

the

# MACOPOLITAN

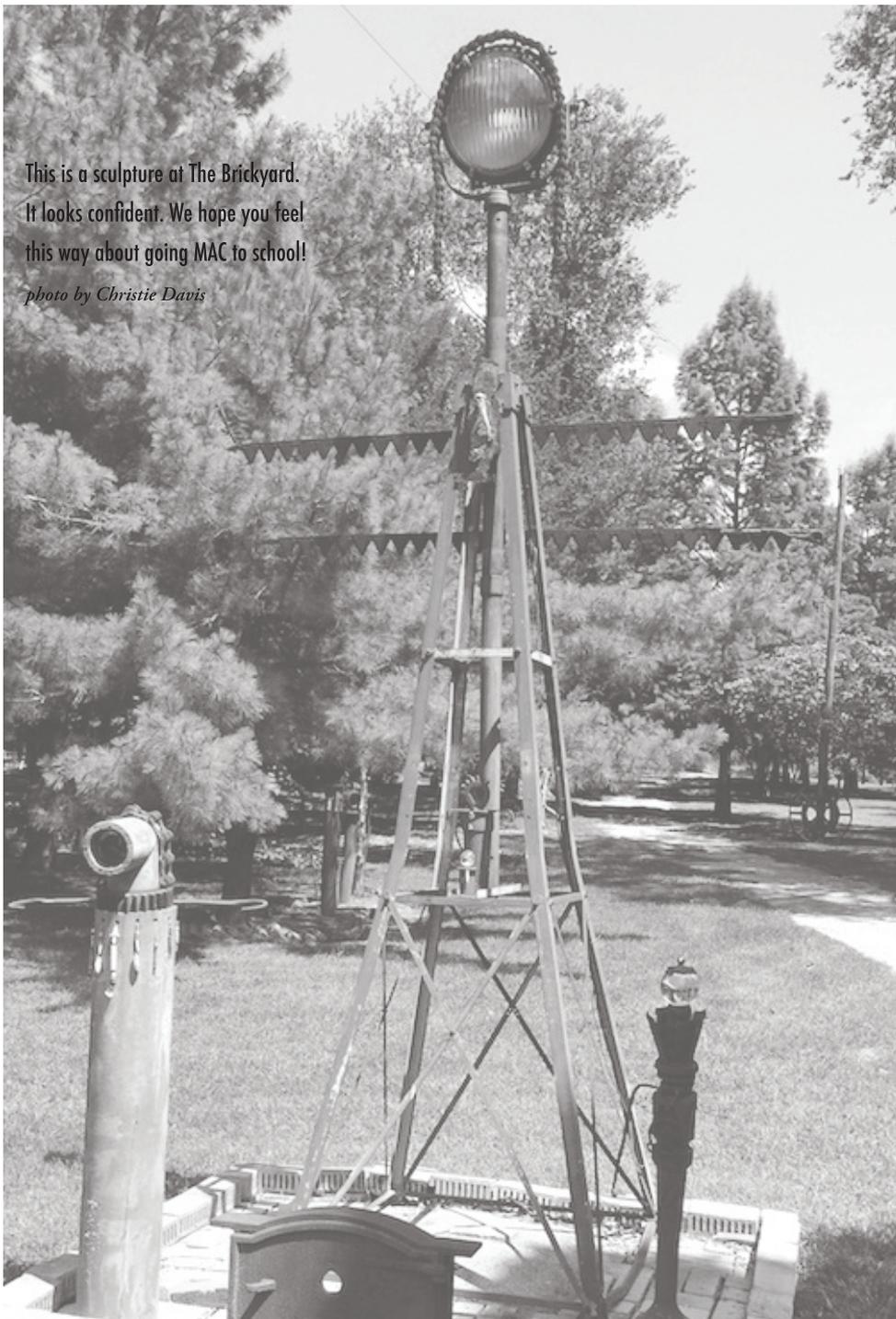
SEPTEMBER

2015

*creative living in McDonough County*

This is a sculpture at The Brickyard.  
It looks confident. We hope you feel  
this way about going MAC to school!

*photo by Christie Davis*



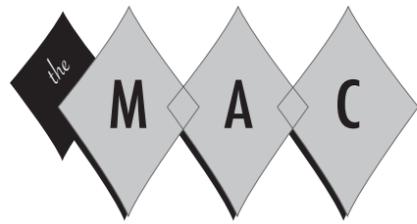
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recreation  
&  
improved  
quality of life  
in **MACOMB** and  
**MCDONOUGH  
COUNTY**

## in this issue...

Al Sears Fest spotlights women of jazz

Bright lights, very small city  
Noel Lane's light pollution tour

Remembering Margaret Harn



creative living  
in McDonough County

# the MACOPOLITAN

macopolitan.org

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## OCTOBER ISSUE DEADLINES

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Information and guidelines available on our website:  
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### AD DEADLINE

Sept 21, 2015

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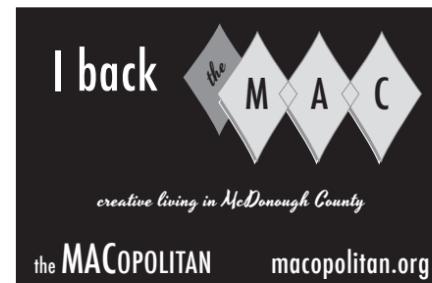
Sept 21, 2015

Please send back page "Local Color" submissions to localcolor@macopolitan.org  
Other photographic contributions are also welcome—cover images, photo essays, etc.  
Send those to editor@macopolitan.org

## MAC-nouncements & editor blather

I had a lot of stuff I was going to say in an intelligent blurb, but now I've run out of time for the blurb and I've been awake long enough to incur permanent brain damage, so I'll just keep it really simple. Like really, really simple. Bullet points might be good.

- We have a fantastic new calendar editor in Laura Courter. She is super game for the insanity of an underfunded community-media project, and we love that! Welcome, Laura!
- We must publicly and profusely thank Computer Source on the Square for donating a "low-end" MacBook for Laura to use in her *Macopolitan* capacities. We needed something old...it's a long story. Thank you, Computer Source!!!
- We have some new stickers that are kind of cool. We're giving them to our advertisers and sponsors, so that everyone will know what great community-minded people they are. And also because shameless self-promotion is a key fundraising strategy.
- Finally, by the time you read this we will have published a Links page on our website! Which might seem like no big deal, but I think it's pretty important. I like to think of the *Macopolitan* as a "creative placemaking" project as well as a rinky-dink community forum, and creative placemaking requires that people and groups exchange information, within the community and outside of it, in order to spread good ideas.



also builds character and quality of place." That definition comes from Artscape DIY, an organization that promotes and studies this whole idea. We're adding their website to our links page, in case you want to scope it out. Anyway, we're including some links to these sorts of "big" organizations and ideas, for those interested. Mainly, we're including *your* links—that is, links to local arts/cultural, educational, recreational, and otherwise interesting local people/places/things. We'll link to you, you can link to us, maybe there'll be miracles that result. You never know. —Ed.

## dept. of CORRECTIONS

Please forgive our delay in setting the record straight, but the back page of our May/June issue may have led you to believe that a road some locals refer to as the St. Francis Blacktop was named—or, rather, nicknamed—after the "old high school."

The St. Francis Blacktop actually derives its nickname from an old *hospital*, not an old high school. While these two institutional categories might share certain characteristics—highly-regimented, brightly-lit, and noisy—they are not one and the same! The St. Francis hospital used to sit at the corner of Grant and Johnson streets—S. Johnson being the road's official name. It was demolished to make way for MDH. Many thanks to readers Margaret Ovitt and Cynthia Cavett, who wrote to correct us.

