

FREE Midweek Brief

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 | communitybrief@gmail.com | 309-421-0761 | Briefly Covering Your Local News

Macomb Area Chamber Ribbon Cutting for Kunes Auto Group of Macomb

The Ambassador Committee of the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting on April 1 to celebrate Kunes Auto Group of Macomb's renovation of their body shop and the additional expert welding education that much of their staff just completed. Lunch was catered by Feeding Forgotten. Their skilled professionals at Kunes offer minor dent repairs, paint touch-ups, and extensive fixes, working closely with all insurance companies. To schedule service on a vehicle, call (309) 237-2921 or visit shopkunes.com.



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Upcoming Community Outreach Classes for Youth at Havana SRC

Havana - The Spoon River College Office of Community Outreach is offering several youth classes in Havana.

Babysitting 101 will be held on Saturday, April 20th from 9am-3pm. Join us for a fun day of learning how to be a better babysitter! We will cover: child care, nutrition for kids, safety around the house, business of babysitting, toy safety and first aid. Age Range: 10-15 years old. Lunch will be provided; participants will make their own lunch during the "nutrition for kids" portion of the class. Please note any food allergies upon registration for the class. Instructor is Emily Schoenfelder.

Safe@Home will be held on Friday, April 26th from 1-2:30pm. Safe@Home is designed to prepare students for their first step toward independence so they can be safe when they are home alone. They'll learn how to practice safe habits, prevent unsafe situations, and what

to do when faced with dangers such as power failures or weather emergencies. A take-home workbook is included in the class fee. For ages 10 and up. Instructor is Stephanie Howerter.

There are fees to attend and pre-registration is required. Classes will be held at the Spoon River College Havana Center located at 324 E Randolph Street in Havana. For more information or to register, call Spoon River College at 309-543-4413 or register online at <https://src.augusoft.net>.

Read in Friday's Community News Brief

- Unified Sports Fest April 12
- WIU's First Woman President Looks to the Future

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POLICE REPORTS

McDonough County Sheriff

3/24

Jackson David Reed, 26, Bushnell, was charged with domestic battery, domestic battery (enhanced)

Benjamin Spencer Staton, 30, Adair, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant

3/25

Lam Quoc Ngo, 35, Macomb, was charged with DUI/alcohol, no valid drivers license

Courtney Laron Hayes, 33, Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant

Curtis DeAngelo Hobson, 35, Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant, retail theft/disp merch/less than \$300

Marci Dawn Herrick, 54, Bushnell, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant

Macomb Police Department

3/25

Gregory M. Wrenn, 57, Good Hope, was charged with failure to yield at intersection

Trinity M. Gunning, 18, Galva, was charged with failure to yield at intersection

HOMETOWN TEES

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Community News Brief

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

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TODAY'S JOKES

Q: What kind of animal enjoys playing in the rain?
A: Reindeer!

Q: How does the sun listen to its favorite music?
A: On the ray-dio!

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WEDNESDAYS 5-8PM

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Obituaries Sponsored by **CT Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home and Monuments** Macomb | Blandinsville ctfh@macomb.com 309-833-2188

Death Notices

Shirley Jean Lawver

84, of Astoria

Shirley Jean Lawver, 84, of Astoria, passed away at 11:06 am on Thursday, March 28, 2024 at her home in Astoria.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A visitation will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 from 5:00-7:00 pm at Shawgo Memorial Home in Astoria.

Barbara J. (Oyler) Bernhart

94, of Avon

Barbara J. Bernhart, 94, of Avon, passed away at 10:45 p.m., Sunday, March 31, 2024, in her home.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 5, 2024, at the funeral home. Visitation will be held Thursday April 4, 2024, from 5pm-7pm at the funeral home. Interment will be in the Babbitt Cemetery, St. Augustine. Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family and left in the care of the funeral home. Moore Memorial Home, Avon, is handling the arrangements.

Herman "Lee" Bigsby

84, of Prairie City

Herman "Lee" Bigsby, 84, of Prairie City, Illinois passed away at 3:20 am on Sunday March 31, 2024. He was born January 3, 1940 to Archie and Lulu (Neese) Bigsby. He married Barbara J. Hall on June 27, 1990 in Bushnell, IL. She preceded him in death on September 30, 2008.

Cremation Rites were accorded by Martin-Hollis Funeral Home. Services will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to the family of Lee Bigsby. Please sign the guestbook and leave condolences at www.martinhollisfh.com.

Death notices (name, death date and services) run free of charge. Families who wish to have a complete obituary published in the Tuesday or Friday Community News Brief newspaper (including picture, family, work history, 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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Roger E. Brue, Jr.

70, of Macomb

Roger E. Brue, Jr., 70, of Macomb passed away at 10:15 p.m. Monday, April 1, 2024 at Macomb Post Acute Care in Macomb.

