

little village

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW!

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Diva of the avant-garde proves she's a real space cadet

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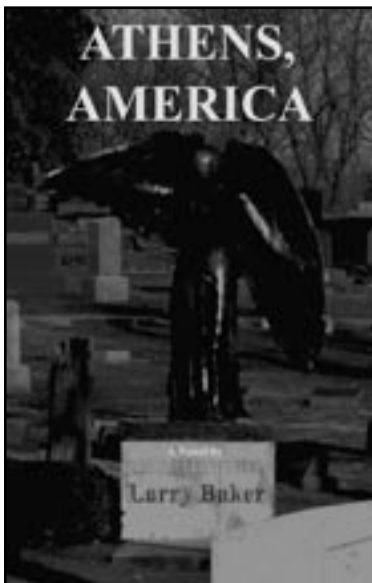
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Coming in October Larry Baker's 'Athens, America'

Don't miss the October issue of *Little Village* for an exclusive excerpt from Iowa City author Larry Baker's new novel, *Athens, America*. We'll print the first chapter from the book due out in November. *Athens, America* concerns the familiar-sounding community of Athens, Iowa, the best of small college towns: affluent, cultured, tolerant, safe and insulated from a world that seems to lack all those advantages. But at the beginning of a long, dry summer, Athens sheds its communal innocence as two teen-agers are killed in a police chase gone bad. Death becomes a political issue, and Athens becomes a microcosm of what's wrong with American politics.

Corrections

Our August cover story about Bill's Small Mall indicated that Mid-Eastern Iowa Community Mental Health Center was moving to the edge of town. They are, in fact, staying put on East College Street.

Also, the story reviewing new music from Canada was written by Steve Horowitz.

little village

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE UNDECIDED VOTER

I'D CONSIDER VOTING FOR JOHN KERRY--BUT I JUST DON'T KNOW IF I TRUST HIM TO LEAD THE WAR ON TERROR!



ARE YOU WORRIED THAT HE MIGHT CYNICALLY EXPLOIT THE THREAT OF TERRORISM TO JUSTIFY THE INVASION OF A COUNTRY WHICH ACTUALLY POSES NO THREAT--DIVERTING OUR RESOURCES AND GIVING THE REAL TERRORISTS TIME TO REGROUP?



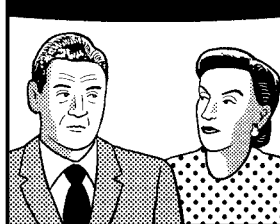
OR ARE YOU CONCERNED THAT THE COUNTRY IN QUESTION COULD BECOME A BREEDING GROUND FOR NEW TERRORISTS AS A RESULT OF HIS INCOMPETENT LEADERSHIP--LEAVING US MORE VULNERABLE THAN BEFORE?



OR ARE YOU JUST AFRAID THAT IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS, HE'D BE SO INSANELY IRRESPONSIBLE AS TO RUN UP RECORD DEFICITS IN ORDER TO FINANCE A TAX CUT FOR THE WEALTHIEST ONE PERCENT OF THE COUNTRY?



HE LOOKS FRENCH. AND THERE'S THE FLIP FLOPPING. AND STUFF.



I'M FILLED WITH CONFIDENCE, KNOWING THAT THIS ELECTION WILL BE DECIDED BY VOTERS LIKE YOU.



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And then what?

We've entered the height of the political season, and with the intensity of this year's presidential race thus far, we are likely to find ourselves inundated by both sides in the weeks before Nov. 2. Presidential politics rule the day. With incessant advertising and the horse race media covering every event with an eye toward the standings, it has become all too possible to see this race as a sort of national be all and end all.



**GO
FISH**

E.C. FISH

It isn't.

This has been called the most important presidential campaign of our lifetimes, and I'd be foolish to disagree—this will indeed be a watershed moment in the nation's history, and a genuine fork in the road. The problem is, it will not be the end of the world, or the beginning of a new one. As important as

the decision we are facing may be, we will all wake up on Nov. 3 and continue as best we can, as usual, with our singular and collective lives. While this statement may seem obvious, or even fatuous, the closeness of this election and the controversies surrounding it have left us little mental energy to consider what that morning might look like. This is a shame, because no matter which way this election turns out, the challenges we'll face as a nation after it will require all the energy we can muster.

This caveat extends even to the best case scenario. While John Kerry represents our best, if not only, chance to flush the vast national mess left in the wake of the Bush administration down the sink of history, his election would be far from a triumph of progressive politics. This is partially due to the man himself. While the Bush campaign has been keen on describing Kerry as the most liberal member of the Senate, the reality of

the situation is that, depending on who's doing the ratings, he's somewhere either just inside or just outside the top 10—liberal to be sure, particularly in comparison to the current president, but equally surely no one's firebrand.

The John Kerry we've seen campaigning this year—cautious, careful, often politiqued to a fault—is likely to be the John Kerry sworn in next January if the polls turn his way in November. While this style has in

This has been called the most important presidential campaign of our lifetimes, and I'd be foolish to disagree—this will indeed be a watershed moment in the nation's history, and a genuine fork in the road. The problem is, it will not be the end of the world, or the beginning of a new one.

some ways been dictated by the dynamics of the campaign—as one of my colleagues has put it, when one sees one's opponent busily braiding the rope, tying the knot and cutting the timber for his own scaffold, one is best advised to stay out of the man's way and let him get on with it—it also bespeaks Kerry's origins as a long-time player of Washington inside politics. Like it or not, Kerry is a product of the current system and is unlikely to start throwing money changers from the temple any time soon.

Even if Kerry were of the temperament to ride into the White House on a flaming steed with sword at ready, his ability to affect change would be severely hampered by a Washington establishment that is likely to be basically unaltered by this election. While the Democrats have a distinct shot at taking a majority in the Senate, and a possibility of upset in the House, chances are good that the current majority will prevail—and frankly, the ideological make up of the congressional Democratic caucus gives the exercise a distinct air of “So what if they do?” Further, those with short memories should be reminded of the atmosphere that greeted our last Democratic president—thwarted Republicans can be counted

on to greet Kerry with the same program of obfuscation, distraction, investigation and scandal mongering, and the media, both mainstream and right wing, can be counted on for eager assistance.

As bleak as all this may sound, we should be careful of letting it stand in the way of efforts to bring it to fruition, for the alternative is far bleaker. Simply put, if the Republicans can win with a Bush/Cheney ticket, the Republicans can't lose, and if

the Republicans can't lose, the list of winners in this country will grow very short indeed. A Bush administration legitimized by popular mandate and freed from any further considerations of electability would no doubt continue and intensify its efforts to bring about what amounts to one-party rule in this country, and the results—a fundamentally ruined and structurally unjust economy, a continued program of nonstop unilateral warfare, and a continued degradation of the social safety net and the national infrastructure—would put us well on the road to becoming the sort of second world oligarchy typical of one-party states. In short, we ain't seen nothin' yet, and for the sake of our national future, don't want to see nothin' more.

If John Kerry is elected in November, it will be the result of the efforts of a broad coalition coming together, often at the price of personal and political compromise, in the common cause of ending the current administration. The need for those efforts and those compromises will not end with the election. **IV**

Adopt a greyhound

You may not be able to stop at just one

Zippy Zappy, our fourth retired racing greyhound in a row, came home with us this summer. Two years ago, we were still lamenting with our kids that we would never be able to have a dog because of my wife Susan's severe allergies. Now, after we discovered that many with allergies, including Susan, can tolerate greyhounds very well, more dogs have joined our family than any of us ever would have imagined.



**UR
HERE**
THOMAS
DEAN

On Thanksgiving Day 2002, Dr. Doug (his given racing name), a large, gentle brindle boy, became our first family dog. Removed from the highly social kennel environment in which he was raised,

Dr. Doug showed signs of loneliness and separation anxiety. So within a few months, we brought home a companion. Wizard, a lightly brindled young boy, was actually Dr. Doug's half-nephew, the two sharing EJ's Douglas (a world-renowned stud dog recently deceased) as grandfather and father, respectively. Within a few more months, however, we fell victim to what is known in greyhound parlance as "chipping"—that is, the potato chip phenomenon of not being able to have just one. By the end of the summer of 2003, neighbors shook their heads in disbelief as we promenaded with our trio that now included Simon. They could only laugh this past summer when Zippy appeared in the pack.

We adopted all four of our hounds from Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption, a non-profit kennel that does remarkable work on a shoestring. Within the greyhound adoption community, opinions vary widely about the racing industry. I am taking no particular position on that here, except to say that we all must be concerned about what happens to these dogs after their racing careers have ended. I am grateful that about 15,000 retired racing greyhounds nationally find homes each year. While tracks and adoption agencies like Quad Cities have vastly improved the lot of retired racers in the past decade or two, annually between 10 and 15,000 dogs, bred for entertainment

and profit, are still killed after their racing usefulness is ended. That is not a shame; it's a crime.

What does all this have to do with a column focused on living in place? It has everything to do with collective responsibility. We live in a state that allows, and in many ways encourages, greyhound racing. As the tracks will certainly tell you, the state and the communities in which they reside benefit from their revenues and philanthropic activities.

Within a few more months, however, we fell victim to what is known in greyhound parlance as "chipping"—that is, the potato chip phenomenon of not being able to have just one.

But even if many do benefit, and whether or not we personally partake of greyhound racing (my family does not) as a citizenry, we do bear responsibility for these innocent creatures' welfare after they have served the pleasure and profit purposes for which they were created. They deserve nothing more than the dignity and comfort of a life of care and love. No dog deserves to be killed merely because his or her "economic utility" has expired.

My family's personal desire for the perfect companion animal gladly intersected with a social good. Granted, greyhounds are not the only species or breed suffering from our society's disposable mentality. Still, I encourage you to consider life with a greyhound (or plural!). They probably defy your expectations—overall, they are calm, gentle and quiet dogs. Despite their wiry appearance and occupation as 45-mile-an-hour athletes, they are not high-strung. In fact, overall, quite the opposite. Though they may enjoy a fast sprint or two each day, and certainly need daily walking, greyhounds love nothing more than luxuriating on a floor cushion, couch or bed for a day-long nap. They shed little. They are affectionate. They are very quiet—quite the "low-bark" variety. We are always startled when one of our pups lets out an "arf."

Despite a common general character, each dog has his or her own distinct personality. Dr. Doug is the big, quiet, gentle giant, sporting the classic greyhound figure and regal deportment, willing to snuggle against your body in blissful slumber.

Wizard is the goofball—the leash chewer, the somewhat pudgy food hound who nudges the Kibble container with his nose, the toy boy who is always looking for fun. He is famous in the neighborhood for proudly carrying a stuffed animal with him on every walk.

Simon is our 8-year-old brood mama ("Sizzlin' Simon," to be precise, despite being female). A squat little brindle with the shortest greyhound snout you'll ever see, Simon

doesn't take much guff. When annoyed or scared, she's perfectly willing to snarl and show teeth. Luckily, as she's acclimated to our family, the snapping has stopped. Yet Simon exhibits an entirely opposite, endearing side of her personality as well. When you approach, she drops her ears and wags just the tip of her tail, and she will stand and lean into you for hours looking for pets.

