

LITTLE VILLAGE

ISSUE
200



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Photo by Adam Burke

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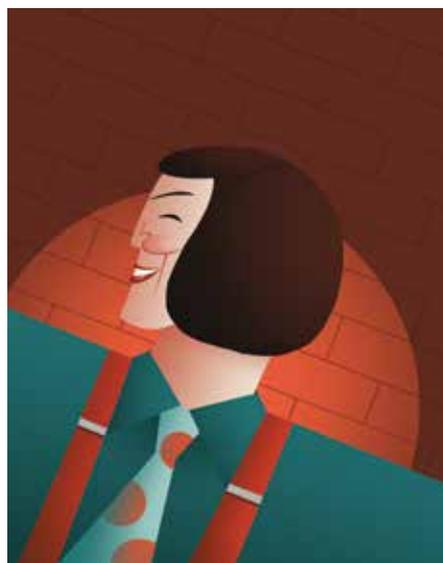
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What does a building closure mean for the Barber Shop and its staff?

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A FOND FAREWELL

A bittersweet remembrance as Benjamin Chait prepares to retire.



Paula Poundstone

by Benjamin Mackey

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Little Village is an independent, community-supported news and culture publication based in Iowa City. Through journalism, essays and events, we work to improve our community in the Iowa City, Coralville and Cedar Rapids area according to a few core values: environmental sustainability, affordability and access, economic and labor justice, racial justice, gender equity, quality healthcare, quality education and critical culture.

Letters to the editor(s) are always welcome; we reserve the right to fact check and edit for length and clarity. Please send letters, comments or corrections to editor@littlevillagemag.com. *Little Village* is always free; all contents are the licensed work of the contributor and of the publication. If you would like to reprint or collaborate on new content, reach us at lv@littlevillagemag.com. To browse back issues, visit us at 623 S. Dubuque Street, Iowa City, or online at issuu.com/littlevillage. Main: (319) 855-1474.

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HUMAN HAPPINESS

Paula Poundstone ties her life together, unscientifically.

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STOP RIGHT HERE, FUTURE READER

READER FRIEND! HOW'S IT GOING? Are we speaking now across days? Months? Centuries? Either way, as always, you have been tirelessly, furiously, gracefully, marvelously, rather attractively, actually, intrepid in your search. You stay on point, you stay in the know. You are like the walking embodiment of what is next. You read and you use your brain and that is hot.

You've been going through all kinds of cultural data, on myriad devices. Some of the media was created minutes ago, others, I don't know. Longer. You read it all. But you have to stop. Stop here, stop now, for what you have found is a significant artifact. This is the real stuff, not the usz—this is the 200th issue of *Little Village*! Whaaa? Yeah!

As a history buff, you know print media died many, many years ago. So, consider this a kind of forbidden thing. A secret object? More of a magical gateway. Through it, you can learn of the efforts, expressions and reflections of a people. A community that is itself, like this object, like you, the sum of its past and the seed of its future. Breathe it in, future reader, breathe it out. It's real. It's now.

By the existence of this object you can infer a few things about the world it came from. It came from a mysterious place that overflowed with research, expression and deeply invested efforts. A world that still had trees. (Please recycle.) The truth is it came from a place in time that many people, ourselves included, didn't always think would be possible 15 years ago when issue number one came out.

Future reader, we love you. We love you 200 times. We're doing our best for you because we know that if we do, we'll get to love you 200 more. That's our greatest wish. If you want to tell us yours, we're always listening at Editor@LittleVillageMag.com. Until then, thank you for giving us a read.

—*Little Village*



IN THE JUNE 7 COUNTY SUPERVISOR PRIMARY I am voting for Kurt Friese and Jason Lewis. They are the only candidates for County Supervisor who have made the commitment to stop urban sprawl by shrinking or eliminating residential development in the North Corridor Development Area.

Next year, the county Land Use Plan will be reviewed, and electing Friese and Lewis will make 3 votes on the Board to protect farmland, save county money, reduce carbon emissions and grow sustainably from our cities outward.

