

the

MACOPOLITAN

MARCH
& APRIL

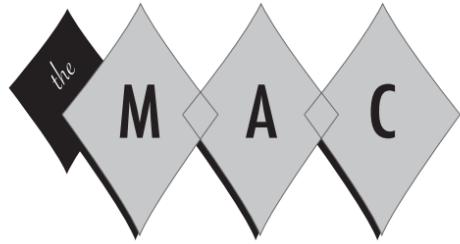
2016

creative living in McDonough County

whatever your struggle may be



DON'T GIVE UP WITHOUT A FIGHT



the **MAC**OPOLITAN macopolitan.org

400 E. Carroll St. 2nd floor
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creative living in McDonough County

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SPECIAL THANKS this issue

Sally Huffer



what's next for the Mac?

when's the next issue?

will there be a next issue?

stay tuned:

www.macopolitan.org
www.facebook.com/themacopolitan

COVER PHOTO

WIU students Brittani Williams (left), Kalor Oscar (center), and Rachel Williams (right) were among those who participated in the "Fund Our Future" march held on campus in February. Students, faculty, staff, and locals were marching to show support for SB 2043, which would have funded program and operating expenses at community colleges as well as MAP grants for eligible students at all state institutions in Illinois.

Stay strong, ladies. It doesn't look like you'll have a problem with that.

Photographer Jessie Matias is a student at WIU and a staff photographer for the *Western Courier*.

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editor's message

The Mac is dead; long live the Mac 2.0!

The Macopolitan is not actually dead, but it's definitely at a crossroads. It's been a long time since our last issue, and one month longer than anybody intended. During the interim there's been some good news for *the Mac*, some really bad news for the community, and a lot of complicated struggle for me personally. Since all such things unfold interdependently, it's hard to say what the outcome will look like. For me, only one thing is clear: it's time for me to begin letting go of *the Mac*. It will either cease existence or start to become whatever it's going to be without me. I'd prefer the latter.

"Adapt or die" is an imperative that any dynamic entity must heed, whether it's a town, a person, a career, or a bootstrapped community media project. You could say that *the Mac* is itself an adaptation—my response to unexpected personal circumstances. Basically, I couldn't find a job after a lengthy illness, so I came to a place where there are fewer people like myself. I can't stand a waste of resources, especially my own; if those are less abundant, I figured, somebody will want to use them meaningfully and without delay. Eventually I met the founding members of WICE, some people who wanted to publish a newsletter listing community events and who were willing to let me try something slightly more ambitious. I am grateful to them for their confidence in me and for their sacrifices on behalf of this project.

The truth is that, for me, *the Mac* has become a part-time job that demands a full-time commitment. Now I have to adapt again, because I can no longer afford the stresses of that situation. I'm resuming my search for a full-time job and will begin releasing *the Mac* into the hands of my collaborators and whoever may decide to join them. I still think *the Mac* is a good idea, and I think it can survive, but it will need to change. It will likely become less frequent. It may look different, and it may need to be produced in partnership with some other entity. The great news for *Macopolitan 2.0* is that there are now a few more terrific people to help get it all figured out.

At least we've got swell personnel

Before I get any further, one of our people is now a mom! Congrats to our calendar editor Laura Courter on the birth of her son James Ellington Courter. Laura took a maternity hiatus during the production of this issue, and it was kind of rough. She returns to the calendar "desk" for whatever comes next, and I am grateful. In other good news, we acquired 3 new board members in Barb Harroun, Brian Powell, and our former business manager Dan Clark, who is no longer able to commit the time required for biz-managing duties but can't bear to leave us. Barb and Brian both bring a lot to *the Mac* as individuals, and their status as current WIU faculty members could potentially help us engage more WIU students—that's assuming that WIU students do not become extinct. Then there's Sally Huffer: the volunteer of my dreams, a media- and nonprofit pro who dropped into the neighborhood from Texas, just like I did. As the issue's extreme tardiness might indicate, it was hard to get it put together without a calendar editor or business manager, and Sally stepped into the breach many times. So many times, in fact, that she gets interm biz-managing credit on this one. Rounding out the personnel news, we've enlisted our first "intern"—not that we're calling him that, since it's a vague title that could mean *fetches coffee* or *writes 10-page grant proposal with desk on fire*. Jon Naskrent is more than capable of assisting with editorial matters and will do so as a volunteer and very part-time editorial assistant for the remainder of this spring.

...and an online-payment system

I'm running out of space for blather, and I ran out of time long ago, but I must emphasize another great leap forward: if you want the Mac to survive, it is now easy to help! You can buy an ad on our website, become an official sponsor, or make a donation in ANY AMOUNT.

finally:

This issue is, again, more than a month late. There are so many reasons for this, including my own case of walking pneumonia, and so little blame to be laid anywhere. I sincerely apologize anyway, especially to the many community members who submitted event information that is now out of date. A project like this relies on participation and varying quantities of volunteer labor from many different people. Volunteer labor is a precious resource, and it's one of the first things to bite the dust when people are individually or collectively stressed—

thank you, sponsors!

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about losing a job, a MAP grant, a spouse's job, the economic viability of a business, whatever. I appreciate every bit of participation this project gets, whether or not we get it into print on time, and may we all come through. Thanks for believing, and for adapting.

Hillary McMahan
Managing Editor

Chad

by Holly Stovall

Eighteen years ago this month, Chad Stovall's canoe capsized at Bernadotte Dam, and that's where his bones are trapped, unless they were washed away. We will never know. In a commentary for Tri States Public Radio last year, I indicated that the intentional minimizing of deaths at the dam is a crime of the spirit.

My brother was enrolled at Western when he drowned. We set up a scholarship in his name, for a student with Tourette Syndrome. Since we have no ashes or body, this scholarship is Chad's only memorial. The memorial scholarship was such a comfort in 1998, but now I wonder if it continues to honor his name. The dead don't ask for much—just to be remembered and respected. It is one thing to betray the living, who can dissent, but to betray the dead is another crime of the spirit.

Chad liked to interact with professors of the liberal arts, because that was how he learned. Retired English professor Dr. John Mann told me that Chad would come to his office just to talk. Dr. Mann knows how lucky he was to have been a part of Chad's short and carefree life.

As the anniversary of Chad's death approaches, I dive to the bottom of the Bernadotte Dam and tuck myself under a tornado of water. The dam is a trap that forces the river to turn in on itself, over and over, consuming flesh and polishing bones. My heart is a chunk of iron that anchors me to the scarred riverbed. Fishing poles, earrings, broken bottles and cans, their edges smoothed, are lodged here as well. Down here, we are oblivious to the election of a wealthy tyrant as governor, and to Western's dark days of "staff realignment"—a euphemism for firing professors of the liberal arts.

