

FREE Midweek Brief

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 | communitybrief@gmail.com | 309-421-0761 | Briefly Covering Your Local News

Sara Dismukes Exhibition Featured at Western Illinois University Art Gallery

By: Brie Coder

As we all know, road trips around the country are part of the American vacation standards. During our drives, we keep ourselves preoccupied with playing the alphabet game when we lose cell phone reception. Taking in the new landscapes and the attractions as we zoom by is just part of the driving experience. Along the way, especially in small homespun towns, we may or may not notice the outdated hotel or gas station signs that once lit small towns of America. "What is the significance of keeping that old sign up," asks the younger children in the car.

For Troy University art and designer, Sara Dismukes, her exhibition "mishearing Mnemosyne" encaptures the general beauty of these antique signs we tend to overlook despite the obsolescence.



Verge 7
Acrylic on canvas



untitled, mile marker
Mixed media on panel



Pistic Weeds
Ink on paper

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Ribbon Cutting for Chubby's Smoke & Steakhouse

The Ambassador Committee of the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting on December 12 to celebrate Chubby's rebranding to Chubby's Smoke & Steakhouse (2 West Side Square in Macomb, Illinois). The restaurant, in operation for 11 years now also includes a full-service bar, banquet space, and catering options. The electric menu features newly updated classics (available starting on Dec. 14) including Certified Angus steaks, seafood, pasta, smoked meat entrees, cocktails, and weekly specials. For information, call (309) 836-2482 or find them on facebook.



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POLICE REPORTS

Macomb Police Department 12/5

Seth R. Clay, 22, Knoxville, was charged with no insurance-operating under suspension

McDonough County Sheriff 12/5

Karsheanna Marshawn Gaddy, 21, Chicago, was charged with aggravated battery, mob action

Charmarjae Rawanda Bass, 18, Chicago, was charged with mob action

Jocelyn Elaine Kindhart, 23, Canton, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant

Precious Naiyah Williams Smith, 18, Evanston, was charged with mob action

Jason Lee Blanchard, 45, Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant, drivers license revoked or suspended

Ryshard Wayne Barber, 26, Chicago, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant, McDonough County body attachment warrant

Kevon Jaylen Hughes-Fleming, 22, Rich-ton Park, was charged with retail theft/dis-p merch/less than \$300

James Curtis Floyd, 65, Macomb, was charged with theft greater than \$300-\$10,000

Madison Louise Girard, 20, Macomb, was charged with retail theft/switch price/less than \$300

Veronica Yvonne Morrell, 20, Prairie City, was charged with retail theft



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& Happy New Year!



CITY OF MACOMB PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WATER DIVISION

The City of Macomb, Illinois is currently seeking applications to fill a position in the Water Division of the City of Macomb Public Works Department. The position to be filled is a Maintenance Worker. Once the correct license is obtained, advancement can be made to Operator I.

The successful applicant shall have the ability to operate small equipment and hand tools, operate heavy equipment, as qualified, perform manual labor to complete assigned tasks, perform record keeping, and exercise safe work practices. These positions required frequent standing and walking, working in changing weather conditions, and occasionally lifting objects weighing 50 lbs. or more.

A Class B CDL license is required within 180 days of employment. Residency within McDonough County will be required, along with a pre-employment physical, drug screen, and background investigation. High school diploma or GED is required.

The salary range for the position is \$34,300.74-\$51,114.82, depending on advancement. City of Macomb full-time benefits include group health and life insurance; paid vacation, sick leave, and personal leave; a deferred compensation plan option; cafeteria plan option; and IMRF retirement benefits.