Friese and Lewis have also demonstrated leadership on other issues that make them worthy of your votes. Kurt Friese, the owner of Devotay restaurant, understands the need to protect farmland because he has been an advocate for small farm food production across Iowa and America. He also wants to increase access to mental health care, promote affordable housing and foster civil governance.

Jason Lewis, the director of the Writing and Humanities Program at the UI Carver College of Medicine, also has extensive experience with foster care and adopted children. He wants to expand the county's efforts in juvenile justice programs, create an arts center for youth and expand fair affordable housing in the county.

Join me in voting for Kurt Friese and Jason Lewis for County Supervisor June 7.

—Tom Carsner

OBAMA'S VISION FOR A NUCLEAR FREE WORLD

These days, it feels like we're constantly bombarded with tragic news, terrorism, toxic waste spills, cyber attacks—you name it. As a millennial, these sort of events are all I really know of the world, thanks to the internet. But as I scroll between depressing headlines on Facebook, I imagine how those stories would change if I put the word "nuclear" in the title: nuclear terrorism, nuclear waste spill and nuclear cyber attack. With over 15,000 nuclear weapons in the world today, the nuclear threat is what we need to be worrying about.

The future doesn't have to be filled with more tragic events. We still have the opportunity to prevent nuclear war and nuclear terrorism, by eliminating all nuclear weapons everywhere.

Last week, President Obama became the first sitting president to visit Hiroshima, where, 71 years ago, the United States first used a nuclear weapon. He's said nice words about eliminating nuclear weapons before; in 2009, President Obama laid out a vision for a world without nuclear weapons during a speech in Prague, winning a Nobel Peace Prize in the process. Since then, Obama has unfortunately done little to act on this vision, his proposed \$1 trillion budget strictly for modernizing the US nuclear arsenal being a huge step in the wrong direction.

The future doesn't have to be filled with more tragic events. We still have the opportunity to prevent nuclear war and nuclear terrorism, by eliminating all nuclear weapons everywhere. If President Obama is still serious about this, now is the time to act. **iv**

—Brittany Kimzey
Intern at Global Zero

Iowa City named to "Drunkest Towns" list

"We need to step up our game!!" —*Bridget Malone*

"Not surprised by Wisconsin's dominance. Half the population is probably drinking an old fashioned right now." —*Tim Rask*

"Brag Iowa?" —*Joshua Whetstone*

"Salud!!" —*Pat McArtor*

"It's really pretty awful to deal with most of the time." —*Julie Van Dyke*

Givanni's to become El Patrón Mexican Kitchen and Tequila Bar

"Crap. I knew something was up. When I inquired by email on the Givanni's website, they assured me it was just a little remodeling and that they would be back. We already have enough terrific Mexican restaurants, but fewer and fewer decent Italian places." —*Lindsay Alan Park*

"A well-done tequila bar (classy, catering to the non-student crowd) could be a nice addition. Holding out hopes for this place being something extra special." —*Andrea Wilson*

"Will be interesting to see El Patron slug it out with Saloon, directly across the Ped Mall. I'll be at Bandito's." —*Susan Shullaw*

Letter to the Editor: Breaking down Harreld's skewed perception of hate speech

"Bruce "Train Wreck" Harreld needs to go. The joke has gone on long enough." —*John*

"Every time someone says they hate Kraft Macaroni & Cheese, President Harreld dies a little more inside." —*Justin Haines*

Charm map ranks Iowa City in top 20 college towns

"Charming rents too, no doubt." —*Lindsay Alan Park*

French-inspired Chinese bakery and tea shop opens on Linn Street

“THIS IS DANGEROUS.” —Andrew Leonard

“This is dank.” —Robert Flanagan

“You lucky, lucky people.” —Margaret Thomas

Delays loom ahead for Iowa Bakken pipeline

“Such a shame (that we can’t continue our backwards-reach for antiquated fuel sources).” —Wal Williams

“What would you propose we use to fuel our economy ... particularly transportation of goods?” —Jeff Pierce

Photos from FlyOver Fashion Fest

“It was fabulous!!!!” —Nancy Hedges Mahany

“We have some talent here!” —Tiffany Paxton

“She looks fierce. Slaying!!” —Queen-Mary Ajuwon

Literary lamentations: State budget cuts lead to loss of librarians in Cedar Rapids

“It was a tremendously difficult decision to make a cut like this. But after years of cutting core classroom teachers (we are down around 15 from where we were five years ago), I had to look outside of the classroom to sustain these cuts.