Under the waterfall with Chad's bones, I feel safe—buffered—and I want to stay, but the bliss of this ignorance comes at a price: the dark chill is intolerable.

Above ground, I'm crying under the slanted winter sun. When a canoe capsizes, that is an accident, but my layoff is no accident. *People* have caused my grief, and grief causes tears. *People* wrongfully put my name and dozens of others on a layoff list.

In this world, I get up early to cry by myself. I cry before class, during class, during meetings and after them. The most ridiculous sobs spring forth when I'm running, like super balls bouncing off my inner ribs. I consider taking sick days, but I'm

not sick. I cry because a free state does not fire its intellectuals, a university does not place football before faculty, and leaders of an equitable economy do not attack unions. I cry for a loss of academic values and civility. Intimidated, I self-censor the full story.

I cry because I no longer look forward to work—though, once there, my students and colleagues give me energy when they are not crying too. Many of my colleagues in the liberal arts want to leave. Such grief stretched over 18 months will destroy us, and that sometimes appears to be the intent.

Chad would expect me to speak out, but there's something else he might say, had he lived into middle age: *care about the world, care a lot, but not too much.* I want to hear him say it.

Holly Stovall is, for the moment, still an Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at WIU.

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Whatever it was

by Jon Naskrent

All your friends know about the worst times. That's all you'd talk about for the first few months. They know about the time, at Lou's, down the road, where you got into a fight in the car and you wound up throwing a milkshake at her but you missed and it flew out the window. It was strawberry, you told them, as if they hadn't heard the story a million times before. It was strawberry and the ground became pink.

They know about the fight during Christmas where your mother told her to get out of the house. You should have defended her, you knew that—you know that—but she really was being rude. And Mom was right. There's no room for rudeness on Christmas. Everyone knows that.

There's the fight where she hit you, they know about that one, too. And the one where you hit back—or tried, anyway, but she was always tougher than you were, and after you swung your fist you were the one who wound up on the ground.

Those were the worst times. Those four, right there. You're almost ashamed of them. And as you told the stories you felt all the shame burbling, in your stomach, like a kettle on the stove, and just as it was about to spill out, you changed them.

You told your friends about the best times. And weren't they jealous of them. Like the time she took you to see Coldplay down in Arlington. Completely out of the blue. She talked to your boss beforehand, managed to get work off for you. It was paid leave, too, and your boss didn't dock you a sick day for it. And she drove you all the way down, and paid for the tickets and the hotel, and later that night you made love like you'd never made it before.

You told that story every week for a year straight and you still haven't stopped. You've got other stories. The first time it snowed—it doesn't usually snow in Mississippi, but for once, it did. Just a little dusting. It was enough to shut down all the roads for the day. You spent the whole time making a bar from the spare wood you had sitting in the basement. And when you finished, she popped open a bottle of brandy and offered you the first drink—wasn't that special? It's too bad she wound up with the bar when it all ended.

Of course, you never tell them about the middle. And why would you? There is no story to tell about cooking eggs in the morning while she read the paper and nursed away her

headache with a mug of coffee—black. There's no stories in your conversations—they were too innocent. They involved a bird you saw the previous morning or maybe a funny story from work about how the network went down and Jean called you to fix it but it wasn't your department's job.

There's no story to tell about the nights she would fall asleep while you were watching television, and there's no story to tell about how you'd turn on the DVR and she'd watch the rest the next day during her lunch break and leave you a little note with her thoughts on the show. Those notes were poems, written just for you. They said: *Will Jim and Pam ever get together?* but what you read was: *I love you. I love you. I love you.*

There's no story to tell about the company of it, about the feeling you got knowing she would be home when you got home, the comfort of never eating alone. No stories of having someone in the passenger seat wherever you decided to go.

So you speak of the lows and the highs, and in a few months even those you'll stop telling. You'll move on. You'll meet a new girl. And your friends, when you're at the bar, will mention her. They will mention the worst times, and they'll mention the best. They'll mention the Coldplay concert and the time she put her fist in your gut. And the whole while, you'll be forgetting the middle. The simple meals, the company, the quiet nights. All the middles will slip away. And with them the meaning of whatever it was.

Jon Naskrent is a long-time resident of Macomb. He is a senior English major at Western Illinois University and an editor for WIU's literary magazine, Elements.



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a horse is a horse, of course, unless it's Rosie:



The titular Rosie, looking for somebody to slobber on. All photos by Sally Huffer.

At Patton Park, Macomb's off-leash dog park, dog owners vaguely know the people accompanying their canines, but you watch the parking lot to see if Zamboni, Gracie, Hershey, Sarge, or Snoop are arriving. We are not under the delusion that the dogs do the actual driving, but goodness knows our Rosie would pilot us to the corner of Grant and Ward streets every day if the State of Illinois would just issue her a driver's license.

Rosie is a Great Dane. She is, in dog terms, a dork. First, she knows not her size. Tipping the scales at an extremely svelte 100 pounds, give or take, she towers over the other dogs. Rosie is a little clueless, socially. She's not a bully, but she doesn't always recognize the dominant/submissive dynamics playing out between two other dogs, and she'll stick her nose in because she thinks it's just another form of play. Also, she slobbers. We learned our lesson a long time ago.

The Macomb Park District takes measures to close the park when weather conditions pose any kind of danger, but I should tell you that it's muddy sometimes. If it's a muddy day and Rosie is there, there's a good chance that you and your dog will get slimed. Also, the wind whips around Patton Park even on the balmiest of days—and yes, the city sewage plant is nearby, so when the wind is blowing from the south a nose plug might come in handy.

Smells and slobber notwithstanding, the Park District has followed best practices in creating a place for your companion to get out and expend some energy. As human chaperones to the ongoing dog party, it's important that we do our part to make it safe and fun for all.

adventures at the dog park

by Sally Huffer

the layout

There are two fenced-in areas encompassing half an acre. One of these is specifically for smaller dogs and dogs with social anxiety or health issues. Access is near the pavilion at the South Ward entrance. A hose runs from the pavilion down to the park to keep the animals hydrated during the warmer months. When it's cold they turn the water off to prevent the pipes from freezing, so you'll need to bring your own water. Waste bags are available, and you really must keep an eye on your dog's doody duty. For Rosie, that means we grab two when we enter the park. Picking up after your pet is more than a polite thing to do; it's critical for the health and well-being of all other dogs who visit these romping grounds. Parasites and bacteria, you know. Yech.

the culture

Canine behaviorists have several recommendations to help make your trip to the dog park a success:

-  Dog parks have double gates so that you can unleash your dog before entering. In the world of the off-leash dog park, keeping your dog leashed puts her at a psychological disadvantage. You may think you're keeping her safe, but you could be making her a target by teaching her to be afraid.
-  Similarly, you should try to avoid *picking up* your dog. The other dogs will look at your dog like he's a squirrel gone up a tree.
-  Don't bring treats, even if you have enough to share with all the others. That goes for "people food," too. *Your* dog may not be a beggar, but there's no telling what some stranger's dog might do for a bacon double cheeseburger.
-  Don't bring toys unless you're willing to let all the other

dogs play with them, too. Dogs are prone to guarding and stealing treats and toys. For this reason, a tennis ball is much better than a tug-of-war toy that would encourage dogs to battle each other directly.