General employment applications are available at Macomb City Hall: 232 E. Jackson Street, Macomb, IL or on-line at: <https://cityofmacomb.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/APPLICATION-FOR-EMPLOYMENT.pdf>

Completed applications for this position must be returned to the Mayor's Office in City Hall no later than 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

The City of Macomb is an Equal Opportunity Employer

POLICE OFFICER CITY OF COLCHESTER ILLINOIS Part-Time

The City of Colchester, Illinois is accepting applications for the position of part-time police officer. Interested persons meeting the following minimum requirements are encouraged to apply:

1. Be a good moral character, of temperate habits, of sound health, and physically and mentally able to perform assigned duties.
2. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
3. Pass a medical examination.
4. Possess a high school diploma or GED certificate.
5. Possess a valid State of Illinois drivers license.
6. Possess no prior felony convictions.
7. Any individual who has served in the U.S. Military must have proof of honorable discharge.

Applications are available at the office of the

City Clerk, City of Colchester,

500 E. Roberts St., Colchester, IL 62326.

Applications need to be received by December 25.

The city of Colchester is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TODAY'S JOKES

Q: What's a cat's favorite color?

A: Purrr-ple!

Q: What's a tornado's favorite game to play at a party?

A: Twister!

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Ventures

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

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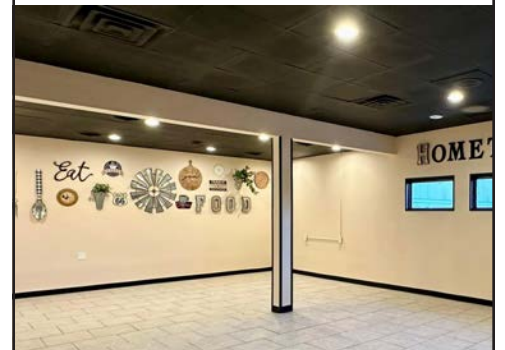
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Open 10-5 Monday-Friday & 10-3 Saturdays

Did you know?

Hometown Cafe has moved across the street to the former Red Ox location with plans to open on Wednesday Dec.13th. Check them out at 1302 W. Jackson, Macomb.



visit our website at

communitynewsmarket.com

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Death Notices

Gary M. Campbell

85, of Blandinsville

Gary M. Campbell, 85, of Blandinsville, passed away Thursday, December 7, 2023 at St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. Monday, December 11, 2023 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in LaHarpe, where Masonic Rites will be held at 4:30 p.m. followed by visitation with the family until 7:00 p.m.

The funeral service for Mr. Campbell will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in LaHarpe with Rev. Beth Nelson and Rev. Lee Unger officiating. Military Rites will be held at the funeral home.

Cremation will be accorded following the service. Burial will be at a later date in the Kirkwood Cemetery. A memorial fund has been established for the Blandinsville United Methodist Church or the Blandinsville Volunteer Rescue Squad.

To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Gary's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

Barbara J. Lieber

80, of Macomb

Barbara J. Lieber, 80, of Macomb passed away at 5 a.m. Thursday, December 7, 2023 at her residence.

Grave side services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at Oak Lawn Cemetery north of Galesburg with Pastor Dr. Scott Grulke officiating. Visitation will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home in Macomb.

Memorials may be made to Wesley United Methodist, MDH Hospice or HSMC New Animal Shelter. You may leave condolences and sign the guest book online at clugston-tibbitts.com.

Dale E. Winters

90, of Augusta

Dale E. Winters, 90, of Augusta, passed away at 1:50 pm Sunday December 10, 2023 at the Golden Good Shepherd Home in Golden. He had recently celebrated a life milestone of 90 years with family and friends of his community, which he enjoyed immensely!

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 am Thursday December 14, 2023 in the Faith Lutheran Church in Augusta, IL by Rev. Rick Hertenstein. Burial will follow at Golden Memorial Gardens in Golden, IL. Visitation will be held from 4:00 to 7:00 Wednesday at the Hamilton Funeral Home in Augusta, IL. Memorials may be made to the Faith Lutheran Church in Augusta or the Augusta Children's Park.

The Hamilton Funeral Home in Augusta, IL is handling arrangements.