“My hope is that state funding, which is driving the continued cuts, is returned to appropriate levels. Kennedy is not facing declining enrollment, quite the opposite, and yet our staff is smaller than it has been in many, many years. We are committed to returning a media specialist back in our IMC when I am given the opportunity to add staff back into our school.” —Jason Kline, Kennedy HS principal

SULLIVAN

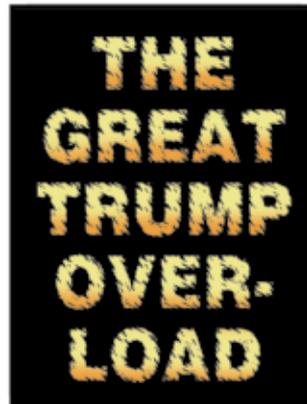
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FOR SUPERVISOR

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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SET ADRIFT

Flood construction may mean the end for a Coralville bar, and an uncertain future for its employees. • BY MATTHEW BYRD



This summer marks the eighth anniversary of the Iowa Flood of 2008. However, the flood, which left parts of the University of Iowa campus underwater and left \$64 billion in property damage all told, is still not done leaving a toll on the Johnson County community. It's latest victim: the Bar'ber Shop Tavern.

The Bar'ber Shop, a small bar and grill at 218 1st Avenue in Coralville, had been humming along smoothly until early March when owner Daniel Dickel received some bad news: "We were informed by the owner of [our] building that [the City of Coralville] had determined that the building wouldn't be able to structurally withstand putting the floodwall in behind us here at Clear Creek which is the last stage of the flood mitigation ... So they told us, 'The building's going to get taken down and you guys are going to have to move out.' So, not a good day at all," Dickel said.

According to Coralville City Attorney Kevin Olson, a confluence of factors have doomed the Bar'ber Shop's building, including the inability of the building to withstand the construction of a subdrain and the necessary drilling underneath the building for the construction of a floodwall along with a 1966 public sanitary sewer that needs to be replaced.

Fortunately, the City of Coralville is not leaving Dickel out entirely in the cold. Because the Bar'ber Shop was put out of business by a public project, compensation is provided under the terms of the Uniform Act, a 1970 federal law which, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), ensures "minimum standards for federally funded programs and projects that require the acquisition of real property (real estate) or displace persons from their homes, businesses or farms."

Because of this law, according to Kevin Olson, "Each tenant [including Mr. Dickel]

FLOOD ZONE A Coralville flood wall will force the closure of The Bar'Ber Shop Tavern. Photo by Adam Burke

will get an allocation for what their leasehold interest is and, if they chose to relocate, they will get relocation costs compensated for by the City." Dickel's employees, however, are not so lucky; as Olson explains, "Labor costs are an 'ineligible expense' under the federal law, so the employees cannot be compensated for losing their jobs."

"If we can do anything good out of this situation it's to let people know that the laws in the state of Iowa are really bad for the employees in situations like this," Dickel says. And even Dickel himself is in a precarious position, as he still doesn't know, three weeks from his closing date, how much the City of Coralville can provide him in compensation, so he can't make plans for the future of the business.

This has left many of the Bar'ber Shop's

employees, who were only told about the closing a few weeks ago, in something of a limbo. Employee Kendra Strobel observed that, "Everyone here, as far as I know, hasn't

can't pay out to employees."

In response to these uncertainties, Dickel, his employees and fans of the Bar'ber Shop have taken to the Internet to try to raise funds

four-course dinner with beer pairing on June 5th. In addition, t-shirts and other merchandise are being sold on the Bar'ber Shop's website.

"We're reaching out, we're hoping to get a little bit of awareness and get people to realize 'Hey, this isn't right, things shouldn't go like this.'" Dickel says, arguing, "If a municipality terminates people's jobs, they should be compensated in some manner by the state or government. We shouldn't just be putting citizens out of work and then do nothing."

