

www.LittleVillageMag.com

little village

Iowa City's News & Culture Magazine

always
free

July 09



Saved from the Flood

INSIDE

14 Adventure
Iowa

16 Spelunking
in Maquoketa

22 Molly Rinwald
& More

Bored?

Get the low-down on the weekend with the Little Village Weekender in your inbox.



Log on to www.LittleVillageMag.com and sign up for the Weekender

(zī-kā)
Urdu for flavor

Zaika

Taste the difference!

LUNCH SPECIAL	DINNER SPECIAL	
2 Entrées. Rice & Naan	Chicken w/ Rice & Naan	Lamb w/ Rice & Naan
\$695	\$795	\$895

In the Old Capitol mall | 319-351-3683

Alexis Park Inn & Suites

- FREE wireless!
- FREE in-suite breakfast!
- 16 jacuzzi suites!

\$20 OFF ANY HOT TUB SUITE

EXPIRES 6/30/09 Not valid special event weekends, especially not graduation!

THE MUSTANG SUITE
Every room has a different aviation theme!

Get away!
without the travel time

319-337-8665 • WWW.ALEXISPARKINN.COM • 1165 S. RIVERSIDE DRIVE, IC

NOW WITH **2** LOCATIONS!

Iowa City's
Gourmet
Pizza Joint!

DOWNTOWN
136 S. Dubuque St.
319-351-9400
Dine In or Carry Out

Breakfast 7am-2pm Daily
Lunch and Dinner
10:30am - 11pm Daily
Open Late Th, Fri, & Sat

www.thewedgepizza.com

Calzones
Breadstix &
Salads too!

RIVERSIDE
519 S. Riverside Dr.
319-337-6677
Delivery or Carry Out

Open 11am to Midnight Daily

local checks accepted. 50¢ check & credit card surcharge

<p>LARGE 14" 1-topping Pizza</p> <p>ONLY \$7.99 add a second for \$6.99</p> <p><small>Valid at both locations. Carry out or delivery available to a limited campus delivery area. Expires 7/31/09</small></p>	<p>Buy One Slice Get One Slice</p> <p>FREE</p> <p><small>Valid at both locations. Carry out only. Expires 7/31/09</small></p>	<p>BREADSTIX add to any order</p> <p>ONLY \$6.50</p> <p><small>Valid at both locations. Carry out or delivery available to a limited campus delivery area. Expires 7/31/09</small></p>	<p>HOUSE SALAD add to any order</p> <p>ONLY \$5.00</p> <p><small>Valid at both locations. Carry out or delivery available to a limited campus delivery area. Expires 7/31/09</small></p>
--	--	---	---

- 4 Active Life**
Like a fish in water
- 5 It's About the Food**
It's the school lunch program, stupid!
- 6 U R Here**
July: The time for place writing
- 7 Local Update**
Wrapping up Roosevelt
- 8 Prairie Pop**
Fighting from both sides: Tim Quirk takes on art versus commerce
- 10 Cover**
When everything is swept away, what do you save?
- 14 Summer Travels**
What to do with a tank of gas and time to explore

- 16 Caving**
Shooting deep and dark in Eastern Iowa caves
- 20 Talking Movies**
Wanting more from Jack Black and Michael Cera
- 22 The Haps**
Don't cry over spilled G. Love
- 23 Under the Radar**
Albums from the world at large
- 24 Local Albums**
Keepin' it real for reals

- 29 News Quirks**
Like wasting time on the internet, only in print
- 30 The Straight Dope**
Is violence the answer?
- 31 Stars Over Iowa City**
What's in it for you?

24 Calendar
Because Jazz Fest doesn't last all month

27 A-List
Saying goodbye with donations in their eyes



Trombone Shorty plays Jazz Fest

Volume 9 | Issue 82 | July 2009

PUBLISHER | Andrew Sherburne
Publisher@LittleVillageMag.com

MANAGING EDITOR | Melody Dworak
Editor@LittleVillageMag.com

FEATURES EDITOR | Paul Sorenson
Features@LittleVillageMag.com

ARTS EDITOR | Kent Williams
Arts@LittleVillageMag.com

LAYOUT & DESIGN | Andrew Sherburne

EDITORIAL INTERN | Kelly Ostrem

ADVERTISING | Kelsey Fritz
Ads@LittleVillageMag.com

CONTRIBUTORS | Cecil Adams, Thomas Dean, Kurt Michael Friese, David Henderson, Kembrew McLeod, Kelly Ostrem, Jason Phelps, Scott Samuelsons, John Schlofelt, Stephen Schmidt, Andrew Sherburne, Dr. Star, Roland Sweet, Erin Tiesman, Tom Tomorrow, Whitney Warne, Kent William

PHOTOS | Andrew Sherburne, Whitney Warne

CONTACT | P.O. Box 736
Iowa City | Iowa | 52240
www.LittleVillageMag.com
Calendar@LittleVillageMag.com

Advertising and Calendar deadline is the 19th of every month. For a list of ad rates, email ads@littlevillagemag.com.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

HERE WE GO AGAIN

1) DEMOCRATS PROPOSE HALF-ASSED HEALTH CARE REFORM.

THE "PUBLIC OPTION" PROVIDES AN ALTERNATIVE TO PRIVATE INSURANCE--BUT DOES NOT REPLACE IT!

THERE'S NO WAY OUR OPPONENTS CAN DEMONIZE THIS PLAN AS SOCIALIZED MEDICINE!



2) OPPONENTS SWIFTLY DEMONIZE PLAN AS SOCIALIZED MEDICINE.

THEY'RE TRYING TO DESTROY THE BEST PATCHWORK SYSTEM OF FOR-PROFIT HEALTH INSURANCE INEXPLICABLY LINKED TO EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN THE WORLD!

WHY DO LIBERALS HATE THE FREE MARKET?



3) VOTERS ARE TERRIFIED BY STORIES OF UNCARING BUREAUCRACIES, COMPLICATED PAPERWORK, AND LONG WAITS FOR ROUTINE CARE.

THANK GOODNESS WE DO NOT EXPERIENCE ANY OF THESE THINGS UNDER OUR PRESENT SYSTEM!

GREAT NEWS! I GOT AN APPOINTMENT FOR A CHECKUP IN 2011!



4) IN AN ECONOMY THIS BAD, WE ARE TOLD THAT HEALTH CARE REFORM WILL SIMPLY COST MORE THAN WE CAN AFFORD!

PROVIDING COVERAGE TO THE UNINSURED IS IMPORTANT--BUT NOT AS IMPORTANT AS BAILING OUT WALL STREET!

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME--IN ANOTHER TWENTY YEARS OR SO!



5) WITH A REPORTED 72% OF AMERICANS STILL IN FAVOR OF REFORM, THE ONLY REAL QUESTION IS...HOW WILL DEMOCRATS BLOW IT THIS TIME?

IN THE SPIRIT OF BIPARTISAN CO-OPERATION, WE'VE ELIMINATED THE "PUBLIC OPTION"! OUR NEW PLAN PROVIDES EVERY AMERICAN WITH A BAND-AID AND A BOTTLE OF ASPIRIN!

WHOA! WHAT IS THIS--SOVIET RUSSIA?



TOM TOMORROW © 2009... www.thismodernworld.com

Like a Fish in Water

Swimming has mesmerized me since I was very little. It's one of the main reasons I absolutely love summer. When the weather heats up, I can just hear the water calling my name, beckoning me to dive in.

The dichotomy of air and water fascinates me. In air we can move freely, but we're still anchored to the earth. Rules like gravity don't apply in water. I can just float weightlessly in the waves. The fluid resists my movements and cradles my body while I float gracefully in peaceful serenity.

One of the best things about swimming is that it is widely available. During these hot summer months, we can frolic to Lake Macbride, Sugarbottom or the Rez or take a dip in city pools to cool off while still enjoying the warm sunlight. But even when it's too cold or rainy or wintery outside, a safe chlorinated haven is usually only as far as the nearest Rec Center.



Some recreation centers and gyms offer aquatic fitness classes where participants do exercises with the water as resistance. Classes available in the Iowa City area range from water walking or arthritis aerobics to a basic water aerobics class. Some gyms even offer high-intensity aquatic cardio classes or bootcamps. Lap swimming is also a very intense workout that burns even more calories than the more laid-back swims mentioned above.

For swimmers who are looking for some guidance or camaraderie in the pool, Iowa City is home to two Master's swimming teams. The Iowa City Eels practice at Mercer Aquatic Center and City Park Pool.

Hawkeye Masters practices at The University of Iowa's Fieldhouse.

Masters swimming is open to anyone over 18, from the novice to the veteran. Members swim under the guidance of a swimming coach, working on their strokes and improving their cardiovascular fitness in a team atmosphere. Both the Iowa City Eels and the Hawkeye Masters teams are part of the national U.S. Masters Swimming, an organization that hosts swim meets at the local, regional, national and international levels. Participating in the meets is not mandatory for Masters members, but they can provide some added incentive for a swimmer motivated by competition.

Whether you are a seasoned stroker, recreational floater or just starting to get your feet wet, summer is the ideal time to get in the water. Grab a towel and get wet for a workout this summer. **lv**

Kelly Ostrem wishes she could breathe underwater. She'd never have to leave the pool.

** Calorie calculations are based on the average weight for females (160lbs) and males (190lbs) according to the CDC.

Rules like gravity don't apply in water.

Aside from being fun, swimming is wonderful exercise. Swimming burns tons of calories, especially compared with other aerobic activities. Completing just a fourth of a mile in the pool is approximately equal in caloric expenditure to pounding out a mile running.

Swimming is an ideal activity for people who have injuries, disabilities or joint problems because the water makes the activity no-impact. However, that doesn't limit its utility to just exercisers with special conditions. It is an excellent full-body aerobic activity for any exerciser that can work all major muscle groups—something running and biking cannot claim.

Swimming is definitely a skill that takes time to learn, but is well worth the effort. For people who don't know how to swim, adult lessons are available through both Coralville and Iowa City Recreation Departments. Learning to swim can open up a lot of fun summer options and help you feel more confident around water.

For those who do know how to swim, there are numerous ways to get a workout by swimming. Simply just leisurely paddling around the water for an hour can burn over 430 calories for women and 520 calories for men.**

CALORIES BURNED*

One hour of swimming (yeah, that's a lot, we know) burns as many calories as running, without the knee pain.

Backstroke	563
Breaststroke	704
Butterfly	774
Freestyle	704
General swimming	430
Treading water	281

*Estimates based on a 160lb adult

Mandating Health

A few years ago I was asked to serve on the Wellness Committee that was being formed by the Iowa City School District, under a federal mandate to improve the health of school children. Having made lunch every morning for my kids because I'd seen the "food" they were serving in the cafeterias, I was pleased to have the opportunity. He result of my nearly two years of banging my head against the brick wall of district bureaucracy was the living example of the old Upton Sinclair line:

"It is difficult to convince a man of something when his salary depends on him not understanding it."

Admittedly my goals were lofty, not just removing junk food from menus and machines but bringing in lots of fresh local produce and planting gardens at the schools. The progress that we did make was indeed positive, if minimal. We produced a set of guidelines that called for more healthy options, and for shutting off the vending machines during lunch (an admittedly pointless activity that any child could work around).

The Iowa State Board of Education finally approved a new set of nutritional guidelines, but legislatures have never seen a "well enough" that they could leave alone. So in Des Moines they set the guidelines aside "temporarily" so that they could stand on the floor of the Senate and put forth cogent arguments like "You know, you're going to have this exodus of kids walking across the street to the convenience store, or more of 'em that are just going to say, 'I'm skipping lunch. I'm bringing my own food. We're going to be selling Mountain Dew, black market, out of the tops of lockers.'"

Now this, from Senator Merlin Bartz (R-Grafton), is the sort of knee-jerk reactionary nonsense that truly pins my ears back. He also warned colleagues that there would be a backlash if schoolteachers and administrators turn into the "food police." Ah, where to start?

Senator Bartz, in case you're reading this, using rhetoric like "food police" is convenient way to scare people, but it doesn't begin to describe what should or would happen. The

teachers and administrators are responsible not only for the education of our children, but also for their health and well-being while they are in schools. They learn just as much from what they are fed as from what they are taught, perhaps more.

When we tell our children in their health classes that eating a nutritious, balanced diet full of fruits and vegetables is important to their overall health, and then the very same school sells them the very junk they'd just been advised against, just what lesson do we think they will draw? There are no cigarette vending machines in our school for a very good reason. We must not tell them one thing, and then turn around and supplement budgets that the legislature cuts by selling them something else. It's the height of hypocrisy.

If a "black market" were to result, it could be easily regulated through the same measures that stop kids from selling drugs from their lockers. And as for kids bringing food from home, they can do that now; and those who do tend to bring healthier, fresher food. Even if they don't, at least the district is not profiting from peddling fat, sugar and chemicals to our children.

So let's implement the guidelines as they stand, and let's work toward improving them in the meantime. Might it cost more to bring healthier, preferably local food into our cafeterias? Probably. When someone can show me a higher priority for our society than the health and well-being of our children, then I'll begin advocating for that as well. But I simply can't see one. **lv**

It's About the Food is a monthly feature of Little Village. Chef Kurt Michael Friese is co-owner, with his wife Kim, of the Iowa City restaurant Devotay and serves on the Slow Food USA Board of Directors. Comments may be directed to devotay@mchsi.com.



"You're going to have this exodus of kids walking across the street to the convenience store, or more of 'em that are just going to say, 'I'm skipping lunch. I'm bringing my own food. We're going to be selling Mountain Dew, black market, out of the tops of lockers.'"

— Senator Merlin Bartz
(R-Grafton)

Place in Time



For the past few years, July has been a special month for me. Since 2005, I have taught a one-week workshop in the Iowa Summer Writing Festival focused on writing about place and writing about nature. Since 2007, I have followed that up with a several-week course at the Iowa City Senior Center focused on the same thing. This year, my ISWF “Finding Your Place in the Personal Essay” workshop will be followed by “Story, Place, and Community” at the Senior Center.

These teaching experiences take me out of the academic setting and place me with people who want to explore writing and place from a purely personal perspective. I teach a university course called “Introduction to Place Studies,” and while I do try to tap into my students’ personal experiences and cultivate their individual ideas about place, much of what we do remains at a fairly analytical and “objective” level. That’s all well and good, and there’s a place for place studies of that sort (otherwise I wouldn’t be doing it). But more and more I’m interested in tapping into something different from the intellectualization of what “place” means. I’m interested in interacting with people on the basis of what we feel as much as what we think.

As we understand more and more the necessity and urgency of “sustainability” in a world of diminishing resources, several visionary thinkers, as I discussed in this column a few months ago, are pointing to locally based economies as key to the practices that will lead to sustainable living. In other words, “place”—the locally based web of environments (natural, built, social and cultural) in which we dwell—becomes the locus for humanity’s future. Most of the discussion over “sustainability” focuses on the practical aspects of human life—using resources within limits, mini-

mizing or eliminating noxious and destructive outcomes of human activity, and so forth. The health of place, therefore, remains for many a rationalistic project of living within means and avoiding practical catastrophe.