Cremation rites have been accorded. There will be no services.

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.

Lester K. Coghill (Ken)

73, of Colchester

Lester K. Coghill (Ken), age 73, of Colchester, passed away Thursday, March 21, 2024, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy surrounded by family and friends.

Funeral Services will be at 6:30 P.M. Thursday, April 9, 2024, at the Jones Mortuary in Colchester, with remarks by Estelene Bodenhamer. Visitation with the family will be from 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Thursday at the funeral home. Graveside services will be at 10:30 A.M. Friday, April 10, 2024, at Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Colchester, with military rites by the Macomb VFW and Macomb American Legion. Friends may sign the register book at the funeral home from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Wednesday, April 8, 2024, and then from 8:30 A.M. Thursday until the time of services.

The Memorial is to the McDonough County Humane Society. Condolences and memories can be expressed to the family at jonesmortuaryfh.com.

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Community Calendar

Blandinsville

WEDNESDAYS

Christian Church Youth Program

Every Wednesday for 5th grade thru High School students from 4-5:30pm 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

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 & SATURDAY, APRIL 6

B-PC Drama Club Presents 'Peter/Wendy'

Friday, April 5, 2024 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 6, 2024 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Tickets sold at the door: \$5 per student / \$10 per adult and children 5 & under are free.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

I love the 80s Music Trivia

At 7pm at the Bushnell VFW. Game starts at 7pm - teams up to 8, \$10 per person. Mulligans available plus a 50/50 raffle. Proceeds go to the B-PC Baseball program.

Second Chance Prom at Tellers

"Let's Dance Through The Decades" at Tellers, 408 E. Main, from 7:30-11pm. There will be a DJ and dancing, photo booth, sweet treats and we will crown a king and queen. \$30 per couple or \$15 for single. Must be 21 to attend.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Hydrants Hoses & Headbangers

Bushnell Fire Hydrants Hoses & Headbangers Spring Concert from 7-11pm. More details coming.

Colchester

EVERY MONDAY

Colchester Library Story Hour

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Spring Wildflower Hikes

Argyle Lake State Park from 10-11:30am. Enjoy the first blooms of spring and the peace and serenity of nature on these morning nature hikes in the woods. These 1.5 mile hikes will begin at the park visitor center. For more information, please call the park visitor center at (309)776-3422.

Macomb

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

One Book One Community Festival Events

10:30-11:00am: Macomb Public Library's Thursday Story Time, children's librarian, Tiffany Erickson, will read This Raindrop before listeners respond through a hands-on activity; 5:30-7:00pm: Crisis, Resistance, and Hope: Flint, Michigan. A Conversation based on Mona Hanna-Attisha's What the Eyes Don't See with University of Michigan-Flint staff. Dr. Chris Merrett, WIU, will moderate this in-person/live-stream conversation at the Western Illinois Museum

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Macomb Library Knitting Club

on the first Saturday of the month at 10:30am. Share your love of knitting or crocheting with both experienced and beginner crafters. Meet fellow knitters, brush up on skills and learn new techniques. Materials will be provided but feel free to bring your own projects. All levels of experience are welcome.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Foos for Families Human Foosball Tourney

for charity from 2-7pm at the WIU Rec Center. Teams of 6-8 people will compete head-to-head in this human foosball tournament until a winner is crowned. Don't miss out on this opportunity to give back while having a blast! It costs \$30 per team and 100% of proceeds benefit the children and families served at The Center for Youth and Family Solutions.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

One Book One Community Festival Events

10:00-Noon: Screening of The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind at the Macomb Public Library. The movie tells the story of 13-year-old William, who finds a way to bring water to his village.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

One Book One Community Festival Events

1:00-5:00pm: Making Words Flow Like Water. This multi-faceted program at the Western Illinois Museum includes a storytelling workshop led by Brian "Fox" Ellis, a story hour featuring Captain Henry Detweiler (aka Brian "fox" Ellis) on the Role of Steamboatin' on the Mississippi, and an Open Mic emceed by Barbara Lawhorn with participants sharing original work about water. Choose to attend any or all.



The Cafe

We have a great line-up of music this week. Dan Eilers will be here Wednesday, April 3 from 5:30-7:30pm. Thursday, April 4 Dick Marcott will be playing for us from 7:30-9:30pm. You don't want to miss Shawn Griffith taking the stage on Friday, April 5 from 7-9pm.

Western Illinois Museum Our Front Porch

The Western Illinois Museum, in partnership with the Western Illinois University (WIU) School of Music, is pleased to welcome musician Damani Phillips to perform with the HAT Trio on Friday, April 5th, as part of the Jazz Series being offered at the Museum. The doors and bar open at 4:30 pm with two sets of music at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. There is a \$5 suggested donation at the door. The Goldenrods will be performing 2 sets of music on Saturday, April 12 at 7 & 8pm. Doors and bar open at 6pm, suggested \$5 donation at the door.

