lidweek Brief

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 | communitybrief@gmail.com | 309-421-0761 | Briefly Covering Your Local News

WIU Social Media Lab Promotes Accurate Internet Access Funding



MACOMB, IL -- The Social Media Lab at Western Illinois University is working to spread awareness about and assist with the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) challenge process. The State of Illinois was awarded \$1.04 billion in federal BEAD funds to ensure every Illinoisan has access to high-speed internet.

A challenge process has been enacted to

determine where the funds will be spent over the next five years to ensure the communities in need of funding are accurately identified.

There are many underserved communities in West Central Illinois in need of these funds. This is a chance to speak up and make our needs heard," Communication Professor Josh Averbeck said.

There are thousands of households that need high-speed internet access in West Central Illinois. The new funding would provide fiber-optic cable, far exceeding current infrastructure capabilities.

See BEAD on page 2

SAVING THE PLANET

FRED JONES

Reception: Saturday, March 2, 4:30-6:00







Ask about Heat & Massage options

and Bedding of Macomb Open Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm

605 W. JACKSON ST. MACOMB 309-833-2100

"Saving the Planet" Art Gallery on Display Feb. 27-March 29

MACOMB, IL - The Western Illinois University Art Gallery, will host WIU Professor Emeritus Fred Jones for their solo exhibition, "Saving the Planet" on display Tuesday, Feb. 27- Friday, March 29. Admission is open free to the public.

A reception for the artist will be held from 4:30-6 p.m. Saturday, March 2. The artist will speak about their work at

This exhibition is a presentation of "A Journal of the Spiritual and the Sublime in Nature", a collection of art reproductions, essays, quotations and statements.

Jones earned a National Diploma in Design in 1961 from Cardiff College of Art in Wales, U.K. and an Art Teachers Diploma from the University of Wales in 1962. In 1965 he earned a Master of Education degree from

the University of Pittsburgh. In 1970-71, Jones attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, completing a Master of Fine Art in printmaking. In 1979, he attended Atelier 17 Paris. In 1987, he returned to the University of Wisconsin as an Honorary Fellow to study Computer Mediated Art. See Display on page 6

University Art Gallery

- MDH Employees Bring About Change

- Local Real Estate Transactions

- Local High School Sports Updates



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POLICE REPORTS

McDonough County Sheriff

2/17

Dena Jean Price, 44, Burlington, IA, was arrested on a foreign warrant, possession of drug paraphernalia

Misty Dawn Gonzalez, 40, Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant

2/18

Georgina Aguilar Preciado, 56, Macomb, was charged with drivers license revoked or suspended

2/19

Danny Eugene Gossage, 65, Macomb, was arrested on a foreign warrant

Lisa Ann Thompson, 63, Macomb, was charged with DUI/alcohol

Michel Anthony Johnson, 24, Vermont, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant

Macomb Police Department

2/17

Connor L. Rediger, 26, Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant, domestic battery

<u>2/18</u>

Charles M. Whitaker, 31, was charged with careless driving

2/19

Ivana G. Ball, 18, Macomb, was charged with retail theft/disp merch less than \$300

Donte C. Patterson, 31, Chicago, was arrested on a McDonough county warrant, charged with domestic battery, residential burglary

James D. Maloney, 41, Bushnell, was arrested on a McDonough County body attachment warrant

Joshua P. Montalvo, 39, Springfield, was charged with no insurance-operating under suspension, expired registration

TODAY'S JOKES

Q: What do dentists call their x-rays?
A: Tooth pics!

Q: What do you call a cow with a twitch?
A: Beef jerky!







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Community News Brief

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

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13 E. Side Square, Macomb 309-421-0761

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

BEAD

continued from page 1

"We have households who cannot interact with the global marketplace, access telehealth services or enroll in education opportunities because the internet service is either unreliable or incapable of high-speed service," Averbeck said.

The Illinois Office of Broadband and the Illinois Broadband Lab have created maps showing the internet capabilities of each household and community anchor institution in the state. Community anchor institutions include libraries, hospitals, schools and government buildings. Any location can challenge the accuracy of the map.