While it's embarrassing enough to print a factual error, our real crime was allowing you to believe that Peter Cole—a *history* professor—did not have his local history straight when he participated in the late-night Facebook conversation excerpted on our back page. In fact, Peter merely mis-typed, and (as his internet footprint will forever show), edited his comment to read "hospital" within minutes of posting it. Unfortunately, I used those same minutes to send the issue to the printer, after which I think I passed out and didn't look at a computer again for another 12 hours.

Why not help us avoid another back-page rush job by sending us some local photos with your accompanying commentary? Finally, this is a citizen-journalist project, and you are a citizen. Please let us know if we get something wrong! —Ed.



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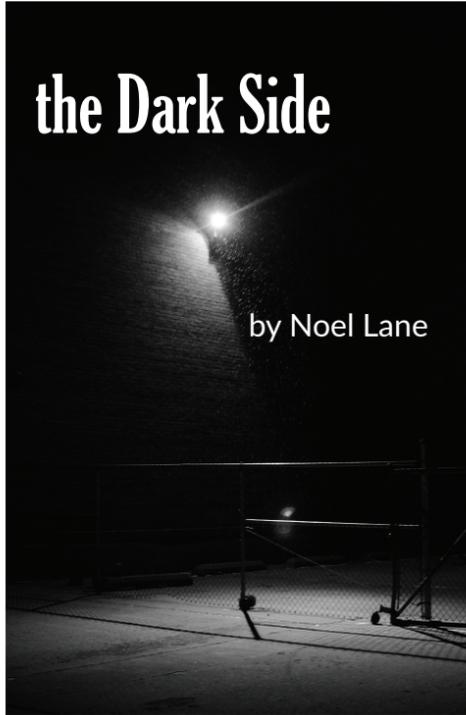
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located across from West Pierce Liquors  
309-833-4912

walking...  
after midnight

## A Walk on

# the Dark Side

by Noel Lane



Macomb noir photos by Bill Thompson

In the first issue of *the Macopolitan*, Peter Cole enthused about the charms Macomb holds for bicyclists, and he's right. Compact, mostly flat, and largely devoid of aggressively intolerant drivers, Macomb is an ideal place to try and replace the automobile with the bicycle. Sometimes, though, a walk makes more sense or just seems more relaxing. In winter weather, walking at three miles per hour instead of riding at ten is the difference between exhilaration and frostbite. And only a brave person with a well-trained pooch will try riding the dog. (I have seen it done.)

It is my good fortune (OK, it was partly great planning) to live seven minutes on foot from Sullivan Taylor, nine minutes from my bank or Old Dairy, ten minutes from Copperfield's, and twelve minutes from Cady's. Most of my trips downtown are walking excursions, winter or summer, and it's a rare trip that I don't meet a friend or acquaintance to talk to for a bit.

There's a fly in the ointment, though—seldom noticed during the winter when we stay close to home after dark, but blindingly obvious in summer when we often walk at night. After dark, it's cooler and quieter, there's less traffic, and the computer and television don't follow us as we walk. On particularly hot days, an evening stroll might be the difference between some physical activity and none. And, at night, whether walking or driving, it's hard to ignore the fact that Macomb needs a more enlightened (or maybe I should say a less enlightened?) approach to outdoor lighting.

### dark sky: hard to come by?

I started becoming more aware of faulty outdoor lighting when I happened on an article about the International Dark Sky Society. The Society was founded in 1988 when two Arizona astronomers realized that the overzealous outdoor lighting of nearby cities was making their sophisticated and expensive equipment ineffective. Some longtime city dwellers don't even realize that the sky is spectacular when seen from a dark place on a clear night. More than once, after an evening of merriment, visitors to my family's home in rural Fulton County (nearest village, six miles away; nearest outdoor light, over a mile away) have exclaimed, "Now I

see why they call it the Milky Way!"

In Macomb, even on a clear night, the Milky Way is invisible almost everywhere. Anyone flying over our small town at night can see that a large percentage of Macomb's outdoor lighting is aimed at the bellies of passing aircraft: not just a nuisance for stargazers, but a gigantic waste of kilowatts and dollars.

### a little light reading

*Light pollution, light trespass, and sky glow* are terms used by city planners and others to reference outdoor lighting problems and their consequences. The typical Macomb streetlight does all the "don'ts" of nighttime lighting. About sixty percent of the light produced is aimed where it is not needed (at nearby trees, up into the sky) or not wanted (upstairs bedroom windows). Only about forty

percent of the light produced (and electricity used) illuminates the intersection—which is, after all, the purpose of the light. In addition, the brilliantly glowing element interferes with the night vision of passing drivers (glare.) You'll find another blazing example of terrible nighttime lighting at one of our local gas stations, where three large, brilliant light fixtures stand about eight feet off the ground, in a spot that's already well-lit without them, aimed slightly skyward and into the eyes of passing motorists.

"But," you say, "Isn't outdoor lighting necessary for security at night?" The short answer, of course, is yes. Well-designed lighting makes nighttime activities safer and more secure, but poorly designed lighting is sometimes worse than none at all. There are two reasons why this is true. First, since light intensity diminishes rapidly with distance, the glowing element at the heart of almost every light source must be many, many times brighter than the object(s) it is intended to illuminate. Second, the eye automatically protects itself by limiting the amount of light entering through the pupil. If the eye is forced to stare at the illuminating element, it cannot see less brightly-lit objects, such as

**"...Macomb has attempted to improve the appearance of the downtown square by installing faux-Victorian street lamps that are attractive during the day, but that make the nighttime downtown 'scene' feel like midnight at the penitentiary."**

pedestrians crossing the street. What this means, in practice, is that if you are seeing the glowing element and at the same time trying to see the object being illuminated, something has to give.

What, then, *are* the characteristics of well-designed outdoor lighting? The first, most basic principle is that outdoor lighting should illuminate the target area and nothing else. Second, it should not produce glare—brilliant light shining directly into the eyes of passing motorists or pedestrians. Finally, smart outdoor lighting conserves energy (and money) by directing all light produced to areas where it is wanted or needed.

### blinded by the light? put up a polite fight

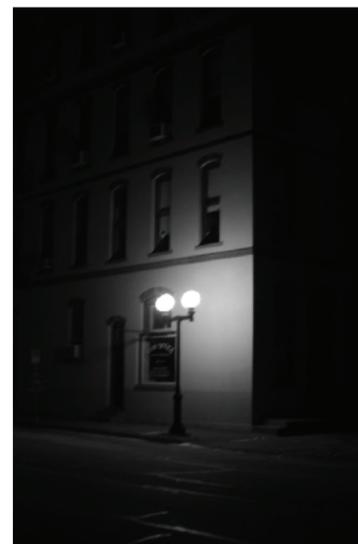
So, what to do? First, get in the habit of evaluating the outdoor lights you regularly encounter. What object or area is the light supposed to be illuminating? How much of the light produced is actually aimed at the target? How much is lighting up the bottoms of passing clouds? How much is shining into the upstairs windows of nearby residences? Are you forced to stare at a brilliant light source while driving or walking down a dark street? Second, don't be afraid to complain. You wouldn't put up with other kinds of pollution in your neighborhood, like someone burning trash and filling your yard with smoke, or playing loud music all night long. Why should you have to live with light pollution? Macomb's mayor and city council pay attention to complaints. If your bedroom is brightly lit up all night by a streetlight half a block away, complain. Add-on shielding devices are available, and if enough people complain, new fully-shielded lights could be installed. The city cannot afford to replace *all* the old lights—but new, more efficient, fully shielded lights are available and the city should begin using them.