That is all well and good—and necessary. However, the human relationship with place based solely on practical necessity itself is not “sustainable.” Human life is multi-dimensional, rife with reactions, motivations, and actions other than the purely rationalistic. Connection to place can fully and persistently exist—and exist with fulfillment, not just survival, at its core—only when the whole human is engaged. The affective, as well as the rational, dimensions of a sense of place must be fully realized.

The human relationship with place based solely on practical necessity itself is not “sustainable.”

The connection to “place,” especially in the current environment of “sustainability,” tends toward the structures we have created around science and commerce. In that environment, the aesthetic, the spiritual and certainly the emotional receive short shrift. Beauty and design, soulfulness and inspiration, and love and hate regarding where we are must go hand in hand with preserving our watershed and stabilizing our climate. What I’m calling the “affective” dimensions of place are no more nor no less significant than the practicalities and economics of place—what we normally tend

to categorize as “environmentalism” and “sustainability.” But they are just as essential, and in many ways a precondition for effective rational action. As bioregionalist Robert Thayer, Jr. has said that attachment precedes action, and attachment leads to care. A committed, engaged ethic and practice of sustainability—caring for our places—cannot fully happen without embracing how we feel, to express and be inspired by our connections to place. As Wendell Berry has said, we need to “give affection some standing.”

And so that’s why I especially love my Julys of late. In my Iowa Summer Writing Festival workshops, I join with a small community of writers who come to Iowa City from hither and yon—some with professional aspirations and even success, some with just a desire to fulfill their personal need to express themselves—who reach into their souls and their feelings and draw out expressions of their connections to place in (we hope) an aesthetically pleasing way. In my Senior Center classes, I do likewise with a small community of wonderful folks from right here at home. We feel and express together, we inspire each other, and sometimes there’s even something like a little enlightenment sparking amongst ourselves. Together, we seek beauty in, nurture affection for, and peer into the soul of this place we hold in common.

It’s July. The festivals and farmers markets are in full gear, the warm days of summer are in full bloom, and your neighbors are out in their gardens in full force. What a great time to tap into our love for our place, share it with each other, and express affection for our community and the marvelous Iowa midsummer. Go ahead: feel it. **IV**

Thomas Dean’s son Nathaniel is playing saxophone in the Iowa City Community Band this summer, so he’ll be going to a lot of festivals and park performances in the next couple of months.

Roosevelt Part 3: The Shuttering

Despite months of public protest, the Iowa City School Board voted unanimously during their June 9 meeting to close Roosevelt Elementary and build a new school on the west edge of town.

But many in the community never accepted the administration's premise, much less conclusion, if that meant ignoring the "how" and "why" questions behind the conditions at Roosevelt. Why wasn't the school better maintained over the years? If socio-economic and racial isolation at Roosevelt was a serious concern, then why has there been no serious consideration paid to re-drawing gerrymandered school enrollment boundaries that produced de facto segregation district-wide? If the school was well over full enrollment for years, while several other schools in more affluent areas had room to spare, was overcrowding a fault of the school or the administration?

About a dozen people addressed the school board before a final decision was made at the June 9 meeting. All but one pleaded against closing Roosevelt Elementary. Several parents spoke of mistrust and the administration's "shifting rationale" for closing the school. A few speakers reminded the audience that there would be a school board election in September.

Helene Donta, parent of a Roosevelt student and member of the Facilities Advisory Committee, was dismayed about how the whole thing was handled, with the administration spending nearly a year researching closing Roosevelt before making the idea public. "Their minds were made up already," she said. "What an insurmountable task they have placed on the Roosevelt community."

Pauline Taylor, a member of the committee that looked into the local option sales tax that brought around \$104 million into the adminis-

tration's coffers, wondered why money wasn't put toward fixing problems at Roosevelt. Taylor, along with several others, called for redrawing school boundaries district-wide before voting to close Roosevelt.

April Armstrong, a member of the Facilities Improvement advisory board, spoke in favor of closing Roosevelt and building the new school, and she took issue with the notion that the district's rationale had been disproved. She also disagreed with the tenor of the earlier public speakers. "Just because the board doesn't vote the way you want," she said, "doesn't mean they didn't hear you."

Armstrong's words were echoed by several school board members, many of whom prefaced their vote by explaining the lengths they went to listen to the community and facilities advisory board, the forums they attended, the emails they read.

Board President Toni Cilek said voting to close Roosevelt was the hardest decision she has faced in her seven years on the school board. Fiscal responsibility and educational equity for children were the prime criteria behind her vote. Cilek hoped the community could join the board in looking at "the bigger picture," including the current \$5 million projected budgetary shortfall. "We've been living and breathing a lot of the financial concerns a lot of the neighborhood people here have not had to address."

Jan Leff cited the "very compelling" concerns Roosevelt teachers enumerated in a packet presented to the district called "Barriers to Learning." A former teacher herself, Leff sympathized with lack of space for group learning activities and a media center not up to par with district standards.

Mike Cooper gave credence to the feedback he received from Roosevelt teachers in support of the administration's plan. He rejected the criticism that teachers could not speak freely on the subject without fear of losing their job. One of the few board members to address the issue before casting his vote, Cooper agreed with the suggestion to redraw boundaries for the whole district.

"I just wish the former board members had done it when it was on their watch," Cooper said. "We've been busing kids from Pheasant Ridge [Section 8 housing] past Horn to Roosevelt for almost 20 years. There have been many opportunities to fix this before today. Finally, the board is taking action on the obvious. This proposal is addressing one quadrant of the city. There will still be three quadrants left for anyone that wants to run for the

Board President Toni Cilek said voting to close Roosevelt was the hardest decision she has faced in her seven years on the job.

board this fall. It's just the beginning. We're throwing one starfish back in the ocean."

Patti Fields said it was "hard to hear" some of the community say that they didn't trust the board's intentions. She hoped that trust could be built again. She disagreed with a suggestion that someone from the "outside" come in and redraw school boundaries district-wide. But Fields was heartened by the level of community interest in the future of the school district and increased attendance at board meetings. "Many nights before we pulled the plan out, we might have had four or five people here, and now look at this room," said Fields. "I hope you stay involved, because our issues aren't done. At each step we need you." **IV**

An alumnus of Iowa City's Longfellow Elementary, Southeast Junior High, and Community Education Center (forerunner to Elizabeth Tate High School), David Henderson is now pursuing a master's degree in journalism and mass communications at The University of Iowa. He can be reached at David.Henderson@LittleVillageMag.com.



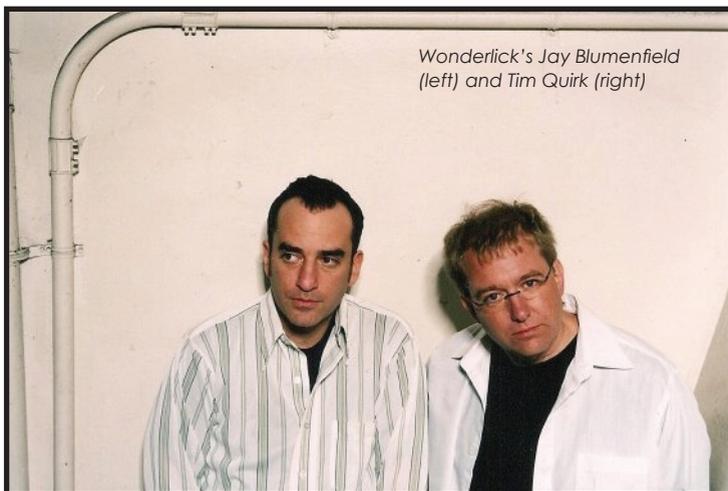
Wonderlickin' good

Tim Quirk was the lead singer, songwriter and guitarist for Too Much Joy, a poppy, punky band whose career spanned the 1980s and '90s. His old band is probably better known for getting in trouble than for their music. Over the course of a decade, Too Much Joy was arrested for performing obscene 2 Live Crew songs in Broward County, Florida; Tim was detained by the Secret Service after drunkenly joking onstage about strangling Bill Clinton when Chelsea Clinton was in the audience; and the band

received a cease and desist letter from Bozo the Clown (an incident that inspired the subtitle of my last book *Freedom of Expression*: *Overzealous Copyright Bozos and Other Enemies of Creativity*).

He's also a major label survivor (Too Much Joy is still in the hole \$395,277.18 to Warner Music, among other things).

I've heard him tell dozens of absurd war stories, such as the time when he got into a drunken debate with the Talking Heads' bassist Tina Weymouth at an industry event. They



Wonderlick's Jay Blumenfield (left) and Tim Quirk (right)

were arguing about the merits of sampling—she thought it was wrong, and Tim didn't—and she exclaimed that he wasn't a real artist.

Over the course of a decade, Quirk and Blumenfield were arrested for obscenity, detained by Secret Service and served a cease and desist letter from Bozo the Clown.

Tim recalls, "Later on she apologized by hugging me for an uncomfortably long time, and whispered the following in my ear—and I'm not making this up—'You are an artist. And you know what it's like on a major label. It's like they stick an umbrella up your ass. And then they open it. And you just have to walk down the street like nothing's wrong.'" He adds that Chris Frantz,

Tina's husband and Talking Heads drummer, just stood there smiling.

When I first met Tim in 2003, he was happily married, a proud father, and had somehow spun his love of music into a respectable career in the music industry—in the form of a nine-to-five job as VP, Programming of Rhapsody, one of the companies to get in early on the legal music download business. Quirk's latest group, Wonderlick—which also includes Too Much Joy alum Jay Blumenfield—just released their second album, *Topless at the Arco*

Arena, a concept album that dives headfirst into the timeless art versus commerce debates. Here's an edited version of a conversation I had with Tim Quirk over email (you can read the full exchange on Wonderlick.com).

Prairie Pop: Do you think of this as a concept album, a la Roger Waters' *Radio KAOS*?

Tim Quirk: Yes, proudly. If you're going to bother making an album in 2009, it damn well better have a reason for existing as a particular collection of songs in a specific order. Really.

PP: More seriously, can you tell me in your

WONDER CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 >>

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Directed by Ron Clark

Richard III
Directed by Kristin Horton

riverside theatre
SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
iowa city, iowa

JUNE 12 - JULY 12
Located in Lower City Park
www.riversidetheatre.org | 319-338-7672



third annual

Boycrazy



Blændet of Solen

LANDLOCKED FILM FESTIVAL

Sponsored by the Englert Theatre, Little Village, Sheraton Iowa City, hotelVetro, Zephyr Printing & Design, New Pioneer Co-op, MidWestOne Bank, The Wedge, Danish Immigrant Museum & Embassy of Denmark



The Miracle



16 to Life

AUGUST 27 THROUGH 30, 2009, IN DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY



Manual Práctico del Amigo Imaginario



Mine

MORE INFORMATION @ WWW.LANDLOCKEDFILMFESTIVAL.COM



True Beauty This Night



My Pen Pal: An African Adventure

The Things They Carried

Photo essay by Andrew Sherburne

It's a shame, really, that we didn't beat the flood. And I don't mean wishing the flood away, I mean *beating* it. Because, although it's often overshadowed by the flood's devastating wake, the one truly beautiful thing that we saw last June was unity. Thousands of people working together to save our cities. It was a community of Musketeers: "all for one, and one for all." We could have used some satisfaction.

On Thursday, June 12, 2008, the river won. The water didn't wash away our communal spirit, but it took our stuff. For many living near the river, the focus on saving the group meant little time spent securing one's own personal belongings. But, as these stories attest, even when nearly everything is lost, we can find our humanity in the things we saved.



Linda and Greg Schrock
Normandy Drive

"The only running water here comes from a tap," said Linda Schrock of her new home perched along a hill on the city's east side.

On the corner of the house, an upside-down tree trunk spreads its roots into the air, frozen forever in a fruitless search for water.

Last spring, the Schrocks were preparing their former Normandy Drive home for a garden tour and "looking for something unique."

They found four rootballs in the marshland near Cou Falls.

"But the day of the garden tour we had nine feet of water in the yard," Linda said.

Before evacuating, the Schrocks tied one of the rootballs to the neighbor's tree. Another was placed atop the shed behind their house.

"After the flood, the big one was still tied to the tree," Linda's husband Greg said. But nothing remained on the roof of the shed.

As crews worked to clean debris from the river, a neighbor spotted

something familiar sitting on Park Road bridge.

"Our son went down and asked the guys from the city if he could have the stump," said Linda. "They said 'Sure, why would you want that?'"

"It was hard to tell whose stuff was on that bridge," explained Greg. "But not many people collect rootballs."

"They took 52 tons of debris off that bridge," said Linda. "It was one of the few things that didn't go to the landfill."



Kathy Reeves
Kate Thompson
Pauline Wieland Plowman
 UI Department of Music

“Do you want to hear it?” asked Kathy Reeves, standing aside a three-foot gong with a firm two-handed grip on the mallet.

“It’s got a beautiful sound,” she said “We got it when we started studying Chinese music. You can’t do Chinese music without one.”

The gong was still a recent arrival when staff were told that flood waters were predicted to hit the UI’s arts campus last June.

“It was a stressful day,” said Kate Thompson. “We had to take calculated risks. We couldn’t save everything. We lost about 24 upright pianos.”

Student files were irreplaceable and had to be saved. The marching band evacuated the print music. The department’s director pulled art from the walls.

“It was pretty evident how much people cared,” said Reeves. “It was wall-to-wall people helping out.”

Preparations were made to move the instruments to the upper levels of the Voxman Music Building.

“Someone called me and asked ‘What’s the load capacity of the second floor?’” Thompson said. “I didn’t know, but we didn’t have time.”

While other instruments were tucked into every available corner, someone always made sure the gong was accessible.

“Every time we walked by it, we hit it. It kept getting louder,” remembered Pauline Wieland Plowman.

“We’re staff, we don’t ever get to play the instruments,” Reeves said. “This was our chance.”

“It was therapeutic,” said Wieland Plowman. “The gong just screamed at us ‘Hit me! Relieve your stress!’”

Ofer Sivan

Manor Drive

Ofer Sivan’s head swept from side to side, cataloging the changes made to his former house on Manor Drive. He stopped in front of a weathered tool shed.

“This used to be our spaceship.”

Sivan bought the house from his uncle a few years earlier. His uncle had bought it from Sivan’s grandparents, who purchased the house in the early sixties.

“I think it was the model house for the neighborhood,” he said.

It was the house Sivan grew up so it seemed an appropriate place to start his own family. Still, in the back of his mind, he always knew it was going to flood.

Sure enough, the waters rose shortly after Sivan’s daughter Opal was born, and the family decided not to move back. But, before they could sell it, they had to clean up the mess the flood left behind.

