

McDonough County The Voice

DIAMONDS AND DENIM IS AUG. 6

PAGE A13

COUNTY AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS

PAGE A14



THE WEEKENDER

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2011

Vol. 156, No. 143 - \$1.25

5

**BEST BETS
THIS
WEEK**



1 McDonough County Humane Society Pet Wash: From 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday local dogs can get a basic wash or become a pampered pooch for donations to the local Humane Society. The event will be held between All Pets veterinary clinic and the Water Works Car Wash; adjoining businesses on West Jackson Street.

2 Visit the exhibit: "Connectedness: A History of Women's Clubs": The Western Illinois Museum exhibit looks at the Women's Club Movement and features items from local clubs. The museum, at the corner of Washington and Lafayette streets, is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

3 A trip to the Fulton County Fair: Events surrounding the Fulton County Fair run through Sunday in Lewistown.

4 Elvis visits Macomb: Bryce Dexter and his Elvis performance will be the final Brown Bag Concert of the season at noon Wednesday in Chandler Park.

5 Live music with local musicians: Keel Clemmens and Dan Eilers will perform from 6 - 9 p.m. Saturday at Shiloh's Bar and Bistro on the west side of the Macomb square.

VBS excitement



NATHAN WOODSIDE/THE VOICE

Children attending Wesley United Methodist Church's Vacation Bible School reach out to grab flying stuffed panda bears Thursday night. The Bible School's theme was Pandamania.

Woman nearly hits man, assaults him

By Nathan Woodside
news1@mcDonoughvoice.com

A Macomb woman was arrested Thursday for assaulting a man after allegedly nearly hitting him with her vehicle.

According to reports, police were dispatched to the 600 block of Randolph Street at approximately 7 a.m. Thursday after a male subject called police to report an assault.

The victim, a newspaper carrier for The McDonough County Voice, told police he was walking in an alleyway with a female subject when a vehicle driven by 26-year-old Shana R. Smith began driving toward them. The victim told police that Smith's vehicle nearly hit him and he pushed himself off the vehicle to avoid being run over. He also told police that he began yelling at Smith.

See HIT - Page A2

World Breastfeeding Week celebrated

Sally Adams
news7@mcDonoughvoice.com

World Breastfeeding Week will be celebrated Aug. 1 - 7. In the state of Illinois, Governor Pat Quinn has proclaimed August 2011 as Breastfeeding Promotion Month.

The local Northwest Central Breastfeeding Taskforce is committed to making breastfeeding easier and more rewarding for mothers and babies.

On July 19, the taskforce put together gift bags, which were presented to the obstetrics department of McDonough District Hospital on July 27.

The bags contained items like hand crocheted infant hats, pedometers, herbal tea, nursing pads, guides and informational pamphlets on breastfeeding, insulated breast milk storage containers and local help-group information.

See WEEK - Page A3

Consolidation Committee of 10 moves ahead with timeline

By Lainie Steelman
news2@mcDonoughvoice.com

The Bushnell-Prairie City, Avon and Abingdon Committee of 10 on Thursday night reaffirmed its timeline to place a consolidation proposal on the March 20, 2012, ballot, after discussing a number of issues related to filing a consolidation petition by the week of Sept. 26 deadline.

One of those issues, a map of the consolidated district's seven school board representation districts, was recently completed by Western Illinois University GIS Center Director Chad Sperry and approved by the B-PC Board of Education — by a 6-1 vote — during a meeting on July 20.

Committee of 10 Chair Jerry Arthur said it wasn't necessary for each board to approve the map, but after noting how one B-PC Board member had concerns with how the districts were drawn, he said other boards should approve it. The map divides the current B-PC, Avon and Abingdon school districts into seven districts, each with a population of between 1,501 and 1,508, and uses Illinois Route 41 as the main dividing line.

See TEN - Page A3

Committee of 10 schedule

- **Thursday, Aug. 25:** The Committee of 10 will meet at 7 p.m. in Avon to approve or disapprove a consolidation petition that must be filed with the Regional Office of Education the week of Sept. 26.
- **Oct. 3-9:** The Regional Office of Education publishes its first consolidation hearing notice.
- **Oct. 10-16:** The ROE publishes its second hearing notice.
- **Oct. 17-23:** The ROE publishes its third hearing notice.

Not more than 15 days after the last date on which the required notice is published, the ROE holds a public hearing. No meetings are scheduled for the Committee of 10 after the Thursday, Oct. 27 meeting in Bushnell.