 All the dogs will run to the new dog full speed ahead to check him out. Always. If you think your dog will be overwhelmed by all this attention, hang outside the fence for a bit and let the other dogs sniff your newcomer through the chain link barrier.

 The dog park is a great place for your puppy to learn social behavior, but please don't bring one that hasn't been fully vaccinated.



 It is not required that your dog be altered, but if there are too many intact males or a female in heat, the

(left) Rosie's so big she won't fit in the frame. Playground buddy shown for scale.

(below) Inside the larger fenced area at Patton Park.

arousal and aggression factor is heightened. It is the responsibility of the intact dog owner to mitigate the escalation of hormones by removing the dog.

 Skirmishes are bound to happen, and in some cases the dogs will work it out themselves. If not, don't try to grab your dog by its collar. Grab your dog by the hips, not the legs, and pull him back like a wheelbarrow.

Finally, the Macomb Park District recently installed two webcams at Patton Park—so, if you want to, you can see if anyone else is at the dog park before heading over. Most of us want all our dogs to get along; if you have any special concerns, it's not a bad idea to come and visit before you bring your dog. Visit www.macombparkdistrict.com/patton-park for more information, and if you happen to see a small pinto horse on the webcam, come say hello to Rosie.

Sally Huffer loves irony. She does not think pets should be accessories, but she does believe a Great Dane can make you look daintier (DANE-tier), like vertical stripes or a pointy shoe.



Macomb's Grandmistress of Board Games

by Sally Huffer

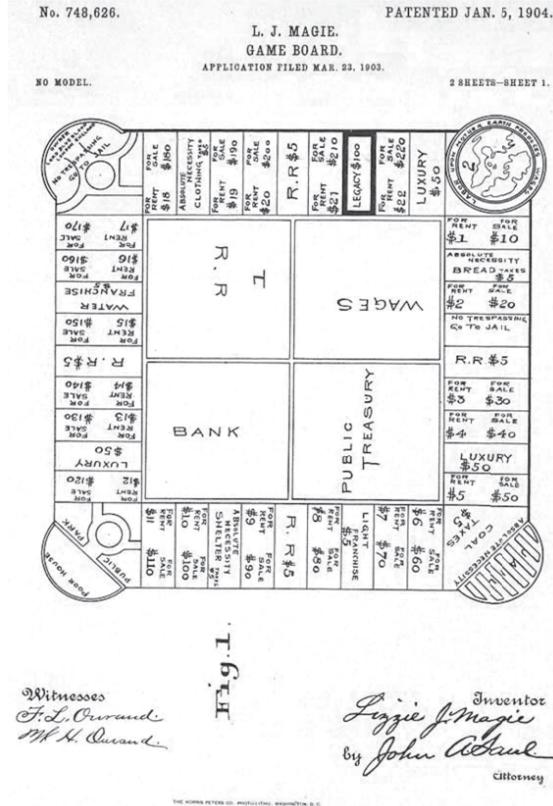
Those of us who are “a certain age” did not grow up with video games and cable television. Indoor entertainment options included the radio, a limited number of channels to change on the television (especially for those of us without a UHF antenna), and a closetful of games.

I remember the distinct smell of my Aunt Jane's Parcheesi game. We didn't know how to play, but we were enamored by the design and colors. When we were very young, the popular games were *Hi Ho Cherry-O*, *Candyland*, *Chutes and Ladders*. Later came the ones with the Pop-O-Matic dice in the center. And who could forget *Clue*? Our parents played *Risk*, and we were mesmerized by the multitude of colorful wooden squares distributed across the map—and occasionally lost in the shag carpeting, until someone with a

tender foot “rediscovered” them. I never did learn how to play *Risk*. At age 8, my older brother appeared on *Bozo's Circus*

and won us a now-defunct game called *Masterpiece*, by playing another game that involved running and stuffing pillows into pillowcases. I never learned how to play *Masterpiece*, but as an artsy-fartsy person I loved looking at the cards.

When it comes to board games, one could argue that the most popular board game of all time, not counting checkers or chess, is



(above left) You should really take a look at a bigger photo of Patent #US748626 A. In the corner where a Monopoly board would say GO, this says Labor Upon Mother Earth Produces Wages. Wow.

Parker Brothers' *Monopoly*. I hated it. My brother brought the game on long family road trips and would beg us to play once we got to our destination. If I played, it was due to familial peer pressure. In retrospect, you could say I was coerced. The words, “Let's play *Monopoly*,” never crossed these lips.

I think the reason I hated it so much is because I just wasn't driven to be a mogul, crushing everyone on my way to the top. *Monopoly* teaches how the rich get richer as the rest of us struggle. The danger is in winning. The very basis of playing a game is turned back on its players.

It might surprise you to find out that *Monopoly* had its origins in one Elizabeth Magie, born on May 9, 1866, right here in Macomb, Illinois. The daughter of a newspaper publisher and abolitionist, Lizzie was a progressive spitfire who was inspired by Henry George's 1879 book *Progress and Poverty*. She submitted her first patent for *The Landlord's Game* in 1903. Can you imagine having such strong and complex political beliefs and *not even having the right to vote*? Lizzie was well into her 50s when the 19th Amendment was ratified. It wasn't until the 1970s that an economics professor waged a legal battle against Parker Brothers, which had tried to prevent him from patenting an Anti-Monopoly game. Irony knocking.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of Lizzie's birth, The Kozmic Game Emporium, A Boy & His Tiger, and WCI Arts Center are holding the Lizzie Magie Design-a-Board-Game Contest. I learned about Lizzie and the contest while talking one afternoon with the Kozmic's Adam Kozlowski, who is a breathing encyclopedia of board games.

