last.

On Saturday, December 2, the Festival of Choirs concert will occur at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. Then, on Sunday, December 3, there will be one performance at 2:00 p.m.

The Wesley United Methodist Church is located at 1212 West Calhoun Street in Macomb.

To reserve seats, please call the Box Office at 309-298-2900, stop by the Hainline Theatre Lobby on the WIU campus or purchase tickets online at westernpresents.com.



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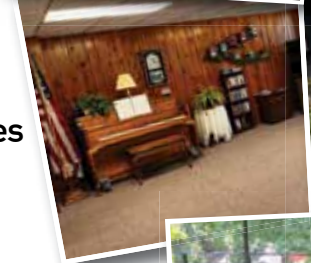


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Exceptional Success for WIU Students at Illinois Fall PAS Conference

MACOMB, IL -- Western Illinois University is delighted to announce the outstanding achievements of three of its students who excelled at the Illinois Fall Post Secondary Agriculture Students (PAS) Conference in Springfield, IL November 16.

Elizabeth Lee, a standout participant, secured an impressive first place finish in the Agribusiness Administration Employment Interview category. Her remarkable performance has earned her the opportunity to represent WIU at the National PAS competition scheduled for March 2024.

"This is my third year competing at PAS. Before I transferred to WIU, I attended LLCC and completed two years there," Lee said. "My freshman year I won Illinois State and National PAS in Floriculture, Horticulture and Landscaping. My sophomore year I competed in Specialty Crop Production and placed first at Illinois State PAS. Competing at Illinois state PAS is an amazing opportunity to experience what real life interviews are like. Truly a rewarding experience!"

In another remarkable achievement, Brittany Slighom demonstrated her exceptional skills by securing a commendable fifth place finish in the Agricultural Education Employment Interview category. Her success reflects the dedication and hard work characteristic of WIU students.

William Ornduff showcased his expertise and determination in the Farm Business Management competition, earning a well-deserved eighth place finish. His achievement highlights the comprehensive education and preparation provided by WIU.

"We are incredibly proud of Elizabeth, Brittany, and Will for their outstanding performances at the Illinois Fall PAS Conference," WIU Ag Director Andrew Baker. "Their successes underscore the excellence of our agriculture program and the commitment of our students to achieving excellence in their respective fields."

These students not only exemplify the high standard of education provided by WIU but also bring recognition to the school through their remarkable accomplishments.

For more information on the School of Ag, visit wiu.edu/ag.

Posted By: Lexi Yoggerst (AJ-Yoggerst@wiu.edu)
Office of University Communications & Marketing



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Christmas Remembrance Ceremony set for Dec. 2 at Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will host the annual Christmas Remembrance Ceremony for Illinois soldiers listed as prisoners of war or missing in action (POW/MIA) during the Vietnam War on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield.

The ceremony will begin at 1 p.m., and it's open to the public.

Family and friends of soldiers will have the opportunity to hang handmade, heart-shaped ornaments with the names of loved ones on a tree near the memorial. The Black Tiger Honor Guard will serve as the color guard. The names of the POW/MIA soldiers will be read aloud, and the ceremony will also include music courtesy of the Land of Lincoln Chorus.

Go online to learn more about the Illinois Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

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WIU to Host New Regional Office for Corn Belt Ports in Strategic Partnership for Mississippi River Sustainability

MACOMB/MOLINE, IL - Western Illinois University is proud to announce a partnership with Corn Belt Ports (CBP) to establish a new regional office for the Upper Mississippi River Ports on the WIU-Quad Cities Campus. This strategic collaboration signifies a significant step toward fostering sustainability, enhancing transportation logistics and driving community and economic development throughout the Quad Cities region.

"We are thrilled to collaborate with the Corn Belt Ports in advancing environmental responsibility, optimizing transportation logistics and fostering community and economic growth throughout the expansive CBP region," WIU Institute for Environmental Studies Director Roger Viadero said. "The placement of the CBP office at WIU's Quad Cities campus exemplifies our joint efforts to dismantle obstacles to collaboration. This marks a triumph for WIU, benefiting its students, faculty, and the Quad Cities community."

