

Colchester, IL

Volume 51, Number 12 • December 2025



Santa's Not the Only One Who Knows Who's Naughty or Nice

Keep your home connected and in check this holiday season with ExperienceIQ, available through the MTC Wi-Fi App for our Connected Home and Connected Elite packages! With smart parental controls, you can:

- Manage screen time
- Pause Wi-Fi for family time
- Filter content and apps
- See what devices are online

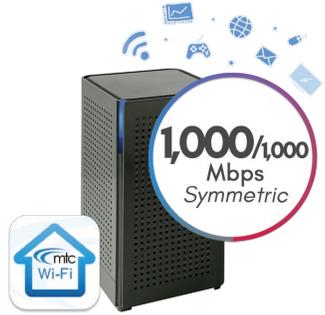


Santa might have his list... but with ExperienceIQ, you'll have yours too. Learn more or upgrade today by calling us at: 309-776-3211 or by visiting MTCFIBER.NET.

Upgrade your Wi-Fi!

Are you ready for a faster, better, internet experience? Now is the time!

Upgrade your home internet experience with MTC's new Wi-Fi 6 GigaSpire router! Enjoy faster, more reliable connections for all your devices with our latest technology, designed to maximize your internet speed.



Call us today to upgrade to the new router—for FREE! 309-776-3211

What's HAPPENING

DEC 12 Donate to our MEG Food Drive! Ending December 12th

Happy Holidays! We are closed for Christmas, December 25th.

Happy New Year! We are closed for New Year's, January 1st.

Holiday Open House: Friday Dec. 12th, 10am-3pm

NEW NUMBER!! 24/7 Pay by phone!
1-855-940-3852



McDONOUGH EMPLOYEE GOODWILL FUND Holiday Open House & Collection Drive

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
10AM - 3PM**

Come in and chase away the chill with homemade treats, hot beverages, and good company! Please bring an item or two for the collection drive.

Our Board of DIRECTORS

 Leroy TAPPE Chairman	 Randy GROVE Vice Chairman
 Paul BUTTERFIELD Secretary	 Jay MORRISON Treasurer
 Jason CHANCY	 Stacy BAINTER
 Mitchell WELSH	

12/2: Trivia Night (Every Tues.),
6:30-8:30pm, Sports Corner @ 124

12/4 & 11: Merry Making for the
Holidays, 5:30-7:30pm, Macomb
Park District Clay Studio

12/5: North Pole Square, 5-9pm,
Macomb Arts Center

12/5: Santa Zephyr Express,
5:30-6:30pm, Quincy to Macomb

12/5 & 6: Dickens on the Square,
F: 6-9pm; S: All Day, Macomb
Downtown Square

12/6: Arts in Nature Painting
Class, 10am-12pm, Argyle Lake State
Park

12/6: Stitchin' Time, 10:30am-
12pm, Macomb Public Library

12/8: Winter Woodland
Wonders Nature Hike, 1:30-
3pm, Argyle Lake State Park

12/8: Conservation Book Club,
6-8pm, The Wine Sellers

12/12: MDTC Annual Holiday
Open House & Food Drive,
10am-3pm, McDonough
Telephone Cooperative

12/12: Bats: Why we need to
conserve them and how you
can help!, 12-1pm, Prairie Land
Conservancy

12/12: Noticing Nature: A
Curious Guide for Sprouts,
4-4:45pm, Lakeview Nature Area

12/12 & 13: Art & Gift Market,
F: 5-8pm; S: 10am-5pm, Western
Illinois Museum

12/13: Nature Makers: Little
Winter Wonderland Ornament,
12-1:30pm, Lakeview Nature
Area

12/18: Wine & Wax!, 5:30-8pm,
The Wine Sellers

12/21: Winter Solstice Walk,
6pm, Lakeview Nature Area

12/31: Post 6 BIG Band, 7-9pm,
Park Place

For more events or details,
visit macomb.com/events/



An Important Message About Illinois Relay

The Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) provides telecommunications relay service in Illinois to people who are Deaf, Hard-of-hearing, Speech-Disabled, or Deaf-Blind and allows them to place and receive calls to standard telephone users via a keyboard or assistive device. Illinois Relay is a free service, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Trained operators type the hearing caller's spoken words to the TTY caller and speak the typed words to the hearing person. Calls are billed at regular telephone company rates. ITAC also distributes TTYs at no charge to qualified Illinois Residents.

For more information or to apply for Illinois Relay service, call ITAC at 1-800-841-6167 or visit the ITAC website at www.itactty.org. To place a call using Illinois Relay, dial 771 or use one of these 10-digit numbers:

800-526-0844 TTY Users	877-526-6680 American Standard Code for
800-526-0857 Voice Users	Information Exchange (ASCII)
800-501-0864 TTY Spanish	877-526-6690 Speech-to-Speech (STS)
800-501-0865 Voice Spanish	877-826-1130 Voice Carry Over (VCO) Users

For quickest response in an emergency, dial 911 directly rather than using the relay service to complete the emergency call.

Recipe Of The Month

Recipe: Hot Chocolate Cookies

Ingredients:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter, softened
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup packed brown sugar
 2 eggs, room temperature
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 $2\frac{1}{4}$ cups all-purpose flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup instant hot cocoa mix
 3 tablespoons baking cocoa
 1 teaspoon salt
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder
 1 cup vanilla marshmallow bits
 (not miniature marshmallows)
 1 cup semisweet chocolate

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugars until light and fluffy, 5-7 minutes. Beat in eggs and vanilla. In another bowl, whisk flour, cocoa mix, baking cocoa, salt, baking soda and baking powder; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Gently stir in marshmallow bits and chocolate chips.

Drop dough by tablespoonfuls 2 in. apart onto greased baking sheets. Bake until set, 10-12 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool completely.