Between Nov. 1 and Nov. 7: Public hearing
Nov. 8-Nov. 21: Decision made by the ROE, based on the Nov. 7 hearing date.
Nov. 22-23: Submit hearing documents to the Illinois State Board of Education.
Nov. 24-Dec. 14: Decision by state superintendent must be made 21 days after ROE decision.
Dec. 15-Jan. 18: Time period to contest the state superintendent's decision.
Jan. 19, 2012: Proposition submitted to the proper election authority
March 20, 2012: General primary election. A tax rate and election of school board members will be included with the consolidation proposal.

Illinois' budget cuts hit home

By Ryan Hagan
news9@mcDonoughvoice.com

Most people have heard the tune, "Money makes the world go 'round..." But these days, the state of Illinois' world isn't revolving very well.

The state's newest budget, which began June 30, has made a significant impact on a variety of local service providers, including McDonough District Hospital, Western Illinois University and Bridgeway.

John Maguire, public relations director at MDH, said the state owes the hospital for state employee health insurance claims. Delayed payments have left the hospital without \$2.6 million dollars for services already provided.

It is the largest amount the hospital has ever been without, according to Maguire. Although the hospital has been able to accept late payments, Maguire said some small practices are being forced to reduce staff or close.

See BUDGET - Page A2

NTN Bower responds to OSHA allegations

Officials from the NTN-Bower Corp. responded Friday to charges earlier this week that the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited the company and an on-site contractor for 19 safety and health violations at the company's Hamilton, Ala. plant.

Friday's statement reads:
"NTN-Bower's Hamilton, Alabama plant is committed to providing a safe and productive workplace for its employees. We appreciate OSHA having brought specific safety items to our attention during the follow-up inspection they conducted, so that we can continue to ensure a safe and healthful workplace in our plant. Although we received the formal notice this week, all issues were corrected without delay following the OSHA inspection.

"The plant's safety record is comparable to other plants in our industry. We will continue to demonstrate our commitment to safe and rewarding jobs at all plants."

The response is signed by NTN Vice President of Manufacturing Jim Riggs.

Torreson's contract up for approval

By Patrick Stout
news6@mcDonoughvoice.com

The Macomb City Council is scheduled to vote Monday on approval of a new contract for City Administrator Dean Torreson. He was appointed city administrator on Dec. 17, 2007, and reappointed in May of this year by Mayor Mike Inman.

Torreson will also discuss with aldermen the proposed city purchase of two properties at 115 and 119 West Adams Street. The city needs the land for proposed widening of the street, with a third lane to be added.

The city administrator will also ask the council for permission to seek bids for crack sealing of some city streets. Torreson will also seek approval of a resolution asking the Illinois Department of Transportation for permission to close a portion of U.S. Route 67 in October for the Western Illinois University Homecoming Parade.

Aldermen will settle current differences over whether to grant a special use permit to Anthony Ashenbush to convert a family office at 135 South Lafayette Street into a private residence.

See CITY - Page A2

INSIDE

A historic look at the Chandler Park cannon - Page A5

INDEX


Weather	A2
Calendar	A2
Obituaries	A3
Opinion	A4 - A5
Business	A10 - A12
Lifestyle	C1 - C4
Comics	B5
Astrograph	B4
Classifieds	B6 & B7
Sports	B1 - B8





Our County

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? Contact editor Jodi Pospeschil at editor@mcdonoughvoice.com or (309) 833-2114

WEATHER

Today
 **HIGH 89**
LOW 72

Sunday
 **HIGH 92**
LOW 72

Monday
 **HIGH 92**
LOW 75

POLICE BEAT

Macomb Police Department

- Joseph D. Seibt, 19, of Pawnee, was arrested for disorderly conduct, unlawful use of a license and possession/consumption of alcohol by a minor at 11:13 p.m. Thursday.
- Jennie R. Adcock, 40, of Macomb, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol at 12:48 a.m. Friday.
- Martique D. Barksdale, 29, of Macomb, was arrested on a Dupage County body attachment at 1:45 a.m. Friday.
- Randy A. Caldwell,

39, of Moline, was charged with possession of less than 10 grams of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia at 12:24 a.m. Friday.

- Zachary D. Haney, 19, of Pawnee, was ticketed for purchase, acceptance, possession, consumption of alcohol at midnight Friday.
- Christopher D. Walker, 21, of Marietta, was ticketed for improper lane usage at 1:14 a.m. Friday.