Kary Ron Fowler

70, of rural Plymouth

Kary Ron Fowler, 70, of rural Plymouth passed away at 1:22 a.m. on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at his residence.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, December 15, 2023 at Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home in Macomb with Steve Smart officiating. Visitation will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Friday at the Funeral Home. Burial will be in Blackburn Cemetery near Brooklyn.

Memorials may be made to the Blessing Cancer Center or Charity of the Donor's Choice.

You may leave condolences and sign the guest book online at clugston-tibbitts.com.

Valeria Johnson

88, of Macomb

Valeria Johnson, 88, of Macomb passed away at 10 p.m. Thursday, December 7, 2023 at her residence.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A Memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, December 23, 2023 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Macomb with David Guiter officiating. Burial of ashes will follow the services at the Good Hope Cemetery in Good Hope. There will be no visitation.

Memorials may be made to the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses.

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.

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.

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Frank A. Goulding Jr.

80, of Bushnell

Frank A. Goulding Jr. 80, of Bushnell, Illinois passed at 5:25 pm on Monday December 11, 2023 surrounded by family.

Cremation Rites were accorded by Martin-Hollis Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions are suggested to the Bushnell Rescue Squad or to the McDonough District Hospital Hospice Program. Please sign the guestbook and leave condolences at www.martinhollisfh.com.

Chicken Noodle Dinner FUNDRAISER

at Ipava American Legion
to benefit Taylor Richey and
Christopher Haney

SUNDAY, DEC. 17, 2023

\$10 Meal includes: Homemade Chicken and Noodles, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Roll & Dessert

Chicken and Noodles served 11am-2pm
Auction starts at 2pm

On November 23, Christopher and Taylor woke up to a fire in their home. They lost all their belongings, including their jeep, side by side and dog.



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Community Calendar

Blandinsville

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.

SATURDAYS

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!

Bushnell

EVERY MONDAY

Coffee Club

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

THURSDAY, DEC. 14

B-PC Elementary Family Game Night

Bushnell-Prairie City Elementary School Family Game Night from 5-7pm. Join us for cocoa, a band performance and a visit with Santa!

Colchester

EVERY MONDAY

Colchester Library Story Hour

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

Industry

SUNDAY, DEC. 17

Christmas Program

The Industry Methodist Church will hold their Christmas Program at 10am.

Macomb

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13

WIU Dept. of Art & Design Holiday Sale

from 10am-6pm at the University Union in the Brattain Lounge. Featuring original works of ceramics, prints, jewelry, photography and more. A portion of the proceeds provide financial support for the students.

The Page Turners Book Club

meets the second Wednesday of every month from 4:30-5:30pm in the Macomb Public Library Meeting room. The public is invited to attend.

Middle School Holiday Band Concert

at 7 p.m. at Fellheimer Auditorium.

THURSDAY, DEC. 14

High School Holiday Band Concert

at 7 p.m. at Fellheimer Auditorium.

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

Wesley UM Church Winter Break Baskets

Deadline to register is Dec. 15. Call the church at 309-833-2153 to reserve a basket. Baskets include: Ham, canned corn, instant potatoes, macaroni & cheese, cookies, mittens & socks, jigsaw puzzle and child's book.

SATURDAY, DEC. 16

Donuts with Santa

At Macomb City Hall from 9-11am. There will be pictures with Santa, face painting by West Prairie Art Club & Jessi Goehl & Hope Ash, and a fun craft!

Winter Farmers Market

at the Macomb American Legion on Saturday, Dec 16 from 8:30am-12pm. Vendors include honey, microgreens, baked goods, meat, crafts and more!

Annual Community Christmas Dinner

Mt. Calvary Church of God In Christ 2nd Annual Community Christmas Dinner from 12-4pm, 1500 E. Pierce St. in Macomb. Please RSVP by Dec. 9 to Valaire 309-318-1536. There will be kids' crafts and a holiday portrait. This event is FREE to the public.