By the way, visitors to cities with ordinances that tightly control outdoor lighting report that the nighttime experience

is a delight. Sedona, Arizona, is one example. In Sedona, the glowing element of an outdoor light cannot be visible beyond the owner's property. The objects and areas needing illumination are lit up, but the light source itself must be hidden from the eyes of passersby.

### that's why they call it "night"

The night is supposed to be dark. Humans (and other living things) evolved in a



world with dark nights. Sitting in a dark backyard watching the stars is a pleasure everyone deserves. A restful night's sleep in a dark bedroom is something everyone needs. If these things are being taken away from you by a thoughtless neighbor or a nearby streetlight, speak up. Most of the time, the offense is unintended and the cure is simple. Flooding the nighttime sky and ground with light doesn't just affect humans, by the way. City officials may not be overly concerned about disrupting the mating habits of newts and salamanders, but they should know that twenty-four-hour daylight isn't just bad for US. It's bad for THEM, too.

### a few bright spots...?

There are signs of improvement. The new Casey's convenience store on East Jackson is perfectly illuminated. The overhead lights are almost completely recessed and do not interfere with the vision of drivers or pedestrians. Building lights illuminate the sides of the building and the adjacent sidewalk without shining in the eyes of passersby. In addition, energy use is reduced and money is saved through the use of led lights. Properly designed lighting is also evident at the expanded Macomb Public Library, where building lights illuminate the sides of the building and the sidewalk, but are completely concealed from the eyes of motorists and pedestrians. In general, it seems that locally-designed and/or -installed lighting is less likely to be properly done than that done by national or state-level entities. The city of Macomb or a local business cannot afford to hire a lighting specialist. Walmart and IDOT can. An interesting case is the lighting on East Jackson Street, where one sees a mix of old blinding eyesores and modern, fully-shielded lights. One suspects the difference is local versus state-level planning.

Less positively, and like many other small cities in the midwest, Macomb has attempted to improve the appearance of the downtown square by installing faux-Victorian street lamps that are attractive during the day, but that make the nighttime downtown "scene" feel like midnight at the penitentiary. These lights check every box on the bad lighting list (glare, light pollution, light trespass). The Macomb square will never be an inviting place at night until they are modified or replaced, and the city shouldn't even consider installing any more of them.

*Noel Lane's identities include tree farmer, retired schoolteacher, and WICE Board Treasurer.*



by Tina Belz

At the meeting of another organization in 2005, GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs) Macomb Woman's Club member Marilyn Pastorelli heard Dr. John Hallwas speak about Josie Westfall and Rose Jolly, two of Macomb's early social activists. Dr. Hallwas had been speaking to women's groups around the area, asking their members to discuss the two women and determine whether they had sufficient interest to pursue formal recognition for them within our community.

Most of us had never heard of Jolly or Westfall, and we were certainly not aware of the great improvements and sacrifices they made for our community. We know about many influential locals because their names adorn buildings, parks, streets and the like. But what about these women, who were not wealthy but worked hard to take care of those less fortunate? How would their efforts be remembered, celebrated, and used as an example for others to follow?



Peoria sculptor Jaci Willis at work on the bronze statue that will honor McDonough County women—past and present—who gave (or continue to give) their time and energy to improve the lives of others. Photo by Tina Belz.

Jolly and Westfall were remarkable because of their successful efforts to better the lives of women, children, and animals during the early 1900s. Rose Jolly was the primary organizer of the county's first social-service organization, the McDonough County Humane Society, formed in 1909 for "the protection of children and animals." Later the same year, she joined Josie Westfall in opening the first orphanage in McDonough County. Westfall worked continually, until her death in 1941, to raise funds for the operation, notably running for city judge in 1914 with the intention of donating her salary to the orphanage. With the support of female voters, who had gained limited statewide suffrage just the year before, Westfall won the election, only to have her victory overturned by the Illinois Supreme Court.

Members of the Macomb Woman's Club were interested in recognizing these social service pioneers, and in 2009, the group formally created a Memorial Committee to pursue the idea. Our first challenge: should we plan a memorial and then raise funds to meet the projected cost, or should we see how much we collect first? In the end, we had a flurry of fundraising ideas before we had a final design, so we jumped right in. After all, we are women who love to entertain. Throw in a good cause and we're ready to

host a party! In a perfect fit of similar interests, we partnered with the Western Illinois Museum in 2011, which enabled donations to be tax-deductible.

The design for the memorial was finalized once we found the right artist to create the centerpiece. Our committee was struck by the beauty, strength, and appropriateness of Jaci Willis's submission, "Facing the Storm." The life-size bronze statue will stand in a brick patio on the west side of Chandler Park.

Over the years of planning, our vision for the project has expanded. It now memorializes eight pioneers of social activism in McDonough County: Rose Jolly, Josie Westfall, Dr. Elizabeth Miner, Dr. Ruth Tunnichliff, Rebecca Everly, Sadie Moon, Lida Crabb, and Clara Bayliss. More broadly, however, the statue is intended to honor all women active in bettering the lives of those in need, and we hope the monument will encourage future women to continue such work and step outside the "norm" if it means a

better tomorrow. The memorial's design allows donors to recognize such women by purchasing paving bricks in their honor. The community response has been so positive that all the bricks in the main patio area have already been sold, so we will extend the donor-brick area into the existing sidewalk. The additional funding will cover costs for added lighting and

future care of the memorial. Order forms are available at City Hall, or online at <http://womens-memorial-macomb.weebly.com>

This project has grown from the work of a great many people. Dr. Hallwas planted the seed; the Memorial Committee built the roots; the Macomb Woman's Club provided the trunk; the Western Illinois Museum furnished the watering system; and the individuals, organizations, and businesses in our community supplied the many branches needed for this memorial to come to fruition. We hope that you can come out and join us in our celebration of the dedication on September 12, at 1:30 p.m., in Chandler Park.

Macomb native Tina Belz returned to her hometown in 1993, bringing her husband and two children. Tina has co-chaired the Women's Memorial Committee with Marilyn Pastorelli since 2008.

# September 18-20, 2015

## AlSears

### 14th Annual JAZZ FESTIVAL

Macomb, Illinois

Chandler Park • The Western Illinois Museum • Macomb Country Club • American Legion Hall

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**9/18 4:30pm**  
*Western Illinois Museum*

---

**9/18 5:30pm**  
*Macomb Country Club*

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**9/19 10am-5pm**  
*Chandler Park*

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**9/19 7:30pm**  
*Hawkins Theatre*

---

**9/20 10am-1pm**  
*American Legion Hall*

**2015 ASJF KICK-OFF w/ *Journey to Jazz!***  
FEATURING SEMENYA McCORD w/ FRANK WILLIAMS

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***Jazz at the Club!***  
MICHAEL STRYKER TRIO AND SALLY WEISENBERG TRIO

---

***Jazz in the Park!***  
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**Sunday Jazz Brunch**  
NEW ORLEANS STYLE BRUNCH w/ LIVE JAZZ

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The future is now: wildfires burn as California, the #1 agricultural state in the nation, suffers through its fourth year of horrific drought. A tornado devastated Washington, Illinois, near Peoria, in November 2013. November! Tornadoes are not supposed to happen in November. Hurricane Sandy leveled parts of New York and New Jersey. Hurricanes need warm water to develop, so when powerful hurricanes can form in the North Atlantic

## BIKE

we should recognize another sign that our oceans are warming, due to the polar icecaps melting. Old-timers in these parts tell me the Mississippi River used to freeze hard enough, for a few months every winter, that people could drive their trucks from Illinois over to Iowa. Anyone care to try that next winter?