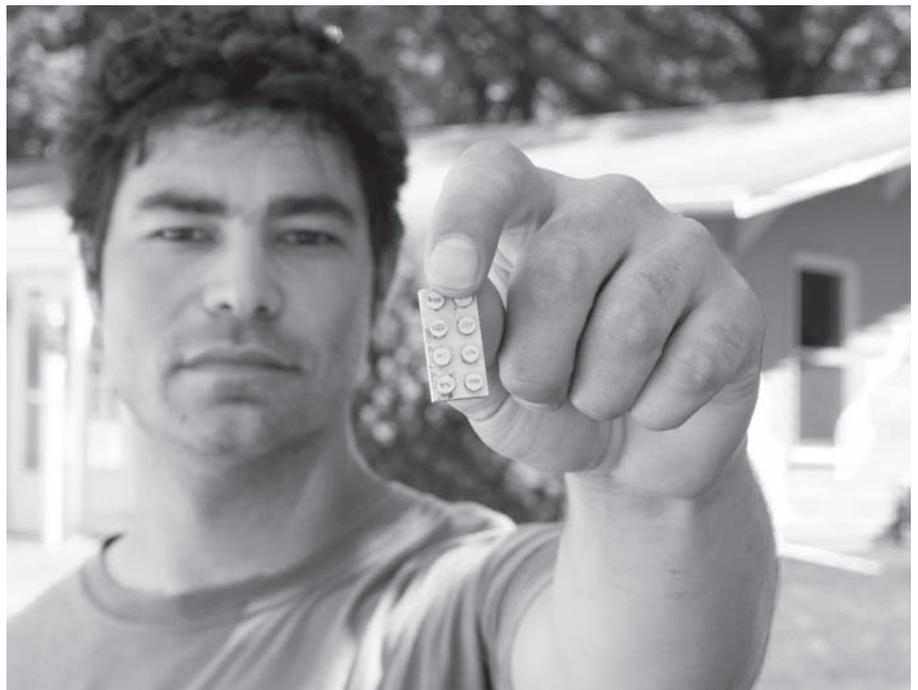
“We were tearing out drywall from the bedroom, and wedged near the bottom I found this” recalled Sivan, holding up a tiny Lego.

“That Lego was definitely mine. I loved Legos when I was a kid. I did tear up when I found it. It reminded me not of my adult life in the house but my childhood and especially my grampa.”

Sivan misses the family home, but he sees a silver lining in the whole episode—now they have their own house.

“Not anyone else’s house. it’s ours.”

But it will have at least one tiny brick from their old home on Manor Drive.





Nathan Popp
UI Museum of Art

“On Tuesday we were evacuating. By Friday we didn’t have a museum anymore,” said Nathan Popp, curatorial assistant at the UI Museum of Art, recalling the week of last year’s flood.

That Monday, before the hectic scramble of the final days, staff were advised to pack non-

essential items and take them home.

“I thought, ‘What’s least essential?’” Popp rounded up the papers tacked to his cubicle wall and put them into a manila folder to take home.

“We were relocated a few times,” he said. Finally, by winter break, the museum’s staff were relocated to Studio Arts West.

“I brought the folder back in and the first paper I pulled out was this drawing of a rain cloud,” Popp said. “My son Conner did it, and my daughter, Hannah, drew the face.”

“It was ironic because it was a thundercloud. But it was significant for me. It represents a bit of continuity through the whole roller coaster of events.”

Popp’s makeshift office is covered in post-cards, thank you notes and drawings—like the rain cloud—from his children. It is a stark contrast to the rest of the still-in-progress studio arts building, where walls and halls are mostly bare during the summer session.

“When my kids gave it to me they wouldn’t let me take it in to the office. They had to come and hang it up themselves,” Popp said. “I got a little teary-eyed when I hung it back up in here where it belongs.”

Connor and Hannah weren’t there for the second installation of their work, but Popp said they’ve visited his new office since.

“They came in and said, ‘Hey, it looks the same!’”

Joellen Shoemaker
Idyllwild

Joellen Shoemaker didn’t hesitate when asked to remember June 12, 2008. “It was my birthday,” she said. It was also the day the moving truck finally pulled into her driveway.

Three days earlier, on Monday, Shoemaker had called a friend, a mover. “He said ‘I was wondering when you’d call. I’ll be there tomorrow.’”

But, as it turned out, Tuesday was too busy and on Wednesday, when only one of the two trucks scheduled to evacuate her house and the house next door arrived four hours late she sent them to the neighbor’s home.

“I was nice. Too nice,” she said, half in jest. “We were all in denial. It wasn’t supposed to flood.”

Finally, on Thursday—Shoemaker’s birthday—it was her turn.

“I had two movers and two friends ready to load like gangbusters,” she said. “But I wasn’t there. My friends insisted I come to a birthday breakfast...so I did, thinking everything was under control.”

But, with fresh data far exceeding earlier water elevation predictions, city officials reversed their decision to let the road to Shoemaker’s Idyllwild neighborhood stay open.

“The mandatory evacuation didn’t come until 4 p.m., but they made my truck leave at 9 a.m.”



The truck was mostly empty, except for Shoemaker’s stove, refrigerator, entertainment center and her console piano.

“The piano was the first thing they put on the truck. I didn’t ask them to, but they just knew,” she said.

The movers must have sensed the musical history running through Shoemaker’s veins.

“I learned to play when I was four. Music has

always been in my family and we’ve always had a piano. Back to my grandparents. Mostly for bible songs—things you can really sing to.”

“I suppose I could’ve replaced it too,” she said of the piano, surveying her refurbished home, filled with recently purchased stuffed chairs and hardwood furniture. “Do I play it as much now as I used to? No. It’s not anything special. It’s just my piano.”



Jerry Anthony
Eastmoor Drive

"They're the two reasons I came back," said Jerry Anthony as he flipped through photos of his two sons, Joshua and Jeremiah.

"We hadn't taken anything out of the house when we were evacuated on Thursday. My wife packed a box of our documents and a change of clothes for the kids. We left with that."

Even after water filled the street, Anthony returned to a dry house in the afternoon of the evacuation to haul out what he could. He walked back to his canoe with the most valuable things he could carry: the family computer and Jeremiah's violin. Then the water rose.

"I came back on Friday to save as much as I could and move things up away from the water," he said. "I couldn't take much out, so it had to be lightweight and easy to carry."

"It wasn't until we were canoeing in that I planned to

salvage the toys."

The water was two feet high and rising when Anthony opened the door to his house. After an hour and a half of moving books and other irreplaceables to dry ground, Anthony packed what he could into a plastic trash bag.

"I took some photos of my kids from before the digital era," he said. "My sons had lost their books and their toys. But my younger son, Joshua, has a lot of plush toys. That was what I could save."

"It was something to reduce the trauma. He was very, very happy to have them."

But, there was one stuffed toy that Anthony couldn't find.

"He has one very special one. A lion, Aslan. I couldn't find him," he said. "But when we came back, there was a pile of clothes on the bed and on top of the pile was the lion. The clothes had soaked up the water, but Aslan was safe."

Englert

It all happens here!

- 8/14 The Colin Hay Band
- 8/22 The Heather Masse Band
- 8/25 The Robert Cray Band
- 8/27-30 Landlocked Film Festival
- 9/3 Riders in the Sky
- 10/2 Tim Bedore
- 10/7 Leon Redbone
- 10/20 The Avett Brothers
- 10/22 Robin & Linda Williams
- 10/23 Keller Williams
- 11/6 Champions of the Dance
- 11/8 The Rainbow Fish
- 11/14 Paula Poundstone
- 12/10 Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's Swingin' Holiday Party

...and much more.

CALL 319.688.2653 . CLICK www.englert.org
 VISIT 221 East Washington St, Iowa City
 CONNECT englertblog.blogspot.com . [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/englert)
[myspace](https://myspace.com/englert) . [twitter \(@englert\)](https://twitter.com/englert)

The Framers' Intent

Professional custom framing made personal

353 E College St 248-3199
 Open 10am - 6pm Tues - Sat



KONNEXION • 106 S. LINN STREET IOWA CITY

What A Wonderful World

As Summer is just heating up, it is also speeding towards its conclusion, with just under three months until fall returns,—and with it, the school year, cold, and responsibility. If you have a yen for a summer adventure without the long drive and hefty expense of a big city visit, perhaps it would be better to stay closer to Iowa City. Here is a completely non-comprehensive list of 14 destinations for would-be Iowa travelers, which I derived after consulting with our goodly friend, the internet.

Disclaimer: As I have not visited most of these destinations, I can not vouch for the quality of experience a traveler will have there. I can only offer my sage traveling maxim, "If all else fails, find a place that sells good pie."



National Balloon Museum and Ballooning Hall of Fame

INDIANOLA

Distance from Iowa City: 131 miles



What do Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Indianola, Iowa, have in common beside being almost impossible for me to

spell correctly from memory? Hot air balloons! And while those jerks in New Mexico have claim to the biggest hot air balloon festival, Indianola still has its balloon museum and hall of fame. Take that, Land of Enchantment!

On July 31 through August 8, head down to the 40th annual National Balloon Classic featuring hot air balloon rides and other events as a part of the festival's B.M.W. (balloon, music, wine) weekend. Because if there's anything you want to mix with hot air balloons, it's the consumption of alcohol.

www.nationalballoonmuseum.com

National Hobo Museum

BRITT

Distance from Iowa City: 206 miles



There is something surreal about a museum devoted to Hobos with a

website which offers, among other things, Hobo shopping opportunities; I call dibs on the Hobo museum themed drink koozies. Luckily enough for the Hobo museum, I consider a surreal destination an essential part of any summer trip.

From August 2 to August 8, the museum will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary. Come enjoy ice cream, a parade, a Hobo Memorial Service, and a poetry reading at the Hobo Jungle. And always remember, follow the Hobo Code.

www.hobo.com

Bouncing Back

Both affected in various ways by the flooding last June, these two noted historical monuments are still trying to recover and would be helped by your patronage and generosity.



Sutliff Bridge

SUTLIFF

Distance from Iowa City: 20 miles



Two of the spans from over a century-old Sutliff Bridge near the unincor-

porated town of Sutliff still stand after the Cedar River tore one of its pieces. The bridge's fate is still uncertain, but Baxa's Store and Tavern, known for the dollar bills that patrons have stuck into the ceiling over the years, still remains.

www.sutliffbridge.com

Mother Mosque of America

CEDAR RAPIDS

Distance from Iowa City: 30 miles



The Mother Mosque of America is the first permanent structure to be built

specifically to serve as a mosque in the United States, and it also so happens to be located in one of the neighborhoods devastated by the flooding, destroying many of the Islamic building's historic documents

www.mothersmosque.com



Matchstick Marvels Tourist Center GLADBROOK

Distance from Iowa City: 93.2 miles



It apparently only took artist Patrick Acton 478,000 matchsticks to construct a model of the U.S. Capitol, while it took him 602,000 sticks to build Hogwarts, the school of Wizardry from the Harry Potter series. I don't know what this disparity means to the relevance of these two buildings to my life, but I do know that it compels me to reward this Herculean feat of human nerdiness (I say this affectionately) with my time and rapt attention.

Another compelling quote from the museum website: "Pat Acton is clearly the best matchstick model maker in North America. Quality-wise and skill-wise, he's the best in the world."—Edward Meyer, Vice President, *Ripley's Believe It or Not!*

www.matchstickmarvels.com

Marble Rock Museum MARBLE ROCK

Distance from Iowa City: 138 miles



A Marble Rock Museum in Marble Rock, Iowa, operated by the Marble Rock Historical Society. I felt compelled to include this destination to reward this town for its consistency. Marble Rock may also boast the most museums per capita with the Pioneer Kitchen Museum, the Bank Building Museum and the Rural Living Museum.

Also, I feel through my one-man campaign, I may be able to get their website over 1,000 hits. Go Marble Rock!

www.marblerock.org



Danish Windmill Museum ELK HORN

Distance from Iowa City: 197 miles



There are two competing thoughts in my mind as I read about the Danish Windmill Museum:

1. 200 miles is a long way to drive.
2. Windmills are awesome!

Almost anticipating this mental struggle, here is a compelling argument yanked from a Danish Windmill Museum press release:

"You've been to Disney World, the Grand Canyon, and Mall of America. But have you visited the Danish Windmill in Elk Horn, Iowa? This village, typical of small-town America, boasts no roller coasters, natural wonders, or famous cartoon characters. Oh, it is much more original than that! Its uniqueness stems from the town's residents, ancestors of Danish immigrants."

I'm sold, Elk Horn. See you soon.

www.danishwindmill.com

Bily Clocks Museum & Antonin Dvorak Exhibit SPILLVILLE

Distance from Iowa City: 151 miles



Perhaps the only thing inherently cooler than still-working Danish windmills is an exhibit that somehow combines antique hand-carved wooden clocks with famous composer, Antonin Dvorak, who lived in the town of Spillville for a short time. Cameras are explicitly forbidden inside the museum (way to build the intrigue!) but the website claims that some of the clocks stand over nine feet in height.

www.bilyclocks.org



Effigy Mounds National Monument HARPER'S FERRY

Distance from Iowa City: 90.6 miles



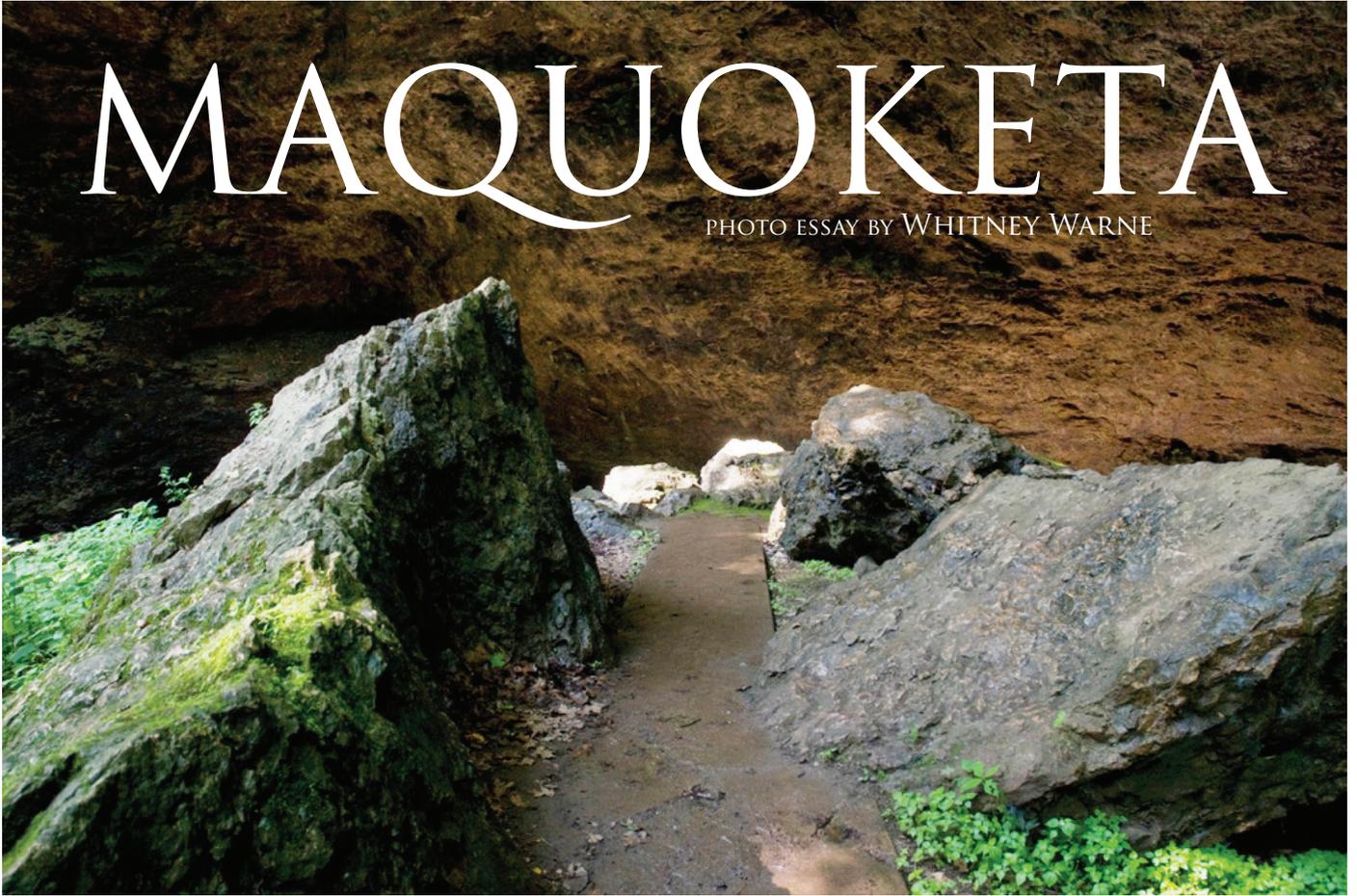
A national park in North East Iowa, Effigy Mounds National Monument is one of the remaining tributes to the once thriving American Indian culture that spread across the upper midwest. Still more than 200 earthen mounds, originally meant to commemorate lost loved ones, exist intact at the park. Some of them are arranged in large animal formations.