The contest is open to all, with awards given in three age categories: kids 12 and under, teens 13–18 and everyone 19 and up. If you like having a little something to help you get started, you can pick up a kit at Kozmic Game Emporium, 135 S. Randolph St., or you can create your game entirely from scratch. The kits are free for kids age 12 and under. The deadline to submit your own board game is April 25, and the awards will be given on Lizzie's birthday, May 9, at West Central Illinois Arts Center on the Macomb square.

For more details check out <http://bit.ly/LizzieGameContest> or just hang out at The Kozmic Game Emporium on board game night (every Tuesday) and mention it to Adam.

Sally Huffer is now fully acclimated to cable television, microwaves, Wi-Fi, fiber optics and smartphones. Sally is currently in the library with Colonel Mustard, reading by candlelight.

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THRU APRIL

Artwork by Ian Courter

On view through April, drawings and graphic work by the husband of our very own calendar editor. Sullivan Taylor Coffee House, Macomb

THRU APR 23

Those of Us Still Living exhibition

We missed the reception—if you did too, you should still see this very cool show consisting of 2- and 3-dimensional figurative works made from reclaimed denim. Otherwise known as old jeans. Artist James Arendt is an associate professor of art and gallery director at Coastal Carolina University. WIU University Art Gallery, Macomb **FREE**

THRU APR 9

The Art of Harlow Blum and Ken Daley exhibition

Two-person exhibition continues through April 9. West Central Illinois Arts Center, Macomb **FREE**

WED MAR 23

WIU Faculty Recital: John McMurtrey, flute
7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall, WIU **FREE**

THU MAR 24

Five Star United States Army Ensemble Guest Performance
7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall, WIU **FREE**

FRI-SAT, MAR 25-26

Melancholy, a play by Sarah Ruhl

This one sounds fascinating: something about a melancholy woman who becomes happy and a hairdresser turning into an almond. How can you pass that up?
7:30 p.m., Simpkins Theatre, Simpkins Hall, WIU

WED MAR 30

WIU Faculty Recital: Jeffrey Brown, piano
7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall, WIU **FREE**

WED APR 3

WIU First Wednesday Free Art Classes

Explore ceramics, metalsmithing, sculpture, printmaking, art education, painting, graphic design and more. Bring a t-shirt and silkscreen on it!
7-9 p.m., Garwood Hall, WIU **FREE**

MON APR 4

McDonough Choral Society: Requiem by Anton Bruckner

Bruckner's first orchestral work, written when he was only 25 years old. 7:30 p.m., Wesley United Methodist Church, 1212 W. Calhoun, Macomb **FREE**

SAT-SUN, APR 9-10

Voices of the Prairie

Galesburg's NOVA Singers team up with the Midwest Paint Group and the Figge Art Museum to present two evenings of visual art, poetry, and song inspired by Midwestern landscapes. Enjoy all of that, with food and wine, in either Galesburg or Davenport, IA. Saturday: 7:30 p.m., Kresge Auditorium, Knox College Fine Arts Center, Galesburg Sunday: 4 p.m., Figge Art Museum, 225 W 2nd St, Davenport Tickets \$18/adults

THU-SAT, APR 21-23

Macomb Poetry Festival

April is National Poetry Month. You need poetry, even if the world is falling apart around you. Especially if the world is falling apart around you. Here you have three days and many opportunities to get your Vitamin P. Individual events are briefly listed below; see the Facebook page for more detailed info: www.facebook.com.



Ken Daley's paintings *St. Croix* and *Monday Mawning* are included in a two-person exhibition opening March 8 at West Central Illinois Arts Center.

com/MacombILPoetryFestival

4/2 Poem In Your Pocket Day at New Copperfield Book Service
Poem In Your Pocket Day at Malpass Library
Black Out poetry session at Malpass Library Rm 180 (11-12 p.m.)

4/22 Voices from the Past w/ Dr. John Hallwas in the Garden Lounge in Malpass Library (10-11 a.m.)
Voices Uplifted in a Celebration of Diversity, WIU Multicultural Center (12-1 p.m.)
Sharing Our Favorite Poem, West Central Illinois Arts Center (1-3 p.m.)
Boiler Room Reading Series, University Art Gallery, WIU (4-5 p.m., see listing on next page)

4/23 Special "poetry editions" of Story Time and Craft, Macomb Public Library (preschool group 9-9:40 a.m., grade school group 10-10:40 a.m.)
Contemporary Midwestern Voices featuring David Wright and Michelle McDannold, West Central Illinois Arts Center (1-2:30 p.m.)
Celebrating Young Adult Voices, West Central Illinois Arts Center (3:30-5 p.m.)
Poetry After Dark closing reception/open mic for mature audiences (21 & over), Old Bailey House (6-8 p.m.)

FRI-SAT, APR 22-23 & APR 29-30

Starry Night Repertory Theatre: *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*
Musical comedy about love and relationships.

Friday performances at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday performances 2 p.m. 4/23, 7:30 p.m. 4/30
American Legion Hall, 221 E Washington St, Macomb
Tickets are \$15 advance purchase, \$18 door, and \$5 for students with ID
Advance purchase via box office: 309-255-8570 or www.StarryNightRep.org



WEDNESDAYS IN MAR/APR

The New Jim Crow Discussion Series

Continuation of a discussion series inspired by Dr. Michelle Alexander's book *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*.

3/23 "The Cruel Hand," facilitators Pamela Bowman and Allen Henderson
3/30 "The New Jim Crow," facilitators Byron Oden-Shabazz and Dianne Fullenwilder-Bracey
4/6 "The Fire Next Time," facilitators Andrea Henderson and Lorette Oden
12-12:50 p.m., Mary Lou Kent Room, 6th floor of Malpass Library, WIU **FREE**

MONDAYS, MAR 7-28

WIU L.I.F.E. class: An Introduction to English Poetry from the Romantic Era (1798-1830), Part I

A class intended anyone who loves to read, write, and/or think about poetry.
2-4 p.m., West Central Illinois Arts Center, 25 E. Side Square, Macomb. Fee \$20
Registration info: visit www.wiu.edu/life/events.php. See the Spring 2016 L.I.F.E. brochure for more great classes.