We can choose to ignore these and countless other signs that climate change is real AND caused by humans. Or we can act. For anyone who already has children or wants them, let me be so bold as to ask if you want to gamble away their futures. There's no doubt that we need real national and global policies to address these problems. We also need the humans who "run" corporations to think beyond the next quarterly profit report. We cannot wait for political leaders and CEOs, however. We must act NOW and in our local communities.

Sadly, I've seen zero vision or leadership on climate change from our so-called local leaders—whether they be civic, economic, or educational leaders. No one talks about it and no one does anything about it. As we fiddle, California burns.

Let me offer just two examples of local nonchalance—or should we just call it denial?

- 1) Spoon River College is expanding, however slowly, into a facility on the far eastern edge of town—abandoning a lovely old building right in the center of town. While, no doubt, the old building needs work, it's centrally located. What's the major "problem," supposedly? A lack of parking!
- 2) More recently, the Macomb Park District established a brand-new site, Veterans Park, in the far northeastern part

of town. While I'm thrilled that the city invested some money in fitness and fun, the park's location virtually guarantees that every child who plays a game there will be driven to that game, presumably by a parent.

Similarly, nearly every adult who plays a game there will do the same.

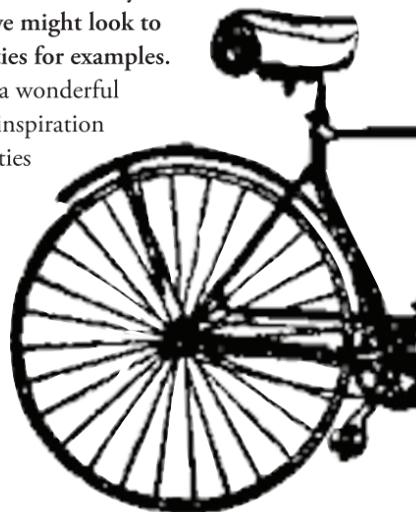
One factor contributing to the lack of vision could be the fact that Macomb, like other small towns, is too easy to drive in. There's almost no traffic, and parking is never a problem. Plus, parking is free except at WIU. As a result, most people make the seemingly logical—and easy—choice to drive their personal vehicles. Traffic or no traffic, though, the transportation sector is the second largest source of carbon emissions in the US, with the EPA's most recent data pinning 62% of those emissions on light-duty trucks and passenger cars.

What does all this have to do with bicycling? How about designing and (re)building our city so that it's more walkable? More bikeable? Having played in sports leagues in this town for years, I still don't understand why Downing Park—*much* more centrally located, in the east-central part of town—could not have been renovated. Or, how about improving Patton Park on the southeast side? Or, working with WIU to share some of its wonderful fields, which are almost entirely unused during the summer?

As of this writing, you can visit the Macomb Park District's website and navigate to a page describing Veterans Park, where you'll find the park's selling points enumerated, bullet-point-style. Among these, under *Ball Diamonds*: "Parking that accommodates approximately 230 vehicles!"\* Right now, it seems clear that Macomb's leaders are either not thinking about climate change or they have no desire to confront the matter.

What might we do differently? For one thing, we might look to other communities for examples.

Transition United States is a wonderful organization that provides inspiration and assistance to communities that are combating climate change by reducing carbon emissions at the local level. In the process, of course, those communities and



## hold your peace!

## NOW

## forever

their inhabitants get healthier—cleaner air, more walking and biking.

I've spent time in one town committed to Transition: Bozeman, Montana, a university town roughly twice the size of Macomb. Bozeman is also suffering from the effects of climate change, but a significant number of its residents are not waiting for federal leaders or corporate executives to act. They're acting on their own. As the Transition Bozeman website proclaims: "Imagine a sustainable future with happy humans, satisfying jobs, clean energy, locally grown food, energy efficient housing, a fair financial system and so much more!" Bozeman's residents are making their town more bike- and pedestrian-friendly. They're thinking about land use. They're thinking about how their actions are part of a global effort to reduce the problems that we are already facing.

Biking is one major part of that effort. Macomb is small, it's safe, there are many side streets to bike on, and it's mostly flat. For half to three-quarters of the year, the weather is quite good for cycling. Why not make sure that every new development project encourages people to get there by means other than a personal vehicle? Develop inward rather than outward. Renovate existing parks rather than cutting down trees on the far edges of town to build parks that result in more driving. Mind you, I have NO desire to trash Macomb and I consider myself a defender. Like most places, however, Macomb could and must move faster on climate change, especially by addressing transportation and land-use issues. There is no time to waste. Bike now or forever hold your peace.

\* Source: <http://macombparkdistrict.com/veterans-park/>

Peter Cole is (still) an avid cyclist and a professor in the history department at WIU.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

Transition United States is indeed a very exciting concept and wonderful organization, so it's one of the national "creative placemaking" links I've added to our new links page on the Macopolitan website.

Transition U.S. is a ginormous network of "transition towns," large and small, as well as a staggering learning resource for anybody interested in local economic development and sustainability. Now they're even rolling out a project called Transition Streets! So, I guess, if your town won't get on the bus they'll help you start at an even more local level.

Check out the website at [transitionus.org](http://transitionus.org)

—Ed.

### ...hey, wasn't there some kinda BICYCLE SURVEY? so what happened with that??

Back in 2014, the Western Illinois Regional Council conducted an online survey of McDonough County bicyclists. After the survey period ended, a public meeting was held—at 4:30 p.m. on November 20, 2014—to give local cyclists an opportunity to discuss the current system of bike routes in the county.

While there is never a perfect time to hold a public meeting, 4:30 in the afternoon right before Thanksgiving seems slightly more imperfect than necessary, especially if participation from college students, parents, working adults, and most other busy people was desired.

While only 183 people completed the 20-question survey and only 30 of those were able to attend the meeting, the results of the survey and public meeting have been compiled and explored in an 80-page document that beleaguered Mac staffers have not had time to read thoroughly. The document

is available as a PDF at this address: <http://www.wirpc.org/pdf/McDonough%20County%20Bike%20Study%20for%20Web.pdf> (Yes, with all that crazy "%20" business, because somebody put spaces in the URL.)

We did glean a few things in a quick skim: results determined that McDonough County cyclists prefer wide shoulders or entirely segregated bike paths on county roads (such as South Johnson). They want better bicycle route connections throughout the city of Macomb, safer bike paths to/from places like Argyle Lake State Park and Spring Lake, and bicycle awareness education for motorists in the county.

This WIRC analysis was completed in January 2015. The authors of the document state, "It is expected that this study could be the foundation for preparing grant applications as funding opportunities arise in order to make modifications/establish bike paths along the most utilized routes."

Certainly, this looks like a step in the right direction for creating that awesome bike route for families who might be utilizing the spacious and lovely Veteran's Park.