There is no camping at the park, which is intended to be enjoyed on foot. Guided tours are available. For unguided tours, access is limited to 14 miles of hikeable trails. On July 10 and 11, the park will host a American Indian Heritage Celebration, featuring live music, dance, and American Indian food stands.

www.nps.gov/efmo

MAQUOKETA

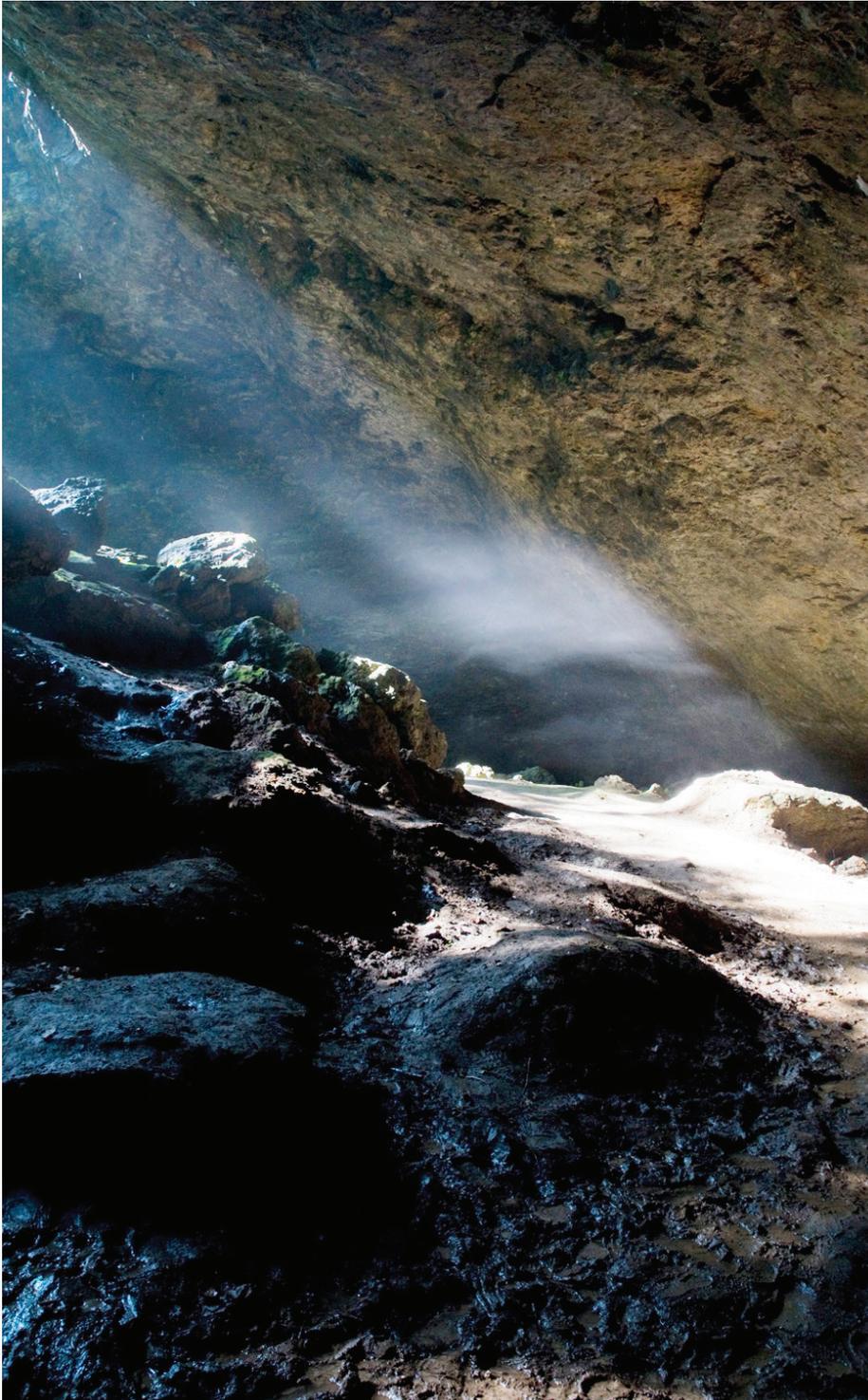
PHOTO ESSAY BY WHITNEY WARNE



▲ The temperature fell 15 degrees as I descended the wooden staircase into the Maquoketa caves. The humidity of the day changed to a cool, natural dampness — a welcome relief from the barely breathable fog of a typical Iowa summer day. I arrived at the caves with low expectations, looking for a small adventure and a change of scenery. I left with a good hike behind me and pictures that represented a slightly more scenic view of my home state.



▲ Large stones steps are laid out for the adventurer's ease. Water surrounds my feet and the light and heat of the day disappeared as I ventured further into the cave. The Dance Hall is the only pedestrian-friendly cave in the park. Most of the other caverns required that I bring a flashlight and get on my hands and knees.



▲ Light from the sunny day shined down into the cave's crevices, illuminating the jagged edges of the rock faces. Filtered through clouds, the mood was somewhat ethereal even though the path guided me underground in to the largest cave system—the Dance Hall.

BIJOU THEATER

A non-profit, student—run cinema screening independent, art house, foreign and classic films since 1972.

MEDICINE FOR MELANCHOLY

Directed by Barry Jenkins | USA
Monday July 6 - Thursday July 9

GOMORRAH

Directed by Matteo Garrone | Italy
Friday July 10 - Thursday July 16

DAYTIME DRINKING

Directed by Noh Young-seok | South Korea
Friday July 17 - Thursday July 23

HUNGER

Directed by Steve McQueen | UK/Ireland
Friday July 24 - Thursday July 30

ADMISSION
ALWAYS ONLY

\$5

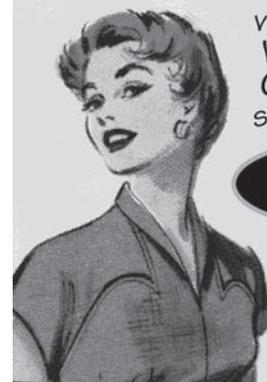
BIJOU THEATER | 319-335-3041
IOWA MEMORIAL UNION, IC
SHOWTIMES & TRAILERS AT
www.BijouTheater.org

Get your
Flickr
account into
the real world.

little village
Bravo City's News & Culture Magazine

is looking for
photo essays.

Editor@LittleVillageMag.com



VINTAGE & NEW
**WOMEN'S
CLOTHING**
Shop with Style!

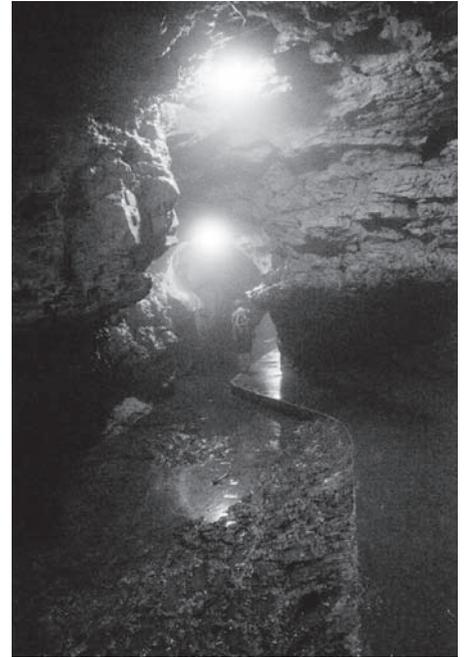
REVIVAL

BUY
SELL
TRADE

ON THE PED MALL | 337-4511



▼ The Dance Hall extends far enough underground to feel isolated from the outside world. A lighting system and cement pathway leads me through the caverns. I was in awe of how beautiful the rock walls were and how peaceful I felt in the environment.



▲ Emerging from the caves, I was confronted with a barrage of greenery. Plants sprout from every available surface and trees extend high into the sky, creating a natural shelter from the sun and pleasantly cool hiking trails.

► I spent a few hours at the caves but the experience could easily have taken up my whole day. The quiet atmosphere and wide-ranging trails provide hikers of all levels the opportunity to experience the caves' grandeur. Pack a picnic, bring a bottle of water, wear your mud boots and prepare yourself for a fantastic Iowa adventure.



>> WONDER FROM PAGE 8

own words what prompted this thematic record?

TQ: A friend of mine named Eric Weisbard encouraged me to write an essay about my misadventures in corporate America during the dotcom boom and bust for a conference he was putting on. I called it Topless at the Arco Arena, because I'd recently watched a woman yank off her blouse at an AC/DC concert. I wanted to believe her gesture was an honest expression of overwhelming joy, a moment when what was happening in the stands became the show rather than what was happening on stage, but it sort of felt expected, you know? Manipulated.

So I wanted to figure out how the moment could be something spontaneous and beautiful for the woman while simultaneously being something planned for and exploited by the band, especially since that's exactly what the dotcom boom was suddenly looking like for giddy dorks like me who hadn't really been sucked into the capital markets before. When I got to the end of the paper [later published in the Harvard University Press collection *This Is Pop!* and included in the album's liner notes], I didn't feel like I was finished exploring the subject, so the next batch of songs Wonderlick wrote tried digging a little deeper into the same thing. I'd been going back and forth between thinking of my music as art and treating it like a commodity; the record ultimately arrives at the conclusion that it's never just one thing, so you might as well rejoice in that fact rather than bemoan it.

PP: What is different about making records for Warner Music versus what you've been doing with Wonderlick in the 2000s?

TQ: The biggest difference is how we measure success. On Warner, the goal was to get airplay and sell lots of records. I'm not knocking Warner by saying that—they're a business, not a charity. But it's insidious the way their goals quickly become yours, and it definitely changes the way you create. Because we stopped asking what made us happy, and started worrying too much about what would make an imaginary listener happy. I certainly hope Lick gets lots of airplay and sells lots of records, but that's not why we're doing this.

I'd been going back and forth between thinking of my music as art and treating it like a commodity. The record ultimately arrives at the conclusion that it's never just one thing,

We just want to make music we like. If other people do, too, hooray—but if they don't, I won't feel like a failure, and unfortunately when you're on a major label it's very easy to feel like one if you don't chart.

PP: You and Jay live in different cities; what is your work process and how is it enabled by digital technologies?

TQ: We create in fits and starts, because we don't do anything unless we're physically in the same room and months can go by before that can be arranged, but ProTools has completely changed the way we write and record. In the old days, writing and recording were two separate endeavors—because studio time was so expensive, we wouldn't walk into one until a song was completely written and well rehearsed. Now that all you need is a laptop and a stellar microphone, there's no distinction at all for us between writing and recording. We tape as we write and we write as we tape.

PP: Has your experience at your day job given you ideas about how to expose your music to people, or is it the other way around?

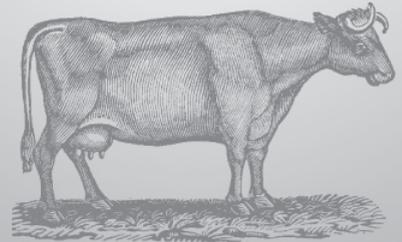
TQ: Probably, but it's been more valuable in a different way. You ever read *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*? The way they punish criminals in that [book] is they stick them in this machine that shows them just how massively gigantic the entire universe is, and then the machine shows them just how insignificantly tiny they are in the face of all that (the knowledge of which is supposed to incapacitate them forever).

Well, working at Rhapsody is like living inside that machine. I know exactly where TMJ and Wonderlick stand in the musical cosmos. I know who's one rank above me, and one rank below. I know exactly which songs people listen to, and how many of those people there are. At first it's humbling, but then it becomes wildly liberating. Like I said before, I certainly hope people like what we do. But I've been cleansed of any illusions that how many people like it is a measurement of its worth, so I don't waste too much time dreaming up ways to make more of them. **IV**

Kembrew is spending the summer trying to finish his co-produced documentary Copyright Criminals: This Is a Sampling Sport. And rocking out.

SHOP THE
northside
NEAR LINN AND MARKET

Motley Cow Cafe
dinner, fine wine and beer



160 North Linn Street | 319.688.9177

**Hummus Where
the Heart Is™**

Vegan, Vegetarian
& Omnivore Friendly

Falafel, Hummus, Soups,
Salads & Kebobs

oasis™
Menu at www.oasisfalafel.com

Open 11am - 9pm Daily
Closed Sunday

206 N. Linn St, Downtown IC | 358-7342



OPEN
EVERY
DAY!

artifacts

331 Market St, IC | 319-358-9617

No boring stuff allowed!

WE CATER.

**THE
PIT**
SMOKEHOUSE & BBQ

All of our barbecue is slow smoked with hickory.

130 N DUBUQUE ST IOWA CITY IA
319.337.6653
thepitsmokehouse.com

Year Zilch

In the beginning was *High Fidelity*—at least as far as I’m concerned—an actor I’d never noticed before by the name of Jack Black was channeling Generation X energies like nobody else on the silver screen. His Barry, the record-store slacker-snob, stole the show and left me with the firm conviction that a new genius would star in the great comedies of the immediate future.

I can honestly say that I’ve enjoyed every appearance of Jack Black since then, with the exception of the execrable *The Holiday*. But I’ve given up waiting on that great Jack Black comedy. He has enough talent to be always enjoyable, but more than enough to make one feel he’s squandering it on mediocre material. So, when I went to see Harold Ramis’s *Year One*, a light send-up of Biblical history, about the inept hunter Zed (Black) and the dreamy gatherer Oh (Michael Cera), I expected to chuckle, have a good time, and find the movie nonetheless disappointing. It turns out I am an inspired prophet.