McDonough County Sheriff's Department

- Dennis E. Davis, 37, of Chicago, was arrested

on a Macon County warrant for failure to appear in a misdemeanor case at 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

- Ronald W. Smith, 43, of Stronghurst, was arrested on a Hancock County warrant for failure to appear at 4 p.m. Thursday.
- Jacob A. Fesler, 24, of Macomb, was arrested on a McDonough County warrant for failure to appear in an ordinance violation case at 5:47 p.m. Thursday.
- Ernest G. Smith, 33, of Sciota, was arrested for disorderly conduct at 8:50 a.m. Thursday.

CITY

Continued from page A1

The Macomb Planning Commission has recommended the action but the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development Corporation opposes it.

The council is also set to vote on ordinances changing the zoning of 20 properties from light manufacturing into their current residential and business uses, and to change the development code to allow special use requests by persons who wish to buy property containing garages or storage sheds when such property is not adjacent to their homes.

Aldermen are scheduled to act on a request from the mayor and city administrator to add a half-time secretarial position in Macomb City Hall. The person would cover staffing needs in the offices of the city clerk and the city attorney as well as in the office suite shared by Inman and Torsen.

The council may act on a request from Robert Mann that his home and business be annexed into the city. First readings are scheduled on ordinances lowering certain water fees and establishing a certification requirement by local businesses that their water connections prevent any backflow into the city distribution system.

The mayor will seek concurrence from the council on his reappointment of 14 city residents to various boards and commissions.

These include Craig Conrad to the Macomb Fire and Police Commission, Belinda Carr to the Macomb Equal Opportunity and Fair Housing Commission, Kevin Wiehardt, Charlotte Morrow, John Nickson and Sally Egler to the Macomb Zoning Board of Appeals, and Fred Caspall, Jimmy Buick, Kathy Balderson, Patty Hayes, Shannon Duncan, Linda Jobe, Chris McDaniel and Rusty Melhouse to the Macomb Planning Commission.

Inman will also seek concurrence with his reappointment of Alderman Dennis Moon to the Macomb/McDonough County Public Building Commission.

Aldermen may also adjourn to closed session to discuss city personnel issues.

The council meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on the second floor of Macomb City Hall.

CALENDAR

Tuesday
MACOMB
Sheriff Rick VanBrooker, guest speaker at the YMCA Senior Center: Following the 11:30 a.m. lunch he will discuss scams and how they relate to seniors. Call in advance to make reservations for lunch.

Aug. 6
MACOMB
WIU Performing Arts Society's annual Diamonds and Denim event: The Change of Pace in Macomb.

Aug. 10
MACOMB
KidneyMobile, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 400 E. Carroll St. The National Kidney Foundation's KidneyMobile, the first of its kind, is a mobile classroom and screening lab that detects kidney disease.

Aug. 14
MACOMB
Jazz 102: Final presentation in the jazz education series: The Jazz Singers - Ann Collins 2 p.m. Western Illinois Regional Arts Center. Free admission.

Aug. 20
MACOMB
Western Illinois Museum offers Walking Tour of Historic Macomb Courthouse Square: Tours begin at 1 p.m. and depart from the Western Illinois Museum. The tours last about one hour and are free and open to the public.

Ice cream social to raise funds for the McDonough County Social Service Memorial Committee: 1 to 4 p.m. at the Western Illinois Museum. Come "get the scoop" from Macomb Mayor Mike Inman, WIU President Jack Thomas and MDH Executive Director Kenny Boyd. Tickets are \$7 and are available at the WIU Museum, Citizen's Bank, Mid-America Bank and Vintage Accents.

Aug. 22
MACOMB
McDonough County Democratic Central Committee, 6:30 p.m., City Hall community room.

Print Exclusives

FIRST IN PRINT

Below is a list of stories you will find today only in the printed edition of The McDonough County Voice:

- Hy-Vee donates to veterans memorial - Page 6A
- Rotary Club awards attendance pins - 14A

The Voice
 203 N. Randolph St. Macomb, Ill. 61455
 Phone (309) 833-2114
 Fax (309) 833-2346
 www.mcdonoughvoice.com

Lynne Campbell
 PUBLISHER
 lynne@mcdonoughvoice.com

Jodi Pospeschil
 EDITOR
 editor@mcdonoughvoice.com

Shelby Burget
 SPORTS EDITOR
 sports@mcdonoughvoice.com

Marilyn Thompson
 BOOKKEEPER
 business1@mcdonoughvoice.com

Dusty Vaughn
 CIRCULATION MANAGER
 circulation1@mcdonoughvoice.com

The Voice (USPS 324-180)
 is published Tuesday through Saturday except holidays*

Periodicals postage paid at Macomb, Illinois.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address and address corrections to:
 The Voice,
 203 N. Randolph St.,
 Macomb, Ill. 61455.