We haven't fully come to know Zippy yet (racing name Zipper Zappy), a beautifully sleek black 6-year-old female, also a "breeder" with two sets of offspring. Unfortunately, black greyhounds are harder to place in a home (people tend more toward the lighter-colored doe-eyed dogs or the exotic-looking brindles), and Zippy is anxious over storms and unfamiliar noises. When we heard that she was languishing in the kennel after a year, losing her spark and refusing to eat, we decided we could make room in our home and family for her. Like Simon, Zippy presents a complicated personality. Energetic and rascally one moment—she's quite the toy and shoe thief—she can also be quite demure, even submissive, and is always receptive to pets and loving.

I couldn't imagine these wonderful creatures being disposed of—literally—at the end of their careers. From what we gather, Wizard was on his way to Oklahoma to be put down before being intercepted here in Iowa. Luckily, he was rescued by the wonderful folks of Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption. They tirelessly work long, hard

ADOPT continued

hours. They will rush out to a kennel or farm hours away to pick up a dog in need, day or night. When their kennel is full (recently, 51 dogs filled their crates!), they will find a way to take more. The board members and volunteer workers receive no monetary compensation yet give of themselves generously in innumerable ways. They keep the organization and facility operating even when balance sheets suggest maybe they shouldn't. They work 365 days a year—dogs still need to be fed and turned out on Christmas and the Fourth of July. Many hold full-time jobs on top of their rescue work, and all have full lives like everyone else.

If you're thinking of looking into adopting a greyhound, keep in mind there are some restrictions—you must have a fenced-in yard and agree not to let your dog off-leash, for example. As sight hounds trained to chase, greyhounds will take off when their eyes catch something to pursue, and by the time these 45-mph wonders stop, they are long gone from your watchful presence.

On Sunday, Sept. 19, Iowa City will host its annual Paws in the Park walkathon fund-raiser at City Park. In addition to supporting the good work of the Iowa City Animal Care and Adoption Center and the event itself, you're invited to visit Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption, who will host an information booth and greyhound reunion. Come on out and meet a bunch of greyhounds who now live happily in town. My family and I will be there, and you can meet our dogs, too. I'd be happy to talk with you about greyhounds at any time. Just email me at thomaskdean@hotmail.com or call me (before 8pm, please) at 688-9456. And, of course, please contact Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption. Their website is at qcgreyhoundadoption.com, and their phone number is 309-793-4578. **IV**

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I own a restaurant, write nearly full-time, have a house and garden, two kids and two dogs to tend to, and a baseball jones that can't seem to be quenched. If I can make the time to pack a lunch for my kids everyday, so can you for your kids—or for yourself. Until school systems can offer healthy, flavorful food that is fresh—not from a central commissary where it's

been held in a hotbox for three hours—and not laden with fat, salt and sugar, this is the only viable alternative. It doesn't even need to cost much more—honestly.

Here is what I am not talking about: Oscar Mayer “Lunchables,” PB&J on white bread, individual packages of corn or potato chips, store-cut carrot and celery sticks, or last night's pizza.

I am talking about fresh salads with homemade vinaigrette, mixed nuts, farmers market eggs, cheese and bread. Those of you who live in dorms have obvious limitations as far as kitchens are con-

cerned, but many options remain that do not include Ramen noodles. A wedge of fresh melon or a bunch of grapes beats a tube of “gogurt” every time, and to really make your roommate envious, eat a pile of fresh strawberries with whipped cream in front of his/her face.

Two hours a week and 15 minutes a day is all I require to make healthy, delicious meals for my kids' lunches every day. The key is planning. Having all ingredients on hand is a result of that planning—build your menus ahead of time and fashion your shopping to the menus. Try to buy in season and locally; that way the food is fresher and will last longer both in your refrigerator and in your kid's lunchbox. Also, look toward plenty of overlap. The sandwich meat could come from last night's roast pork loin—slice it thin and serve it with horseradish sauce on rye bread. Side note: Keep your sliced breads frozen and build the sandwiches on frozen bread. They will thaw by lunchtime and keep the sandwich cool and fresh.

Ask your children what they want! Naturally, most kids will rattle off a litany of junk food first, but prod them a little, offer suggestions and even tastes, and you will soon find a wide array of “bottom-of-the-food-pyramid” ingredients to use. Visit New Pioneer Co-op for an enormous variety of extremely affordable grains, rices and pastas, all in bulk and all great for making lunch “entrée salads” (a mainstay in our lunchboxes).

Fill a pie tin with some fresh greens, place a cup of tabouli or three-bean salad in the center, add a small container of vinaigrette, a sliced hard-boiled egg and a bunch of grapes, and cover it with foil. Make the eggs, tabouli and vinaigrette on Sunday, and they'll be there for Monday and Thursday lunches—in the morning you need 10 minutes to pack them.

I hear some of you saying, “Yeah, well, I don't have 10 minutes in the morning, or two hours each weekend to spend on this.” I disagree; I think you do. It is simply a matter of priorities. What is there in your life that is more important than your health and the health of your children? You spend a large amount of time and money to see that you and they become educated, productive members of a democratic society. How could good nutrition, and therefore good food, not be a part of that?

Find the time. Skip that episode of “West Wing” or “American Idol.” Listen to the Hawkeyes on the radio, instead of TV, while you prepare some good food on a Saturday afternoon. Spend an hour less at the mall each week. Stay home for dinner instead of going out (yes, this is a restaurant owner making this recommendation). You will see a marked improvement in the health, and perhaps the attitude of your children, and you all will become more in touch with the world around you.

lv



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You are what you eat

2004 Field to Family festival offers an array of events reclaiming the source and joy of food

by Jill Moffett

.....

On a recent sunny afternoon, I had lunch with Chef Kurt Michael Friese at Devotay, the pottery-filled restaurant he owns with his wife Kim. As I ate my corn and vegetable chowder made from the late summer offerings of local growers, we discussed monoculture, gardening, corporate farming, sustainable cuisine and the Slow Food movement. Together with Theresa Carbrey, education director of the New Pioneer Co-Op, and Dave Burt, co-owner of The Red Avocado, Friese is in the throes of organizing the third annual Field to Family festival, scheduled for Sept. 16-19. From its humble beginnings as a WSUI fund-raiser, the event is now its own free-standing non-profit.

At first glance, Field to Family seems primarily a celebration of delicious food: Three of the main events involve eating. The Table-to-Table culinary walk (think of it as a pub crawl with food) kicks off the event in downtown Iowa City on Thursday night. The next evening, visiting chef Lucia Watson prepares a \$75-a-plate feast at the Chef's Table dinner, held at Bon Vivant in Coralville. The Harvest Dinner on Saturday evening features the talents of both local and visiting chefs, including Friese and Burt.

Although epicurean delights are a big part of the event, Field to Family is not just about pleasing the refined palate. The money raised from these dinners goes to the Table-to-Table Food Rescue Operation and to Slow Food Iowa—an

organization currently involved in a project to establish a student garden on the grounds of Iowa City's new alternative school. Furthermore, Friese, Carbrey and Burt's local efforts are part of a global movement battling what Indian activist Vandana Shiva calls "food totalitarianism."

Since the '70s, activists have been concerned about an impending food crisis. In her groundbreaking classic, *Diet for a Small Planet*, originally published in 1971, Frances Moore Lappe laid out the imperative for a drastic shift in the way Americans eat. She pointed out that eating a meat-centered diet is like "driving



Participants feast on local food at a previous Field to Family festival.

a Cadillac" (or in 2004, like driving an SUV). She related the fact that it takes 16 pounds of grain to produce one pound of beef and argued that a meat-centered diet wastes precious resources, like water, and contributes to soil erosion. Thirty years later, biotechnology, an unstable political climate and the unrivaled power of multinational corporations have created even more complex concerns, of which mad cow disease, GM foods and the health effects of growth hormones routinely injected into livestock are but a few.

Part of this situation has arisen because Americans have become so alienated from the production of their food. "My nephews were shocked to see that car-

Field to Family

What: Extravaganza of local foods

When: Sept. 16-19

Where: Various locations, Johnson County

rots were dug out of the ground," Carbrey says of a recent farm visit. Reconnecting to the earth and to the process of farming and food production is an important piece of the Field to Family event. Organizers have planned visits to three farms, free of charge, for anyone interested in participating. Tours of Wilson's Orchard, Sass Family Farms and ZJ Farm will be offered on Sept. 16, 17 and 18 respectively.

Farms like these, however, are not representative of Iowa agriculture in general. According to the Iowa Corn Grower's Association, the state is the top producer of corn in the nation. In 2003, Iowa's corn farmers grew 1.88 billion bushels of corn on 12 million acres of land. Over 60 percent of that corn went to feed

livestock, 16 percent was exported, 10 percent was used for ethanol, and 5 percent became high-fructose corn syrup. The rest wound up as corn starch, corn sweeteners, processed foods and alcohol. Only a fraction of that corn ended up in corn and vegetable chowder.

"There is no advantage to monoculture," Friese says, then pauses. "It may be an advantage for some Monsanto executive in St. Louis, and his children might profit off of his money, but what about the rest of us?"

It's certainly true that while a handful of executives may be getting extremely wealthy off this type of farming, the environmental and social costs of monocul-

ture are staggering. Ninety-four percent of food in Iowa is imported, which means the tomato you buy in the grocery store has traveled an average of 1,200 miles to get there. That also means a lot of oil is wasted in the transportation of produce, oil over which the United States is currently involved in an illegal war. And corporate

the woods under the expert direction of Johnson County Naturalist Brad Friedhof and author Teresa Marrone to identify and gather edible plants. This is food that is not owned by Monsanto, not patented by Phillip Morris—it's just Mother Nature's offering. The Foray takes place at 9am on Saturday morning (Sept. 18) at Hickory

Opportunities at Field to Family for sharing knowledge abound. On Saturday afternoon, a series of workshops will be offered at Scattergood School near West Branch (\$5 recommended donation), with lunch included. Workshop topics include building healthy soil, the economy of local foods, food preservation, GMOs, rotational grazing, and clay play for children. Other educational events include a presentation of the largest collection of cookbooks in the country at the University of Iowa Library, several discussions on WSUI's "Talk of Iowa" and a reading by Marrone and Watson at Prairie Lights on Sept. 17.

Part of this situation has arisen because Americans have become so alienated from the production of their food. "My nephews were shocked to see that carrots were dug out of the ground," Carbrey says of a recent farm visit.

monoculture has further global repercussions. The food business is big business, and a tiny number of corporations have begun to take over indigenous farming practices, as has happened in India with the mustard seed and rice, in Kenya with sugar, and all over the world with various other crops. The WTO's structural adjustment programs have pushed so-called developing nations to grow cash crops and rely on importing food, with disastrous results.

Hill Park, and is followed by a cooking class that afternoon where Marrone and Burt will demonstrate uses of the foods gathered earlier in the day.

"It's all about having fun while learning," Carbrey says of Field to Family. This emphasis on accessible education is crucial to the event, as well as to the building of a food democracy. As Shiva points out, new intellectual property laws allow corporations to "own" information about a seed, and to claim it as their private property. Corporations have filed for ownership of specific genes of plants, or genetic combinations, a prospect that has far-reaching consequences.