THU MAR 17

Monmouth College Sam Thompson Lecture: Dr. Eddie Glaude

Dr. Eddie S. Glaude Jr., Chair of African American Studies at Princeton University, is widely considered to be among the most important black intellectuals in the U.S. today. His latest book is *Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*.
7 p.m., Poling Hall, Morgan Room, Monmouth College, Monmouth **FREE**

SAT MAR 19

White Like Me screening

Documentary based on the work of acclaimed anti-racist educator and author Tim Wise, who explores race and racism in the U.S. through the lens of whiteness and white privilege. Sponsored by Mississippi Valley SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice), a national network of groups and individuals organizing white people working with people of color for racial justice. 4-6:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 300 Wigwam Hollow Rd, Macomb

THU MAR 24

Edwidge Danticat

The award-winning author of *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and other books will read from her newest novel, *Claire of the Sea Light*. Part of the Fred Ewing Case and Lola Austin Case writer-in-residence series. 5-7 p.m., Sherman Hall Auditorium, WIU **FREE**

WED MAR 30

Distinguished Faculty Lecture. "More Than Meets the Eye: The Ear"

Dr. Sandra L. McFadden, an auditory neuroscientist who has served as a professor in the WIU Department of Psychology, will talk about the importance and complexity of the auditory system and provide an overview of three common types of acquired hearing loss. 7 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall, WIU **FREE**

THURSDAYS APR 7-28

WIU L.I.F.E. class: More Jazz with Jeff

Jeff Holtz—former TSPR music director and host of WIUM's popular Jazz After Hours—shares his extensive knowledge and vast music collection with participants in LIFE's annual jazz course. 6:30-8 p.m., Wesley Village Community Center, 1200 E. Grant St., Macomb.

Fee \$20, registration info at www.wiu.edu/life/events.php

SUNDAYS, MAR/APR

U.U. lectures & presentations

Macomb's Unitarian Universalist Fellowship usually hosts an informal lecture/presentation as part of each Sunday's service. Anyone is welcome to attend.

3/20 Hillary McMahan, "The Miss Diagnosis Pageant: Autoimmune Disease as Environmental and Feminist Issue"
3/27 Amy Carr, "Communal Fragility and the Mindfulness of Hope: Easter Reflections"
4/3 Heather McMeekan, "Hope in Flight: Kites as Tools for Social Justice"
4/17 Ed Franks, "Enticing Birds to Your Home"
4/24 Ginny Jelatis, "It is Never too Late to Act Your Rage: Activism in the 21st Century"

10:30 a.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 300 Wigwam Hollow Rd, Macomb

TUE APR 5

TEDX Western Illinois University

Ideas worth spreading, right here in the cornfields. Hosted by WIU's Presidents Institute. As the event's Facebook page says:
TEDx programs are of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group.
7-10 p.m., University Union Grand Ballroom, WIU. Tickets are available via raffle. See the Facebook page for more info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/571776539642660/>

WED APR 13

Great Reads Book Club

This adult reading/discussion group coordinated by the Friends of the Macomb Public Library meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Polly Upton will lead a discussion of *TransAtlantic* by Colum McCann. 7 p.m., meeting room, Macomb Public Library

FRI APR 22

Boiler Room Reading Series

Readings of original work by WIU English Department students and faculty
Featured faculty member is Dr. Merrill Cole; featured students are Meghan Haupers, Dakota Carlson, and Alyson Eagan.

4-5 p.m., University Art Gallery, WIU



SUN APR 2

Gardeners' Day

Sponsored by University of Illinois Extension Service and McDonough County Master Gardeners. Spoon River College Outreach Center, 2500 E. Jackson St., Macomb 9 a.m.-12 p.m., register by March 29 **FREE**

SAT APR 23

Earthfest 2016 Presented by Horn Environmental Learning Project and a buncha crazy WIU students. Arts, crafts, booths, yoga, freecycle and more. Maybe *the Mac* will be there. We could make bricks or mulch out of our back issues. Let us know if you have other ideas. Live music by Bluedream, Chew Toy, Marmaletta and Mr. Content.
10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Chandler Park, Macomb

APRIL 9

Roller Derby Bout: Macomb Bombshells season opener

The Macomb Bombshells battle MidState Mayhem Roller Derby in their home opener. 7 p.m. (doors open at 6), the Outskirts, Macomb

SAT APR 30

ExTri: the Spring Lake Park Extreme Triathlon

We can't do better than the press release, so it is excerpted below:

Extri! Extri! Extri! Read all about it! Ryan Hansen, manager of Spring Lake Park, with John Slater and Gil Belles, race directors, announce the inaugural Spring Lake Park Extreme Triathlon. On April 30, 2016, with the water in Spring Lake an *extremely* brisk 58 degrees, ExTri participants will swim 400 yards (wet suits highly recommended). After drying off, the survivors will put on helmets and pedal their mountain bikes over 8 miles of *extremely* rough trails in the park woods. The final leg will test the endurance of the participants to run 2.5 miles on an *extremely* rough course on the off road trails. This "first time" event will be limited to 20 participants to maximize safety. Gil Belles stresses that participation and completion outweigh competition. No gender or age divisions.

9 a.m., Spring Lake Park, Macomb, \$20 fee. Entry forms downloadable from Facebook page: Extreme Triathlon Macomb. Applications close April 15 (or when 20 folks enter). To guarantee T-shirt size, enter before March 31. Send check (pay to Spring Lake Management) and entry form to Gil Belles, 221 Columbia St., Macomb, IL 61455. Questions: AG-Belles@wiu.edu

SAT MAR 19

MCSRA Trivia Night Fundraiser

Trivia event to benefit the McDonough County Special Recreation Association and the individuals it serves. Free food from Buffalo Wild Wings, cash bar, and raffle. 6:30-9:30 p.m., American Legion Post 6, 221 E Washington, Macomb \$10/Team of 4-8 players

SUN MAR 20 & APR 24

Soup N' More

Monthly free dinner open to any and all. Prepared by members of a different area church every month; always located at the one with the biggest kitchen/basement. Extra help usually needed and always welcome. Live music and take-home groceries are also offered. 2 p.m. to help, 4 p.m. dinner. First Presbyterian Church, 400 E. Carroll, Macomb

FRI MAR 25

2nd Annual Family Masquerade Ball

Family-friendly formal event and fundraiser for the Macomb Park District. WCI Arts Center, 25 E Side Square. Tickets \$25 Adults/\$14 youth

THRU MAR 31

Mother Moon Service Scholarship

The McDonough County United Way is accepting applications for the Mother Moon Service Scholarship. High school juniors who are involved in community service activity and plan to pursue higher education are invited to apply for the scholarship, which was established in honor of Sadie "Mother" Moon. Scholarship applications must be received in the United Way office on March 31.

For specific eligibility requirements or to request an application, contact the United Way: 309-837-9180 or mcdeunitedway@gmail.com.