Individuals are encouraged to perform speed tests to check if they are receiving the internet speed they are paying for in their service agreement.

If individuals wish to submit a challenge, contact Professor Averbeck at jm-averbeck@ wiu.edu or 309-298-5203. Challenges may only be submitted through those registered with the Office of Broadband.

"This may seem like a cumbersome step, but it provides an intermediate to ensure the proper information is submitted and challenges will be successful," Averbeck said.

The challenge process begins Tuesday, Feb. 27 and is only open for two weeks.

For more information on broadband serviceable locations, visit go.wiu.edu/3Te4Prk.

For more information on community anchor institutions, visit go.wiu.edu/3TgkrL7.

For more information on speed tests, visit beadchallenge.org.

Copy By: University Communications (U-Communications@wiu.edu)
Office of University Communications & Marketing



Pancakes & Sausage Biscuits & Gravy Meal

Saturday, March 2 • 7am-Noon Lions Building, 207 S. Fulton Bold Brew Mobile Trailer will also be on site



Free will donation. Proceeds will held fund scholarships for West Prairie High Seniors.

The Colchester Lions Club, with lots of community support, has given out scholarships to West Prairie High School Seniors for over 16 years! The Lions Club plans to give out at least \$3,500 in Senior scholarships this year!



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Death Notices

Robert Pace Patrick

Robert Pace Patrick, age 84, passed away at 9:12 a.m. at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, on Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM on March 1, 2024, at the Scotland Trinity Church, Rev. Charles Walden will officiate. Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 29, 2024, from 5 PM until 7 PM at the Clugston-Tibbitts Funeral Home in Macomb. Burial will be at Oakwood Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Trinity Academy (formerly Industry School). You may sign the guestbook and leave online condolences at clugstontibbitts.com.

John A. Szabo

71, of Augusta (formerly of Beardstown)

John A. Szabo, 71, of Augusta, IL formerly of Beardstown, IL passed away at 2:30 pm Saturday February 24, 2024 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy,

Cremation has been accorded. A celebration of life will be held at a later date this year.

The Hamilton Funeral Home in Augusta, Il is handling arrangements. You may sign the guestbook and leave condolences for the family online at www.hamiltonfuneralhomes.net.

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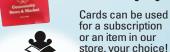
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Karissa A. Kitch

25, of Macomb

Karissa A. Kitch, 25, of Macomb, Illinois, passed away at 3:13 AM Saturday Feb. 24, 2024 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois.

Cremation has been accorded. A visitation will be held on March 5, 2024 from 4PM-6PM at the Dodsworth-Piper-Wallen Funeral Home.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Aden Kitch Education Fund. Please sign guestbook or leave condolences at www.dodsworthfh.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 commuitybrief@gmail.com. Cost is \$45 and includes a laminated copy of





NEED SUPPORT?

See page 5 for a list of local support groups and corresponding information to find the right fit for you.





THANK YOU!

The family of Gene Watson would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone for the many thoughts and prayers, cards and memorials during the difficult time in the loss of our Dad. Words cannot express the thankfulness to our friends and family.

> Mike, Rita & Kris Dorethy Mark, Kiersten & Harper Zaehringer Elgin, Kris & John Watson Kyle Watson



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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!



WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

Bushnell Lenten Lunch

Sponsored by the Bushnell Area Ministerial Association held at noon at the Community Christian Center. Future dates include: 3/6, 3/13, 3/20.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

YFC/ Rosy's Pizza Spaghetti Supper

Youth for Christ and Rosy's Pizza present the 4th annual Spaghetti Supper from 5:30-8pm at the Community Christian Center. Only \$5 per person. Meal includes spaghetti, garlic bread, side salad, and a dessert. All proceeds benefit youth programs in Bushnell. Questions or want to get involved? Text or call Bill Walker: (309) 331-3843.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 VFW Breakfast

The VFW will be serving from 7-10 a.m at the Post 1422 Hall, 181 E. Hail. On-site, takeout and curb service available - for takeout & curb service call 309-333-9919.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

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.



EVERY MONDAY

Colchester Library Story Hour from 10:45-11:45am. Books, crafts, songs and fun!