SUNDAY, DEC. 17

Sons of the American Legion Breakfast

from 7-10:30am at the American Legion Post 6, 221 E. Washington St. Open to the public. \$8 per person, \$7 for Seniors 55 and up, children 6 and under are free.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

Antique & Collectibles Club

Meets (3rd Wednesday of Month) at the Community Room in City Hall 7-9pm.



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Yoga & Meowmosas

Come take a break from the holiday stress with yoga, kittens, and "Meowmosas!"

This Saturday, December 16, Free Range Yoga and The Wine Sellers are co-hosting a fundraiser for The Macomb Community Cat Project, a grass-roots Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, & Return (TNVR) effort helping to address cat overpopulation in Macomb.

Yoga starts at 10:00 at the Free Range Yoga Studio or on zoom. See the Free Range Yoga website or Facebook page for links to register. Allergy alert: Kittens will be present in the studio (contained in a playpen).

"Meowmosas" will be available starting at 11:00 at the Wine Sellers. Cost is \$7.00 per drink. You do not have to participate in yoga to come to this portion of the event.

Charlotte Durkin
Co-founder of Macomb Community Cat Project



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Macomb Elks Lodge

Mark your calendars! The Beck Brothers will be playing for us on Friday, December 15 for some great music!

The Cafe

We have an exciting lineup this week you won't want to miss! On Wednesday, Dec. 13, John Heasley will be here from 5:30-7:30pm. Ready to hear some great music? Come in for Open Mic night on Thursday, Dec. 14 starting at 8pm. We will end the week on Friday, Dec. 15 with Josh Holland playing from 8-11pm.

Forgottonia Brewing

Stop in on Friday, December 15 and listen to Dan Eilers playing at 7pm. Dan sings and finger-picks many genres of music including folk, Americana, country, and blues.

American Legion

Dixieland Band led by John Cooper plays from 7-9pm on Tuesday, December 19 at the American Legion Post 6, 221 E. Washington St., Macomb. No admission, but there is a free-will offering during the show.

Send calendar events to communitybrief@gmail.com

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Exhibition continued from page 1

Once upon a time, these signs were the face of small-town America. These signs generated businesses that kept families afloat and dreams alive. In her seventeen-piece display, signs from old motels, gas stations, restaurants and truck stops are recaptured with breathtaking paint strokes. The majority of Dismukes' work is constructed through acrylic or mixed media art.

Most of the artist's work revolves around old-fashioned business signs, but there's one piece that stands out from the rest. It's called "Pistic Weeds" and features six separate frames showcasing decorated crosses. These crosses represent people who died on or near the roads where the crosses are placed. The piece is illustrated with black ink on white paper, which captures the solemn beauty we often overlook on our country rides. It forces us to reflect on the many who have been victims of these tragic moments.

In Dismukes' statement, she wants viewers of her contemporary collection to celebrate the things we pass by while going about our day.

"I am interested in entropy as well as the growth that is its companion," states Dismukes in her artist statement. "Close observation of the patterns and structures of patterns and structures in nature, as well as the rhythm of its seasonal cycles, is an enthusiasm and an influence... There are relationships to environment and climate, globalization, economic collapse, among other contemporary issues of both public and private concern."

So, the next time we hop into our cars and take a scenic drive through the countryside, think about the signs you see and what they truly meant then, now and forever.

Sara Dismukes' "mishearing Mnemosyne" exhibit will remain at the University Art Gallery until Friday, December 15, on the second floor. The gallery is open from 9 a.m. - noon and again 1-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. The gallery will be closed during Western Illinois University's winter break but will reopen Tuesday, January 16. Admission is free and open to the public.