Now I’m starting to feel the same way about Michael Cera. He seems to be channeling masterfully the energies of Generation Y (or whatever the whippersnappers call themselves); and he stole the show in *Superbad* and *Juno*. Unfortunately, now he seems to be starring in movies that fall short of being memorable, like *Nick and Nora’s Infinite Playlist* and now *Year One*.

Still, the chemistry between Black and Cera as Zed and Oh is terrific: Black’s way of doubling down on double-takes blends wonderfully with Cera’s strangely assertive way of being meek. But the movie is essentially like a decent Saturday Night Live sketch that happens to be an hour and a half long. Zed and Oh strike off from their caveman tribe and wander in and out of Biblical stories: they witness Cain slaying Abel, stop Abraham from sacrificing Isaac, and wind up, appropriately, in Sodom, for what mainly drives them is the desire to lay with some babes from their tribe. There are two varieties of humor in the movie: the incongruous (as when Abraham declares, “We are Hebrews, a righteous people, not very good at sports”) and the potty (as when Oh,



At least Jack Black and Michael Cera are thrilled.

hanging upside down in chains, pees all over his face). Both pretty funny.

But the movie lacks bite, which a comedy about the Bible really should have. The sublime example is *Monty Python’s Life of Brian*, the charming working title of which was *Jesus Christ: Lust for Glory*. There’s nothing in *Year One* that perfectly crystallizes centuries of Biblical interpretation like the scene in *Brian*

The movie lacks bite, which a comedy about the Bible really should have.

at the Sermon on the Mount. At the back of the crowd Mrs. Gregory, who is having troubles hearing Jesus, asks, “What did he say?” A spectator replies, “I think he said, ‘Blessed are the cheesemakers.’” Mrs. Gregory: “Oh, what’s so special about the cheesemakers?” Gregory: “It’s not supposed to be taken literally; it’s meant to refer to anyone who works in the dairy industry.”

There’s one scene in *Year One* that’s practically lifted from *Life of Brian*, though drained of all humor. It takes place at the end of the movie, when Jack Black, who has saved the day and has the crowd of ancient Sodomites chanting that he’s the chosen one, proclaims to the crowd that they should all think of them-

selves as being chosen; then everything ends happily. In *Brian*, the last scene, as you recall, is of hundreds of people being crucified singing, “Always Look on the Bright Side of Life.” The scene that *Year One* lifts is when the crowd yells out to Brian, “Tell us what you have to say!” Brian responds, “Look, you’ve got it all wrong. You don’t need to follow me! You’ve got to think for yourselves! You’re all individuals!” The crowd yells back, “Yes, we’re all individuals!” Brian: “You’re all different!” The crowd: “Yes, we are all different.” Then one man in the crowd grumbles, “I’m not.” “Shh,” someone in the crowd scolds.

In Mel Brooks’s *History of the World*, another venerable ancestor of *Year One*, we are presented in hushed awe with “the world’s first artist,” who finishes a painting on a rock. Then we’re presented with “the world’s first critic,” who walks up to the painting and pisses all over it. Some things never change. **IV**

Scott Samuelson teaches philosophy at Kirkwood Community College. He is also sometimes a moderator on KCRG’s “Ethical Perspectives on the News” and sometimes a cook at Simone’s Plain and Simple, the French restaurant in the middle of nowhere.

>> TRAVEL FROM PAGE 15

American Gothic House

ELDON

Distance from Iowa City: 91.4 miles



You can't beat a tourism destination that actually feeds into your insane desire to post

stupid pictures of yourself on the internet. Yes, the old house featured in Grant Wood's "American Gothic" still stands intact, and the center nearby will actually supply you with period appropriate wear to take your own version of the famous painting. And after you post the picture on Twitter minutes after taking it, you can rest easy in the knowledge that the money on that new iPhone was well spent.

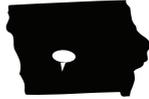


www.wapellocounty.org/americangothic/

The Bridges of Madison County and John Wayne Birthplace Museum

WINTERSET

Distance from Iowa City: 150 miles



No, Clint Eastwood won't be there in real life, ready to take a hot bath with you. That's bound to be disap-

pointing. But seeing the Bridges of Madison County is still just kitschy enough to be a worthwhile venture. Remember what I said about the American Gothic House? Your digital cameras will come in handy here as well.

On the way to the bridges you can visit a small white house where the man who would become John Wayne was born. Afterward you can contribute to the building of John Wayne Birthplace Museum and Learning Center. The fund drive, represented on the website by an empty boot slowly filling with red, is \$4 million short of its goal.



www.madisoncounty.com



Ice Cream Capital of the World Visitor Center

LE MARS

Distance from Iowa City: 336 miles



I don't even have to explain myself on this one. Sure it's on the other side of the state, but I'm sure it would be worth it. Any town that has the guts to declare itself the Ice Cream Capital of the World better be prepared to stuff me so full of frozen dairy that I will spend the next several days in a nearby hotel room lying on my back like a beached sea mammal, my shirt rolled up to my ribs, a warm compress on my forehead, as I slowly massage my distorted belly, warbling in pain, and delight.

www.lemarsiowa.com

Wilton Candy Kitchen

WILTON

Distance from Iowa City: 31.4 miles



Need a closer location to gorge yourself on ice cream? Try the Wilton

Candy Kitchen in Wilton. The old-style ice cream parlor has been in existence for more than a century and is one of the oldest, if not *the* oldest, continuously-operating ice cream parlors in the world. What more do you need?



[Charmingly still offline. Google it.](#)

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site

WEST BRANCH

Distance from Iowa City: 9.7 miles



In recent months, former President Herbert Hoover has been compared to both departing President George W. Bush (for both presidents being

universally unpopular) and to current President Barack Obama (for both presidents inheriting a financial crisis from a previous administration)—and despite the Iowa's status as a caucus state, presidential candidates to this day avoid Hoover's historical site like the plague. But with his birthplace and Presidential Library so close to Iowa City, it might not be a bad idea to learn more about this perhaps unfairly maligned ex-Prez of Iowan roots and Quaker background.

Also, as I imagine you are a master of Hoover Ball, you will want to attend the Hoover Ball National Championships held during Hooverfest on August 1 in West Branch.

www.hoover.archives.gov/visiting



Beyond Jazz Fest

Over the last few years, it seemed like the exponential spread of the summer mega-festival was never going to stop, as little Bonnaros and Coachellas started showing up from Maine to Oregon and everywhere in-between, including our own state. Like anything, this trend has been slowed by the economic situation—the Langerado Music Festival in Florida was cancelled this year due to low ticket sales—but we’ve still got our 80/35 right in Des Moines, happening this year over the 4th of July weekend. While the Pitchfork festival in Chicago (17th-19th) is less expensive and more innovatively curated, the 80/35 festival brings several names through the region that are nothing to sneeze at, including perennially underrated Baby Teeth, future-superstar Anni Rossi, and already-megastars like Tilly & the Wall, Broken Social Scene, Stephen Malkmus, and Public Enemy. In order to see those bands you might also have to sit through G. Love and Special Sauce, so proceed with caution when shelling out \$70 for a 2-day pass. Check their website for the full information.

The folks in charge of the 80/35 festival, which features a handful of Des Moines bands, like the always-incendiary Baby Teeth, have snubbed Iowa City bands almost entirely with Public Property being an exception (see review on next page). This fact was not lost on some local bands and promoters. A “response” show—which at one point had the working title 80/380—is going down on July 3rd at the Picador and will be entirely free. Featuring a chance to see the aforementioned Rossi for free makes the whole night worth your while, but she’ll be joined by a slew of local performers including Olivia Rose Muzzy, Beast Wars, Be Kind To Yr Neighbor, and a DJ set by the School of Flyentology. The Picador website is now promising entertainment on both the upstairs and downstairs levels, and possibly even the beer garden, so you don’t want to miss this.

The Picador also continues its run of bringing in some of rock’s new old guard, this time

with Omaha’s own emo legends Cursive, who will be playing on the 25th. I mean “emo” here in the best possible way, as Cursive has released a bunch of albums that are raw, passionate, musically bombastic, and generally transcend the genre limitations that other bands might be more content to work within. Whatever, it’s Cursive, you’ll either be there or you won’t.



If it’s music with plenty of bombast that you like, then you might want to check out The Antlers, who are playing the Mill on the 16th. Their debut, *Hospice*, has the blogosphere all a-Twitter, and has also been picked up to be rereleased by the folks at Frenchkiss records (also responsible for Les Savy Fav and Hold Steady albums). The Antlers (not to be confused with Crystal Antlers, who are also pretty

If you like “beards and vests” music, then there are three shows that you simply can’t miss coming up this month.

good) can move from quiet, almost ambient soundscapes to soaring anthems over the course of 3 minutes, and while I’m not sure if they’re as buzzworthy as everyone thinks, I’ll certainly be there to find out for myself.

If you like “beards and vests” music (see also: Fleet Foxes, Bon Iver, Iron & Wine), then there are three shows that you simply can’t miss coming up this month. The first is Blitzen Trapper at the Picador on the 18th. Coming off

two really great records, *Wild Mountain Nation* and last year’s *Furr*, these guys have earned it; the last time they played in town it was opening for Malkmus, so you know that they have chops. The second is the Bowerbirds at the Mill on the 20th. Their Mission Creek show in April was simply stunning, and their new album, *Upper Air*, is excellent (see review on next page). Finally, longtime Iowa musician and impresario David Strackaney returns with his own brand of freak folk as Paleo. A truly unique and talented songwriter, Paleo once wrote and recorded one song every day for an entire year. Tragically underrated, come check him out at Public Space One on the 25th.

Public Space One also has some shows for those of you who like your electronic music with a healthy dose of dance and pop sensibilities. Minneapolis bands Kitten Forever and Unicorn Basement bring girl-punk attitude and massive drum machine beats, respectively. They’ve played Public Space

One, and I think one or two other house shows. Really highly recommended. Also, Casiotone for the Painfully Alone will play an encore show at Public Space One on the 31st. When it comes to simple melodies and heartbreaking songwriting, he’s one of the best.

If you want some even more local action, check out Molly Rinwald, who are playing with Prussia (also good) at the Mill on the 1st. Molly Ringwald (who were once hilariously, though unsurprisingly, listed beside a picture of the actress in the Iowa Source magazine), are a three-piece that feature some serious guitar loop-pedal action and tons of junk percussion, including what looks like a helium dispenser. It’s really frantic, sweaty, and good rock ‘n’ roll. Lastly, the Mill’s newest door guy Doug Robeson will be doing his Summer Soul Spin on two Wednesdays this month, the 8th and the 22nd. If you like soul (and who doesn’t?) show up, drink some whiskey, and be thankful that you can tap into one of the deepest collections of 45s in the Midwest. **lv**

Craig Eley is a music writer, promoter and American studies grad student, usually in that order. Got news on the music scene? Write to him at craig@missionfreak.com.



Bowerbirds

Upper Air

Dead Ocean

www.myspace.com/bowerbirds

The sophomore release from North Carolina's Bowerbirds opens simply and unassumingly with an acoustic guitar and the voice of lead singer Phil Moore. *Upper Air* isn't making a grand statement, nor is it declaring a grand departure from the group's debut *Hymns for a Dark Horse*. It is quietly calling your attention. Quiet seems like the key adjective here. While the band is capable of bucolic swells, they often crescendo calmly and gradually on gentle acoustic strums and long, warm breaths from the accordion.

Upper Air asserts its difference quietly as well. Moore built much of *Hymns for a Dark Horse* on earthy metaphors (see album stand-out "In Our Talons"), and he hasn't shied away from them on *Upper Air*, however, he's favoring a more literal lyrical bent. "Silver Clouds" reads like a journal in which Moore airs grievances with either his parents or a former lover, "you can't seem to not / tally it up, so we'll know the score." The spare finger-picked guitar compliments Moore's confessional, but "Silver Clouds" feels slight and almost insulting when most of the other nine cuts utilize the Bowerbirds' finest talent: vocal harmonies.

Songs like "Teeth" and "Beneath Your Tree" ride pumps from a rustic drum kit and pulses from Beth Tacular's accordion upon which her and Moore create some of the most heart-wrenching harmonies. The two create the kind of vocal performance in which you don't care about the subject matter, you just want them to keep singing at any cost. These are vocal talents that make "oh oh oh" on "Ghost Life" sound like the most joyous, beautiful thing your poor ears have ever heard. It almost makes you feel cheated when one or the other takes a solo. The trio makes a return trip to the Mill on July 20 with opener Megafaun.

John Schlotfeldt is collecting bookshelves. You can contact him about this review or shelving here: john.schlotfeldt@littlevillagemag.com.



Public Property

Work to Do

Self Released

www.publicprop.com

Recorded in the famed Anchor Studios in Kingston, Jamaica, Public Property's new album, *Work to Do*, features some big-name contemporary reggae musicians like Toots Hibbert from Toots and the Maytals, Ticklah from Dub Side of the Moon, and Elliot Martin, lead singer from John Brown's Body. The album also features a solo from Jake Shimabukuro, known as the world's best ukulele player.

There are some well-crafted musings on love on this album, as well as great instrumental play. *Work to Do* follows in the tradition of great reggae music. It makes people (ahem, me) feel something they wouldn't.

On the title track, Toots' vocals blend perfectly with the ringing horns and Bess' driving ukulele. Laid on top of that, the lyrics describe a world gone crazy, which gives the chorus' call to stand up more resonance.

The musicians compliment the grooves created by Public Property. From Shimabukuro's solo on "Coming Down the Mountain" to the organ solos used throughout, the band made sure not to waste a single session player. In the end, a distinctive sound is heard. It recalls the past while looking forward.

"Facing Future" typifies a couple of the more conventional tracks. It come too close to the polemical. It's at these points that the music becomes too routine.

There are some sparkling stories as well. "Marianne" is an amazing tale that leaves the moralizing at home. You can hear the wails of old-time blues singers in "Night Light."

For me, the record crystallizes on "Drunk at the Wheel." Bess' laments stretch over slow grooves and stay in your ear long after the song ends.

Work to Do has something for hardcore fans and curious listeners alike. The band stays true to their reggae roots while pushing the boundaries. This record should make people think while they bob their heads. Always a respectable accomplishment.

Jason Phelps has one major weakness: he's a sucker for any animated movie regardless of quality.

FREE DELIVERY
(319) 351-9529

**** DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS ****

THE MILL
EST. 1962
Entertainment **7** nights a week

UPCOMING SHOWS

- JULY 3/4 } OFFICIAL JAZZ FEST AFTER PARTY JAM SESSION**
- JULY 5 } ZEPPERELLA**
- JULY 10 } ILLINOIS JOHN FEVER**
- JULY 11 } BF BURT**
- JULY 16 } ANTLERS**
- JULY 17 } SHAME TRAIN**
- JULY 20 } BOWERBIRDS**
- JULY 23 } SIOUX CITY PETE & THE BEGGARS**
- JULY 24 } BABY TEETH**
- JULY 25 } WYLDE NEPT**
- JULY 31 } BOB DORR & THE BLUE BAND**

MENU & SCHEDULE ONLINE
www.icmill.com
120 E BURLINGTON



The Noble Octopus

The Noble Octopus

Pelletier Comes Alive!