Iowa is not only the nation's largest producer of corn but also ranks first in the production of soybeans and hogs. We are a state where agribusiness is of the utmost importance, and Field to Family is an event that attempts to reintroduce Iowans to a slower, smaller, more local vision of farming. As Friese says, "It may be the oldest cliché in the world: 'You are what you eat,' but if you are what you eat, then who owns your food owns you." **lv**

Part of Field to Family's goal is to take back the food. One of this year's more rambunctious events is the Wild Food Foray, where people can head out into

Tickets are on sale through the New Pioneer Co-op (338-9441) and a full schedule can be found at www.FieldToFamily.org



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O Laurie Anderson!

Diva of the avant-garde proves she's a real space cadet

by Steve Horowitz

Laurie Anderson is the poster child of performance art, who, with her spiky hair and stringless violin (played with beams of light), has become the most recognizable icon of the genre. She's been ridiculed by pompous, closed-minded critics of the National Endowment for the Arts, stand-up comedians and late-night talk show hosts as the embodiment of what's wrong with contemporary art. She has also been championed as the priestess of a new fine arts form. Part of the fuss has resulted from Anderson's high visibility and popularity. (Quick: Name three performance artists.) She has released seven albums, including the five-volume set *United States*, on a major record label, garnering a number-two pop single on the British charts with "O Superman" from her first disc and breaking the top-100 album charts in America with her second, *Mister Heartbreak*. She also has been involved in the movie industry. She wrote, directed and starred in

Another reason behind Anderson's controversial place in American culture is her willingness to take artistic risks. She willingly looks goofy and takes political potshots at those in power to make her points. Her song lyrics frequently resemble Zen koans in their paradoxical combinations of simplicity and deep thought. Consider the opening of "Night in Baghdad" from her 1994 release *Bright Red*:

And oh it's so beautiful

It's like the Fourth of July

It's like a Christmas tree

It's like the fireflies on a summer night.

Her allusion to the portrayal of Desert Storm on television is disturbing because what's really happening goes unmentioned. That's her point; to show how disconnected the brutality of war is from the observer, and indeed how absurdly delightful the image is. Anderson's protagonist, in this case a war correspondent, gleefully assumes an objective persona, which suggests how immoral such a stand is. (The war itself may be viewed as necessary or not, but the horror of destruc-

Chicago-born Anderson studied violin as a teen-ager, earned her B.A. in art history from Barnard College and an M.F.A. in sculpture from Columbia University. She taught at the City College of New York before beginning her career as a performer. She began by taking her act to the city streets. One notable early piece consisted of her wearing ice skates and standing on a block of ice while playing her violin. Her performance ended when the ice melted away. She has frequently used science as a metaphor in her works. Her first major label album was even called *Big Science*.

Critics sometimes have called her a space cadet because of the way-out personae she has assumed in her work. Therefore it seems appropriate that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) chose Anderson to be the organization's first Artist in Residence. For the past two years Anderson has traveled from site to site, interviewing scientists and technicians, and has created a new performance piece titled *The End of the*



"What could be more avant-garde than building a stairway to space? Or the way they translate digital data from a receiver into color. How does one decide which is blue when decoding a non-visible spectrum into a visual one?"
- Laurie Anderson

her own concert film, *Home of the Brave*, which grossed well over \$1 million, and scored the Jonathan Demme/Spaulding Gray underground hit flick *Swimming to Cambodia*.

tion is inherently abhorrent.) Anderson voluntarily assumes the first-person role, but she is sometimes mocked because of the willingly naïve parts she plays—her detractors mistaking the artist for the characters.

Moon. It's the second part of a trilogy of solo works that combines stories, songs and music addressing the complex relationship between technology and culture. Like the opening piece, *Happiness*, *The End of the Moon* is said to look at the connections between art, war, spirituality and consumerism in contemporary America.

Laurie Speaks

"I tried to approach the project in a big way," Anderson said over the telephone from her New York City residence. "I didn't want to focus on one small aspect, but I tried to absorb as much as I could and present what I've learned. I am not an expert, I am an artist. I look at things

Anderson voluntarily assumes the first-person role, but she is sometimes mocked because of the willingly naïve parts she plays—her detractors mistaking the artist for the characters.

from a slightly different angle." However, she continually noted the strong similarity between what NASA workers do and art of all kinds.

"Think about the projects they are working on," Anderson said. "What could be more avant-garde than building a stairway to space? Or the way they translate digital data from a receiver into color. How does one decide which is blue when decoding a non-visible spectrum into a visual one? These require imaginative choices." On a more existential level, Anderson realized that what one considers the hard facts of science are only theories and illusions when applied to the larger scales of space and time.

"I thought gravity was a force but learned scientists believe there is no such thing," she continued. "We have a department of space, but we don't have a time department. We don't understand the vast amount of time that space reveals to us. The Earth itself has existed for only a very

small part of cosmic time and shows how absolutely relative time is—that there are galaxies billions of years older than our own." Comprehending such notions makes one reflective and philosophical. If everything and everyone on Earth were destroyed, the moon would still revolve around the Earth, the Earth would still or-

bit the sun. Nothing fundamental would be changed.

Anderson finds such thoughts hopeful and they give her a reverence for life. "I agree with the astronauts: No one else is out there. We are not the last beings in the universe, but the first," Anderson said. She imagines that one day there will be

Laurie Anderson

What: Premier Performance Artist of the Universe premieres new work

When: Wednesday, Sept. 29, 8pm

Where: Hancher Auditorium

a greening of Mars as human beings start to populate the cosmos. Anderson knows there's always a dark side to such endeavors. She noted that historically exploration has always been preceded by militarization. "Have you seen the movie *Fog of War*? Robert McNamara said that they

considered exploding a nuclear weapon on the moon. That scared me. I never heard of that before."

Anderson said while at NASA she found herself drawn to nanotechnology and robotics. "Nanotechnology deals with minute processes where biology and electronics meet," Anderson gushed. "For example, one can grow nanotubes like one can grow crystals. These are super strong structures with many potential uses." She can't explain why these things fascinate her except that she finds the whole concept "beautiful." As for robotics, Anderson explained how heroic she finds the individuals who manufactured the Rovers that successfully landed on Mars. "They took what was once a fictional idea and made it work. There was such a huge range of complications. Mars is so far away and there were so many things that could have gone wrong, but they did it. It's really an incredible achievement."

Anderson brings her still, small voice to the Hancher stage—that and a sampler and violin. She will perform solo. Despite the epic grandeur of her subject, Anderson said that her presentation will be very modest. Everything on stage will emerge from her Powerbook computer, and she was not sure if she will even supply visuals.

"Pictures aren't necessary to understand all this beauty," she said. She refused to discuss the particulars of *The End of the Moon* other than to say that it's all about the words and music. "As I become older I have discovered that for me, the best way to examine our culture is not through a multimedia show, but through the simpler and sharper tools of words." **IV**

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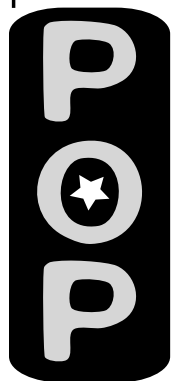
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Vote for Change... or Consume for Affirmation?

prairie



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McLeod

One of the more cynical observations I've regularly heard repeated since the Reagan era goes something like this: "Well, at least having a right-wing kook in office makes for good music." The 1980s gave us great anti-authoritarian punk bands like the Dead Kennedys and Black Flag, sure, but somehow the tradeoff seems like a raw deal—especially considering the rivers of poop-culture sewage that continue to flow

regardless of which way the foul political winds blow.

Popular music has for many years been enmeshed in social movements and political life, and we can see this in its latest manifestation in the Vote for Change tour, which will roll into Iowa City on Oct. 5. If Live Aid (the 1985 cross-continental mega-festival that was notable for permanently ending starvation in Africa) cast as wide an aesthetic net as possible, Vote for Change is much more of a narrowcasting affair. Between Oct. 1 and 8, over one dozen artists traveling in six packs will blitz through several key swing states. The hope is to energize the Democratic base and raise money for MoveOn's efforts to remove Bush from office.

The lineups have been carefully selected and sorted according to demographics. Northwest-based alterna-rock fathers and sons—Pearl Jam and Death Cab for Cutie, respectively—will play for the kids, while middle-of-the-roaders Jackson Browne and Bonnie Raitt will rock slowly and gently for the boomers. Jam-centric acts like Dave Matthews, Ben Harper, My Morning Jacket and token hip-hoppers

Jurassic 5 will all give white people an excuse to dance, while John Mellencamp and Babyface will cause fans to scratch their heads about why these two were paired together. In a surprising move, adult contemporary country-poppers the Dixie Chicks and James Taylor will play an intimate back-to-basics show at Gabe's Oasis. Just kidding, they'll be performing—where else?—at Hancher Auditorium. Last, but certainly not least, is a lineup I thought I'd never see in my lifetime: R.E.M. opening for Bruce Springsteen.

So, will James Taylor and the Dixie Chicks at Hancher help sway the election? Come on. Anyone prone to seeing those musicians in that venue has somewhere around a 98.187 percent chance of voting for John Kerry, so in this way

lines of a labor movement that helped bring us the 40-hour work week and an end to child labor. For Guthrie, music was politics, and vice versa. The labor movement inspired many of his greatest songs; these songs, in turn, motivated workers during trying times. That's why Guthrie famously scrawled on his guitar "This Machine Kills Fascists." He drew from the culture that surrounded him and transformed, reworked and remixed it in order to write beautiful songs that motivated the working class to fight for a dignified life. Instead of passively consuming and regurgitating the Tin Pan Alley songs that were popular during the day, Guthrie and other folk singers created art and music in an attempt to transform the world around them. They were truly part of a counter-culture, not an over-the-counter culture.

However, I get the feeling that this kind of voting-with-your-wallet activity has become a stand-in for just that. It's a little less "I'd like to teach the world to sing," and a lot more "I'd like to buy the world a Coke."

the concert is little more than a consumption choice. Instead of calling it Vote for Change, MoveOn should call all of these tour stops Consume for Affirmation. Nothing about this setup is inherently wrong, I guess; it's nice to give the choir something to sing and not feel quite so alone. These concerts and similar tactics aren't inherently insidious as long as they don't become substitutes for real grassroots political action. However, I get the feeling that this kind of voting-with-your-wallet activity has become a stand-in for just that. It's a little less "I'd like to teach the world to sing," and a lot more "I'd like to buy the world a Coke."

This wasn't always so. During the Civil Rights era, music and movements were genuinely, organically intertwined. And in the 1930s and 1940s, Woody Guthrie and other folk musicians were on the front

The degree to which every aspect of cultural life has become co-modified was exhibited recently when the company that owns Guthrie's copyrights, TRO Publishing, sent the JibJab.com website a cease and desist letter for posting a Guthrie-invoking political parody. The animated short portrayed G.W. Bush and John Kerry singing a goofy ditty to the tune of "This Land is Your Land," where Bush says, "You're a liberal sissy," Kerry replies, "You're a right-wing nut job," and they sing together, "This land will surely vote for me." Guthrie's copyright managers didn't think it was funny at all. "This puts a completely different spin on the song," TRO's Kathryn Ostien told CNN. "The damage to the song is huge." Perhaps more damage is done to this socialist musician's legacy by aggressively fencing off his music, turning it into noth-

ing more than private property that can only be consumed in approved ways.