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 Colchester Lion's Club Breakfast

Serving pancakes & sausage biscuits & gravy meal from 7am-Noon at the Lion's Building, 207 S. Fulton. Free will donation. Bold Brew mobile trailer will be on site as well. Proceeds will help fund scholarships for West Prairie High School Seniors.

Maple Syrup Festival

in Colchester's Argyle Lake State Park - hosted by the Friends of Argyle. The annual Maple Syrup Festival is sweet and sticky event features hay rack rides that take visitors to the park's "sugar grove" of maple trees. at Argyle Lake State Park.



FRIDAYS DURING LENT

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

4:30-6:30pm in the St. Paul Gym, 322 W. Washington St. Carry out or Dine-in options. Order online at https://knights-of-columbus- 682.square.site/.

SUNDAYS

Serenity AA Group

closed meeting at Macomb City Hall Community Room at 10am.

Macomb NA Group

will meet at 6pm in the Mission House, 309 N. Sherman Ave., directly South of University Baptist Church. Student observers are welcome.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Macomb Library Knitting Club

Meets on the 1st 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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

McDonough Co. Retired Teachers Meeting

at Trinity Lutheran Church, 123 S. Campbell Street, Macomb at 9 am with speaker Nick Knowles/ YMCA. Coffee will be served.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 Winter Farmers Market

from 8:30am til noon at the American Legion on East Washington Street.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 & SUNDAY, MARCH 10 Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show at the WIU Student Union.



SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Table Grove Fire & Rescue Breakfast

All you can eat breakfast from 6-10am. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs and biscuits and gravy! Adults \$10 and Children 12 and under are \$5.00.



American Legion

The Post 6 Big Band led by John Cooper plays from 7-9pm on Wednesday, Feb. 28 in the American Legion Post 6, 221 E. Washington St., Macomb. No admission but there is a free-will offering during the show.

Forgottonia Brewing

Craig Corzatt will be heading back to Forgottonia on Saturday, March 2 to perform a fantastic collection of country hits, both old and new!

Music starts at 7pm.

The Cafe

We have Dan Eilers playing some great music on Wednesday, March 6 from 5:30-7:30pm. Hope to see you there!

Macomb Elks Lodge

Save the date: We have Sequoia Drive playing for us on Friday, March 29. You don't want to miss this hard working and hard partying top 40 country and rock band, grown from the black dirt of Western Illinois. Music starts at 7pm!

Send calendar events to communitybrief@gmail.com



Maple Syrup Festival at Lake Argyle

The 26th annual Maple Syrup Festival will be held at Argyle Lake State Park on Saturday, March 2nd from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Individuals attending the festival will experience the tapping of the maple trees, collection of the sap, boiling down of sap into syrup, and a taste of the finished product. Tours to collect sap at the maple grove will depart regularly and several children's activities will be ongoing throughout the day. This event is being sponsored through the cooperative efforts of the Friends of Argyle Lake State Park and park staff. The Colchester Lion's Club will be hosting a pancake breakfast at 207 S. Fulton St. in Colchester from 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in conjunction with this event. Free refreshments will be provided by Macomb Morning Rotary and Friends of Argyle will have maple syrup and other items for sale at the event. For more information, please call the park visitor center at (309) 776-3422.

Little Creek Alpacas Earth Day Farm Fundraiser

Come out to Little Creek Alpacas on Sat., April 20th from 1pm-5pm for a fun afternoon celebrating nature, the Earth, alpacas, and art! Take a hike around the pond, go fishing, collect rocks & sticks, paint rocks, build a fairy hut, play in the sand, feed the alpacas, and more! Bring a cooler and have an alpaca picnic. It's a day to have fun around the farm and immerse yourself in nature and art. The farm store will be open in the red shelter if you need any alpaca products. Hickry Ridge Homestead will be coming out with all her fiber goodies, and spinning yarn with her angora rabbit. She'll have drop spindles for sale too, and can even show you how to use one.