Key Highlights of the WIU-CBP Partnership:

Sustainability Focus: The new regional office is dedicated to promoting the sustainable, multi-purpose utilization of the Upper Mississippi River. It will actively work to protect the integrity of the region's supply chain while also making climate-informed adjustments to existing water resources infrastructure.

Economic Development: WIU and CBP aim to create a regional, port-based economic development cluster, stimulating economic growth, job creation and innovation within the region.

Environmental Stewardship: The partnership is committed to responsible environmental practices and preservation of natural resources, ensuring the region's waterways remain pristine and thriving.

Advancing Collaboration: The establishment of the CBP office on WIU's Quad Cities Campus fosters collaboration, reducing barriers to working together for the betterment of the community.

Additionally, this partnership will provide WIU Environmental Science Ph.D. students with enhanced resources for their research and

degree completion, all while contributing to environmental improvement for everyone.

A ribbon cutting was held Oct. 19 and included multiple speakers and special guests, including Col. Robert Sinkler of Corn Belt Ports, WIU Dean for Innovation and Economic Development and Director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs Chris Merritt, Roger Viadero, WIU Assistant Professor of Supply Chain Management Honey Zimmerman; invited guests; senior elected officials or their representatives; Port District and Port Commission representatives; federal agencies; state agencies; regional leaders and community leaders.

"This new partnership of proximity establishes a strategic physical location that promotes river commerce activity, and also deepens connections between Corn Belt Ports with WIU faculty and students in environmental science, economic development and supply chain management programs." Vice President for Quad Cities Campus Operations Kristi Mindrup said.

Located on the banks of the Mississippi River, the WIU Quad Cities campus is the public four-year regional university serving the Quad Cities region and beyond. Designed as a metropolitan commuter campus, WIU-Quad Cities students engage in classes and activities on campus, and live, work and enjoy the benefits of internships, employment, cultural experiences and entertainment within the community. The campus features state of the art classrooms, STEM laboratories, environmentally sustainable buildings, a fitness center, Esports room, natural landscape and inspiring views.

Corn Belt Ports is a leading organization dedicated to enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of river transportation and logistics in the region. The new regional office on WIU's campus reflects its mission to contribute to economic growth, protect the environment and ensure the integrity of the supply chain.

For more information on the partnership, visit bit.ly/3SvOtuc.

Posted By: Lexi Yoggerst (AJ-Yoggerst@wiu.edu)
Office of University Communications & Marketing



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Little Miss & Master Winter Play Day |
| 2:00-4:30 | Walking Tacos, Hot dogs, Wassail, Hot chocolate
Stocking Giveaway *sponsored by the Table Grove Community Church |
| 2:00-4:30 | Table Grove Village Hall
Cookie Decorating |
| 2:00-4:30 | Community Center
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Face Painting and Letters to Santa |
| 2:00-4:30 | Table Grove State Bank
Ornament making
Visit Santa & Mrs. Claus |
| 1:00-5:00 | The BeeHive
Drinks & Goodies |
| 2:00-4:30 | Table Grove Square
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Find the following words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

* When the D-Day forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944, Adolf Hitler was asleep. TITLE: None of his generals dared to send reinforcements without his permission, and no one even dared to wake him, since he'd issued strict orders not to be disturbed.

* On its one-year anniversary, NASA's Curiosity Rover sang the "Happy Birthday" song to itself on Mars.

* Atomic bomb tests were a major tourist attraction in Las Vegas during the 1950s.

* Microplastics aren't an issue only in the world's oceans and ice caps. Researchers have discovered the tiny particles in clouds over Japan's Mount Fuji and Mount Oyama.

* A study found that students who chewed gum earned better math test scores than those who didn't.

* Ever wonder why our friends across the pond wish each other a "Happy Christmas" as opposed to Americans' "Merry Christmas"? In the 19th century, the word "merry" also meant intoxicated, so they wanted to separate it from public insobriety

* When staying at hotels, guests are more likely to interact with female robots, especially if they have human-like features, than male robots.

* Next time you're feeling stressed, try reaching for a hunk of chocolate: The sweet's smell increases theta brain waves, which triggers relaxation.

* In 1987, Marvel Comics celebrated the wedding of Spider-Man, aka Peter Parker, and his red-haired, green-eyed, longtime girlfriend Mary Jane Watson with a grand, live-action ceremony at New York's Shea Stadium. Guests of the happy couple included actors costumed as the Fantastic Four, Captain America and even the Hulk.