This land is your land? Probably not; the corporations and top 1 percent income bracket own far more than any of us. This song is your song? Hell no. These days, if you're going to interpret a protest song, you'd better do it in a way deemed appropriate by a copyright owner. And if you organize a concert to change things, you have no choice but to mount it at a Clear Channel venue, lining the pockets of a

Republican-affiliated company that has monopolized live music and radio outlets in recent years. One final hypocritical disclosure: After all the hot wind I've blown up your bottom, I should admit that I bought tickets for the Oct. 5 Springsteen/R.E.M. show in Minnesota. I mean, jeez, R.E.M. opening for Springsteen? That totally rules (at least for my target demographic). I would have joined the John Birch Society to get a ticket for that event—well, almost. **lv**

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Unknown Component
Rewired Reasoning
www.unknowncomponent.com

Who is Unknown Component? Beats the hell out of me. But this CD paints a vivid picture of someone—a young longhair in a Sebadoh T-shirt sitting in a grotty Iowa City apartment with a couple of cheap guitars, a computer and Shure SM57 microphone, pouring his heart out into a pirated copy of Cubase.

Oh wait, I just found his website. He looks nothing like that. Never mind; it doesn't matter

anyway, because really, it's all about the song-writing. This guy, Keith Lynch, might remind you a bit of Radiohead, but only because he, like Radiohead, writes evocative, melancholy pop songs that could survive being performed on kazoo and ukulele. You might fault him for an awkward turn in the lyric, but when it comes to chord and melody, he's 100-percent on point. The songs on *Rewired Reasoning* have that uncanny quality of sounding familiar before you've ever heard them—without sounding trite.

And no, there's no kazoo or ukulele here. The basic voice-plus-guitar sound is fleshed out with some synths, ambient noise and deliberately crappy lo-fi drums.

"Trying To Remember" starts with "I remember being dumb/in December with no sun/ Now the memory weighs a ton" accompanied by tremolo guitar that recalls Soundgarden's "Black Hole Sun," and I think Mr. Lynch is just clever enough to quote the sound for effect.

The dramatic climax of the CD, the song "A Bit More," uses synthesized strings and a stately pace to add drama to the lugubrious

lyric: "In the dreams of machines all the human beings climb the halls and on the ceiling wires are bleeding out their minds." But in the middle of the song, the fuzz guitars kick in, and the mood turns 180 degrees. It's the old "Layla" trick of stitching two songs together, but it works so well you admire his cheek.

The title track, "Rewired Reasoning," is all over the place—bare voice and guitar, a string section, extreme dynamics. The lyric, a string of seeming nonsequiturs, manages to be evocative without exactly making sense: "Kindness breeds in mice/where the motive to survive far outweighs the time they stay alive/But that doesn't mean I'm a machine." The title is an in-joke for computer music nerds—"Reason" is a popular music production application, and "Rewire" is a software standard for running two music programs synchronized to each other.

But nerd-punning aside, this is a really fine CD, and not in the "he's a local guy, cut him some slack" sense. If Mr. Lynch keeps at it, Unknown Component could become very well known indeed.

Kent Williams



Faultlines
Travelogue
Action Heights

If you miss the sound of guitar-heavy, crunchy rock 'n' roll, you can find it here in abundance, and much more. Led by Dan Maloney and Drew Bixby's twin-guitar attack, Iowa City's Faultlines (not to be confused with the British electronica group Faultline) puts the sound of electric guitars front and center, and with the aid of Sam Koester's pounding drum work and Brian Korey's pulsating bass lines, makes a direct sonic assault on the listener.

Oh, the group has its quiet, quirky moments. Sometimes, the fellows get into a catchy groove

reminiscent of The Feelies or XTC, but then watch out, with a burst of energy they erupt into something tough and sinewy. According to the band's website, fans compare Faultlines' crunchy and volatile sound with that of the early work of Omaha's Cursive.

The disc's 11 songs are named after 11 days in a road trip (i.e. "Day One: Modern Traveler," "Day Two: Mid-City Silhouette," "Day Three: Upon Deaf Ears," etc.)—although it was recorded in Chicago last winter over a period of only six days.

The CD literally begins with the sound of getting into a van and taking off. Other sounds concrete are woven through to add a dose of reality for this journey into a slightly altered consciousness. There's something about the open road that frees your mind to imagine and reflect. The first song, an instrumental, sets the mood. The tune's rhythms mimic the cadences in your head when driving down the highway, sometimes slowing down to think, other times moving faster when paying attention to the traffic and the white lines zipping by.

The rest of the songs contain free-associative lyrics that jump from thought to thought faster than a van can fly. Anyone who's made long distance drives knows the mixture of boredom and anxiety of high-speed travel. Consider

lyrics like, "It's better if you just leave me alone/Who really wants to be all alone?," "This place completes me now/but I can't wait to get out" and "It's wishful thinking to think I'll ever win." Each sentiment is typical in how it expresses the mindset of a person with maybe too much time to ponder and not enough time to act. The hard-driving music behind the lyrics complements this restless spirit.

The band knows that good times don't last forever and that the road must end somewhere. They eloquently convey this in a song that appears to be a tribute to the late Matt Davis of Iowa City's 10 Grand, to whom the disc is dedicated. "Day Eight: Augten" opens with the touching "This life, this time, is fragile like glass" sung with a venomous sneer. The imagery symbolizes despair (i.e. broken mirrors, people dressed in black, cold and empty streets, etc.), but the song ends on a hopeful note. How can it not? For while Matt died tragically at such a young age, the members of Faultlines are still alive and going places: "Time stands still/but we travel on/always wondering why?" According to Plato, Socrates said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." The power of Faultlines' music helps one reflect and still move on.

Steve Horowitz

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CALENDAR

Calendar listings are free, on a space-available basis. Mail entries to Little Village, P.O. Box 736, Iowa City, Iowa 52244 or email little-village@usa.net

Art/Exhibits

AKAR

4 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 351-1227

New Wood Kiln: New Work by Ron Meyers, Sept. 3-15
* Karen Karnes, clay, Oct. 1-14.

Arts Iowa City/The Galleries Downtown
218 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 337-7447

The Molding of Magnificence, works by 12 students, residents and instructors of Penland School of Crafts, including IC's Justine Zimmer, Sept. 10-?.

Brucemore

2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375

Animal House, honoring the exotic and local animals that have called Brucemore home, through May.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

The Naked Truth: 2004 International Juried Wood Fire Exhibition, selection of teapots, bowls, vessels and other ceramic objects organized in conjunction with the International Wood Fire Conference at Coe College, Sept. 17-Jan. 9; opening reception Sept. 16, 5-8pm
* *From Surreal to Abstract: 20th Century European Prints*, through Feb. 13 * *Villa to Grave: Roman Art and Life*, 150 Roman objects—sculpture, frescoes, jewelry, furniture, coins and other decorative art objects—displayed in a recreated Roman architectural setting, through Aug. 25, 2005 * *Mauricio Lasansky: The Nazi Drawings*, through Oct. 3. (See *Words* listing for more)

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Area Code 319: Ceramic Art of Eastern Iowa, opening reception Sept. 17, 5-8pm.

Faulconer Gallery

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

I Saw It: The Invented Reality of Goya's Disasters of War, 80 prints from Francisco Goya's seminal series "Disasters of War," through Sept. 12; reception Sept. 3, 4:15pm * *Danica Phelps: Writers Trade*, combines the arts of drawing and accounting to document her financial and personal transactions, through Sept. 12 * *Austin Thomas*, addresses concepts of personal connection and self-awareness by creating environments for social interaction in which the viewer becomes a participant, through Sept. 12. (See *Words* listing for more)

The History Center

615 1st Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-1501

Grant Wood's *Arbor Day*, painting that inspired the design of the newly minted state quarter, Sept. 5-Oct. 3; exhibit events include a brunch and guided bus tour of area country schools Sept. 5 and community events through Oct. 3.

Hudson River Gallery

538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488

New work by UI photography and printmaking professor Peter Feldstein, Sept. 10-30, opening reception Sept. 10, 6-8pm.

Iowa State Bank & Trust

102 S. Clinton St., Iowa City

Contemporary Quilts by Nine Local Quilters, quilts by Diedre Fleener, Sally Glass, Nancy Hollenbeck, Diane Lohr, Dawn McKenzie, Jackie Morrill, Mary Ott, Donna Sanders and Theresa Weihe.

Lorenz Boot Shop

132 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 339-1053

Iowa City...And The World, oil paintings and limited edition prints by West Liberty artist Garth Conley, through Oct. 1.

Mt. Mercy College

Janalyn Hanson White Gallery, Cedar Rapids, 363-1323

Traditions: Apprenticeships in Wood-Firing, ceramics, Sept. 13-Oct. 12.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City (unless noted otherwise)

The Iowa City Post Office: The First One-Hundred Years, photos and memorabilia from the early years to the present, Sept. 10-Oct. 3 * *A Timeline of Johnson County History: 1800-2001*, 16-foot timeline of historic events in Johnson County from 1800-2001 with over 30 historic photographs, Sept. 8-22.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

quiltz and dollz, Patti Zwick, through Oct. 27, Boyd Tower West Lobby * Carol Carter, photography, through Oct. 29, Boyd Tower East Lobby * Matt Moyer, ceramics, through Sept. 17, Main Lobby * Dan Cosentino, photography, through Oct. 1, Patient and Visitor Activities Center East * Sara Bell, paintings, through Sept. 30, Patient and Visitor Activities Center West * *2004 Iowa Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary Miniature Prints*, through Sept. 30, Patient and Visitor Activities Center West * Jewelry and Metal, Sept. 20-Nov. 30, Main Lobby.

UI Main Library

UI campus, Iowa City

Velocipedomania: The Origin and Evolution of the Bicycle, through November, North Exhibit Hall.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

Pivot, a video and sound installation by UI film professor Leighton Pierce, through Oct. 17 * *Vision and Views: Master Prints from the Collection*, early European prints from the museum's collection, through Oct. 17.

Music

Arts Ala Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City

African Drum and Dance Workshops and Performance, with Madou Dembele, master West African drummer, Sept. 18; Drum Workshop, 12:30-2pm; Dance Workshop, 2:30-4pm; Performance, 8pm; 337-3989 for workshop reservations.

Clapp Recital Hall

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

UI Electronic Music Studios, 40th anniversary celebration featuring works for 16-channel sound, video, video and voice, and cello and electronics, Sept. 5, 8pm * Ten Part Invention, 10-piece Australian jazz group, Sept. 7, 8pm * Christine Rutledge, viola, Sept. 18, 8pm * Cello Daze Choir concert, Sept. 19, 2pm * Center for New Music, Sept. 26, 8pm * Piano Extravaganza, Sept. 29-30, time TBA.