For subscription rates, please call the circulation department at (309) 833-2114.
 Subscription rates are transferable, but not refundable.
 *Holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas

© 2008 GateHouse Media, Inc.
 All rights reserved.

HIT

Continued from page A1

Smith then exited the vehicle, verbally accosting

the victim. Reports say that Smith spit on the victim and pushed him to the ground.

The victim sustained scrapes and bruises. He transported himself to McDonough District Hospital where he was treated and released.

Smith was charged with two counts of aggravated battery and lodged in the McDonough County Jail.

BUDGET

Continued from page A1

Maguire said despite the budget shortfalls, patients are still receiving the care they need.

Western Illinois University is also feeling the budget pinch. Julie DeWees, interim vice president for administrative services, said the state still owes Western over half of \$56.2 million promised for fiscal year 2011. Finances for fiscal year 2012 are not expected to show much improvement.

On top of the debt owed to Western, the state has reduced Western's funding by \$644,400 to \$55.5 million. In order to combat the cuts, Western now requires upper-level management to authorize purchases over \$500 as well as all new hires. The funding is split between WIU's Macomb and Quad Cities campuses - spreading the money even thinner.

While faculty and staff salaries are not affected, DeWees said the delayed payments make planning, repairs and technology upgrades difficult.

"This hurts not only Western but the economy of Macomb," DeWees said.

Another Macomb institution feeling budget strains is Bridgeway, an organization that helps individuals with disabilities. The state has cut \$900,000 from the company's budget, which will affect its facilities across the Midwest, including Macomb.

CEO Jim Starnes said this week that Bridgeway will determine its budget next week and will factor in state cuts. He said planning will be difficult, because the state has only guaranteed funding for four months.

As of the beginning of this year, the state mandated that Bridgeway clients can only receive eight state-funded medical visits per year. Although Bridgeway can make appeals for more funding, additional budget resources must be used.

Starnes said Bridgeway's current funding situation is the worst he's ever seen. During tough economic times, Bridgeway sees an increase in demand. Unfortunately, this increase in demand comes when state funding is being decreased.

Starnes said cuts at the Macomb office will not be "earth-shattering," and that services will be maintained.

He said cuts to developmental disability services were made last year and this year has seen a sizable cut in substance abuse programs.

He said Bridgeway is working hard to minimize the impact of the cuts, but Macomb's Bridgeway is considering some cost-cutting measures. One option is a possible consolidation of staff offices in Macomb. Starnes also said that Bridgeway is hiring fewer people in an effort to reduce its staff.

Starnes said Bridgeway provides services to the sickest and poorest of people. He said while some organizations can raise their rates for services, Bridgeway cannot.

The cuts will force clients to wait longer for medical care, which could leave them at risk for emergency room visits or encounters with law enforcement.

State Senator John Sullivan weighed in on the state budget during his visit to Macomb City Hall earlier this month. This year's budget was divided among several different committees, which, "allowed so much more input from legislators as to what's important to them," Sullivan said.

Sullivan remarked, "To me, personally, education is extremely important. If you can catch children at a young age, their minds are like sponges, you can really make a difference in their lives."

"We don't have enough money to do all that we do. We're trying to make sure the money that we do spend is spent in the most efficient manner that we possibly can. Unfortunately, a lot of the mental health services are not Medicaid matchable," Sullivan said.

Sullivan is struggling to gain support for a debt restructuring plan that would boost state revenues through bond sales.

"If we don't do that or some version of that, the only other option we have is to pay those bills when the money becomes available," he said. "Quite frankly, that's going to take years and years."

Donough District Hospital where he was treated and released.

Smith was charged with two counts of aggravated battery and lodged in the McDonough County Jail.

Maguire said despite the budget shortfalls, patients are still receiving the care they need.

Western Illinois University is also feeling the budget pinch. Julie DeWees, interim vice president for administrative services, said the state still owes Western over half of \$56.2 million promised for fiscal year 2011. Finances for fiscal year 2012 are not expected to show much improvement.