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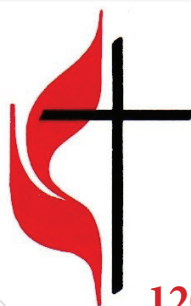
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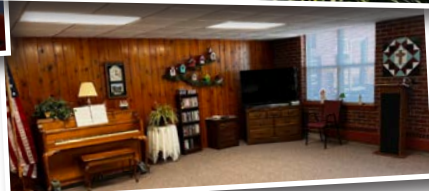
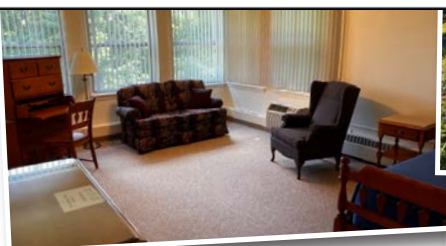


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WIU Alum Wins Regional Emmy Award

MACOMB, IL - - Western Illinois University 2006 Broadcasting alumnus Mike Curkov and his team won a regional award for Outstanding Achievement for News Gathering Arts/Entertainment News in the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of Emmy Awards.

Curkov, photojournalists Cody Bergquist and Kevin Weis and producers Randy Engel and Susanne Barthel worked on the winning story titled "Why we're using subtitles more often while watching and streaming TV shows and movies."

Curkov interviews two professional audio engineers at Independent Studios in Milwaukee, Randy Bobo and Peter Batchelder, to find out why we need subtitles when streaming or watching TV shows and can hear classic shows more easily. Bobo and Batchelder say it has much to do with both filmmakers and streaming technologies.

To read the full story, visit <https://bit.ly/46Eh1VC>.

In his acceptance speech on a Facebook post, Curkov stated that teamwork and collaboration were the missing ingredients needed to achieve his goal.

"I've tried for years to win. I was always devastated after the list came out. I didn't get what I was missing," Curkov said. "Once I went from my work to our work, really good stuff started happening."

Curkov is a morning news anchor at WDJT CBS 58 News, where he has covered the Bucks championship parade and the Super Bowl. He has won seven Wisconsin Broadcasters Association awards and has been nominated for two regional Emmys.

Before joining CBS 58 News, Curkov worked with Nexstar Broadcasting Group as the sports director for a year and the morning news anchor from 2014-2016. In addition, Curkov has worked as a producer, media relations director, marketing director, sports director and group

sales staff member in various media outlets.

Curkov is an active volunteer at various local non-profits, dedicating his time to making a positive impact in the community. He extends his passion for community involvement by serving as a youth football coach and holding the role of t-ball vice president at Grafton Little League. His commitment to philanthropy extends to organizations such as the Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer (MACC) Fund, Wisconsin Humane Society and Operations Finally Home, among others.

Beyond his philanthropic endeavors, Curkov wears another hat as a professional wrestler with Great Lakes Championship Wrestling, SSW Entertainment and One Fall Entertainment. Under the stage name "Iron Mike," he achieved success by winning the Great Lakes Championship Wrestling (GLCW) tag team competition in 2022 alongside World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) legend AI Snow. His multifaceted involvement reflects a dedication to both community service and the world of professional wrestling.



Copy By: Chiamaka Ezeobi

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SCHUYLER & FULTON COUNTY, IL
LAND AUCTION
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024 AT 10:00 AM CT

507 ACRES± (SUBJECT TO SURVEY) • 9 TRACTS

The Roger Briney Trust farm real estate is located in close proximity to the small community of Bluff City, IL, adjacent to or just off Highway 100 (Bluff City is located approximately 9 miles northeast of Browning, IL, or 15 miles southwest of Havana, IL, or 10 miles southeast of Astoria, IL or 25 miles northeast of Rushville, IL). The land is further described as being in part of Sections 1, 3, 6 and 12, Hickory Township, Schuyler County, IL, and Section 31, Kerton Township, Fulton County, IL.

The land contains a total of 507 acres (subject to survey) and will be sold in 9 tracts. Five of the tracts represent productive IL River bottomland, and several tracts are wooded (some with tillable acres) and offer excellent recreational and outdoor hunting opportunities.