Craig Erickson

Craig Erickson's Moongroove, Mahoney's, CR, Sept. 5, 9pm-1am * Craig Erickson Project, Sept. 16, O'Malley's, CR, 9pm-1am * Craig Erickson Solo Acoustic, Sept. 17, Java Creek Coffee House, CR, 7-10pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

8pm, except Sundays (7pm) Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys, Sept. 4 * Fruit, Jeff Lang, Sept. 5 * The Weepies, Sept. 7 * Yat-Kha, Sept. 12-13 * The Cottars, from Cape Breton, Sept. 19 * Texas songwriter Eric Taylor, Sept. 20 * Druha Trava, Czech bluegrass, Sept. 22 * Scottish legend Battlefield Band, Sept. 29 * Tanglefoot, Oct. 1.

First Presbyterian Church

2701 Rochester Ave., Iowa City

"The Age of Eleanor of Aquitaine," medieval music by Music's Feast with readings by UI theater professor Eric Forsythe, Sept. 25, 8pm, 337-7917.

Gabe's

330 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 354-4788

The Red Hot Valentines, The Like Young, The Forecast, Kudzu, Sept. 2, 6pm doors * Fluffgirls Burlesque, The Diplomats of Solid Sound, Sept. 3 * The Samples, Sept. 4 * Much The Same, Adrenekrome, Burnt Beyond Recognition, Profane Humor, Sept. 6, 6pm doors * Early show: The Queers, Dynamite Boy, The Gamits, The Terncoats; Late show: The Spiders, Sept. 7 * Early show: Limbeck; Late show: The Dog and Everything, Sept. 8 * Evasion Book Tour, Sept. 9 * The Bent Scepters, Sept. 10 * East 18, Sept. 11 * Early show: Homegrown; Late show: Those Peabodys, Sept. 13 * Black NASA, Sept. 14 * French Kicks, Sept. 16 * Early show: Destruction; Late show: The Reputation, Sept. 18 * The Black Keys, Sept. 19 * The Orphans, Sept. 23 * Bobby Bare Jr., Sept. 24 * Willie Wisely, Sept. 25 * Call Me Lightning, Shadow Government, Sept. 26 * Frankenknox, Sept. 28 * Mike Watt, The Secondmen, Sept. 30 * Tight Phantomz, Zzzz, Oct. 1.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350

Blues Jam Mondays, Funk and Jazz Jam Tuesdays Family Groove Co., Bochman's Euphio, Sept. 2 * NICHELBAOGOFUNK, The Spread, Sept. 3 * Saraphine, Sept. 4 * Aphrodesia, The Diplomats of Solid Sound, Sept. 9 * Bad Fathers, Sept. 10 * Damon Dodsen Band, Sept. 11 * Brothers Past, Sept. 13 * Om Trio, Dr. Z's Experiment, Sept. 14 * Important People and Meetings, Sept. 15 * Willie Waldman Project, Sept. 16 * Broken Grass, Euphoria Sringband, Sept. 17 * Burnout, Breechloader, Sept. 18 * Swizzle Tree, Grasshopper Takeover, Sept. 22 * Bochman's Euphio, Sept. 23 * Euforquestra, Waylaid, Sept. 24 * Shanti Groove, Hop on Johnny, Sept. 25 * Funkmaster Cracker, Rebel's Advocate, Sept. 30.

Hancher Auditorium

UI campus, 335-1160

Mark O'Connor's Hot Swing Trio, Sept. 18, 8pm * Eugenia Zuckerman with UI Symphony Orchestra, Sept. 22, 8pm * Laurie Anderson, Sept. 29, 8pm.

Iowa Guitar Summit

Oct. 3, 1-5pm, Nexus/World Theatre, Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids

Featuring Gary Gibson, BillyLee Janey, Rick McCarty and other veteran and up-and-coming guitarists, hosted by Gayla Drake Paul.

Iowa Memorial Union

UI campus, Iowa City

Yo La Tengo, Sept. 30, 8pm, Wheelroom.

The Java House

211 E. Washington St., 341-0012

WSUI's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays, 10am

Inception, jazz quintet, Sept. 3 * Central Standard Time, Sept. 10 * Acoustic Mayhem, Sept. 17 * Berkley singer-songwriter Rachel Garlin, Sept. 24.

A-LIST



Umpfrey's McGee

Sept. 7 * Thirdbase-Fieldhouse

It's a shame that Chicago-based Umpfrey's McGee got labeled a jam band, if only because they're so much more. Musical shape-shifters of the first degree, these guys can go from jazz to prog-rock to metal to funk in a creak of Jerry Garcia's coffin lid. They list as influences the Beatles, Mahavishnu Orchestra and Miles Davis. Using eight-bar segments and progressions (building blocks they've dubbed "legos"), primary songwriters Jake Cinninger and Brendan Bayliss construct their songs piecemeal and with the active participation of the full band. What more can one say? The musical equivalent of a Transformer toy, Umpfrey's McGee is as cutting edge as it gets. Their latest studio release, *Anchor Drops*, finds them reaching for new heights, even out of the jam-band cubby hole. Yet they remain sing-along cozy and comfortable as an old shoe. Who knew the Midwest could beach such a complicated and contradictory fish? 111 E. College St., Iowa City.

Creating Peace Conference

Sept. 26 * Maharishi University of Management, Fairfield

One can hope for peace and one can march for it, but people in Fairfield at the Maharishi University of Management have always maintained that if they got enough people together to meditate for peace they could bring it about. Transcendental meditation will no doubt be one of the "visionary solutions" touched on when leading peace advocates, artists and musicians gather in Fairfield for this conference, which features an appearance by certainly one of our most unsettling filmmakers, David Lynch. Lynch, whose work includes "Twin Peaks," *Blue Velvet* and *Mulholland Drive*, says, "This conference is not about wishing for peace or marching for peace—this is about finding ways to actually create peace." Other participants include former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations Dr. Robert Muller and Samite of Uganda, a traditional musician from East Africa and director of Musicians for World Harmony. (See *Words* calendar listing for more info.) An organic vegetarian lunch will be served, no charge for everyone who pre-registers. For more information or to register, visit creatingpeace.mum.edu, or call Erin Skipper at 641-919-1898.

Martini's

127 E. College St., Iowa City, 351-5536

Shows at 9:30pm

McMurrin/Johnson Trio, Sept. 3 * Merrill J. Miller, Sept. 4 * Rich Webster Trio, Sept. 10 * The Saints, Sept. 11 * Bryce Janey, Sept. 17 * The Moe Band, Sept. 18 * The Diplomats, Sept. 24.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Open Mike Mondays, 8pm * Wednesdays, Burlington Street Bluegrass Band, 7pm, Bluegrass Jam, 10pm * All music 9pm unless noted otherwise

Bob Hillman Band, Sept. 2, 9:30pm * Ben Schmidt (w/ Rick Cicalo on bass), Sept. 3, 9:30pm * Joe Price w/ Vicki, Sept. 4, 9:30pm * The Central Standards, Sept. 5, 8pm * Euphoria String Band, Sept. 9, 9:30pm * David Zollo and the Body Electric, Sept. 10 * Women's Music Festival Finale Concert (and dinner social), Sept. 18, Nikki Lunden, 8pm; The Jennie DeVoe Band, 9pm * Catfish Keith, Oct. 1.

Ped Mall

Downtown Iowa City

Kalimbaman, Funkmaster Cracker, Sept. 2, 6:30-10pm, Fountain Stage.

Red Cedar Chamber Music

Marion, 377-8028

Violist Chris Hanson, Kennedy High School senior, joins Jan Boland, flute, and John Dowdall, guitar, for a Chamber Music Now preview performance of *Spillville Variations on a Theme by Dvorak*, Sept. 16, 12pm, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 30 16th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids (also Kids Only concert at 4:15pm, Four Oaks Bridge, 2100 First Ave NE, Cedar Rapids) * Rene Rapier, recent graduate of Linn-Mar High School, joins Red Cedar Chamber Music for a performance of the above, Sept. 22, 9:30am, Sykora Bakery, 73 16th Ave. SW in Czech Village, Cedar Rapids (also 10:30am, Gazebo in Czech Village and 12pm, CR Public Library).

Sanctuary

405 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 351-5692

Jazz Jam hosted by bassist Israel Newman, Thursdays * Music at 9:30pm

Saul Lubaroff Trio, Sept. 3 * David Zollo, Sept. 4 * Chicken Shack, Sept. 10 * John Cord Jazz Band, Sept. 11 * Indoor/Outdoor, with Anton Hatwich, Sept. 18 * Steve Grismore Band, Sept. 24 * Mike Chesnik Quartet, farewell performance, Sept. 25.

Siren Club

124 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 248-2840

Tuesday Nights, Jacqueline Krain and The Ringers, 8-11pm; Wednesday Nights, jazz piano with Reverend Al Z. Evan Mazunik and Doug Langbehn

The Evan Mazunik Trio, featuring Betsy Hickock, Sept. 2, 8-12am * The Drivers, Sept. 3, 9pm-1am * The Athletes, Sept. 4, 4-8pm * Dick Watson Trio, featuring Eve Adamson, Sept. 9, 8pm-12am * Doug McLeod, acoustic blues guitar, Sept. 10, 9pm-1am * Gizmofunk, Sept. 17, 9pm-1am * Saul Lubaroff Trio, Sept. 18, 9pm-1am * Ana Popovic, Belgrade blues beauty, Sept. 23, 8pm-12am * Stuart Wood and The Chicken Shack, Sept. 24, 9pm-1am * Evan Mazunik Trio, featuring Betsy Hickock, Sept. 30, 8pm-12am.

Thirdbase-Fieldhouse

111 E. College St., Iowa City

Umpfrey's McGee, Sept. 7.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

Colloton Atrium, noon

Michael Veon, piano, Sept. 3 * Euclid Quartet, classical ensemble, Sept. 8 * Tim Britton, Irish pipes, Sept. 9 * Eugene Phillips Jr., gospel jazz piano, Sept. 10 * Sacred Heart, choral, strings and piano performances by children, Sept. 17 * Iowa City Community Theatre presents a musical revue from the upcoming musical *Little Shop of Horrors*, Sept. 24

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

The Dan Knight Trio, Sept. 3, 5pm * "Know the Score," live radio program, saxophonist Kenneth Tse and pianist Alan Huckleberry from the UI School of Music faculty, Dubuque singer/songwriter Jen Gloeckner, Sept. 10, 5-7pm. (See *Words* listing for more)

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401

Mud River Open Mic, Fridays, 8pm * Irish Slow Session, Celtic jam (for more info contact Tara Dutcher, tara@scchoolperformingarts.com), Sundays, 2-4pm * All shows 7pm unless otherwise indicated

Nik Strait, Sept. 2 * Kelly Clute, Sept. 3, 10pm * Angry Lemon Plays in the Aeroplane over the Sea, Sept. 4 * Third Annual Ralston Creek Flea Market & Fair, local musicians, Sept. 6, 8am-3pm * The Unsung Forum (songwriters' workshop), Sept. 9 * Mud River Potluck Dinner and Jam, Sept. 16 * David Rogers, Sept. 18 * Midwest Dilemma, Sept. 23 * Terrapin Isle, Sept. 25 * Rachel Garlin, Sept. 26 * Beth Ansel, Oct. 2.