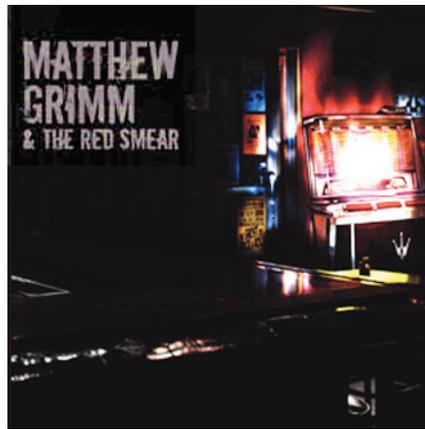
The Noble Octopus was started by Eric Rohn and friends at Grinnell College before moving to Iowa City. With the emphasis on clean guitar sounds and low-key vocals they recall the softer side of Yo La Tengo. The Steve Reich-esque looped guitar piece “Droplets and Isolations” immediately had me on their side. The kalimba and woodblock that underline the interlocking guitar parts on “Satellites” give it a nice music-box vibe. Erick Rohn sings “Soft drifting sounds/bounce off the quiet ice” which is probably a better review of this album than the one you’re reading right now.

“One Room Passing Book” is just Eric’s voice and guitars, and reminds me a lot of Nick Drake. Rohn’s voice is a completely different instrument than Drake’s, though, with a Neil Young waver and pure tone, in contrast to Drake’s woolly slurring. The songs themselves are nicely constructed and arranged, with a lot of intricate ensemble playing to support them without sounding wanky or overdone. The weakest link on the album is the singing. It can be perfect for the material, as in the later vers-

es of “Sound Of Cycling,” but in the first few lines of the same song Rohn sounds awkward. It’s not that it’s bad, but it could be better, and if Eric keeps at it, no doubt it will.

The Noble Octopus is odd that way. Part of the considerable charm of the music is that it’s tentative, reticent and inwardly focused. You feel like you’re overhearing it more than you’re hearing it. This can occasionally be too much, and seem awkward and lacking confidence. Ultimately, though these are really good songs, well thought out and executed. All the Noble Octopus needs is a bit more confidence and fluency in presentation.

Kent Williams is an optimist who loves life, sport, and hates lies. He is Little Village’s arts editor.



Matthew Grimm & The Red Smear

The Ghost of Rock & Roll

Mud Dauber Records

www.redsmear.com

On his latest album, *The Ghost of Rock &*

Roll, Matthew Grimm works in the country-fried mold of self-deprecating, self-righteous S.O.B.s like Paul Westerberg. Guys just as concerned about the direction of the nation as the sexual prowess of their girlfriends, who also take time to acknowledge the fading beauty at the end of the bar.

Grimm’s best work comes when he’s railing against the Right. All the pistons are firing when his band, the Red Smear, match him with boot-shuffling drums and barroom guitars. Both “One Big Union” and “Wrath of God” depend on over-driven riffage to bolster Grimm’s cock-sure, nasal sneer. And like the greatest protest numbers, both songs make the picture just clear enough to resonate with a certain time and fiasco, but maintain just enough poetic distance to feel appropriate at any period of national dissent.

Then there’s album stand-out “One Twenty Oh-Nine,” dedicated to the last day of Bush’s presidency; but the simple merits of it’s glorious arena shaking choruses and soaring rhetoric demand many repeated listens. Every 49-percenter should start committing Grimm’s barbs to memory: “One twenty oh-nine the day of our new jubilee / five-point-nine billion voices and glasses up-raised in the joy of your egress to ignominy.”

The Ghost of Rock & Roll isn’t all political, alt-country fist-pumping. Grimm also focuses on players on a much smaller stage. “Cinderella” finds Grimm tenderly cataloging a life in which “ever after’s hardly ever happy.” The title track contains a series of vignettes (aging stripper, callused truck driver) that seem to be a follow up argument to the distress of “Cinderella.” But there’s also the raucous tarnishing of an iconic author on “Ayn Rand Sucks,” who “sucks so hard her jaw must still be sore.”

John Schlotfeld

LV On The Radio
(still 100% free)

Wednesdays, 5-6pm on KRUI 89.7FM



little village
Iowa City's News & Culture Magazine

LVR (as the hip kids refuse to call it) is Iowa City in audio form: interviews, music, opinions and more. You can also check it out on www.LittleVillageMag.com as a weekly podcast with your weekly Weekender.



Testifyi

2 The World

Self Released

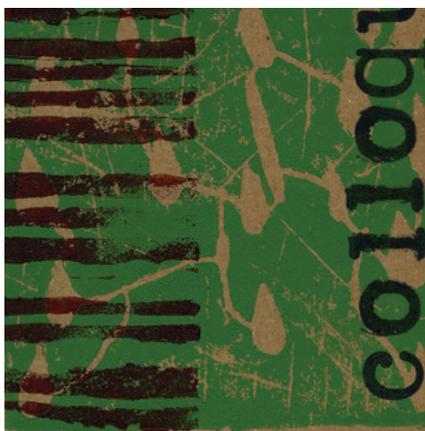
www.myspace.com/testifyi

There's a lot of recording artists now that give credit to God for their success, but their music has nothing to do with religious themes. Testifyi takes a different approach: There's nothing *but* religious themes on *2 The World*. Testifyi has mastered the style of modern hip hop; if you don't listen to the words it could be mistaken for mainstream hip hop. If you do clock the rhymes, it's a trip to Sunday meeting. The lyrics are a continuous sermon on the healing power of Christ with a generous side helping of free-floating positivity. The beats are always well-produced, and Testifyi's flow is tight. More than just technically on point, the sincerity and urgency he brings to his message is stamped on every syllable. He even cites chapter and verse for every track. His message is perfectly tuned to the Christian audience.

My favorite track is "God's Property {Get Off}" for two reasons: it's ruff Dancehall beat and the call and response chorus. "Armor" has a criminally down and dirty beat and

some hilariously clever rhymes, like "Devil's halitosis tryin to make me lose focus/i need a pain killer, Jesus is the right dosage ... Supercalifragelisticexpi-Holy Ghost is."

But many tracks get bogged down in their own righteousness. When I think of great religious music I think of Mahalia Jackson, Marian Anderson, and J.S. Bach. Their music raises goose bumps, and even if you aren't a believer you are lifted up by the spirit of the music, they're fearless and completely free in their expression. There are hints of that on *2 The World*, but when Testifyi delivers standard pulpit talking points, it lets the air out of the track. I want him to make the great Christian Hip Hop album—why should pretend pimps get all the attention?—but he isn't quite there yet.



Joe McNertney

Colloquialisms

Pelletier Comes Alive!

www.myspace.com/joemcnertney

Mr. McNerty is one of Eric Rohm's collaborators in The Noble Octopus, and like his label mate on the enigmatically named Pelletier Comes Alive! label, McNerty is not

a shouter. This CD is anchored in the acoustic folk songwriting tradition, but also contains generous helpings of sonic experimentation. Some stuff he does is "wrong" by any normal standards of recording, like the extreme panning in "Broken Now," which puts the vocals and organ drones in one ear and drums in the other. "Winter Came" starts out with crackly low-fi crunching noises mixed with amplifier hum and obscure lyrics about a peach tree, which then segues into an instrumental outro of echoing guitars.

And then "October 25th" starts, with hocketing guitar parts picking out an evocative chord sequence, underlined with an ominous droning hum. It's actually more conventionally song-like than "Winter Came" but has no vocals at all. "Contigo Lo Siento" is centered around a sparse skeleton of classical guitar, before being joined by glockenspiel. It's more like the soundtrack work of Angelo Badalamenti (the composer for "Twin Peaks"), evoking an atmosphere of vague dread. "She's Really Terrified" takes off in a different direction, with almost conventional finger-picking, before oddly pitched multitracked vocal and buzzy synth sounds break down into chaos.

Joe McNertney is fearless when it comes to indulging his wackiest impulses. It's mostly compelling, even with the occasional low-fi freakout or musical non-sequitur. If you're expecting straightforward pop music, you're definitely in the wrong place, and probably inching nervously for the exit, but sometimes in life you have to dive in and embrace the what-the-fuck-ness of work like this. McNertney might lose you sometimes, but it's worth trying to make the leaps of dream logic with him. He's never boring, and usually includes some appealing music with the jumble sale of odd noises he's assembled.

Kent Williams

Orlando!

Nonstop flights 4 days a week!

Fly nonstop into the
Orlando International Airport
(Closest to the Main Attractions)

 AirTran.com

 QUAD CITY
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Easier.

ART/EXHIBITS

African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa

www.blackiowa.org

Check website for locations

No Roads Lead to Buxton, ongoing • Spirits & Sequins, ongoing

AKAR

257 E. Iowa Ave. Iowa City

www.akardesign.com

Recent Ceramics: Ben Bates, Jeff Campana, Ryan Greenheck & Matthew Repsher, opens July 24

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids

www.crma.org

Grant Wood Studio and Visitor Center, Guided tours of Grant Wood's home and studio, Saturdays & Sundays, hourly 12-4pm

Creative Connections: Arbe Bareis, oils, July 11, 10:30am • Malvina Hoffman, ongoing • Mauricio Lasansky, ongoing • John Buck: Iconography, ongoing • Art in Roman Life, ongoing • Under the Big Top, ongoing • Grant Wood: In Focus, ongoing

The Chait Galleries Downtown

218 E Washington St., Iowa City

www.thegalleriesdowntown.com

Gene Anderson: Retrospective, Through July 3 • Character Studies: Linda Lewis, through Aug 7

CSPS/Legion Arts

1103 Third St SE, Cedar Rapids

www.legionarts.org

Matters Arising: Art from the Flood Zone, through, July 4

Falconer Gallery/Bucksbaum Center for the Arts

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell

www.grinnell.edu/falconergallery

Below the Surface: A 21st-Century Look at the Prairie, ongoing • Small Expressions, ongoing

Hudson River Gallery

538 South Gilbert St., Iowa City

www.hudsonrivergallery.com

Tom Langdon, ongoing

Iowa Artisans Gallery

207 E. Washington, Iowa City

www.iowa-artisans-gallery.com

Fiber Art Invitational, through July 19 • Landscape References: Altered Photography by Randy Richmond, Woodturned Vessels by Robert Wallace, opens July 24

Johnson County Heritage Trust

Shimek Ravine, 1400 Grissel Pl., Iowa City

Prairie Placard Project, art, music, writing and dance, July 18, 5pm-8:30pm

Old Capitol Museum

Pentacrest, UI Campus, Iowa City

www.uiowa.edu/~oldcap

Fresh Threads of Connection: Mother Nature and British Women Writers, through July 26

MUSIC

Camp Euforia

5335 Utah Ave Se, Lone Tree

www.campeuforia.com

Full festival schedule online

4pm-1am, July 17 • 11am-1am, July 18

Dawn's Hide and Bead Away

220 E. Washington St., Iowa City

www.dawnsbeads.com

Saul Lubaroff and Jared Fowler, Jul 3, 7pm

Friday Night Concert Series

Ped Mall, downtown Iowa City

www.summerofthearts.org

Euforquestra, July 10 • BF Burt, July 17 • Blue Cat Alley, July 24 • Dennis McMurrin and the Demolition band, July 31

The Industry

211 Iowa Ave., Iowa City

www.myspace.com/theindustryic

All shows at 8pm unless noted

Blameshift w/ Kidnap The Sun & Graduated Failure, July 21, 7pm • Chingy, July 25, 8pm

Iowa City Book Festival

Gibson Square, UI Main Library

www.iowacitybookfestival.org

All Day Festival, July 18: Ben Schmidt, 11pm • The Starlings, 12:30pm; Shannon's Fancy, 2pm; Goosetown String Band, 3:30pm; Scott Cochran and Flannel, 5pm

Iowa City Farmers' Market

Chauncey Swan Parking Lot

Market Music: Nick Stika, July 8 • Al and Aleta Murphy, July 15 • Kalimbaman, July 22 • Bob and Kristie Black, July 29

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City

www.icmill.com

Shows at 9pm unless otherwise noted

Sunday Night Pub Quiz, Sundays, 9pm-Midnight

Open Mic with J. Knight, Mondays, 8pm, call 338-6713 to sign up

Tuesday Night Social Club, Tuesdays

Prussia, Molly Ringwald, Random Candy, July 1 • The Mystic Ordinaries, White Tornado, July 2 •

Official Jazz Fest After-Party Jam Session, July 3 • Official Jazz Fest After-Party Jam Session, July 4 • Zepperella, July 5 • Netherfriends, Ixnay, Datagun, July 7 • Burlington St. Bluegrass Band, July 8, 7pm • Patrick Bloom & ORYAN, July 9 • B.F. Burt & The Instigators, July 11 • Dimas Lemus, Lipstick Homicide, The Black Slacks, July 14 • The Antlers, Red and the Eds and Crash, July 16 • Shame Train & She Swings She Sways, July 17 • Bowerbirds and Megafauna, July 20, 8pm • Recycled Radio, Random Candy, The Valley Tongues, July 21 • Burlington St. Bluegrass Band, July 22, 7pm • Sioux City Pete & the Beggars, Taterbug, Be Kind To Your Neighbor and The Crystelles, July 23 • Baby Teeth, Porno Galactica, Datagun and The Western Front, July 24 • Wylde Nept, July 25 • Matthew Grimm and the Red Smear, Cartright, July 28 • The Tornadoes, July 30, 8pm • Bob Dorr and The Blue Band, July 31, 8pm

Music in the Park

S.T. Morrison Park, Coralville

www.coralville.org

Dennis DeYoung: The Music of STYX, July 3, 8pm • Central Standard Time, July 16, 6:30pm • Holiday Road, July 23, 6:30pm

The Picador

330 E. Washington St., Iowa City

www.thepicador.com

All shows at 9pm unless otherwise noted

A Static Lullaby, Vanna, Asking Alexandria, Motionless In White, Tides of Man, July 2, 6pm • FREE-FOR-ALL: Anni Rossi, Olivia Rose Muzzy, The Daredevil Christopher Wright, Be Kind to Your Neighbor, Beast Wars, and The School of Flyentology, Porno Galactica, July 3 • Mayor Daley, July 7 • Maylene and the Sons of Disaster, Secret and Whisper, Beneath the Villa Bella, An Airbag Saved My Life, July 10, 6pm • Burnout, Archons, Sirhan Sirhan, Snow Demon, July 11 • Danny De Vita, Shores of the Tundra, Limbs, A Breath Beyond Broken, July 11, 5:30pm • Awesome Color, EYES ft. Jesus Is Angry, Mondo Drag, July 12 • Eastern Sunz, Imperfect, David the Saint., July 13 • Fake Problems, Kiss Kiss, , July 14 • Set Your Goals, Four Year Strong, Fireworks, The Swellers, Grave Maker, July 15, 5:30pm* The Horde, July 17 • Blitzen Trapper, Loch Lomond, July 18 • The Acacia Strain, Evergreen Terrace, Cruel Hand, Unholy, Jul 23, 6pm • Cursive, July 25, 6pm • Aaron Kerr's Dissonant Creatures, Olivia Rose Muzzy, Swallows, The Sleeper Pins, July 29

Public Space One

115 E. Washington St., Iowa City

www.myspace.com/publicspaceone

SWAK, Rusty Buckets, Orville Sash, July 3 • Unicorn Basement, Kitten Forever, July 10 • Brace For Blast, Number 9 Hard, Don't Mess With Winkie, Worse Case Scenario, July 13 • Unknown Component, July 17 • The Backsliders, Lipstick Homicide, July 20 • Paleo, Skye Carrasco, July 25 • Casiotone For the Painfully Alone, Concern, July 31

A-LIST



Mint Wad Willy

July 24

Iowa City Yacht Club

www.mintwadwilly.com

After nearly a decade of making music in Iowa City, Mint Wad Willy is moving on. The quartet is relocating to Omaha, Nebraska this summer to expand their musical horizons.