* Right-handed people tend to chew food on their right side, while left-handed folks are prone to chewing on their left.

Thought for the Day: "Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterwards." -- Vernon Sanders Law

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from 11am - 5pm
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40 E. MAIN ST., IPAVA, IL

Community Classifieds

Submit your Classified listing to communitybrief@gmail.com or call 309-421-0761 **ONLY \$8 PER WEEK**

AUTOS FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 2006 Lexus ES300. Clean body! Michelin! Engine purrs! Will provide \$6000 in service receipts. Sale due to the passing of family member. Sale price \$5300. Call 602-791-3131.

FOR SALE: 2007 Porsche Boxster, silver exterior, black interior, 134K miles, manual transmission, new convertible top, recent service, drives great! \$14,500 OBO. Call 309-313-5123.

FOR SALE: 1985 700 Yamaha Maximum, 29,000 actual miles, windshield, black saddlebag, 250 amp radio, excellent condition. \$2000 OBO. Call 309-333-7979.

FOR SALE: 2008 F250, Black Crew-Cab Truck. 192,000 miles, brand new tires, runs good, in good shape inside and out! Only \$7900. Call 309-224-3510.

FOR SALE: 2007 Travel Trailer, cost \$2300. Call 660-619-6600.

FOR SALE: 1996 Kawasaki Bayou 300, 4x4, 4-Wheeler. Excellent condition. Never abused. \$1900. LaHarpe. 309-333-2285.

FOR SALE: 2010 Eddie Bauer Ford Expedition. Pearl White, 136,000 miles, automatic transmission, third row seating, 5.4 L V8, 2WD/4WD, heated & air conditioned leather seats, moon roof, recently serviced. Price \$8990. Call 309-255-2916.

FOR SALE: 1954 Ford NAA Tractor: Everything works on tractor which has a Sherman Transmission. S.N. 105006. Has a new carb with a rebuilt starter and hydraulic pump. Tractor has a new good paint job. \$3950 with cash payment and phone calls only. Call John at 903-340-7863 if you have any questions.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Registered NKC Llewellyn Setter puppies. \$200 each. Call 309-221-3256.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 18' / 52" pool Jubilee Escape Package. Bought in 2019, set up in 2020. Like new. Call 309-255-0264, leave a message.

FOR SALE: Sunstar Tanning Bed \$1200. Stackable Washer/Dryer \$550, Child's Oak Rocking Chair and Trunk \$100. All in Excellent Condition. 309-224-3510.

FOR SALE: Due to medical reasons I have a 10 speed bike for sale. The bike is brand new and in very good shape. It has a helmet, cup holder, basket and reflector lights. To view the bike please call 309-255-5131.

FOR SALE: Australian Shepard puppy, 6 months old. Black Tri Female. Up to date on all vaccines. Potty and crate trained. \$200 / Blandinsville. Call 309-997-0237.

FOR SALE: Fall in love with all our Fall arrangements and decor on display now at Gifts, Decor & So Much More. 233 E. Carroll, Macomb. Open Thur, Fri, & Sat.

FOR SALE: 17' Delhi Aluminum Canoe \$250. Call 309-333-3458 for more information.

FOR SALE: 2 Burial Plots. Located in Forest Lawn Memory Garden cemetery, Macomb, in the Sermon on the Mount section. \$200 per plot (does not include transfer fee or registration) Call 309-737-2959 (leave a message).

FOR SALE: Antique yard grader. Call 309-337-9885.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: French Bulldog Puppies, AKC registered, Black & tan, blue w/ tan points, first shots, dewormed, health certified, ready 9/23. Taking deposits \$1500-\$2000. Serious inquiries only. Contact 309-326-8723.

FOR SALE: One crypt in the Bushnell Mausoleum. \$550. Call 309-221-1959.

FOR SALE: Wagon for sale. This wagon is bigger than most, it is 28" wide X 46 1/2" long. Like new, it has a solid steel undercarriage, oak wood floor. Can be used in greenhouses or barn use. Have to see, pictures are available. \$425. Call 309-255-7423.