Voxman Music Bldg.

Harper Hall, UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1603

Cello Daze Chamber concert, Sept. 18, 8pm * Stephen Parsons, trombone, Sept. 23, 8pm.

Yacht Club

13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464

Blues Jam hosted by Shade of Bacchus, Sundays 8pm-12am; Jam Band Jam hosted by Doggman Music Company, Wednesdays, 10pm Jensen Connection, Sept. 3 * Kelly Pardekooper, Sept. 4 * Funkmaster Cracker, Sept. 9 * Dennis McMurrin & The Demolition Band, Sept. 10-11 * Tack Fu, Jake Schneider Show, Sept. 16 * Buddha's Belly, Sept. 17 * Ben Eaton All Star CD Release Party, Shame Train, Sept. 18 * Nikki Lunden, Brian John, Ben Varley, Sept. 23 * TBA, Sept. 24 * Acoustic Cage Match III, Sept. 25 * Mer with Dave Tamkin, Scottie Long, Sept. 30.

Music Festivals/Series

Friday Night Concert Series

Weather Dance Fountain Stage, downtown Iowa City
Big Wooden Radio, Sept. 3, 6:30-9:30pm.

Iowa Women's Music Festival

Sept 18, 12-6pm, Upper City Park, Iowa City

United Action for Youth, 12pm; Singer-Songwriter Round-Robin with Kimberli Lambert, Karla Ruth and BeJae Fleming, 12:20pm; Andrea Bunch & Aerin Tedesco, 1:20pm; Nedra Johnson with The Mad River Band, 2:30pm; Christine Kane, 3:30pm; The Beth Davis Band, 4:40pm * Finale concert (and dinner social) at the Mill Restaurant, 120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City: Nikki Lunden, 8pm; The Jennie DeVoe Band, 9pm.

Mud River Festival

Sept. 10-12, Isaac Walton League, Iowa City,
<http://mudriver.org/mambo45/>

Local acts including Truthhawk, The Spread, Brandon Ross, Central Standard Time, Mad River Band, Shame Train, Letterpress Opry, Mike and Amy Finders Band, Ben Schmidt, Dr. Z's Experiment, Kalimbaman and much more; Sunday morning pancake breakfast to benefit Shelter House.

Auditions/Opportunities

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

Iowa Digital Filmmaker's Guild auditions for feature films *Through the Night* and *Haunted*, Sept. 4, 12-7pm.

The Quire

New members sought for The Quire. Eastern Iowa's GLBT chorus: Join at any of first three rehearsals, Sept. 12, 19 or 26, 6:15-8:30pm at Faith United Church of Christ, 1609 DeForest, Iowa City. No audition necessary, membership includes both individuals from GLBT community and friends and allies. Also seeking volunteers interested in helping with fund-raising, serving on board, assisting with house duties at concerts, etc. For information: Marlys Boote, 337-6203, Linda Kroon, 338-8192.

Dance

Arts Ala Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City

Dance Party Fund-raiser, Sept. 17, 8pm, includes professional disco dance lessons, 9-10pm * African Drum and Dance Workshops and Performance, with Madou Dembele, master West African drummer, Sept. 18; Drum Workshop, 12:30-2pm; Dance Workshop, 2:30-4pm; Performance, 8pm; 337-3989 for workshop reservations.

Paramount Theatre

123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

Lezginka Dance Company of Daghestan, Sept. 30, 7:30pm, 363-6254 for tickets.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City (unless noted otherwise)

Line Dancing for Fun and Fitness, basic line dancing steps as well as the waltz, cha-cha, salsa and others, Mondays, Sept. 27-Nov. 29, 12:30-2pm, no registration required.

Space/Place Theater

North Hall, UI campus, Iowa City

First Impressions, solo work by Alan Sener, chair of the UI Dance Department, Sept. 9-11, 8pm * Thesis Concert, UI Dance Department, Sept. 23-25, 8pm.

Theater/Performance

Dreamwell Theatre

Wesley Center, 120 North Dubuque St., Iowa City, 541-0140

Glengarry Glen Ross, David Mamet's Pulitzer Prize-winning portrayal of desperation and greed among small-time salesmen, Sept. 10-11, 17-18, 8pm, discussion with actors and director following the Sept. 17 show.

Iowa City Community Theatre

Iowa City, 338-0443

Shows Fri & Sat. 8pm; Sun. 2:30pm
Little Shop of Horrors, Sept. 24-26, Oct. 1-3, 8-10.

MoonGarden Acting Company

The Galleries Downtown, 218 E. Washington, Iowa City, 338-4442

Boston Marriage, by David Mamet, Oct. 1, 2, 9, 8pm; Oct. 10, 7pm.

Old Creamery Theatre

Price Creek Stage, 39 38th Ave., Amana, 800-352-6262 (unless noted otherwise)

Price Creek Stage: Wed., Fri., Sat. 8pm; Thurs., Sat., Sun. 3pm. Depot Theatre: Thurs. 3 & 8pm; Fri. & Sat. 8pm; Sun. 3pm

The Spitfire Grill, a young woman arrives in a small Wisconsin town and is taken under the wing of Hannah, the owner of The Spitfire Grill, through Sept. 26, Price Creek Stage * *Camping With Henry and Tom*, comedy by Mark St. Germain, with Henry Ford, Thomas Edison and President Warren G. Harding, Sept. 2-26, Depot Theatre.

Riverside Theatre

213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672

Wed, Sept. 22 & Thursdays, 7pm; Fridays & Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 2pm

Boy Gets Girl, UI alum Rebecca Gilman's chilling look at a woman whose life is irrevocably changed by one blind date, Sept. 10-Oct. 3, Talkback discussions Sept. 17, 19 & Oct. 1 (See Words listing for details).

Theatre Cedar Rapids

102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592

Magic 8: 10 Minute Plays for New Faces, Sept. 3-4, 7:30pm.

UI Theatres

Theatre Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Father Bob, by Chris Leyva, University Theatres Gallery production, Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 8pm; Oct. 3, 3pm, Theatre B.

Comedy

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350

Korrey Bassett, Sept. 5.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Lightning in a Bottle, comedy improv, Sept. 7 & 14, 8pm.

Riverside Theatre

213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672

Cannonball: Stand-up Comedy, Sept. 24-25, 10pm.

LOCATOR MAP
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US Cellular Center

370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

Larry the Cable Guy, Sept. 10, 7:30pm.

Words

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

"The Myth of the Roman Galley Slave: Ben Hur and the Birth of a Factoid," with Simon James, senior lecturer in archaeology, University of Leicester, UK, Sept. 9, 7-8pm * Make a Lasting Impression, family coin workshop, Sept. 18, 1pm.

Creating Peace Conference

Sept. 26, Maharishi University of Management, Fairfield, 641-919-1898

Speakers include filmmaker David Lynch; Dr. Robert Muller, former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations; Dr. John Hagelin, director of the Institute of World Peace at Maharishi University of Management and president of the US Peace Government; Dr. Maureen McCue, adjunct clinical professor at UI College of Public Health and a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility; Dr. Sue McGregor, professor and coordinator of the Peace and Conflict Studies Program at Mount Saint Vincent University of Halifax, Nova Scotia; Samite of Uganda, traditional musician from East Africa and director of Musicians for World Harmony; creatingpeace.mum.edu for more info or to register.

Faulconer Gallery

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

"Why do Goya's 'Disasters of War' Always Seem Timely?," Professor Reva Wolf, State University of New York, Sept. 6, 4:15pm, Bucksbaum 152.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350

Poetry Slam, Sept. 8 & 29, 9pm.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

"Understanding and Responding to Suicide," Sept. 7, 12:30-5pm, Meeting Rm. A * Program on Yale, Sept. 7, 7-8:30pm, Meeting Rm. A * International Writing Program Symposium, Sept. 8, 3:30-5:30pm, Meeting Rm. A.

Iowa Memorial Union

UI campus, Iowa City

Susan Stewart, lecture and poetry reading, Sept. 17, 4pm, South Room.

Java House

211 E. Washington St., 341-0012

WSU's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays, 10am

Sept. 3, IWP Director Christopher Merrill joins several renowned authors participating in this year's residency * Sept. 10, Des Moines pastor Roy C. Nilsen and Iowa City funeral director Michael Lensing share their experiences in helping families deal with the death of loved ones * Sept. 17, food experts from the annual Field to Family festival Chef Lucia Watson and Teresa Marrone * Sept. 24, Steve Thunder-McGuire with students from his UI storytelling class perform outstanding tales from real life. (See *Music* listing for more)

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Talk Art Cabaret, UI Workshop author readings, Sept. 15, 10pm.

Mt. Mercy College

Cedar Rapids

Tools for Conflict Resolution Book Signing, with authors Ellen M. O'Keefe and Sister Mary Catherine Stewart, Sept. 20, 3pm, Lundy Commons * Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*, Sept. 23, 7:30pm, Flaherty Community Rm., Basile Hall * "A Far Green Land: Tolkien's Catholicism and The Lord of the Rings," Dr. Mary Ducey, Faculty Forum, Sept. 28, 7pm, Flaherty Community Rm., Basile Hall.

Prairie Lights

15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 337-2681

All 8pm, broadcast live on WSUI

Professor David Hamilton and his *Iowa Review's* annual presentation of published work from the literary journal, featuring nonfiction by Yiyun Li, second-year Workshop student from Peking, Sept. 3 * Michele Glazer reads from her second collection of poetry, *Aggregate of Disturbances*, winner of The Iowa Poetry Prize, Sept. 13 * UI MFA poet Eve Adamson reads from *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Pet Psychic Communication*, Sept. 14 * Workshop grad Judith Claire Mitchell reads from her first novel, *The Last Day of the War*, Sept. 15 * Workshop grad Lewis Robinson reads from his short story collection, *Officer Friendly*, also poet Aaron McCullough reads from his second collection of poetry, *Double Venus*, Sept. 16 * Lucia Watson, co-author of *Savoring the Seasons of the Northern Heartland*, and Teresa Marrone, author of *Abundantly Wild*, talk about the joys of locally grown food, Sept. 17 * Dan Chaon reads from his first novel, *You Remind Me of Me*, Sept. 20 * Poets Rebecca Wolff and Catherine Wagner read from their second collections of poems, Sept. 21 * Mexican/Guatemalan novelist Francisco Goldman reads from his third novel, *The Divine Husband*, Sept. 22 * Kerry Egan reads from *Fumbling*, Sept. 23 * Vendela Vida reads from her first novel, *And Now You Can Go*, Sept. 24 * Lawrence Thornton reads from his new novel, *Sailors on the Inward Sea*, Sept. 27 * Janice Gross, Grinnell professor and translator of Algerian novelist Sliname Benaissa, reads from Benaissa's newest novel, *The Last Night of a Damned Soul*, Sept. 28 * Novelist Liza Ward reads from *Outside Valentine*, Sept. 29 * Iowa City poet Curtis Bauer reads from his first book, *Fence Line*, Sept. 30.