Tickets are \$40 per vehicle and limited to 20 vehicles. You must purchase a ticket ahead of time to attend. https://square.link/u/x3q4Fr9W

Carpool to save money, gas, and emit less emissions. Bring your own food & drinks. No pets, no smoking, no chasing the alpacas. Price of ticket includes admission for everyone in your vehicle, a cup of grain for each person to feed the alpacas with, and free access to the painting rocks station & build your own fairy hut station. Please note, it's your job to find the materials in nature to build with (sticks, rocks, leaves, feathers, whatever your heart fancies), we'll have glue guns, twine, yarn, a small drill, and other things to help you build with. A handicap accessible port-a-potty will be available.

This fun Earth Day event is also a fundraiser for our farm to repair Sunny Beach after the drought last year, and to run rural water to our alpaca barns since our well pump broke. I'm currently hauling 64 gallons of water daily from our house to the barn for all the alpacas.



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SUPPORT GROUPS

Caring Hearts Caregiver Support Group YMCA Senior Center, 400 E Calhoun, Macomb

On the second Monday each month at 2pm Stroke Survivor Caregiver Support Group University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman Ave, Macomb

Stroke Support Group *Culbertson Gardens, 400 Logan St, Rushville* On the third Wednesday of each month at 3pm

Parkinson's Disease Support Group

On the third Tuesday each month at 4pm

YMCA Community Child Care Center, 520 W Piper, Macomb On the second Friday each month at 1:15pm

Anger Management Group *McDonough District Hospital, 525 E Grant, Macomb* On Tuesday each week at 3:30pm

Chronic Pain Management

McDonough District Hospital, 525 E Grant, Macomb On Monday each week at 1pm

AA Originals Meeting (Meeting Room)

University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman, Macomb On Thursday each week at 6pm

AA Midday Meeting (Fellowship Hall) University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman, Macomb On Monday, Wednesday, Friday each week at 12:10pm

ACA Meeting (Church Library) University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman, Macomb

On Thursday each week at 6pm

Al-Anon Meeting (Meeting Room) University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman, Macomb On Wednesday each week at 7pm

NA Meeting (Meeting Room) University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman, Macomb On Tuesday & Friday each week at 6pm

Sisters In Sobriety (Women Only) University Baptist Church, 315 N Sherman, Macomb On Tuesdays each week at 12:10pm

Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Treatment American Foundation for Suicide Prevention 1-800-273-8255 or Text TALK to 741741

WIRC 24-hour Crisis Hotline 309-833-5555

MDH Behavioral Health Services 503 E Grant, Macomb; 309-836-1582

Macomb Mental Wellness 210 S Randolph, Macomb; 1-866-364-1950

North Central Behavioral Health Systems 301 E Jefferson, Macomb; 309-833-2191

Hope Counseling

810 E Jackson, Macomb; 309-421-0634

Lakeview Medical and Psychiatric Healthcare 1601 W Jackson, Macomb: 309-575-3222

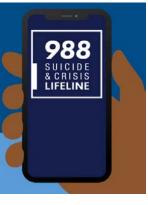
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Display

continued from page 1

Jones joined the WIU Art faculty in 1968 as an instructor in Art Education, Design and Drawing after teaching for two years at Chester College of Art in England. He is the recipient of five Faculty Excellence Awards, four Summer Stipend Research Awards and the Distinguished Faculty Lecture Award.

For more information on WIU's Art Gallery, visit wiu.edu/artgallery.

Copy By: Kelsey Brown (kl-brown5@wiu.edu) Office of University Communications & Marketing





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PART TIME

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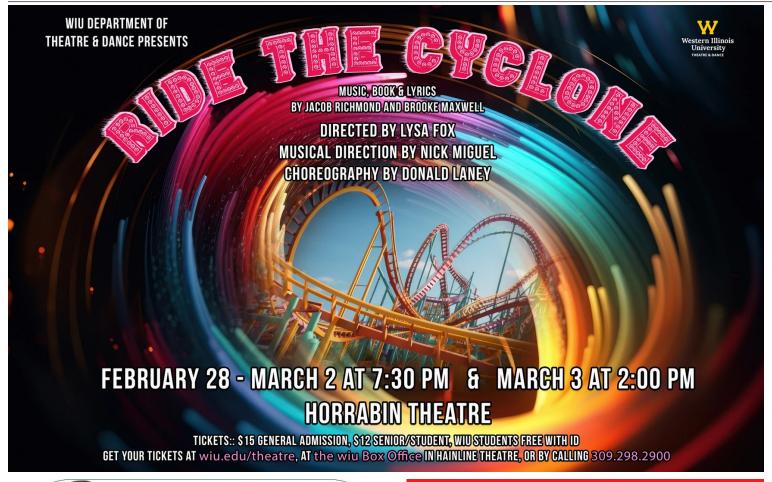
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Guests Swanson and Gompper to Present March 2