SAT APR 2

Humane Society of McDonough County

Foster Cat Showcase

The HSMC folks, God bless 'em, scoop up adoptable animals that are running out of time at the shelter and place them in foster homes provided by other blessed community members, where they get loving care, socialization, and an extended shot at finding a forever home. The cats at this showcase have been in foster care for a while and need permanent families. All are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, and up-to-date on their vaccines. Adoption fee is only \$25. See our back page for pics of a few hopefuls. 12-2 p.m., Macomb City Hall Community Room

THU APR 14

People4Paws low-cost spay/neuter transport

Spay/neuter saves lives, so don't put off spay day until payday if you don't have to. People4Paws is helping strapped pet parents with a monthly transport to a low-cost spay/neuter and vaccination clinic. Transport days happen on the second Thursday of the month, and Friday is pet pick-up day. Email for detailed info and get your four-legger on the fix list: people4pawsil@gmail.com

THRU APR 23

Call for Artists: Genesis Garden Gutted Gala

Genesis Garden Executive Director Will Wetzal is looking for artists and/or artisans to create work using reclaimed building materials, for a fundraiser the organization plans to host on April 23. Materials are the result of remodeling on a house that will be used as an emergency family shelter. Artists and artisans interested in participating should contact Will:w.wetzal@genesis-garden.org or (309)-255-3448.

ALTERNATING SATURDAYS/SUNDAYS

Informal Latin club dance lessons for newbies

An informal opportunity to learn salsa, merengue, bachata, etcetera with local dance/fitness maven Anne Dixon and a diverse group of would-be salsa/os. Donation-based lessons/practice; contact Anne Dixon for place/time (AnneMDixon@hotmail.com) or just find "Latin Club Dance lessons for newbies" on Facebook.

FRIDAYS

Macomb Community Drum Circle

6:30-7:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Macomb, 300 Wigwam Hollow Road

WED MAR 16

Macomb Beautiful Association

First spring meeting of Macomb Beautiful. Chris Enroth from the University of Illinois Extension speaks on weed control and leaf mulch. Open to all. Lunch 11:30 a.m., program 12 p.m., Old Dairy, Macomb

FRI-SAT MAR 18-19

Wesley United Methodist Church Spring Rummage Sale

8 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Sat, Wesley United Methodist Church, Macomb

MON MAR 21

McDonough County Genealogical Society meeting

7-9 p.m., Western Illinois Museum, Macomb

FRIDAYS THRU MAR 25

Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry

St. Paul Catholic Church gymnasium, 322 W. Washington St., Macomb, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$9 adults/\$5 children

SAT MAR 26

General meeting of Mississippi Valley SURJ (Showing

Up for Racial Justice)

Meeting of new local SURJ chapter. SURJ is a national network of groups and individuals organizing white people working with people of color for racial justice. Open to all. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Louie's Diner, 118 S Lafayette, Macomb

SAT APR 2

General Macomb's Birthday Party

We don't think he looks a day over 50, but Macomb's foremost forefather will be 234 years old this year. The annual celebration held in his honor is an opportunity for locals of all ages to learn about the man himself, the War of 1812, and the circumstances that launched the development of the region. This year's party also includes a creative opportunity for area kids, who are invited to create a party hat for General Macomb at the event or beforehand. The Western Illinois Museum will display their creations from March 28 through April 9, and Mayor Mike Inman will award a \$25 Macomb Chamber of Commerce Gift Certificate for the most creative design in each of four age groups at the event. Entry sheets and contest guidelines are available at the museum and can also be downloaded from the museum's website (www.wimuseum.org). Most importantly, there will be CAKE. 1-2:30 p.m., Western Illinois Museum, Macomb. Free and

FRI APR 8

Western II Traditional Music Association (WITMA) jam

For old-time music aficionados. Musicians and listeners welcome. 7-11 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Macomb

WED APR 20

Macomb Beautiful Association

Second spring meeting. Allen Nemec, Vice Chair of McDonough County Historic Preservation Commission, will provide an update on the Commission's plans and activities. Lunch 11:30 a.m., program 12 p.m., The Old Dairy, Macomb

(left) Party animal General Alexander Macomb. Join him, or at least several dozen colorful likenesses, at the Western Illinois Museum's annual birthday celebration in his honor on April 2.



SATURDAYS, APR 2 & APR 30

WIU Art Gallery Sock Monkey Saturdays

"Make and take" art fun. All materials provided. 4/2: Fabric and Paper Faces; 4/30: Terrific Tape Transfers & More. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., WIU Art Gallery, Macomb

SUN APR 10

Macomb Park District Family Workshop Series: Create a Ceramic Sun

Bring the family to create a coiled ceramic sun. Wear clothes that can get dirty. Fee includes glazes, tools & brushes, bisque and glaze kiln firing. Fee is \$8 per adult & child pair, \$3 each additional child. 1-3 p.m., Lakeview Nature Center, 10050 N 1500th Rd, Macomb

THRU MAR 25

Coloring Contest: Design a Birthday Hat for General Macomb

Kids in 4 age groups are invited to design festive haberdashery for historic figure General Alexander Macomb. Enter by Mar 25 to be eligible for prizes; participation is welcome anytime after that. Free entry. Winners will be selected by Mayor Mike Inman and a \$25 Macomb Chamber Gift Certificate awarded to each. Contest rules at: www.wimuseum.org/coloring-contest; see previous column for more info about General Macomb's Birthday Party.

SORRY

We are sorry if you submitted event information that became outdated before this issue made it to press.

As long as the Mac exists, we will keep trying to get it right. Laura Courter will take your May-July event information anytime: calendar@macopolitan.org

high school happenings

MACOMB HIGH SCHOOL

SAT MAR 26

MHS Band: Jazz Afternoon on the Square, 2 p.m.

WEST PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL

FRI-SAT, APR 8-9

Play Performance, 7 p.m.

FRI APR 22

Music Concert, 7:30 p.m.

Macomb Poetry Festival

April 21-23, 2016

in various locations on the beautiful campus of Western Illinois University

and

in the City of Macomb's historical downtown



Celebrating great poetic voices, sharing intense personal experiences, & conveying crucial human values

www.facebook.com/MacombILPoetryFestival

Macomb Poetry Festival Committee

- John E. Hallwas
- Kristin Terry
- Linda Cox
- Kathy Nichols
- Jessica Kasperek
- Mark Mossman
- Nancy Crossman
- Barbara Harroun
- Christina Norton

by Janeil Page



Day 1

Everywhere, we scar the land and honor the wound. I look out the hotel window with my children. A peninsula of pier cuts the lake. A cheeky Ferris is fanning its slow smile. People too small to see toss Chicago mix into magnificent, wide mouths. Lemonade flushes their thoughtless retinue.

Day 2

We are an oddity wherever we go. The city is sizeable and shapeless still our hair is an illusory term of discord. We are wild geese wandered off the island. There was a for instance: My son's hair is twisting, a climbing vine. The Nordic stewardess draws herself tight in the elevator. The picture she paints is far away from him. Her spiked language is spoken only to her companions, but I can hear sentiments very well. I peck her tiny heart out with my black beaded eyes.