—Laura Courter and Hillary McMahan

**THRU SEP 12**

*Members and Friends* exhibition  
West Central Illinois Arts Center,  
Macomb Square

**THRU SEP 12**

*Mortar & Pestle, Potions & Pills: A History of Apothecary* Exhibition,  
Western Illinois Museum, Macomb

**SAT AUG 29**

**Tattoo Blue's 3rd Annual Art Show**

Tattoo Blue's 3rd such event will include artwork by 30 different artists, a live car painting, food, entertainment, giveaways, and face painting.  
12-6 p.m., Tattoo Blue Parking lot,  
329 N. Lafayette St., Macomb

**FRI SEP 11**

*64 Arts Exhibition reception*  
5-7 p.m., Buchanan Center for the Arts,  
64 Public Square, Monmouth

**FRI-SAT SEP 11-12**

**Starry Night Repertory Theatre:**

*A Shakespeare Soiree*  
The women of Starry Night perform some of the most famous speeches Shakespeare wrote for his female characters—"enhanced by music and colorful projections and commentaries on the actresses who have played Juliet, Olivia, Lady Macbeth, Portia and so many more," according to press material.  
7:30 p.m. Fri/Sat, matinee performance on Saturday at 2 p.m. Horrabin Theatre, Horrabin Hall, WIU  
\$15/general, \$5/students & youth

**WED SEP 16**

**Film Screening: *The Girls in the Band***  
See story on page 16 for more info.

7 p.m., Western Illinois Museum, Macomb  
\$5 suggested donation

**FRI SEP 18**

**Improvised Shakespeare Co.**  
Tickets via [www.BCABringstheStars.com](http://www.BCABringstheStars.com) or the Hainline Theatre Box Office, (309) 298-2900.  
8 p.m., Grand Ballroom, University Union, WIU

**SAT SEP 19**

*Me, My Uke, and Some Friends*  
Kick back between the Gazebo Arts Festival and the evening performance of the Al Sears Jazz Festival and enjoy some music from Adam Kozlowski joined by friends and fellow musicians Rick Kurasz, Joseph Marcott, and Pete Hannen. FREE. 6 p.m., Taylor's Hall, 125 S. Randolph St., Macomb

**FRI/SAT, SEP 11-12, & 18-19**

**Macomb Community Theatre presents *Dixie Swim Club***  
This production follows the decades-long friendship of five Southern women who first bonded on a college swim team. Call (309) 837-1828 for tickets or further information.  
Pat Crane Memorial Theater, S. Johnson Rd., Macomb Adults/\$10, Seniors/\$8, Students/\$6

**WED-SUN, SEP 30-OCT 4**

***She Kills Monsters***  
A play by Qui Nguyen. WIU's event calendar calls it "a high-octane dramatic comedy laden with homicidal fairies, nasty ogres, and 90's pop culture."  
Wed thru Sat 7:30-10 p.m., 2-5 p.m. on Sunday. Hainline Theater, Browne Hall, WIU

**VARIOUS DATES**

**L.I.F.E. Classes**

Keep learning with the Learning is Forever Extension sponsored by the WIU Outreach Programs Office and affiliated with the Elderhostel Institute Network. An online schedule with class descriptions will be available soon: <http://www.wiu.edu/life/>

**THUR SEP 9**

**Great Reads Book Club**

Martha Norcross leads discussion of Laura Moriarty's *The Chaperone*.  
7 p.m. Everly House, 811 S. Lafayette

St., Macomb

**THUR SEP 17**

**29th Annual Mary Olive Woods Lecture**

Speaker J. Kameron Carter, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Black Church Studies at Duke Divinity School and author of *Race: A Theological Account*. In his current works, Carter reimagines the identity of Jesus and the politics of his identity in light of the new, global realities of the 21st century. 7:30-9 p.m. Grand Ballroom, University Union, WIU

**SEP 15 & 22**

**Point and Shoot Photography class**

Learn tips and tricks to improve your photos. Class designed for beginner and intermediate photographers who use point

& shoot cameras, in which there are no lenses to change and many of the settings are automatic. Participants should bring camera, instruction booklet, and a notebook. Email two photos, at least one day prior, to [bob@cokerphotos.com](mailto:bob@cokerphotos.com).

6-8 p.m., Spoon River College Outreach Center, 2500 East Jackson, Macomb  
Call 309-833-6031 to register, fee \$35

**WED SEP 23**

**Mystery Book Club**

Sue Zendt leads discussion of *The Man with a Load of Mischief* by Martha Grimes.  
7 p.m. Everly House, 811 S. Lafayette St., Macomb



outdoors

**SAT AUG 29**

**Moonlight Mini Golf**

Light up the night with glow-in-the-dark golf balls!  
Dusk -10 p.m., Ball Fore, 9575 US-136, Macomb

**FRI SEP 11**

**Nature Movies**

Join park staff for family-friendly PBS nature videos at the park visitor center. BYO refreshments, chairs, and insect repellent. Movies may be canceled due to inclement weather conditions. Please email or call the park visitor center for info about specific titles, 309-776-3422  
8:30-10 p.m., Argyle Lake State Park Visitor's Center

**SAT SEP 12**

**Kayak Tour of Lake Argyle**

Join park staff for a morning or afternoon of paddling on beautiful Lake Argyle. Kayaks, paddles, and life jackets provided by the Friends of Argyle. Tours are being offered two times each day and each program lasts about 2 hours. Space is limited to the first 10 people to register for each tour. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Meet at the parking area near the concession.  
Argyle Lake State Park, Colchester. To register, call 309-776-3422 or email [Bridget.Hinchee@illinois.gov](mailto:Bridget.Hinchee@illinois.gov)

**SAT SEP 12**

**Illinois Bats: Facts and Myths**

Mary McMahon will give an entertaining presentation about the mysterious animals. Using an echolocator, attendees can listen to nearby bats feeding on flying insects.  
7-8:30p.m., Argyle Lake State Park  
Prairview Shelter (second right after entering park)

**SAT SEP 19**

**Horn Field Open High Ropes**

Go out on a limb and enjoy an afternoon on the high ropes obstacle course! All ages are welcome, but participants age 18 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.  
1-4 p.m., Horn Field Campus, 985 China Rd., Macomb, \$15/person

**FRI SEP 25**

**Family Movie Night in the Park: *Big Hero 6***

Presented by the Macomb Parks District. Bring your own blankets and lawn chairs; the parks district will provide the movie and the popcorn.  
8:30 p.m., Veteran's Park, Macomb

**Macomb Kite Festival** Veterans Park, Macomb

The Macomb Sky Climbers Kite Club will host this event in partnership with the Macomb Park District and in cooperation with the Macomb Balloon Rally. According to the club's website, the event will top off "several weeks of kiting awareness activities for schools, community groups, organizations, and community members." The Sky Climbers have certainly planned an extremely ambitious action-packed schedule of demonstrations, activities, and performances—on four fields!—for the brand-new event. A small sampling is excerpted below. Supplementary excitement will include a wind science exhibit, food and kite vendors, candy drops(!) and something called "bol races." Hope for wind!  
**View the full schedule at [www.macombkitefest.org/index.php/schedule-of-events/](http://www.macombkitefest.org/index.php/schedule-of-events/)**

**Fri Sept 11: festival activities start at 4 p.m.**

*Kickoff ceremony: red, white, & blue mass ascension honoring military families; performance by professional sport kite group Team180Go!*

**Sat Sept 12: festival opens at 10 a.m. and closes with a mass ascension at 5 p.m.**

*Celebrity Kite Flyers, Precision Kite Demos, Parafoils, Spectacular Crashes Awards*

**Sun Sept 13: festival opens at 10 a.m. and closes with a mass ascension at 2 p.m.**

*Fighter Kite Battles, Silly Kites, Sport Kite Flight School*

**Macomb Balloon Rally** Vince Grady Field, WIU

**Friday, September 11, 2015**

5:30-6:30 p.m. WIU Jazz Studio Orchestra performance  
6 p.m. Balloon Flight: half the balloons fly in to Vince Grady field and the other half take off from the field

**Saturday, September 12, 2015**

6:45 a.m. Competitive balloon flights from three locations in Macomb, chosen prior to the competition  
6 p.m. Balloon Flight in to Vince Grady Field  
6-9 p.m. Live music by Fort Madison-based Rock Steady  
7:30 p.m. Balloon Glow

All in Chandler Park! For a few short hours it's almost like living in a bigger town.