MACOMB, IL - The Western Illinois University School of Music will present a Guest Recital featuring baritone Stephen Swanson and pianist David Gompper at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 2 in the College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) Recital Hall.

The performance, titled "Swansongs: The Final Recital," will celebrate Swanson's retirement as professor of Voice at the University of Iowa. Gompper is a professor of Composition and director of the Center for New Music at the University of Iowa and was recently named interim director of orchestra.

This performance is open free for general audience seating. A complete program can be found at go.wiu.edu/4c3MKDU.

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

Copy By: University Communications (U-Communications@wiu.edu) Office of University Communications & Marketing

Guest Recital and Masterclass Leslie Marrs March 2

MACOMB, IL - The Western Illinois University School of Music will present a Guest Recital featuring flutist Leslie Marrs at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 2 in the College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) Recital Hall.

Leslie Marrs is an associate professor of Flute at Drake University. The recital will be followed by a masterclass with WIU flute students, from the studio of Suyeon Ko.

This performance is open free for general audience seating. A complete program can be found at https://www.wiu.edu/news/newsrelease.php?release_id=19761.

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

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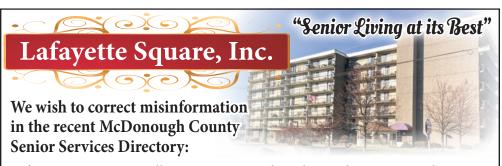
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Find the following words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards.

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APPOINTMENT	DEADLINES	INTEGRATION
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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

A double rainbow occurs when sunlight is reflected twice inside a raindrop. Look closely, and you'll see that the colors of the secondary rainbow appear in reverse order.

* In an 897 A.D. event known as the Cadaver Synod, Pope Stephen VI had the corpse of a previous pontiff, Formosus, exhumed, perched on a throne and questioned about his "crimes," which were mostly about being on the wrong side of a political struggle.

* Blood makes up about 8% of your total body weight.

* Floccinaucinihilipilification -- one of the longest words in the English language -- is the act of estimating that something is worthless.

* According to a Japanese study, looking at cute animal pictures can boost your focus.

* We hate to break it to you, but Wendy's chocolate Frosty is actually half chocolate and half vanilla, because owner Dave Thomas thought an all-chocolate treat would be too overpowering when paired with the chain's burgers and fries.

* At the Gettysburg reunion in 1913, two men purchased a hatchet, walked to the site where their regiments had fought, and buried it.

* An Oscar trophy has a raw value of about \$600.

* In a move that many may appreciate, if not take the trouble to emulate, a British man changed his name to Tim Pppppppppprice to make it harder for telemarketers to pronounce.

* A 1907 ad campaign for Kellogg's Corn Flakes offered a free sample of cereal to any customer who would wink at their grocer.

* The cubicle derives its name not from its shape, but from the Latin "cubiculum," meaning bedchamber.

* It once took 27 hours to create a single Peeps Marshmallow Chick. Today, it takes six

Thought for the Day: "Very often, a change of self is needed more than a change of scene." -- A.C. Benson

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FOR SALE: 1999 Chevy Silverado pickup truck. Long bed with bed liner and single cab. 103,000 miles, 2 owners. 5.3 engine. Always kept up on oil changes and maintenance. \$4000. Call 309-333-3119.

FOR SALE: 2002 Chrysler Town & Country Van, high mileage, some rust, starts, runs, drives good. \$1100 many others available. A-1 Automotive, 1002 E. Jackson St., Macomb.

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