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LAND AUCTION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024 AT 10:00 AM CT

162 ACRES± (SUBJECT TO SURVEY) • 2 TRACTS

The Cousins & Mason farm is located a short distance northeast of Macomb, IL (1.5 miles north of the new JD Store) along County Rd 1600E & is further described as being located in Sections 23 & 26, T6N - R2W, Macomb Township, McDonough County, IL.

Tract 1 represents productive, Class A tillable farmland which sells free & clear for the 2024 crop year! Tract 2 represents a combination of tillable/timber acres and is improved with a 3 bedroom home.

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Find the following words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards.

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|----------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| ANGEL | FIREPLACE | MISTLETOE | SNOWMAN |
| BELLS | GARLAND | NUTCRACKER | STAND |
| BOUGH | HOLLY | ORNAMENTS | STOCKINGS |
| CHRISTMAS TREE | INFLATABLE | POINSETTIA | STRINGED LIGHTS |
| DECORATE | MANTEL | SANTA | WINDOW |
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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * Sweden has a ski-through McDonald's.
- * The world's most expensive perfume, Clive Christian No. 1 Passport Guardant, will set you back a cool \$143,000 for a 30 ml bottle. Of course, it does come in a flask studded with 2,000 diamonds.
- * A 2018 psychology study found that millionaires who earned their wealth are moderately happier than those who inherited it.
- * George Washington moved his slaves in and out of Pennsylvania every six months to avoid their taking advantage of a law whereby slaves residing in the state for longer periods could claim their freedom.
- * One billion hours of video are watched on YouTube every day.
- * When Peter Benchley had trouble coming up with a title for his novel "Jaws," his dad suggested "What's That Noshin' on My Leg."
- * Bored with your limited supply of cuss words? Try learning Latin, which contains about 800 obscenities to English's approximately 20 (depending on how we define the latter).
- * In 1924, half of the world's cars were made by Ford.
- * Folks who have difficulty recalling someone else's name shortly after they've met can blame it on the "next-in-line-effect," or having too much anxiety about themselves and what they'll say next to focus on the name of someone to whom they were just introduced.
- * A cyberchondriac is someone who scours the internet looking for details about their illnesses.
- * Actor Frankie Muniz, who starred as the titular character in the TV series "Malcolm in the Middle," doesn't recall his time on the show, due to multiple concussions and TIAs (transient ischemic attacks).
- * Fyodor Dostoevsky wrote "The Gambler" to pay off his gambling debts.
- * Thought for the Day: "Don't confuse your path with your destination. Just because it's stormy now doesn't mean you aren't headed for sunshine later. Don't lose faith." -- Trent Shelton

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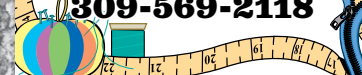
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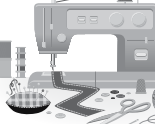
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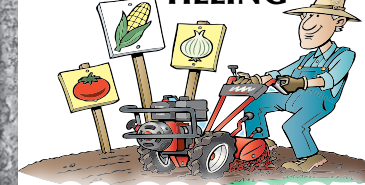
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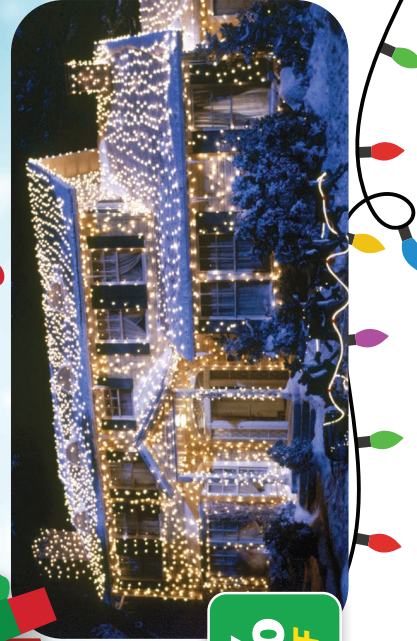


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