**SAT SEP 19**

**Gazebo Art Festival**

The whole community and beyond is invited to attend the art festival in the park. There will be artists with their photographs, paintings, textiles, metals, wood, jewelry, pottery, etc. on display and for sale throughout the whole park, all while jazz musicians perform in the gazebo. **9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**Better Books Sale**

Friends of the Library will host their Better Books Sale in conjunction with the Al Sears Jazz Festival and the Gazebo Art Festival. **9 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

**Al Sears Jazz Fest: Jazz in the Park** (rain location is The Outskirts)

Here is the Chandler Park lineup. See ad on page 7 for other events and performances— **all performances in the park are free and open to the public!**

Semenya McCord Quartet, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Brazilionaires, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Billy Rogers and Dixie Daredevils, 12 noon, 3 p.m.

WIU Jazz Studio Orchestra w/ Andy Baker, Guest Artist, 4 p.m.



Left: we can't wait to see the Brazillionaires!

hey, we KNOW this isn't EVERYTHING.

Our calendar editor is new, so things are a little nuts, but she's going to be great. Help her out by sending your event info early: [calendar@macopolitan.org](mailto:calendar@macopolitan.org) Accompanying photos are adored!

**Colchester Labor Day Celebration**

*everywhere in Colchester*

These are just some random highlights....visit [colchesterlionsclub.org](http://colchesterlionsclub.org) for a full schedule.

**Thur Sept 3**

4:30-6:30 p.m. Ham & Bean Supper, City Park Food Tent  
6 p.m. Carnival Armband Night

**Fri Sept 4**

4:30 p.m. Johnny Cash Tribute Show, Main Stage  
7 p.m. The On Stage Band, Main Stage

**Sat Sept 5**

8 a.m. 11th Annual Duane Beck Run/Walk  
5 p.m. Coal Miner's Dinner, City Park Food Tent

7 p.m. Bryce Dexter & the King Graffiti Band, Main Stage  
9:45 p.m. 16th Annual Fireworks Display, Uptown

**Sun Sept 6**

10:30 a.m. Community Church Service, Main Stage  
2 p.m. Parade

7:30 p.m. 34th Annual Variety Show, Main Stage

**Mon Sep 7**

10 a.m. Elsenpeter Marionettes, Main Stage

**Celebrate the Colchester District Library!**

The Colchester District Library will celebrate its 40th Anniversary during this year's Labor Day Celebration. An Open House and Room Dedication will be held on Saturday, during which visitors may tour the library, enjoy refreshments, and witness the dedication of the main room to Steve Altenbern, charter Board member and continuous treasurer throughout the *entire existence* of the library. The event is free and open to the public.

Open House/Dedication: 2-4 p.m., Colchester District Library, 203 Macomb St., Colchester



## meetings & miscellany

### MONDAYS IN SEPT

#### PrairieLand Barbershop Chorus regular rehearsals

Men of all ages are welcome to join this group of crooners for their weekly rehearsals. 7-9 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Macomb

### MON SEP 14, 21, & 28

#### McDonough Choral Society regular rehearsals

This organized choir does serious work, but you don't need serious professional talent or experience to join. No age minimum or limit, so start using your vocal chords in new and exciting ways with these wonderful folks! 7-9 p.m., Wesley United Methodist Church, Macomb

### MONDAYS IN SEPT

#### Kozmic Card Game Night

All ages welcome!  
7 p.m. Kozmic Game Emporium, Macomb

### TUESDAYS IN SEPT

#### Kozmic Board Game Night

Come one, come all! Bring a game or select one to try from the shop.  
7 p.m., Kozmic Game Emporium, Macomb

### TUESDAYS IN SEPT

#### Ukulele Advanced Play

For the slightly more advanced ukulele player: a great jam session with friends and fellow ukers.  
7-8:30 p.m., Western Illinois Museum

### WEDNESDAYS IN SEPT

#### Yoga

Ron Green teaches this weekly class.  
5-6 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 300 Wigwam Hollow Road, Macomb \$5/class

### THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS IN SEPT

#### Macomb Farmers' Market

Food: buy it local.  
7 a.m. -1 p.m., Macomb Square

### SATURDAYS IN SEPT

#### Ukulele Macomb Jam Sessions

Join fellow uke players of all shapes, sizes, ages, and levels. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Western Illinois Museum, Macomb

### SAT AUG 28 & SEP 25

#### Macomb Worthogs Homebrew Club

Monthly meeting of the local beer nerds. 3 p.m., The Wine Sellers  
121 S. Randolph St., Macomb

### FRI SEP 11

#### WITMA Monthly Acoustic Jam

These jam sessions lean toward bluegrass, but are open to other musical genres/styles as well. Listeners and participants welcome.  
7-11 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 400 E. Carroll St., Macomb

### MON SEP 14

#### Humane Society of McDonough County

All are welcome to attend this monthly meeting. 5:30 p.m., Wesley Village Meeting Room, 1200 E. Grant St., Macomb

### TUES SEP 15

#### La Leche League of Macomb

Meet local moms and get free breastfeeding information and support. Kids are always welcome at meetings!  
6-7 p.m., Early Beginnings Childcare, 339 S. Johnson St., Macomb

### FRI SEP 18 & SAT SEP 19

#### St. Paul Rummage Sale

Rummage season begins! Proceeds from the sale go to St. Paul Women's Guild to donate to the St. Paul School.  
9 a.m.-6 p.m. (Fri), 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (Sat), St. Paul School Gymnasium  
322 W. Washington St., Macomb

### THUR SEPT 24

#### Town & Gown, and Rocky on Parade

The annual Town and Gown event kicks off this year's WIU Homecoming festivities. Twenty-three completed Rocky on Parade bulldogs will be unveiled, and Honorary Alumni and Town & Gown Award recipients will be announced.  
Short program begins at 6:15 p.m. Casual attire is preferred for this event.  
Visit <https://www.wiu.com/alumni/> to register.