MWW began in 2001 and members Derek Lavasseur and Nick Johnston call their music "a mix of folk, blues and psychedelic thing." The fall 2008 release of "The History of Guns and Liars" gave the band an edge for making new music. In December 2008, MWW spent time in a recording studio in Nashville, working on an album it hopes to release this fall and tour with after they settle in Omaha.

The band is nostalgic for the old Q-Bar, now The Industry, and has played plenty of shows at the Yacht Club, which will be the venue of their final Iowa City concert.

But it's no ordinary concert. The band has decided to make the show a donation drive for the Johnson County Crisis Center. Every \$7 cover at the door will donate \$2 to the Center, while guests bringing a non-perishable food item can get in the door for \$5.

"We've lived in Iowa City for a long time, had our run-ins with the law and never really done anything for the city," Lavasseur said. "Whether anyone knows, we are conscious of leaving good with the city."

Even though band members have come and gone, Lavasseur and Johnston have remained tied to their band as managers and "leaders of the pack," but with new members Royce Kensinger and Michael Fett in 2007, they see only good things ahead.

"I think we'll be happy as long as we can keep working, writing and playing music," Johnston and Lavasseur said. "We just want to keep making music."

Erin Tiesman

Red Cedar Chamber Music

www.redcedar.org

Cornell College, Mt. Vernon

Summer Festival, July 5-12

Riverside Casino

3184 Highway 22, Riverside

www.riversidecasinoandresort.com

Merle Haggard and Trailer Choir, July 10, 8pm •

Kenny Wayne Sheppard, July 24, 8pm

Sondheim Center

Fairfield, IA

www.fairfeildacc.com

Snatam Kaur, July 24, 8pm

Toyota-Scion of Iowa City Jazz Festival

Downtown Iowa City

www.summerofthearts.org

Full schedule online

Main stage schedule: July 3: United Jazz Ensemble, 4:30pm; The Des Moines Big Band, 6pm; David Sanchez Quartet, 8pm • July 4: Diplomats of Solid Sound, 2pm; Orquesta Alto Maiz, 4pm; Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue, 6pm; Lionel Loueke Trio, 8pm; Fireworks, 9:30pm • July 5: Bob Levy and the J.O. Trio, 2pm; Chris Potter's Underground, 4pm; Bill Frisell Quartet, 6pm; Dave Holland Quintet, 8pm

Uptown Bill's Small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City

www.uptownbills.org

Open Mic, Fridays, 8pm; Sign-up, 7:30pm

Yacht Club

13 S. Linn St., Iowa City

www.iowacityyachtclub.org

Shows at 9pm unless otherwise noted

Unknown Component, Brian Troester, Joe Uker, July 2 • Mehfunk, Deep soul Dieties, July 3 • Dennis McMurrin & The Demolition Band, July 4 • Lunatic on Pogostix, July 9 • The Hue, 5 in a Hand, July 10 • Camp Euforia Bluegrass PreParty, July 16, 8pm • Slip Silo, Nervous Disorder, July 23 • Mint Wad Willy Farewell Show, The Treats, Bold City Lights, July 24 • Second Hand Smoke, July 25 • Natty Nation, July 27 • Telepath, July 29 • Lord T & Eloise, July 30

THEATER/DANCE/PERFORMANCE/

Englert Theatre

221 E. Washington St., Iowa City

www.englert.org

The Wizard of Oz, July 16-18, 7:30pm & July 17-19, 2pm

Iowa City Barn Dance

The Center, 28 S. Linn St.

Barn dance fourth Saturday of the month, 8-11pm

PHYSICAL CHALLENGE
w/ DJ JOSH BOY
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT 10 AND OVER!

Thursday June 4

Lucero Chuck Ragan (Hot Water Music)

Monday June 8

ALL AGES 6PM

For Today

Beneath The Sky Venia

Thursday June 11

ALL AGES 5:30PM

The Crinn

A Hill To Die Upon Spanish Harlem GMD

Wednesday June 17

ALL AGES 6PM

Attack! Attack!

Watchout! There's Ghosts Of Machines

Thursday June 18

ALL AGES 6PM

Time Again

Friday June 19

Russian Circles

Coliseum

Saturday June 20

Bill Callahan

Friday June 26

Richard Bishop

Thursday July 2

ALL AGES 6PM

A Static Lullaby

Vanna Asking Alexandria Motionless in White Tides of Man

Friday July 10

ALL AGES 6PM

Maylene and the Sons of Disaster

Beneath the Villa Bella An Airbag Saved My Life

Monday July 13

Eastern Sunz

Tuesday July 14

Fake Problems

Kiss Kiss

Wednesday July 15

ALL AGES 5:30PM

Set Your Goals

Four Year Strong Fireworks The Swellers Gravemaker

HAVE A DRINK (AND A SMOKE) IN OUR AWESOME BEER GARDEN

THE PICADOR

330 E. Washington Iowa City, IA www.thepicador.com

The Ralston Creek Country Dancers & Goosetown String Band, July 25, 7:30pm

Penguin's Comedy Club

Clarion Hotel, 525 33rd Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids
www.penguinscomedyclub.com

Check website for showtimes

Maria Bamford, July 9 • Micahel Thorne and Johnny Kavenaugh, July 10-11 • Uncle Larry Reeb and Jamey Stone, July 17-18 • Dwight York and Kristi McHugh, July 24-25 • Alex Ortiz and Matt Holt, July 31-Aug 1

Riverside Theatre

Riverside Festival Stage, City Park

www.riversidetheatre.org

A Midsummer Night's Dream, through July 12 • Richard III, through July 12

Summit Restaurant Comedy Night

10 S. Clinton St, Iowa City

www.thesummitrestaurantandbar.com

Shows start at 9:30pm

Don Reese, Paul Wiese July 8 • Mark Poolos, July 15 • Mark Brody, July 22 • Rob Brackenridge, Jeremy Nunes, July 29

Theatre Cedar Rapids

Lindale Mall, Cedar Rapids

www.theatre.org

Schoolhouse Rocks, July 2-12

UI Performing Arts: Opera

Englert Theatre

www.uiowa.edu/artsiowa

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, July 24-26, 8pm

UI Theatre

www.uiowa.edu/~theatre

Theatre Building, UI Campus

Iowa Summer Rep: The Clean House, July 2, 3, 7, & 10-12 8pm • Dead Man's Cellphone, July 1, 5, 8, 9, & 14-18, 8pm • Eurydice, staged reading, July 19, 2pm

UI International Program

Riverside Festival Stage

international.uiowa.edu

Japanese Bunraku Bay Puppet Troupe, July 18, 5pm

WORDS

Barnes & Noble

Coral Ridge Mall

1451 Coral Ridge Ave., Coralville

Scrabble Night, July 8 • The Writers Workshop, July 9 & 23, 7pm • Coffee and Crime Book Group, July 21, 7pm

Iowa City Book Festival

Gibson Square, UI Main Library

www.iowacitybookfestival.org

All Day Festival, July 18: Iowa Poets Laureate, 10:30am; Iowa Biographical Dictionary, 12:30pm; City of Literature, 2:30pm; Peter Feldstein, 7pm • Poetry on the Patio: Dan Rosenberg and Steven Toussaint, 11am; Francisco Guevara and Margaret Reges, 1pm; Allison Harris and Rebecca Myers, 2:30pm; Bridget Talone and Aeron Kopriva, 4:30pm; Jane Lewty and Eleza Jaegerf, 6pm, July 18

Prairie Lights

15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City

www.prairielightbooks.com

All shows at 7pm unless otherwise noted

Cheeni Rao, July 6 • Stephen Lovely, July 7 • Man Martin, July 9 • Albert Goldbarth, July 10 • Loree Rackstraw, July 13 • David Rhodes, July 14 • Nora Labiner, July 15 • Todd Boss, July 16 • J.C. Hallman, July 17 • Mary Gottschalk, July 20 • Mary Swander, July 21 • Nick Reding, July 22 • Andrea Cohen, July 23

CINEMA

Bijou Theater

Iowa Memorial Union

www.bijoutheater.org

Check website for showtimes

Medicine for Melancholy, July 6-9 • Gomorrah, July 10-16 • Daytime Drinking, July 17-23 • Hunger, July 24-30

Iowa City Book Festival

Gibson Square, UI Main Library

www.iowacitybookfestival.org

Touching Home, Reading and Film Screening, July 18, 4pm

MidWestOne Bank Free Movie Series

Pentacrest, downtown Iowa City

www.summerofthearts.org

All shows begin at sunset

Remember the Titans, July 11 • A League of Their Own, July 18 • Arsenic and Old Lace, July 25

The Picador

330 E. Washington St., Iowa City

www.thepicador.com

Found Footage Film Festival, July 24, 10pm

UI Museum of Natural History

Macbride Hall, UI Campus

www.uiowa.edu/~nathist

Planet Earth: Mountains, July 12, 2pm

KIDS

Barnes & Nobles

Coral Ridge Mall

1451 Coral Ridge Ave., Coralville

Storytime readings at 10am unless otherwise noted
Pets in the Whitehouse, July 3 • Just Ducky, July 7 • Bear Adventures, July 10 • Stories of Bravery, July 14 • Pirate Tales, July 17 • Creature Exploration, July 21 • Otto and Wilbur, July 24 • Fish Tales, July 28 • Garden Stories, July 31

The Iowa Children's Museum

1451 Coral Ridge Ave., Coralville

www.theicm.org

Art Adventures 2pm unless otherwise noted

Felt Friends, July 2 • Independence Day Flags, July 3, 11am • Salt Dough Clay, July 5 • Landscape to Love, July 9 • Finger Knitting, July 11 • Cow Masks, July 14 • Color Wheel, July 16 • Wire Sculpture, July 18 • Tissue Paper Flowers, July 21 • Paper Bag House, July 23 • Make a Time Capsule, July 25 • Wacky Warhol, July 30 • Go Fishing, July 31, 5pm

Iowa City Public Library

Willow Creek Park

www.icpl.org

Stories in the Park, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 10:30am

UI Museum of Natural History

Macbride Hall, UI Campus

www.uiowa.edu/~nathist

Animal Tales Story Time: Alligators and Crocodiles, July 19, 2pm

MISC

Aerohawks Field

Near Landfill, west of Iowa City

Radio Control Aerohawk Air Show, July 12, 1pm

Coralville Farmers Market

Community Center, Coralville

Every Monday and Thursday, 5pm

Herbert Hoover Museum

West Branch

www.nps.gov/heho

Independence Day celebration, July 4, 10am

Iowa City Farmers Market

Chauncey Swan Parking Lot

Wednesday, 5:30pm and Saturdays, 7:30am-noon

PATV

206 Lafayette St. Iowa City

www.patv.tv

The Smartest Iowan game show Wednesdays, contestants needed, email smartestiowan@gmail.com

Non-profits needed to talk on Live & Local Guidelines workshop, July 5th, 2:30pm

U.S. Cellular Center

370 1st Ave NE, Cedar Rapids

www.uscellularcenter.com

Rollergirls: Cedar Rapids vs The Chicago Outfit, July 11, 7pm

Curses, Foiled Again

- When a man ordered a teller at a bank in Winslow Township, N.J., to hand over the money, she locked her cash drawer and walked away. The Philadelphia Daily News reported that the frustrated thief yelled at her, but she ignored him and alerted a co-worker, who activated the silent alarm. The would-be robber left empty-handed.
- Police in Monroe, La., said Clifton C. Wright, 44, tried to buy 50 cell phones from a Minnesota distributor by using a forged cashier's check but aroused suspicion by misspelling "cashier's" as "cahier's." The Monroe News-Star reported the suspect also used the FBI office in Monroe as the delivery address, which is where police apprehended him when he met the delivery truck outside the bureau to intercept the shipment.
- Guards caught Bobby Finley, 20, using bolt cutters to get through the chain-link fence that surrounds the jail in Miller County, Ark. He wasn't escaping, however, but trying to break into the jail to sell drugs and tobacco to prisoners. State Trooper Scott Clark told the Texarkana Gazette the case was the first one he'd worked "where somebody went to so much trouble to remove an obstacle so they could bring contraband into the jail."

Second-Amendment Follies

A 37-year-old security guard in Glendale, Ariz., was getting ready to leave for work, when, according to police official Tara Simonson, he tried to place his gun in a holster in the small of his back and accidentally shot himself in the buttocks.

Incendiary Devices

- A man in his late 50s or early 60s was seriously burned when he used a cordless drill to puncture a spray paint can. Fire officials in Spokane, Wash., told the Spokesman-Review the contents of the pressurized released suddenly, and a spark from the drill ignited a flash fire, which burned the man's face.
- An unidentified man in Sheboygan, Wis., was injured when his garage caught fire after he tried to use a shop vac to siphon gasoline from a boat gas tank and, fire official Joel Daum told the Sheboygan Press, "it must have ignited from a spark." Flames engulfed the garage and caused minor damage to two neighboring garages.

Maryland Getaways

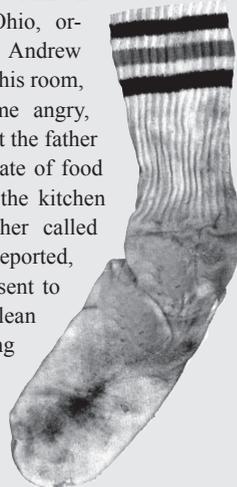
- After the Maryland Zoo opened its new \$500,000 escape-proof prairie-dog habitat, half the rodents inside needed just 10 minutes to figure out how to bypass the aircraft wire,

poured concrete and slick plastic walls. None escaped, zookeepers told the Baltimore Sun, but they managed to find every weakness in the enclosure and jump and climb over the walls, sending workers scrambling to plug escape routes by adjusting the wire fencing and installing more slippery plastic on the walls. "They find all the weak spots and exploit them," zoo chief executive officer Karl Kranz said.

- The day after officials opened the New Beginnings Youth Center in Laurel, Md., hailing the \$45 million juvenile facility as an "anti-prison," devoid of customary razor-wire fencing, an inmate scaled a fence and escaped. He was quickly recaptured, the Washington Post reported, but Vincent N. Schiraldi, director of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, who at first said he would place prickly shrubbery near the fence to discourage further attempts, decided to add razor wire.