Day 3

We walk along the Lincoln Park and I stop to read the old lakeshore. 8,000 years ago the lake lapped here. I feel its tongue, loose and liquored. But there is no Jean-Baptiste Point Du Sable that I can trace here and I never find his trail. He is far from me: cupped cheek, his dropping head laid to rest. Every smile is loose, churlish. Every look away from us leaves me raw. Trapped in my chest is one long thud. We are lost.

Day 4

I whisper to every Chicagoan I meet: *Tell me where I'm going.*

Day 5

Only the statues bend their ear to me. There is a memorial wreath of tender silk petals, pleating under rain and palling under an overly familiar sun. It balances beside Du Sable's bronze bust at its solitary station: the mouth of the Chicago River. If I were to jump

I would want to talk it through first. How many times does he want to say but can only listen? How like a knife stuck upward deep in the sandy shore line is his bust perched over the mortiferous water.

Janeil "Jinny" Page has a hard-earned 2015 MFA in creative writing from the low-residency program at Bennington College in Vermont. She is Peoria native and a member of that city's Grandview Hotel Poets. She works as an academic advisor at Western Illinois University.

by Janeil Page

Plight of the Raking Proletariat

I used to know something
About everything until everything
Became too big. Not enough
Damn leaves. The scritch of metal
Fingers graze cement. Irksome.
Not ever enough to keep

My rake gliding smoothly over
The boggy face of my small plot.
Scraggly twigs like unruly grays
In my beard, old lawn clippings
like scars of several summers'
worth of an onerous youth, and sweet
lips of leaves cling

to the lawn's edge, to the border
A concrete walk that I poured myself
a few years back. I know a thing or two
about bricklaying, plumbing, building,
you name it.

Now look: I scratch ineffectually at
The leavings of an earlier life's work.
What missed being gathered, refuses to go
Quietly now. I used to know

Something about everything. Could place
My hand against the ground, the streets
Of this city and take its pulse. I knew it
And it knew me. But the city
Today, kids on bikes fought for or on foot
Hands protectively clinching something

In their pockets. God knows what.
Their constant stare
They judge an old man who only wants
To rake his leaves awhile before

Retreating to the porch to watch
The rest of the things I used to know
Something about, ripping
Through the veins of a city
Grown too big for me to carry.



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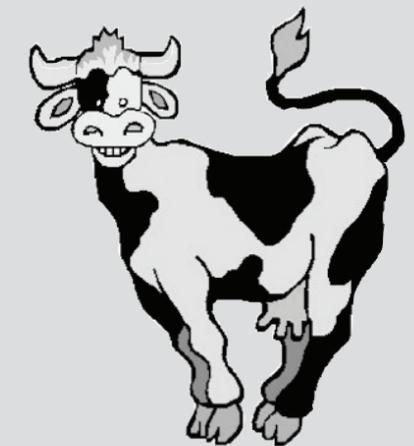
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Mark and Emily Gamage, Owners
Beth Green, Kitchen Manager

my favorite places to recycle

by Paula Wise

It will soon be spring cleaning season. Where in Macomb do you take “stuff” you want to get rid of? This is not a comprehensive list, but here are some of the places I’m familiar with.

Books, DVDs, and CDs

Paperbacks, hardback books, CDs, and DVDs that are in good condition are accepted by Friends of the Macomb Public Library. The nonprofit group resells these donations to purchase new materials for the library. Their storage space is limited, so they can’t accept textbooks, encyclopedias, Reader’s Digest condensed books, VHS tapes, or cassettes. Just take your donations to the main desk inside the Macomb Public Library during regular business hours. They’ll give you an itemized receipt for your taxes if you want one.

Clothing

Gently-used clothing may be taken to the Western Illinois Regional Council at 223 S. Randolph St. The WIRC distributes clothing directly to those in need and free of charge. If you find your bathroom stocked with an excess of travel- or sample-size personal care products (shampoo, soap, etc.), the WIRC takes these as well. They will also give you an itemized receipt in exchange for your donations.

Other local organizations and thrift stores that take used clothing:

- Goodwill Industries, 1522 E. Carroll St.
- The Crossing, 1600 W. Jackson St.
- The Salvation Army, 505 N. Randolph St.
- H.O.P.E. Community Thrift Store, 122 N. Side Square

Magazines

McDonough District Hospital will accept magazines no more than three months old to place in lobby and waiting areas throughout the building. They will black out names and addresses, so there is no need to cut out your address labels. Magazines should be taken to the volunteer office in the basement.

Prescription eyeglasses

You can take used eyeglasses to many of the eye doctors in town, including these:

- Professional Eye Care Center, 820 E. Jackson St.
- Walmart Vision Center, 1730 E. Jackson St.
- Family Vision Care/Dr. David Culver, 222 S. Randolph St.



Where can I take this thing?



dissolve in water. Most are not. You can take the indestructible kind to Copy Pack Post Business Center at 35 W. Side Square. They’ll take other packing materials too, such as block foam and those plastic “air pillows” that Amazon uses. The folks at CPP will even give you a coupon good for a discount the next time you want to send a package from their store.

Flags

Any flags, even those in poor condition and in need of burial, may be taken to the American Legion at 221 E. Washington St.

Athletic shoes

The YMCA collects gently used athletic shoes to resell. During the winter holiday season they also accept hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens on behalf of WIRC.

Stuffed animal toys

Carolee Sellers and her husband Stanley collect stuffed animals and hand one out to every student at Macomb’s MacArthur and Lincoln schools in December. Donations need to be in good condition and without batteries—just soft toys for children to hug. Carolee is able to do this through Aramark, which provides the storage unit used to collect the toys year-round. Call Carolee at (309) 836-9935.

Electronics/Computers

There is no need to clog our landfills with old computers, monitors, microwaves, televisions, etcetera. Tri-County Resource and Waste Management Council accepts electronic “junk” Tuesday through Friday mornings, from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., and on the first Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until noon. Their facility is located at 510 N. Pearl St. in Macomb. You may also donate your old paint at this location.

Paula Wise is a retired professor of psychology from WIU. She is involved in many activities and organizations in Macomb.



The Lions Club also collects eyeglasses: they have bright yellow collection boxes that look like recycled mail boxes at the Farm King and at the Citizens Bank branch on West Jackson. You can also use these yellow boxes to donate used hearing aids.

Packing materials

You know those packing peanuts that fly everywhere when you open a package? Nowadays, some are made from cornstarch so they

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Ever wonder why our live music listings consistently feature so many out-of-town, out-of-McDonough-County venues? Simple: because these venues have up-to-date websites or have otherwise made this information available and easy to find online.