On top of the debt owed to Western, the state has reduced Western's funding by \$644,400 to \$55.5 million. In order to combat the cuts, Western now requires upper-level management to authorize purchases over \$500 as well as all new hires. The funding is split between WIU's Macomb and Quad Cities campuses - spreading the money even thinner.

While faculty and staff salaries are not affected, DeWees said the delayed payments make planning, repairs and technology upgrades difficult.

"This hurts not only Western but the economy of Macomb," DeWees said.

Another Macomb institution feeling budget strains is Bridgeway, an organization that helps individuals with disabilities. The state has cut \$900,000 from the company's budget, which will affect its facilities across the Midwest, including Macomb.

CEO Jim Starnes said this week that Bridgeway will determine its budget next week and will factor in state cuts. He said planning will be difficult, because the state has only guaranteed funding for four months.

As of the beginning of this year, the state mandated that Bridgeway clients can only receive eight state-funded medical visits per year. Although Bridgeway can make appeals for more funding, additional budget resources must be used.

Starnes said Bridgeway's current funding situation is the worst he's ever seen. During tough economic times, Bridgeway sees an increase in demand. Unfortunately, this increase in demand comes when state funding is being decreased.

Starnes said cuts at the Macomb office will not be "earth-shattering," and that services will be maintained.

He said cuts to developmental disability services were made last year and this year has seen a sizable cut in substance abuse programs.

He said Bridgeway is working hard to minimize the impact of the cuts, but Macomb's Bridgeway is considering some cost-cutting measures. One option is a possible consolidation of staff offices in Macomb. Starnes also said that Bridgeway is hiring fewer people in an effort to reduce its staff.

Starnes said Bridgeway provides services to the sickest and poorest of people.

Donough District Hospital where he was treated and released.

Smith was charged with two counts of aggravated battery and lodged in the McDonough County Jail.

SENIORS' DAY
Thursday, August 4, 2011
 (Monthly - First Thursday)

SERVICE PROVIDERS:

- Alzheimer's Assn. -Central IL Chapter -2011 WalkComm.
- Countryview Care Ctr.
- Heartland Health Care Ctr.
- Macomb Area AARP
- MDH -Diabetes Education - Outreach Svcs.
- More Medical Supply
- Western IL Health Care
- Western IL Home Health Care

SERVICES: (Free services)

8:30-????? Cookies by Countryview
8:30-10:00 Blood Sugar-Screening
 Achilles/Osteoporosis Screening
 (Free Svc./Non-Invasive/Walk-ins Welcome)

8:30-10:30 Pulse Oximetry
 Blood Pressure Svc.

8:30-11:00 Enroll -Safe Driving Class
 -Safe Return Bracelet
 -Alzheimer's Walk
 Diabetic Shoe Rep.

8:30-Noon Museum-(Featured) Item
 -Membership Info.

For more information call 309-837-0643

Citizens
 div. Morton Community Bank
 127 South Side Sq., Macomb
 309-833-4551

BARNYARD GUITARS

Come check out the new line of Ukulele and Acoustic Guitars

New & Used Guitars/Amps
 BUY-SELL-TRADE-REPAIRS
 Band supplies & accessories
 • Sign up for lessons •

135 S. Randolph St. Macomb, IL
 309-299-6810
 www.barnyardguitars.com
 Open Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

BROWN COUNTY FAIR
 MT. STERLING, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 2ND THRU AUGUST 6TH

AUGUST 3RD & 4TH 7:00 pm Pari-Mutuel
 Harness Races
 Largest Purse \$20,000
 Fastest 1/2 mile track at any County Fair in state

AUGUST 5TH 7:30 pm Grand National Tractor Pull
 4 Big Classes - N.T.P.A.-2 Tracks
 P.S.-S.F.S.-S.S.D.-Unlimited Modified

AUGUST 6TH
 1:00 pm U.P.A Tractor Pull
 7:30 pm Demo Derby

UNDER 16 ALWAYS FREE
FAIR PHONE 217-773-3939
BROWNCOUNTYFAIR.COM

King Family Chiropractic

6 Doctor's Ln. Macomb, IL 61455
 (309) 837- MY DC (6932)
 KingFamChiro@macomb.com
 Visit us on Facebook!

Dr. Derek B. King
 April L. King C.T.

FREE Pap Smears and Mammograms

• 35-64 Year Old
 • No Insurance
 • Based on Eligibility

Call 309-837-9951 for more information.

Paid for by Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program