Father and Son Disunion

When Andrew Mizsak of Bedford, Ohio, ordered his son, Andrew Jr., to clean up his room, the son became angry, raised his fist at the father and threw a plate of food at him across the kitchen table. The father called police, who reported, "Andrew was sent to his room to clean it. He was crying uncontrollably and stated he would comply." Andrew Mizsak Jr., who lives rent-free with his parents, is 28 and a member of the Bedford School Board. His mother, Paula, is a Bedford councilwoman. Andrew Mizsak Sr. told Cleveland's Plain Dealer he "overreacted" by calling 911 and wouldn't press charges because "I don't want to ruin his political career," but after other school board members heard of the incident, they voted to strip Junior of some of his duties.



because there are too many exceptions. "It is not worth teaching," says the government document "Support for Spelling," which is being sent to thousands of primary schools. Jack Bovill of the Spelling Society, which advocates simplified spelling, said he agreed with the decision, but supporters said the rule has merit because it's one of the few that most people remember.

The Blame Game

- A British Columbia volunteer search-and-rescue unit announced it is suspending service because a lost skier filed a lawsuit blaming it for taking too long to find him and his wife after they got lost in the wilderness. Gilles Blackburn said the Golden and District Search and Rescue (GADSAR), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Kicking Horse Resort didn't do enough to rescue him and Marie-Josée Fortin, 44, who died of hypothermia after seven days, two days before rescuers found them. GADSAR's president, Joel Jackson, said the group wouldn't resume operations until the province provides legal coverage against actions such as Blackburn's.
- District of Columbia Council member Jim Graham blamed neighborhood crime on pizza slices. Acknowledging that pizzerias which stay open until 4:30 a.m. are popular and operating legally, Graham said they nevertheless have become a nuisance "in terms of music, in terms of letting people hang out and also in terms of tolerating a certain level of violence." Graham said he is drafting legislation to crack down on late sales.

Mensa Rejects of the Month

Justin Sleezer and Cameron Chana, both 22, suffered fatal head injuries when they stood up on a double-decker bus as it drove under a highway overpass. The Associated Press reported that the bus was going about 40 mph and that several of the 20 people partying on the upper deck were standing. Witnesses said the two victims were the tallest ones: 6 feet 2 inches and 6 feet 3 inches. "I'm thinking the other taller guys were sitting down," Sleezer's friend, 5-foot-7 Robert Stiles, 22, said, adding, "There was nothing ever said to us about any safety precautions."

Compiled from the nation's press by Roland Sweet. Submit items, citing date and source, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria VA 22306.

Exceptions Disprove the Rule

The British government has directed schoolteachers not to require pupils to learn the spelling rule "i before e, except after c,"

Should we fight back?

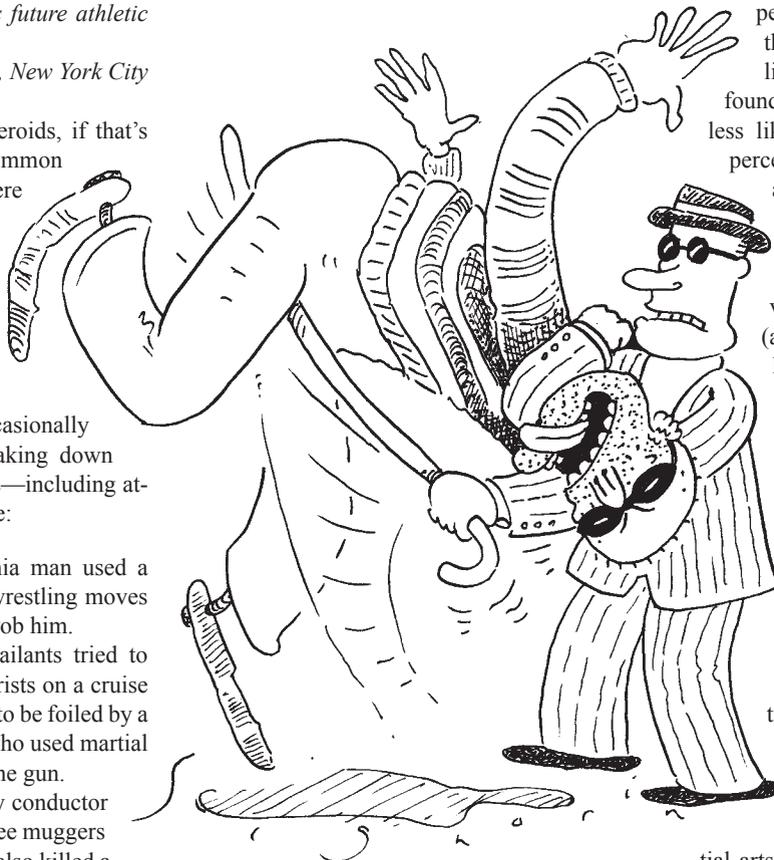
My son just finished a three-month karate class. Last night he asked me if karate really would help someone defeat a larger, stronger opponent. I told him I honestly never heard of anyone using any martial art to win a fight outside of a movie. You would think here in New York, with so many muggings (at least at one time) and other violent crimes, there would be stories of people using martial arts to defend themselves. But all we got is Bernie Goetz, and he had a gun. So in all of recorded history, has a skinny black belt ever beaten up a beefy weightlifter? My son's future athletic choices may depend on it.

—Patrick Castillo, New York City

Well, I'd keep him off the steroids, if that's what you're asking. Also, common experience suggests that where big vs. small is concerned, you don't necessarily want to bet the rent on Goliath. Granted, David wasn't using karate, and there's no question the introduction of firearms into the situation tends to skew the odds. Nonetheless you do occasionally hear of martial arts adepts taking down attackers with their bare hands—including attackers with guns. For example:

- In 1996 a blind Philadelphia man used a combo of martial arts and wrestling moves to kill a guy who'd tried to rob him.
- In 2007, three masked assailants tried to hold up a group of U.S. tourists on a cruise stopover in Costa Rica only to be foiled by a military veteran in his 70s who used martial arts to kill the chump with the gun.
- In 2008 a New York subway conductor with a black belt took on three muggers and won. Unfortunately, he also killed a good Samaritan who tried to help out.
- In 2008 an ex-firefighter trained in an American martial art called bojuka subdued a neighbor who pulled a .45 on him by smashing the gun butt repeatedly into the guy's head.
- In 1989 a blind man was forced to use his martial arts training to defend himself from police who attacked him when they mistook his folded cane for a set of nunchucks.

OK, the last fellow lost his fight, and yes, he's not much of an argument for the usefulness of martial arts training in staying out of trouble. However, the more interesting observation is that, of the cases I dug up, 60 percent of those who used martial arts to smack down an attacker (even if only temporarily) were blind or elderly. Sure, maybe only the man-bites-dog cases find their way into news accounts. But it's tempting to say blind and/or elderly + martial arts training = decent chance of kicked bad-guy ass.



Generalizing from anecdotes is a temptation we need to resist, of course. But there isn't much else to go on. My assistants Una and Gfactor couldn't find any reliable studies in the last 30 years on the benefit of martial arts training in combat situations. For what it's worth, though, research on the more fundamental question of whether crime victims should fight back suggests that resistance, far from being futile, may do you some good:

- A recent ten-year study of attacks on women (733 rapes, 1,278 sexual assaults, and 12,235 general assaults) found that on the one hand, resisting an attempted rape lowered the odds of the perp completing the act by nearly two-thirds. But on the other, it slightly increased the odds of injury and doubled the chance of serious injury.
- A study of 3,206 assaults against women between 1992 and 1995 showed that women who fought back early in the attack were half as likely to be injured, and 75 percent of women queried reported that fighting back helped. An earlier study using data from the 70s found that women who resisted had less likelihood of being raped and 86 percent sustained no serious injury as a result—which, I suppose, means 14 percent did sustain serious injury.

Another ten-year study of victim response in 27,595 crimes (assault, sexual assault, robbery, larceny, and burglary) showed across the board that resisting resulted in less injury than not resisting. Similarly, studies have found that resisting reduces the likelihood of an attempted crime succeeding. For example, the chance of a would-be robber pulling it off drops somewhere between 20 and 48 percent.

These conclusions remain controversial, and nobody's saying a kid with three months of karate classes is equipped to fend off a determined mugger.

The main advantages of martial arts training are the same as for any sport—physical fitness and increased confidence. However, to the extent it encourages your son to be more aware of his surroundings and think how he'd respond if bad things were to happen . . . well, that's a useful life skill for plenty of venues, not just the street.

—CECIL ADAMS

Comments, questions? Take it up with Cecil on the Straight Dope Message Board, straightdope.com, or write him at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago 60611.

ASTROLOGY FORECAST FOR JULY 2009

FOR EVERYONE—Take it one step at a time. This is another month when psychological changes outweigh and complicate concrete changes. The planets are breaking up old personal patterns and releasing new potentials, leaving us a little dazed and confused in the process. These processes will conflict with our social and romantic lives as outer events lag behind inner ones. Unexpected events will remove some options and create new ones, adding to the confusion. More big changes are due by year's end. Generally, we are urged to look beyond our own individual lives and our immediate plans. Progress in financial areas could slow a bit. July will continue the pace of disturbing and sometimes weird headlines.

 **ARIES**—Bend in the road. Your home and professional life are about to change significantly. Your financial expectations, especially where a loved one is concerned, need to be altered because of a healing process. These changes will harmonize well with the needs of family, friends and others who depend on you. However, all the changes, even those you consider minor and/or temporary, will be deeper and more lasting than you realize. People in your neighborhood and community will be surprisingly helpful as you seek a more relaxed and healthful lifestyle.

 **TAURUS**—Reality check. You need to be more realistic about what you (or anyone else) can do in a day. Maybe the stressful winter left you tired, or the flu hit you harder than usual. Maybe the years are starting to show. This is not a temporary thing. You need to take much more time out for yourself from now on. If others demand your services, ask for more money. Expect changes at work and at home. Options will soon be fewer but more realistic. A financial boost is due.

 **GEMINI**—Remain civil and reasonable. Discussions about financial or work-related issues could bring sharp words and bruised feelings. Don't let volatile emotions guide actions or words in July. It isn't worth risking valued work relationships or straining family bonds. Channel strong feelings into a firm resolve to work through the issues patiently. Let sober reason make the choices. Your planetary safety net is firmly in place and events will soon simplify your economic choices and clear away deadwood. The needs of people at a distance could be weighing on you.

 **CANCER**—Be a mediator. Detachment will help you avoid emotional overload and help you function effectively. Others look to you for emotional guidance and leadership. People are nervous as changes are implemented, with rumors of more changes to come. Your friends' needs are important, but change is also necessary. Open a dialogue. Things aren't as bad as people fear. Those in authority can't make any big moves yet and there are more options than people realize. Surprise events will soon bring greater clarity, removing unrealistic options and clearing obstacles to progress.

 **LEO**—Be supportive. There is a tide in human affairs and it is now turning, causing upsets and delay all around. Leo doesn't have much leverage over events for the moment. Your personal influence over events will rebound in September. Providing emotional support to those in need is your most important role this month. July will bring inner renewal for Leo, too. Old fears and anxieties will lift. Power struggles behind the scenes will have surprising and encouraging outcomes. The emotional needs of others might thwart romantic plans.

 **VIRGO**—Time for a rethink? You're not sure you like the changes taking place. But you aren't sure you want to fight them either. Complexities are increasing on the job. You're in a safe spot, but it will take work to overcome barriers to further progress. Your ambitions sometimes seem at odds with reality. Unexpected events will soon clarify your situation and open new doors. Still, it's probably good to pause and look at the big picture. It could be time for a course correction. Pressures will ease and energy increase by Thanksgiving.

 **LIBRA**—Shifting priorities. Conflicts and sudden changes will change the way you see the present and future. You will become aware of wider possibilities that put present worries in perspective. The trick is to develop new opportunities without putting existing arrangements at risk. Unexpected events will help free you up some to pursue these new possibilities. Complications in the lives of friends or loved ones could frustrate romance. You might need to shift romantic inclinations into more practical and helpful channels. A cycle of challenge and decision begins as the year ends.

 **SCORPIO**—New self-image. Your expanding roots in the community and developments in your intellectual and spiritual life will come together in new and unexpected ways. They will redefine your identity, changing the way people think of you. Outdated ideas about who you are will drop away. The need for healing among family members will trigger a shift in the tone of key relationships. Romantic, playful impulses must give way to more thoughtful and responsible inclinations. Protective and supportive forces are helping with July's most difficult challenges, especially those affecting the home.

 **SAGITTARIUS**—Patience. Haste in sorting out a stalled financial situation will take you around in circles. These issues need extensive discussion and care. Unexpected events will redirect efforts in more realistic and promising directions. In a few months things will start moving forward on their own, ending suspenseful delays. Pressures will ease more by November. The need to recover from recent strains could put a damper on your love life. Helping others adjust to change will turn out to be more important. Don't worry excessively. Your situation is surprisingly resistant to mishap.

 **CAPRICORN**—Balancing act. It's tough to be realistic and optimistic at the same time, to maintain order in the ranks while making needed changes and guessing at the unknowns. You'll need to show self-discipline and leadership. But the emergence of a new you will help. People will see you differently as old ideas of who you are suddenly drop away and a new you appears. Imminent changes will bring a healthier and more fulfilling lifestyle and more time for loved ones. Your influence over events will increase as summer winds down.

 **AQUARIUS**—Not yet. You are experiencing inner changes. But now isn't the time to make outward changes. Your new self isn't quite ready to emerge. Late summer would be a better time to start outer lifestyle changes. It would be good to keep existing romantic ties for all kinds of reasons. But with everything you are working through, you need more privacy and personal space. So keep your home base to yourself, for now. It's good to share your life with romantic partners, but you need your space at home.

 **PISCES**—Take it slow. The planets are stirring up a lot of stuff. Psychological barriers and limitations are breaking down. A new world of possibilities is opening up. Relations with your community are shifting dramatically. You need to save time and energy to work through the important changes now taking place in your own life. If you are drawn to someone socially or romantically, keep it light. There are many layers of complexity you can't see yet. And a whole new cycle of growth and expansion will begin by year's end.

You're reading this.
(so are 10,000 other people)

Custom ads on the Astrology Section. Ads@LittleVillageMag.com or 319-331-0791

little village
Iowa City's News & Culture Magazine

TOYOTA-SCION OF IOWA CITY

JAZZ FESTIVAL 2009

JULY 3-5, 2009
DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY
ADMISSION FREE
4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS!
WWW.SUMMEROFHEARTS.ORG

DAVE HOLLAND QUINTET
BILL FRISELL QUARTET
DAVID SANCHEZ QUARTET
LIONEL LOEKE TRIO
CHRIS POTTER'S UNDERGROUND
TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE
ORQUESTA ALTO MAIZ
THE DES MOINES BIG BAND
BOB LEVY & THE J.O. TRIO
DIPLOMATS OF SOLID SOUND
UNITED JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Mediacom



CORRIDOR BUZZ

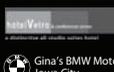


TOYOTA-SCION OF IOWA CITY

PRESENTING SPONSORS



OPERATIONAL SPONSORS



MEDIA SPONSORS