The Mac runs on extremely limited volunteer and part-time cheap labor, so we probably won’t have time to call your venue, call again, stop back by after 5 and talk to what’s-his-name, etcetera.

We want to include all local live music; we really do! If you’re a venue owner/manager who can’t be bothered with techy stuff, there are local designer-types who can do it for you. Some of them have advertised in our pages, and we have a list of local freelancers that we’ll be happy to share with you! (Contact bizmanager@macopolitan.org)

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Sat Mar 26 Chew Toy with the Memphis Dives

Fat Fish Pub, Galesburg

Sun Apr 3 Blues and BBQ with Nick Moss Band
 \$30 tickets include pork BBQ w/ sides & reserved seating

New Cooperfield’s Book Service, Macomb

Sat Mar 19 Dickie Bent (1 p.m.)

Market Alley Wines, Monmouth

music 5:30-7 p.m. unless noted

Fri Mar 19 The Blenders
 Sat Mar 20 Barnyard Blue
 Fri Mar 25 Jordan Danielson
 Sat Mar 26 EastEnders
 Fri Apr 1 No Reason
 Sat Apr 2 Dan Eilers
 Wed Apr 6 OPEN MIC
 Fri Apr 8 Podunk Posse
 Sat Apr 16 Bill and Keel
 Sat Apr 16 Mari Lohrelein
 Fri Apr 22 Lewis Knudsen
 Sat Apr 23 Blind Witness
 Fri Ap 29 King Neptune

The Outskirts, Macomb

Fri Mar 19 Lick Creek
 Sun Mar 27 Stumptown
 Fri Apr 1 Black Sheep April Fools Expo: Springfield bands Pryss, Gush, and Livin’ Thing. Images (from Macomb) will open.
 Sat Apr 2 “Glow Ur Mind Neon Paint Party” w/ Nashville DJ Josh Bogs

Vallillo-Holtz Performance Studio, Macomb

Sat Apr 2 Chris Vallillo and special guest Rocky Maffit (7 p.m. Celebration Concert Series performance)

Wine Sellers, Macomb

Fri Mar 18 Fred Railsback
 Fri Mar 25 The Blenders
 Sun Apr 3 Vino & Vinyl (5-9 p.m.)

Celebrating Miss Margaret

by Barbara Lawhorn Harroun

The countless children and community members filling the Macomb Public Library on a late November day weren't there for the books. They'd gathered to say thank you to beloved children's librarian Margaret Sowers, who nourished a love of reading in our community's youth for 41 years.

My entire family loves "Miss Margaret," and when I explained to my children that she was retiring, we all agreed the library would never be quite the same. My son, once a shy toddler, had taken to Miss Margaret right away, and my daughter found a kindred spirit with whom to discuss books and marvel at pictures and giggle at Pete the Cat. My children lived for the Summer Reading Program, and I still remember the first summer Jack signed his own name. He was so proud.

It was 1974 when Margaret Sowers began instilling this love and pride of literacy in our community's children. Over the years, "Miss Margaret" became synonymous with the Summer Reading Program, a literacy incentive program incorporating other fun activities organized around a central theme. As the SRP grew in popularity, eventually averaging around 300 participants per year, Margaret had to begin planning each summer's program in January. One year, the program embraced nearly 400 kids of varying age groups, and fairness has always been key for this librarian. "When I first started doing crafts for SRP, we only did one age group," she remembers. "Then I decided it wasn't fair to do just one age group, so now we do for all ages. So you have to plan that."

Miss Margaret's favorite theme, "Reading is Delicious," was a highlight for the library staff and the kids. It was always so clear that Miss Margaret does think of reading as delicious. Her love of books is passionate and genuine. As she recalled, "Choosing the book materials was one of my faves. It was like Christmas when boxes of books would come in. Just the process of opening them....it's like the new car smell, only it's books."

Another priority for Margaret was ensuring that the Macomb Public Library's collection include important and award-winning books for younger readers. During her 41 years of service, she watched children's literature evolve to encompass "...more contemporary topics that many kids experience in their own lives." Miss Margaret has witnessed changes to the library, too—the same one she visited during her own childhood. "I started out [working] in the original Carnegie building, in 3 rooms," she

told me. "Story time was held in the same room, at that time, as it had been when I was in grade school."

Miss Margaret read to me when I was a child, and she often read to my children as they sat on my lap. During those moments with my own kids, I experienced the same love and deep appreciation for Miss Margaret that I'd felt the first time. Perhaps I picked up something about the art of appreciation from Miss Margaret herself, who noted that she was so thankful to all who attended her retirement reception. As she adventures through retirement, traveling to visit her sister in Florida and dreaming of a train trip to Arizona, I hope she will carry the knowledge of her positive impact on so very many hearts and minds here in Macomb.

Barbara Lawhorn Harroun is an Assistant Professor in the English Department at WIU. She is also a new member of the Western Illinois Culture and Education (WICE) board of directors. We are happy to have her.



(above) Children's librarian Margaret Sowers with fan Jack Harroun
Photo by Barbara Lawhorn Harroun

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(right)

As Rich Egger observed, "nothing says breakfast buffet like \$2.50 cans of Old Milwaukee Light."

Rich Egger also took this photo. Rich is the news director at Tri States Public Radio. He also takes nice photos of backyard flora and fauna.



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▲ Eight Ball: 7 month old male teen heartthrob

Midnight and Indigo: "2 for 1" sibling pair prefers to stick together ▼



▲ Chestnut: 2-3 year old male lap cat seeks permanent lap(s)



hello! we are some of THE FOSTERS



▲ Dice, sweet-natured 7 month old male, loves cuddles



Granger: young female likes to play with other kitties ▼



▲ Gianna: 1-2 yr old female grey tabby w/ calm and calming disposition



we can haz reel homes pleez? thank u

▲ Freckles, 3 year old calico female, 7 mos. in foster care

MEET THE FOSTERS APRIL 2, 12-2 p.m. MACOMB CITY HALL

With help from the McDonough County Humane Society, these and other homeless cats escaped euthanasia and found safe refuge in area foster homes.

All cats fostered via HSMC are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, and up-to-date on vaccinations. The adoption fee is \$25—which helps us save more lives.

When you **ADOPT A FOSTER CAT** you make room for another animal who is out of time at the shelter. You get a lifelong friend who has benefitted from the care and attention they received in a foster home, and we all **SAVE LIVES**.

For more info about fostering or adopting a pet, please contact HSMC: humanesociety.mcil@gmail.com or (309) 837-5611.