5:30-7:30 p.m., The Forum, 124 N. Lafayette St., Macomb

\$20/registration fee

### SAT AUG 29

#### Grin and Bear It 5k Run/Walk

Proceeds from this fun run/walk will fund a dental health day in McDonough County. [mchdgrinandbearit.weebly.com](http://mchdgrinandbearit.weebly.com) or go to McDonough County Health Department to pick up registration forms.  
Registration 6:45-7:45 a.m. on race day.  
8 a.m., Spring Lake Park, 595 N. 1500th Rd. Macomb, \$25/Advanced registration, \$30/Race day registration

### SUN AUG 30 & SUN SEP 27

#### Soup n' More

Free community dinner, open to ALL. Volunteers needed at 2 for setup.  
4-6 p.m., First Presbyterian Church  
400 E. Carroll St., Macomb

### SAT SEPT 12

#### 6th Annual Power of the Purse

Purse-themed benefit event for the McDonough County United Way. Tickets include wine/beer, live music, a chocolate buffet, and opportunity to bid on a large array of purses. Tickets available at Make Fit Happen/Summer Moon Yoga or The McDonough County United Way Office.  
6-9 p.m., Spoon River College Outreach Center, Macomb \$30/adv, \$35 at the door

### SUN SEP 13

#### Fall Cruise-In & Tanya Tucker Concert

Texas Tranzplants host the country superstar. Concert proceeds will support local Veterans Assistance programs.  
Tickets available at Macomb Hy-Vee

Customer Service desk and at the State Bank of Industry in Industry, IL. Before the concert, don't forget to register your classic vehicle in Q Lot. The registration fee is a free-will donation and 2 items for Loaves and Fishes food bank. Raffles, food vendors, and Iron Orchard plays between 10 a.m. & 12 p.m. Concert: 1 p.m., Western Hall, WIU \$25/Ticket. Doors open at 12:30 p.m., limited seating.

Cruise-In: 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Q Lot, University Drive, Macomb

### SAT SEP 19

#### Walk to End Alzheimers

This Alzheimer's Association walk is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide and 8 locations in our region. Help reclaim the future for millions. Visit [www.alz.org/illinoiscentral](http://www.alz.org/illinoiscentral) to register or donate. 10 a.m., Veteran's Park, Macomb

### SAT SEP 26

#### Walk for Wishes

Register to walk/run a 5k or to run a 10k in participation with WIU's Chi Omega sorority. Proceeds support the Make-A-Wish Foundation and will go directly to a family of a Wish kid. Register at the event or online at [walkforwishes-wiuchiomega.weebly.com](http://walkforwishes-wiuchiomega.weebly.com)  
10 a.m. -1 p.m., Hanson Field, \$25/registration fee

### SAT SEP 26

#### Fire Truck Pull

Sources tell us that this will involve pulling an actual fire truck. Grab some friends and organize a team to benefit Special Olympics. Teams registered by September 1st will receive T-shirts; winning team gets a trophy. Call Dave Burnham at (309) 833-4505 ext.

## give/receive

8121 to register. 10 a.m., Macomb Fire Station, 200 W. Jackson St., Macomb \$300/team registration fee

### SAT SEP 26

#### Lodge and Libations

The Second Annual Lodge and Libations celebrates 50 years of Horn Field Campus at WIU! Part of a campaign to raise funds for a new outdoor education building at HFC. For online registration: [www.wiu.com/alumni/purchase.asp?eIDe4](http://www.wiu.com/alumni/purchase.asp?eIDe4)  
5 p.m., Horn Field Campus, 985 China Rd., Macomb, \$25/registration fee

We did not get any calls for volunteers this month, and we would like some!

Please send your organization's volunteer needs to [calendar@macopolitan.org](mailto:calendar@macopolitan.org)

We will place these listings under *give/receive*

## high school happenings

### SAT SEP 26

Macomb High School Homecoming Dance 7 p.m., Macomb High School Commons

### FRI SEP 25

Macomb High School Homecoming Parade 3:30 p.m., Courthouse Square, Macomb



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GFWC Macomb Woman's Club Memorial Committee



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## Girls in the Band, jazz women in the heartland by Sue Scott

This September marks the 14th year the Al Sears Jazz Festival will be presented in Macomb. The festival has grown over the years and found creative ways to raise awareness about the genre, including showcasing women musicians. The Western Illinois Museum has partnered with the festival since 2010, providing programs that explore jazz history and build appreciation of the music to enhance the festival performances. This year, two exciting festival programs will be hosted by the museum: a screening of the documentary *The Girls in the Band*, and a presentation by jazz vocalist and educator Semanya McCord.

### The Girls in the Band

With the notable exception of female jazz vocalists, women's contributions to the genre are often overlooked. *The Girls in the Band*, a 2014 documentary, tells the poignant stories of several female jazz instrumentalists and their fascinating, groundbreaking journeys from the late 1920s to the present day. These talented women endured sexism, racism, and diminished opportunities for decades, but continued to persevere in a field that seldom welcomed them. Producer and director Judy Chaikin fills in these missing pieces with her eye-opening film, exposing the many challenges these women faced and motivating us to acknowledge all musicians for their talent, regardless of gender or race. The movie conveys the stories of a number of talented women musicians often playing in large urban communities, but the impact of their perseverance can even be found in the west central Illinois region.

### A Local Legacy: Ann Collins

Western Illinois University has offered one regional opportunity for women to study and play jazz. In 1957 Forrest Sycott initiated the Jazz Band program, the root of today's successful Jazz Studio Orchestra. Ann Collins, one of the Al Sears Jazz Festival founders, choose the WIU music department to begin her professional career. Although Ann was an undergraduate student at the time jazz was being introduced by the faculty, she didn't dream of trying to join the all-male band. But times change, and by 1968 she joined the WIU Music Department as an accomplished jazz pianist and educator. She served as chair of the department from 1988 until her retirement in 1997.



Ann talks about learning to play jazz piano by listening to the radio, commenting that this built essential listening skills. Growing up on a farm near Galesburg, Illinois, the radio was her



left, Ann Collins  
right, Semanya McCord  
Photos courtesy of  
Western Illinois Museum

only connection to jazz. During the 40's jazz was frequently on the radio and she began learning the standards by listening and imitating.

During a recent conversation she relayed how she had her first jazz band experience. She and her husband were at a dance at the Elks Club, and she noticed that there was no pianist in the Bob Boyd Band. Since she knew all the music they were performing she quietly played

along on a piano that was up against the wall, thinking no one could hear her. After a couple of tunes, the director asked some of the guys to move the piano closer to the band. After a couple of additional tunes, he put a microphone on the piano. Ann became the pianist for Boyd's band and eventually tried playing jazz solo as well as in combos. In the competitive field of music, Ann found a creative, non-confrontational approach to getting her talent recognized. Like most women, she had to make an opportunity for herself.

### Passing It On: Semanya McCord

Another regional woman will play a part in this year's festival. In addition to performing, Galesburg native and Knox College graduate Semanya McCord will bring her unique approach to listening and enjoying jazz. Semanya will kick off the weekend's events with her program *Journey to Jazz*, which draws from her 35 years of experience performing and teaching. Joined by her pianist, Frank Wilkins, Semanya will use short performances to create a unique journey into jazz, leading guests down a path that illuminates jazz influences.

Recently, Semanya reflected on her own journey to becoming a jazz vocalist. Like Ann Collins, she grew up in west central Illinois and was introduced to music and jazz through recordings. Her father, a professional musician, encouraged her and provided a

broad musical education. In the 1970s, when she moved to the east coast, she commented, "I was surrounded, intrigued and inspired by jazz." Knowing the historical connections between musicians, composers, and dancers working today and those considered "masters" became an important part of her teaching and performing.

When asked about the challenges she has faced in her career, Semanya reflects that in addition to being a woman of color, there were other obstacles. Vocalists often were not taken seriously, and singing folk and jazz music was looked down upon by classically trained musicians. Her classical music degree from Knox College and professional approach were key to overcoming these biases. A full interview with Semanya is on the Western Illinois Museum's website.

Sue Scott is Executive Director of the Western Illinois Museum.

*The Girls in the Band* will be screened at the Western Illinois Museum on Wednesday, September 16th at 7 p.m. Semanya McCord's *Journey to Jazz* will be presented on Friday, September 18, at 4:30 p.m.