Riverside Theatre

213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672

"Boy Gets Girl: The Psychology of Stalking," with Karla Miller of RVAP discussing Riverside's upcoming production of *Boy Gets Girl*, Thursday Theatre Talk, Sept.

2, 5:30-6:30pm * Talkback *Boy Gets Girl* post-performance discussions: Sept. 17, Captain Tom Widmer, IC Police Department, and a representative from the Rape Victim Advocacy Program discuss the legal issues surrounding stalking; Sept. 19, with playwright Rebecca Gilman; Oct. 1, discuss contemporary dating culture.

Ruby's Pearl

323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032

Ruby's Reads reading group, Sept. 23, 7-8:30pm, call for this month's title, new members welcome.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City (unless noted otherwise)

"Change & Progress: A Century in Review, Part VII. 1960s-Desegregation, Hippies and the Beatles," with Loren Horton, Sept. 13, 2pm * Fall Naturalist Series: Reconstructed and Native Prairie Ecology, with Bradley Freidhof, naturalist, Sept. 17, 10am, F.W. Kent Park, Conservation Education Center * Janie Yates Reading, *President Truman: The Man*, Sept. 17, 2-3pm.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

"The Life of Discovery," with vibraphonist and percussionist Stefan Harris and UI faculty, Sept. 8, 4-6:30pm, part of Year of the Arts and Humanities Celebration * "Know the Score," live radio program, featuring Christopher Merrill, director of the International Writing Program (IWP), with several recently arrived writers, discuss their work, lives and first impressions of Iowa; Jay Semel, director of the UI Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, discusses the beginning of the Year of the Arts and the Humanities; Sharon DeGraw talks about her devotion to the art of hand-set printing; filmmaker and UI faculty member Leighton Pierce discusses *Pivot*, a work of his currently being developed in an active exhibition at the UI Museum of Art, Sept. 10, 5-7pm (See *Music* for more) * Kathleen Edwards, UIMA curator of prints, drawings, photographs and new media, presents a tour of *Visions and Views: Master*

Little Village proudly supports
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2004
for schedule and details see www.prairievoices.net
Saturday, September 18
Iowa City Upper City Park • Noon-6 pm
FREE Day Stage featuring BeJae Fleming, Kimberli, Karla Ruth, Aerin Tedesco & Andrea Bunch, The Beth Davis Band, Nedra Johnson & the Mad River Band • Christine Kane
Evening Concert at The Mill • 8 pm
The Jennie DeVoe Band special guest Nikki Lunden
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- ④ Saraphine
- ⑤ Korrey Bassett
- ⑧ Poetry Slam
- ⑨ Aphrodesia
(Get Out the Vote tour)
The Diplomats of Solid Sound
- ⑩ Bad Fathers
- ⑪ Damon Dodsen Band
- ⑬ Brothers Past (no cover)
- ⑭ Om Trio
Dr. Z's Experiment
- ⑮ Important People and Meetings
- ⑯ Willie Waldman Project
(feat. Rob Wasserman)
- ⑰ Broken Grass
Euphoria Sringband
- ⑱ Burnout
Breechloader
- ⑳ Swizzle Tree
Grasshopper Takeover
- ㉑ Bochman's Euphio
- ㉒ Euforquestra
Waylaid
- ㉓ Shanti Groove
Hop on Johnny
- ㉔ Poetry Slam
- ㉕ Funkmaster Cracker
Rebel's Advocate

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Prints from the Collection, Sept. 12, 2pm; docent-led tours Sept. 5, 19, 26, 2pm * Spatial Intersections II, Sept. 23, 7:30pm * Time in Space, Sept. 30, 7:30.

Van Allen Hall

Lecture Room II, UI campus, Iowa City
John Ashbery, poetry reading, Sept. 27, 8pm.

Film/Video

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503
Pre-Roman Italy and the Etruscans; The Foundation of Rome, Sept. 4, 1pm * *Ben-Hur and Beyond*, Sept. 11, 12pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580
Documentary *Freedom Machines*, Sept. 9, 8pm * *Lost Boys of the Sudan*, Sept. 18, 8pm * *Every Mother's Son*, Sept. 27, 8pm.

Ruby's Pearl

323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032
"Buffy the Vampire Slayer" screenings, every Wednesday, 7pm.

Video Race

Sept. 18-19, Iowa City, www.icmicrocinema.com
24-hour filmmaking marathon open to all Eastern Iowa residents with a video camera. Starting line: Sept. 18, 5pm, IC Public Library, Rm. A; Finish line: Sept. 19, 5pm, IC Public Library, Rm. B; Video showcase: Sept. 19, 7pm, Tippie Auditorium, Pappajohn Bldg; Public workshop: Sept. 18, 12:30-4:30pm, IC Public Library, Rm. A (email icmicrocinema@yahoo.com by Sept. 15 to reserve spot); Workshops for high school students: Contact Shannon Silva, icmicrocinema@yahoo.com. Register for race by emailing icmicrocinema@yahoo.com by Sept. 17. Complete rules and details available at above website.

Festivals/Celebrations

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503
The Villa Turns One!, birthday celebration with refreshments, Sept. 25, 1pm.

Iowa Renaissance Festival

Sept. 4-5, 11am-6pm, Middle Amana Park, Middle Amana
Equestrian jousting, entertainment, food, artisan merchants, for more info: 641-357-5177 or gregfest@netins.net.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City
A Celebration of Centuries, to celebrate centennial of the original IC Post Office, speakers, Old Post Office Brass Band, USPS memorabilia display (starting at 8am), Sept. 24, 2:30-4:30pm.

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401
Third Annual Ralston Creek Flea Market & Fair, antiques and collectibles dealers, food vendors, performances by local musicians, Sept. 6, 8am-3pm.

Year of the Arts and Humanities Festival

Sept. 7-9, various locations, UI campus, Iowa City
Readings, musical performances and panel discussions. Opening ceremony and reception, featuring octet performance by the Maia Quartet and Sioux City's Euclid Quartet; a new poem by Iowa Poet Laureate and UI Writers' Workshop faculty member Marvin Bell; a lecture from Ed Hirsch, president of the Guggenheim Foundation; and an art performance by the Zhou Brothers; UI President David Skorton will make opening remarks and Anita Walker, director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, will introduce Iowa's new Poet Laureate, Sept. 7, 4-7:30pm, IMU Main Lounge. <http://yah.uiowa.edu> for full schedule.

Misc.

CD and Record Fair

Sept. 19, 10am-5pm, Sheraton Hotel, 337-4058
Thousands of discs and records for sale, plus memorabilia, 358-9713 for more info.

Field to Family

Sept. 16-19, various locations, Johnson County
Readings, farm tours, dinners, classes and more, www.fieldtofamily.org for full schedule

Paws in The Park

Sept. 19, 12-4pm, Lower City Park, Iowa City
Walk-a-thon, contests, vendors and a silent auction; fund-raiser for Iowa City/Coralville Care and Adoption Center, all dogs registered receive a free bandana and goodie bag, 356-5295, www.icanimalcenter.org.

Public Space One

6 1/2 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City
Stitch 'n' Bitch, knitters, Tuesdays, 4-6:30pm, emily-maloney@uiowa.edu for more info.

Scanlon Gymnasium

Mercer Park, 2701 Bradford Dr., Iowa City
Choe's AAU Tae Kwon Do Tournament, Sept. 25, 9am-5pm, 354-0384.

Siren Club

124 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 248-2840
Buzz Salon Hair and Fashion Show, Sept. 16, 8pm-12am.

10K Volunteer Fair

Sept. 16, 3-6:30pm, IMU, Ballroom
Volunteers attend 10,000 Hours Show next spring, last year featuring Ben Folds.

Ushers Ferry Historical Village

5925 Seminole Valley Tr. NE, Cedar Rapids, 286-5763
Civil War Re-Enactment, Sept. 18, 10am-5pm; Sept. 19, 10am-4pm * Civil War Candlelight Tour, coffee and dessert, military ball following tour, Sept. 18, 7pm.

Classes/Camps

Arts Ala Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City
Introduction to Tai Chi, Sept. 7, 12-1pm.

Monster Design Studio

716 Oakland Rd. NE, Cedar Rapids, 365-1844
Kids Art Classes, Saturdays, 11am-12pm.

Riverside Theatre

213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672
Zoom Into Acting, for kindergartners, Sept. 18, 1-3:30pm.

School for the Performing Arts

209 N. Linn St., Iowa City, 341-0166
Acting and music classes and lessons for all ages and abilities. Scene study, Kindermusik, group guitar and more. No audition necessary. Call, or visit www.schoolperformingarts.com to register or for more info.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City
Learn to Play a Band Instrument, Mondays, Sept. 13-Dec. 6, 5:30-6:30pm, pre-register, open to the public.

Theatre Cedar Rapids

102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592
"Using Movement to Develop Character," acting movement workshop with the LA's Actors' Gang, Sept. 8, 7pm, limited to 30 participants 16 and older, call to register * Acting 1 for Adults, ages 15 and older, Sept. 19-Oct. 24, Sundays 5:30-7pm * Actor's Process in Production, Sept. 19-Feb. 13, Sundays 7-8:30pm * Acting 1 for Young Artists, ages 12-15, Sept. 20-Oct. 25, Mondays 5-6pm * Scene Study 1 for Young Artists, ages 12-15, Sept. 20-Oct. 25, Mondays 6-7pm * SPLASH Classes, ages 6-11, Oct. 2-23, "Haunted Halloween," Saturdays, 12:30-3pm.

Strange but True!



Curses, Foiled Again

Police in Colorado Springs, Colo., arrested robbery suspect Rex Allan Blum, 44, after he showed up at the El Paso County courthouse for an unrelated drug case. Even though an arrest warrant had been issued for Blum in connection with five bank robberies, police didn't know where to look for him because he had no permanent address. "Usually, when we're tracking bad guys," Detective Dale Fox said, "we don't think to look at the courthouse."

Girth of a Nation

South African police announced that a search is under way for a gang of 10 to 15 full-figured women, who raid department stores in the city of Durban, intimidate the staff with their size and numbers, brandish knives, and steal perfume and clothing. "They're quite large people," Inspector Michael Read told Reuters, noting that the clothes appear destined for resale rather than personal use. "Generally, it's the smaller sizes than what they would wear themselves."

Crime Doesn't Pay

Japanese police reported that more than 400 counterfeit 1,000-yen banknotes turned up in vending machines in Saitoma Prefecture. The notes, each worth the equivalent of \$9.10, are easily identified as bogus by the human eye, but they fool older vending machines. According to the *Asahi* newspaper, investigators are puzzled by the counterfeiter's motive because each note costs slightly more than 1,000 yen to produce.

Caffe Latte

More than two dozen breast-feeding mothers staged a nurse-in at a Starbucks store in Silver Spring, Md., to persuade the coffee-

shop chain to adopt a policy allowing mothers to nurse their infants in all its US stores. The protest stemmed from an incident in which a Starbucks employee asked a nursing mother to cover up with a blanket or nurse the baby in the bathroom. Company official Audrey Lincoff said that despite its lack of an official policy, women are welcome to breast-feed at all Starbucks outlets.