FOR SALE: NEW ITEMS EVERY THURSDAY! For sale Thursday, November 30, 324 W. Woodbury, Macomb. Misby coffee maker, array of plastic storage boxes, weight set, basketballs, strong large shopping bags, Patriot fence energizer + wire for 8 acres (2 miles), art portfolio bag and art equipment. Call Jim 660-619-6600.

FOR SALE: Sturdy folding table 30 in. by 6 ft. Like new. Light ivory color. \$99. Phone: 309-836-2066.

FOR SALE: Beautifully hand made doll clothes to fit American Girl doll. Very reasonably priced. Plus many accessories & shoes. Gifts, Decor & So Much More. 233 E. Carroll, Macomb. Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Part time CDL driver, local grain hauling, possibly a retiree who could drive on an as needed basis-good pay. Call 309-333-8151.

NOW HIRING: Learn how to build your own house. Get paid to learn. Slater Construction and Siding Company Inc. is now hiring and training ambitious individuals in the Construction trade. Call (309) 772-3547.

HELP WANTED: 7th Son and Pest Management is looking to fill a secretarial position. Applications may be picked up at the office, 418 N. Dudley St., Macomb or apply online at 7thsonpestmgt.com/employment. Hours are Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. Must be knowledgeable in Microsoft Office. Some college required.

HELP WANTED: Part-time or Full-time person to work with rabbits. Call 309-221-2904.

HELP WANTED: Crop and cows. Legal drivers license, full-time or part-time. Call 309-221-2904.

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FREE: Golden Retriever Puppies to Forever Homes! 1 Male, 1 Female. Excellent temperament! House trained with very good trainable natures & perfect for families with children and other pets! I will not re home to just any-one. Please email me first at: staceymcclelland8@gmail.com and Text (312) 270-0850.

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FREE: Free sawdust inside on the ground. No walnut. You load at the sawmill. Ervin Raber, 6323 Bedford Rd., Colchester, IL 62326.

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FOR RENT: 2-3 bedroom trailers for rent, \$300.00-\$400.00 a month with a deposit of equal value required. For questions call 309-837-3020.

FOR RENT: 2 story, 4 bedroom, 2 bath with new paint and carpet, has 2 car garage. \$650 a month. Call 309-772-3200.

WANTED

WANTED: VCR Players in good condition with remote control. Call 309-333-9760.

WANTED: Cash paid for vintage costume and estate jewelry. Call 309-335-6073.

WANTED: Indian artifacts of all kinds. Free appraisal. Call or text 309-338-3281.

WANTED: Coin Collections, sports cards, old toys, etc. ALSO buying a large variety of antiques, estate items & unwanted collections/accumulations. Please call 309-221-6304.

HOUSE FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: 501 Pine St., Adair, IL. Wood floors, pocket doors, 3 bathrooms, 4 bedrooms, 1 car garage, full basement. \$160,000. Call 309-333-4388.

HOUSE FOR SALE: 294 S. Dean St., Bushnell. Fixer upper for sale, mostly gutted. New roof and siding. \$20,000, call 309-252-8596.

SERVICES

SERVICES: Pet Grooming Classy Critters is open and ready to take appointments. Have your dog or cat ready for the holidays. 415 E. Main St., Bushnell. Call 309-772-3200 for an appointment.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Wondering where to turn? Free Birthright services include: pregnancy tests, baby clothing, supplies, referrals. 309-836-2021 or Helpline 800-550-4900. Donations welcomed!

HELP WANTED



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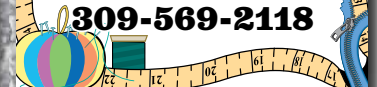
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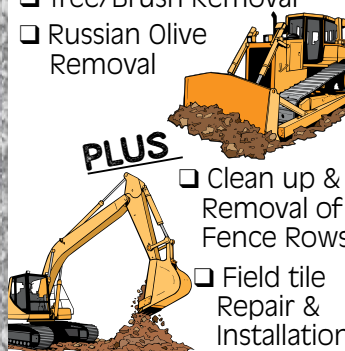
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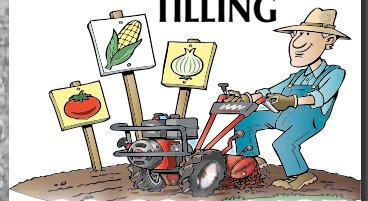
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