Forgottonia Brewing

Dan Eislers will be here on Saturday, April 13 from 7-9pm. Dan sings and finger-picks many genres of music including folk, Americana, country, and blues.

Ice House

Come join us Friday, April 19 for the performance by Hello Weekend at Ice House! From Lady Gaga to Guns N' Roses, Hello Weekend is a non-stop, high energy concert experience. With heart stopping vocals and shredding guitar solos, Hello Weekend is sure to keep you dancing to your favorite tunes all night long! Purchase tickets at <https://bit.ly/3wzgfz> Tickets.

Macomb Elks Lodge

The Macomb Elks Lodge will have Windfall (a local band from the 70's) playing for us on Saturday, April 27 from 7pm to GOD only knows when. Local legends (in their own minds), Tom Durso, Rolly Taylor, Bill Studzinski, and Ed Linhart will be playing together again. The event is open to the public and Rollin Smoke BBQ will be serving up their award winning BBQ and more from 4-9p. Spread the word!!!

We hope to see you all there!!!!

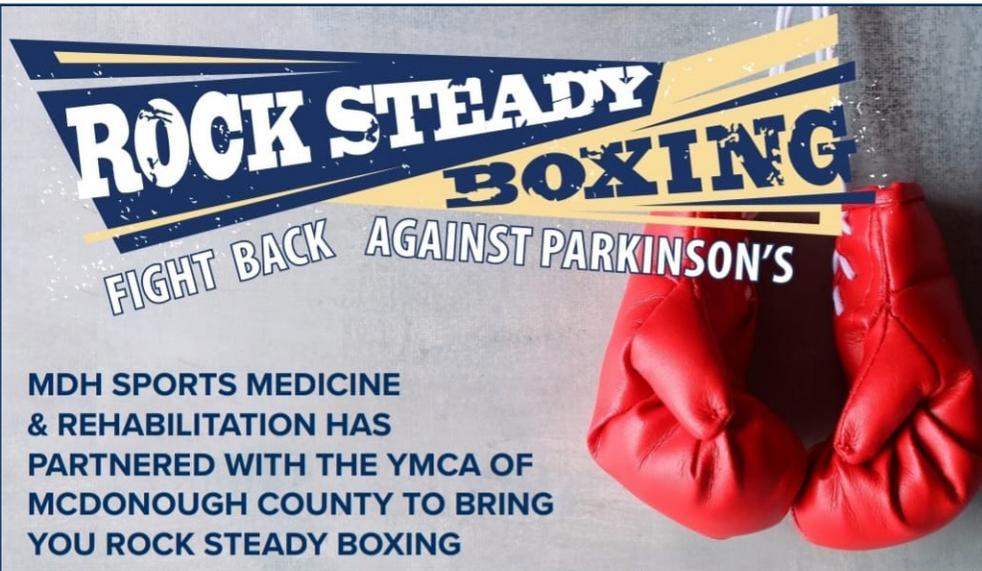


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13 Broomsticks Returns to Home/ Online-Based Business Roots

By Darcie Shinberger

MACOMB, IL – Due to an issue with a sub-lease, 13 Broomsticks, formerly located at 231 S. Randolph St. in Macomb, has returned to how the business began: as a(n) home/online-based business.

Kelley Martin opened her "custom craft & eclectic shop" in its brick-and-mortar location just last month. While she's disappointed to be leaving the Macomb downtown area for the time being, Martin said she'll continue to participate in community events and vendor fairs, including the April 20 vendor market at the McDonough County 4-H Center. She's also organizing a Halloween parade this fall, complete with dancing witches, to celebrate the season. 13 Broomsticks carries herbs, candles and items needed for spells and traditional rituals, as well as "mainstream" items such as scented candles (using natural oils and materials), cleaning products, jewelry and clothing she designs herself and more.

To find and order products, visit 13 Broomsticks at 13broomsticks.com and follow on Facebook at facebook.com/13broomsticks and TikTok at @thirteenbroomsticks.

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IDOT, ISP: 'U Drive. U Text. U Pay'

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Transportation is teaming up with the Illinois State Police and more than 200 local law enforcement agencies to promote Distracted Driving Awareness Month, reminding motorists to “Drop it and Drive.” Throughout April, law enforcement officers will work together to enforce texting and distracted driving laws.

“Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of crashes on our roads today,” said Steve Travia, IDOT’s Director of Highways and Chief Engineer. “During Distracted Driving Awareness Month, police will boost enforcement efforts, stopping anyone they see texting and driving. Remember: ‘U Drive. U Text. U Pay.’”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, between 2012 and 2021, approximately 32,000 lives were lost in crashes involving distracted drivers. Everyone has the potential for distracted driving crashes, but those between the ages of 16 and 24 are especially at risk. If you need to text, pull over to a safe location, or if you have a passenger, consider appointing a designated texter. Whatever the solution, don’t text and drive.

“While driving, many of us are tempted to check our phone, just quickly, when we hear that ding of notification,” said ISP Division of Patrol Col. Chris Owen. “That quick look could cause a crash and cost you your life or the lives of others. Whatever that message is on your phone, it’s not more important than your life or the lives of others. Keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the wheel.”

To keep your attention on the road, remember these tips:

If you are expecting a text or need to send one, pull over and park your car in a safe location.

Do not engage in social media scrolling or messaging while driving.

Cell phone use is habit-forming. Struggling to not text and drive? Activate your phone’s “Do Not Disturb” feature.

The Illinois distracted driving campaign is funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by IDOT.

U DRIVE. U TEXT.



The Bushnell-Prairie City Drama Club presents

PETER / WENDY

Written by Jeremy Bloom
Directed by Mackenzie Ricco and Andrew Kluesner

STARRING

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Show Information

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SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 1 P.M.
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 7 P.M.

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Choirs Masterworks Rutter's Requiem April 5

MACOMB, IL - The Western Illinois University School of Music will present a Spring Choral Masterworks Concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 5, at Wesley United Methodist Church.

The program will feature John Rutter's Requiem, performed by the Western Illinois University Singers, Concert Choir and Chamber Ensemble, conducted by WIU Music Professor Brian J. Winnie, with WIU Music Assistant Director Elisabeth Marshall, soprano and Gayle Cooper, organ. The WIU Chamber Singers will also perform William Byrd's Mass for Four Voices.

Byrd and Rutter are exemplary composers of English choral music from very different historical periods. This concert features two versions of the mass, one incorporating the traditional mass ordinary text and one that includes the mass ordinary and mass proper texts commonly used in the Requiem Mass.

Byrd was a Renaissance composer and organist most well-known for his sacred motets and masses and further development of the English madrigal.

Rutter's Requiem, written in 1985, was given its first complete performance in Dallas in October of that year. Its focus is not on the final judgment and therefore excludes the traditional Dies Irae (Day of Judgement). Rather, it incorporates movements based on scriptural texts - Psalm 130 (Out of the Deep) and Psalm 23 (The Lord Is My Shepherd), and excerpts from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer.

This performance is open free for general audience seating.

For more information, call the COFAC Recital Hall office at (309) 298-1843 or visit wiu.edu/recitalhall.

Posted By: University Communications
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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * Modern brunch was first proposed in 1895 as a post-hangover meal.
- * Quetzalcoatlus, the largest known flying animal, was as tall as a giraffe and may have used its powerful forelimbs to pole-vault into the sky.
- * Cathay Williams became the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Army in 1866. Since women were barred from joining the military at the time, she enlisted as a man under the pseudonym William Cathay.
- * In Australia, weed whackers are called whipper snippers.
- * Beaver College changed its name to Arcadia in 2001, partly because anti-porn filters blocked access to its website.
- * The human body emits visible light, but it's not visible to the naked eye.

* The FBI dubbed Ted Kaczynski "The Unabomber" because his early mail bombs were sent to universities (UN) and airlines (A).

* As astronauts spend months traveling to Mars, their eyeballs may change shape. Some scientists believe that's due to the pressure from fluids that won't drain from their heads, thanks to the low-gravity environment.

* President Thomas Jefferson hated formal affairs so much that he would often greet foreign dignitaries in his pajamas.

* Newborn babies have nearly 100 more bones than full-grown adults.

* The Antikythera mechanism, discovered by sponge divers in 1900, is sometimes called the world's first analog computer. Designed to calculate dates and predict astronomical phenomena, it was so advanced nothing surpassed it for nearly 1,500 years.

* Some libraries have been known to use extraordinary measures to ensure titles remained on shelves. A notable example is Marsh's Library in Dublin, Ireland, where in the 1800s, visitors desiring to peruse rare books were locked in cages until they finished reading!

Thought for the Day: "If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future." -- Winston Churchill

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FOR SALE: 2009 Buick Lucerne, silver, solar, 78,000 miles, excellent condition, \$8250. Call 309-255-0595 or 309-836-8911.

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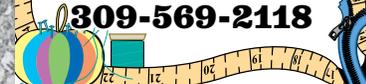
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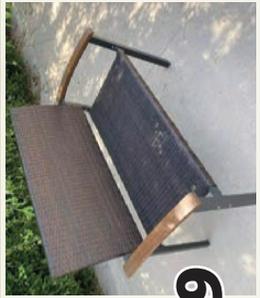
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