### The Box, Galesburg

Sat Sept 12 Victor and Penny (TSPR Celebration Concert, 7 p.m.)

### The Grand Tap, Galesburg

Sat Sept 12 Iron Orchard

### The Café, Macomb

Fri Aug 28 Josh Roberts & the Hinges, Flyover  
Sat Sept 19 Model Stranger  
Sat Sept 26 Iron Orchard

### Market Alley Wines, Monmouth

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

Fri Aug 28 Jera and Justin  
Sat Aug 29 Brad Shryack  
Thu Sept 3 Brian Keith Wallen  
Fri Sept 4 No Reason  
Sat Sept 5 Dan Eilers  
Fri Sept 11 Blind Witness

Sat Sept 12 Mark and Martin  
Fri Sept 18 Sean Kistler  
Sat Sept 19 Almost Live!  
Thu Sept 24 Mark & Martin (5- 6:30)  
Fri Sept. 25 Jordan Danielson  
Sat Sept. 29 Mari Lohrelien

### Spotlight Events Center, Colchester

Sat Sept 19 Opry Show w/ the On Stage Band

### Wine Sellers, Macomb

Fri Sept 4 Dan Eilers  
Fri Sept 11 Dennis DeVolder  
Fri Sept 18 Fred Railsback  
Fri Sept 25 the Blenders

Is there a live music venue we should be listing? Please let us know. Many area venues either don't have websites or don't update them frequently, so it can be a challenge to collect this information. If you can help, please email us!

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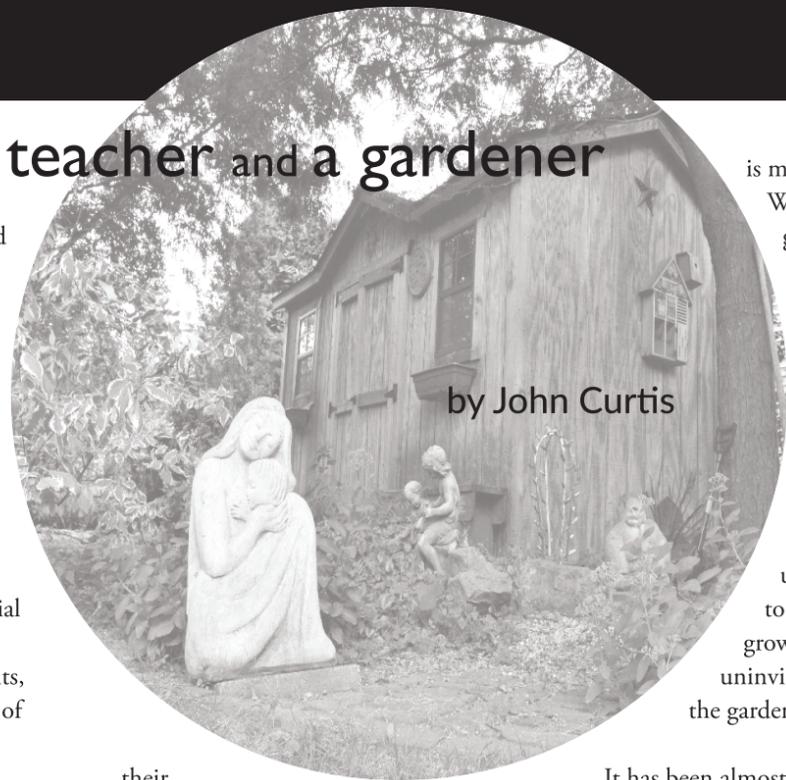
Many *Macopolitan* readers will remember Margaret Harn, who died prematurely a year ago. Margaret was a committed, talented and popular first-grade teacher in Industry for many years and continued to interact with school children as an Agriculture in the Classroom coordinator in public schools throughout McDonough County. The huge number of colleagues and former students attending her visitation and memorial service was testimony to the deep connections she'd made with students, fellow teachers, and other members of our community.

What's perhaps less known about Margaret is that she (in partnership with her husband, Jack) was an accomplished gardener and landscape architect. Margaret always had a few tomatoes and peppers in the very back of her yard, but her focus was on perennial ornamentals. These were carefully arranged around the garden structures that framed her backyard lawn and wrapped around the front of their Randolph Street house. I've long felt that these gardens were among the most intricate and beautiful in Macomb.

I've known several teachers who were also accomplished gardeners. I think this is a natural pairing. Teachers are used to being mentally and physically active during the school year, and we find ourselves with a little extra, unstructured time during the summer. We also appreciate the quiet and peace of the garden after such intense and regular interactions with our students during the school year. The garden is a quiet place to relax and recharge.

I find that there are a lot of parallels between the garden and the classroom. Veteran gardeners understand that their role is to create a fertile environment, and that in the end plants grow according to

## a teacher and a gardener



by John Curtis

their innate abilities and the quality of their surroundings. You can't make a plant grow. And yet, whether they are dealing with flowers or vegetables, perennials or annuals, accomplished gardeners find ways of coaxing reticent plants to grow and bloom. They find beauty that others often miss. These "master" gardeners are also experts at the early and subtle intervention that keeps their plants growing to their greatest potential. Their gardens appear to flourish naturally and with remarkably little effort.

The influence of great teachers lasts long beyond their years in the classroom. Their students grow, develop and many may become teachers themselves. Great teachers live on in their students' love of reading, their comfort with mathematics, or in their self-esteem and subsequent willingness to take the risks necessary to pursue their dreams. Some students eventually end up in the classroom themselves and make use of the lessons, philosophies and methods of their former teachers.

But what is the long-term influence of our gardening work? Experienced gardeners know that the word garden

is more verb than noun. When the gardener is gone, nature starts to infiltrate. Foxtail and lambsquarter appear amongst the flowers. Creeping Charlie, Virginia Creeper and other vines climb up and over ornamental shrubs. Eventually, mulberries and other unwanted trees begin to take over. The beds grow wild and fill up with uninvited guests. Nothing in the garden is permanent.

It has been almost exactly one year since Margaret has been gone, and on a recent evening I took a tour of her garden. There is a new family living in the house now, and while it is evident that the new residents have worked diligently to maintain their surroundings, they have other demands and priorities. They are busy making the house their new home and the garden is changing. And yet, as I walked around the gardens in the evening light, I was comforted somehow. I'd found confirmation that Margaret had been there, was there, in the fading evidence of her hands at work. At some level, Margaret's presence seemed to still linger in this place. And it was time for me to head back to my own gardens and start thinking about working with a fresh group of students in the new school year.

*John Curtis is head gardener at Barefoot Gardens CSA. He also teaches reading and writing in Western Illinois University's ESL program.*

## thank you, sponsors!

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Questions?

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This month's visual slice of life was submitted by Marizona Dahlstrom, who describes herself as “a young photographer-student-facilitator-library-employee currently in the process of ‘figuring things out.’” You can find more of her work online at [behance.net/marizona](http://behance.net/marizona)

When asked about this image, which is definitely our Most Existential Photographic Submission Ever, Marizona's reply seemed to indicate that she's already figured out quite a bit. “This photograph was taken in the old graveyard at the top of the hill on North Lafayette street,” she said. “You might say it's a metaphor; that ultimately we're always moving forwards towards the end and yet we look behind us, but you might be wrong. We're actually just beautifully caught in the middle.”

Got a great local photo? Send it to [localcolor@macopolitan.org](mailto:localcolor@macopolitan.org)—we'll give you one of our cool stickers and maybe even buy you a coffee.