Born to Raise Hell

A few weeks after Andrew Greff, 21, and Doug Feist, 27, were accused of keeping poisonous snakes in Greff's apartment in Bismarck, N.D., Greff showed up at a hospital emergency room with his left arm blown apart and told the medical staff, "I lit a pipe bomb, and it went off in my hand." After finding a few large fireworks in Greff's car, police investigators said that Feist helped make the pipe bombs and that he and Greff were attaching them to propane tanks.

Toe-Twiddling Tragedy

After Ilana Gabey, 37, drove her Ford Explorer onto a sidewalk in Ocean City, Md., killing Ryan Greene, 7, and injuring his two brothers, she told police that she was trying to avoid hitting a car in front of her but couldn't find the brake because she was busy taking off her shoes.

The Blame Game

After a passenger train plunged off a bridge in western India, killing 20 people and injuring around 100, India's railways minister denied any responsibility for this and other accidents plaguing the world's largest train network. Laloo Prasad Yadav declared that the fate of its 13 million daily passengers rests with the Hindu god of machines. "Indian Railways is the responsibility of Lord Vishwakarma," Yadav said. "So is the safety of passengers. It is his duty, not mine."

Wheel of Misfortune

After "Dean of Melbourne" was chosen to be a contestant on the Australian version of "The Price Is Right," he won \$2,500 and earned the right to spin the \$100,000 super showcase wheel. Unfortunately, the handle of the wheel swung back and cracked Dean in the head. He continued playing until host Larry Emdur noticed blood running down his face. "I was seeing stars for a while," Dean

recalled. "They took me out back and tried to control the bleeding until the ambulance came." Dean received five stitches, and the episode was re-recorded from the point of the incident with his wife, Lynette, in his place. Emdur explained the switch by telling viewers only that there had been "an accident."

Drinking-Class Hero

Vietnamese doctors removed three metal construction rods from the stomach of Huynh Ngoc Son, 22, about a month after he swallowed them on a dare from his drinking companions. When he went to Ho Chi Minh City's Binh Dan Hospital complaining of stomach pains, X-rays revealed the rods, each 6.7 inches long and 0.2 inches thick.

Samuel McClain, 35, and Michael Johnston, 47, were charged with reckless conduct "due to the blatant disregard for public safety" after McClain, who is blind, drove a golf cart through the winding streets of Peachtree City, Ga., for two miles before hitting a parked car. Accompanying McClain were his guide dog and Johnston, who police said gave McClain directions even though he was "admittedly under the influence of alcoholic beverage."

Civility's Revenge

The French Consulate in New York warned that disrespectful Americans will not be given visas to France or any other European Union country. "Visas for France are not a right," a sign posted at the consulate declared. "Persons applying for visas are expected to show due respect for Consular personnel. Failure to do so will result in the denial of the application and denied entry into any of the EU countries." A week after the *Washington Times* reported the sign's posting, it noted that the sign had been removed but that French officials reaffirmed their policy of denying visas to rude Americans. "We can decide who gets a visa and who does not," Natalie Loiseau, a press attache at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., said, adding, "Just recently, we had an incident where a visa applicant did not like the questions being asked of her, and as such, punched one of our consular officials."

Compiled from the nation's press by Roland Sweet. Submit clippings, citing source and date, to POB 8130, Alexandria VA 22306.

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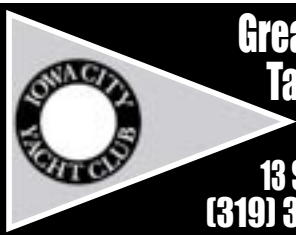
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ASK RUBY

The purpose of "ask Ruby" is to give honest and accurate information regarding sex and sexual relationships and to promote mutual and consensual sexual practices. We believe strongly that censorship is a method of patriarchal control used to shut fiery, feisty folks down. This column is intended as a blow to barriers that keep people from experiencing good communication around sex.

Allergic to latex?

Dear Ruby,

I like to have safer sex, but just recently found out that I am allergic to latex. What types of products can I use that won't irritate me?

*Signed,
Itchy Bits*

Dear Itchy Bits,

I am so glad you wrote! First of all, I commend you on your determination to have safer sex. It ensures the best possible outcome from your erotic frolics, for you and your partner(s).

Most of the literature that can be found on safer sex recommends latex barriers as the best protection against pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). However, about 15 percent of people who are exposed to latex develop an allergy. It can show up as an annoying itchy rash, or in rare cases, as a dangerous narrowing of the airway, leaving you like a fish on dry land. Yikes! You should definitely avoid latex products if you experience itching or rawness from their use. Thank the good fairies watching over our pleasure-centered selves, there are other products you can use that are just as effective for safer sex!

For your poking bits: In place of latex condoms, you can choose the polyurethane variety. The safer sex gurus at your local pharmacy or women's health center are there to assist you in finding your safer sex wares. (If you ask for the brand Avanti, you will

sound extra "in-the-know.") These condoms are quite durable and seem to work as well as latex, although the medical research to back it up is still in progress.

For your sexy mitts: When choosing gloves, look for the nitrile variety. It is plenty flexible and durable, a bit thicker than latex, and every bit as safe. While browsing at the pharmacy, you might also notice vinyl gloves. These are a poor choice for several reasons—they tend to be less stretchy and more brittle than their latex or nitrile counterparts, and can pinch or scrape delicate tissues during intimate moments. Because they are less flexible, they also tear more easily, so they are not as effective as we would like a safer sex barrier to be.

For your tongue flicks: To date, we have not located any dental dams that are made from materials other than latex. However, every-day non-microwaveable plastic food wrap makes a wonderful oral sex barrier. You can wrap a nice large area, covering as much territory as you like, and lick away in complete safety. It stays in place and feels best if you add a touch of lube to the receiver's side. Remember! Lube is a lusty lick's best friend!

This should cover all your needs for action that is both safe and comfortable.

Safely yours,
Ruby

We do not claim to have all the answers, but we do have extended experience, both personal and professional. Questions should be mailed to Ruby's Pearl, 323 E. Market St., Iowa City, IA 52240, 319-248-0032 or emailed to rubyspearl@excite.com

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♈ ARIES - You will continue to undergo inner personal transformation. This month these changes will be potentially stimulated by the willful expressions of independence by youngsters and a romantic interest. Be especially careful not to overreact to events. Financial affairs continue to need sober, firm management. You will be increasingly beholden to generous, optimistic and supportive partners and associates. You might or might not sense it, but despite these extremely mixed signals and potentially disruptive events, you are gaining the upper hand. You are slowly but surely emerging as a leader.

♉ TAURUS - All of your financial houses are being strongly affected this month. Things are in flux and under pressure. Tensions can easily give way to heated discussions, open hostility and overt power plays as September progresses. Do not underestimate the difficulty of the situation. Things have to change. Fortunately, you are not directly in the line of fire and you are well-positioned to benefit from protective vibes. And, as disempowered as you may feel, people will sense that your advice and guidance might offer the best hope of peaceful resolution.

♊ GEMINI - Partners, allies and rivals are up in arms about so many basic issues it could make your head spin. Add to that a sense of panic as people feel boxed in with no alternative but to accept change...and the unknown. Ironically, you are able to see the virtue in all sides of all issues. Increasingly, you will find yourself able to calm tempers, quiet fears and work out agreements, an ability rising out of a renewed sense of personal optimism, faith and lightheartedness. Tight budgets will keep celebrations simple.

♋ CANCER - Although you sense that recent limitations are beginning to ease, you must still cope with complex and burdensome situations. Use your sober, stable side to counter volatile, hostile vibes in your neighborhood and work environments. People are making changes like crazy without consulting with or even notifying you. As September progresses options will develop. Do not leave anything to luck right now. You can rely on trusted friends for help. You will find yourself working with deep, feminine healing issues, in yourself or others. Stubborn obstacles are blessings in disguise.

♌ LEO - This month, Leo would be well-advised to imitate Ulysses, who had himself strapped to the mast and stopped his ears with wax to help him resist the temptation of the Sirens. Stick to the tried and true, financially. Resist impulses to expand. More economic surprises await. Although you're feeling amorous, romance is under very deceptive aspects (treacherous, even). What you see isn't what you'll get. And what you'll get could give you a real run for your money. It's time to put recent gains in self-discipline to use.

♍ VIRGO - You will soon be able to build on the financial progress of recent times by expanding your efforts beyond current limits. However, you will have to modify your notions of the ideal lifestyle as you proceed to keep from outspending your expanding income. Change is necessary to realize your economic potential and this change will involve risk. But you can count on the loyalty of family members to support you psychologically during this effort. What you will achieve is a more satisfying and secure version of what you already have.

♎ LIBRA - At this point, the lobes of your brain that host dreams and worries are probably overworked. The most important thing to understand is that Librans are just now beginning a whole new, lengthy cycle of optimism, personal growth and financial expansion. Projects that have been dormant will reawaken and gain momentum, especially those in your immediate neighborhood. There is a good balance between hopes and possibilities. However, proceed cautiously as plans could require continuous change and adjustment. Libra is empowered now, but patience, budgeting and careful planning are still required.

♏ SCORPIO - You have many dreams for the future, but nagging doubts about real estate, finances or legal issues are taking much of the fun out of things. However, you will soon find your private concerns buoyed by a new optimism. Confidence and enthusiasm will replace worry. A feeling of renewal and rededication will also come, and you can begin doing something about those long-standing financial or legal concerns. It is not quite time for your dreams to be realized, but from now on, realistic hope will be your constant companion.

♐ SAGITTARIUS - You might well have to take a big, new, important step in a nervous-making direction. However, your nervousness is unfounded. You will soon find yourself in much greater harmony with yourself and the world. Also, having been stalled out for some months, projects in important areas of your life will soon resume forward motion. Looking further ahead, prepare yourself for positive breakthroughs in the areas of romance and creativity. Expect progress with any young people in your life, too. This fall, an important new phase in your life is beginning.

♑ CAPRICORN - You might be feeling restless, but changeable circumstances will keep you close to home. You might be tempted by romance or flirtation, but signals are mixed and there are too many unknowns. Important relations continue to need special care. Preserve your freedom of movement. A time of renewal and building is coming; it will require decisions and you will need room to maneuver. Despite appearances, you are very much in control. If you have been experiencing illness, you will receive a healing boost. Count on the loyalty of proven friends.

♒ AQUARIUS - You might still feel at odds with many trends and somewhat out of the loop, unable to influence events. However, the tide is shifting. The support of old friends and inspiration from your own sources of spiritual strength and renewal will flow more abundantly. You might also find an increased flow of people coming to you for guidance. Unlike recent months, you will find it easier to give realistic, workable advice. In general, events will soon begin to flow in line with your hopes and desires. Continue to spend conservatively.

♓ PISCES - Your power to foresee trends and to understand and motivate others remains strong. This will be helpful as others continue to approach you for solutions to important life problems. Lately, you have let your desire for change dictate your spending. In some cases, this has led to financial imbalance, overextension and overdependence on partners. New planetary patterns will support only changes that you can readily afford. This will bring both the changes you want and the long-term economic stability that you need. Count on the support of professional allies.

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