Employees like Kendra are hoping that the community that has grown centered around The Bar'ber Shop will, in a way, come to the rescue. "The people who come in here are just the most amazing customers. They're so chill and relaxed and they always have a great attitude. It's just a happy place to be." **lv**

Matthew Byrd, originally from Chicago, is currently a writer and proud resident of the People's Republic of Johnson County. Angry screeds should be sent to dibyrdie@gmail.com.

"If a municipality terminates people's jobs, they should be compensated in some manner by the state or government."

—Daniel Dickel

looked for any other jobs because they want to stick around to the end and it's hard to know that you're not going to have a job in three weeks and to be thinking 'What are you going to do?' Everybody's kind of bummed and nobody really wants to leave."

"I understand it's not a good situation for the tenants," Olson says, "but unfortunately that's one of the provisions of the law that we

for the business and it's employees in this time of transition. They've recently set up an account on GoFundMe (gofundme.com/barbershopstaff), for people to donate to the employees. There will also be several events over the coming weeks with 100% of the proceeds going to Bar'ber Shop employees, including a benefit show on June 12 at the Tavern with house band "New Tribe" and a

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| 10/11-16 | <i>The Book of Mormon</i> |
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| 11/11 | Chucho Valdés Joe Lovano Quintet |
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| 12/6 | Emanuel Ax |
| 12/9 | Asleep at the Wheel, <i>Merry Texas Christmas Y'all!</i> |
| 1/20 | The Cleveland Orchestra |
| 1/27 | Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion |
| 1/31-2/5 | <i>The Sound of Music</i> |
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| 2/11 | The Ying Quartet with Billy Childs |
| 2/16 | Tanya Tagaq in concert with <i>Nanook of the North</i> |
| 2/25-26 | <i>MAMMA MIA!</i> |
| 3/3-4 | Circus Oz |
| 3/5 | Yo-Yo Ma |
| 3/9 | Las Cafeteras |
| 3/23 | Jessica Lang Dance |
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Chait Galleries, May 2003



THE SOHO BETWEEN SODO AND NODO

An Iowa City institution closes its doors in retirement. • BY ANNA HAGLIN

As Chait Galleries prepares to close on June 15, everyone is asking the same question: Where will we go now? For 14 years, Chait has been the place to see art and where local artists could be seen in downtown Iowa City. Chait Galleries have shown over 1,000 local, national and international artists during their tenure. When founder Benjamin Chait talks about his upcoming retirement with the community, he says, “Most people worry that there’s nowhere else to see visual art.”

Our City of Literature has seen lulls in the visual arts scene before. In 2003, Benjamin and Terri Chait committed themselves to a space that would fill that culture gap.

compare us to galleries in SoHo,” says Benjamin. Paint your walls white, add good lighting, a pedestal here and there and poof—you’re in a fancy gallery.

Benjamin Chait believes there’s a lot of luck involved in running a business in Iowa City. For him, real estate and business require “just a little bit of magic (or sometimes a lot); often serendipity [plays] a large part.”

He and Terri have concocted a working spell for artist and customer relations: “My commitment has always been for them to have a positive, professional, respectful relationship with our gallery,” says Benjamin, who I watched delicately unpin a nametag from the breast pocket of the six-foot-five mountain of an artist, Brian Parr, during an

opening. Five minutes earlier, a staffer had brought me a brownie, saying, “I thought you might want one before I put them away.” Yes, please, and thank you.

This is when you know you’re

“People who love the visual arts need to support the places where it is available”

—Terri Miller Chait

Benjamin cites the 1883 building as aesthetic inspiration: “For me, it is all about the environment.” Chait’s sense of place developed during his time as an architect—his specialty when he moved to Iowa City in the ’70s.

Chait bought the gallery building in 1983 and opened the only locally-owned video rental store at the time; definitely the one with the best name: “That’s Rentertainment!” In 2003, Chait bought a nearby building, moved the video business to an adjacent property and sold it to an employee.

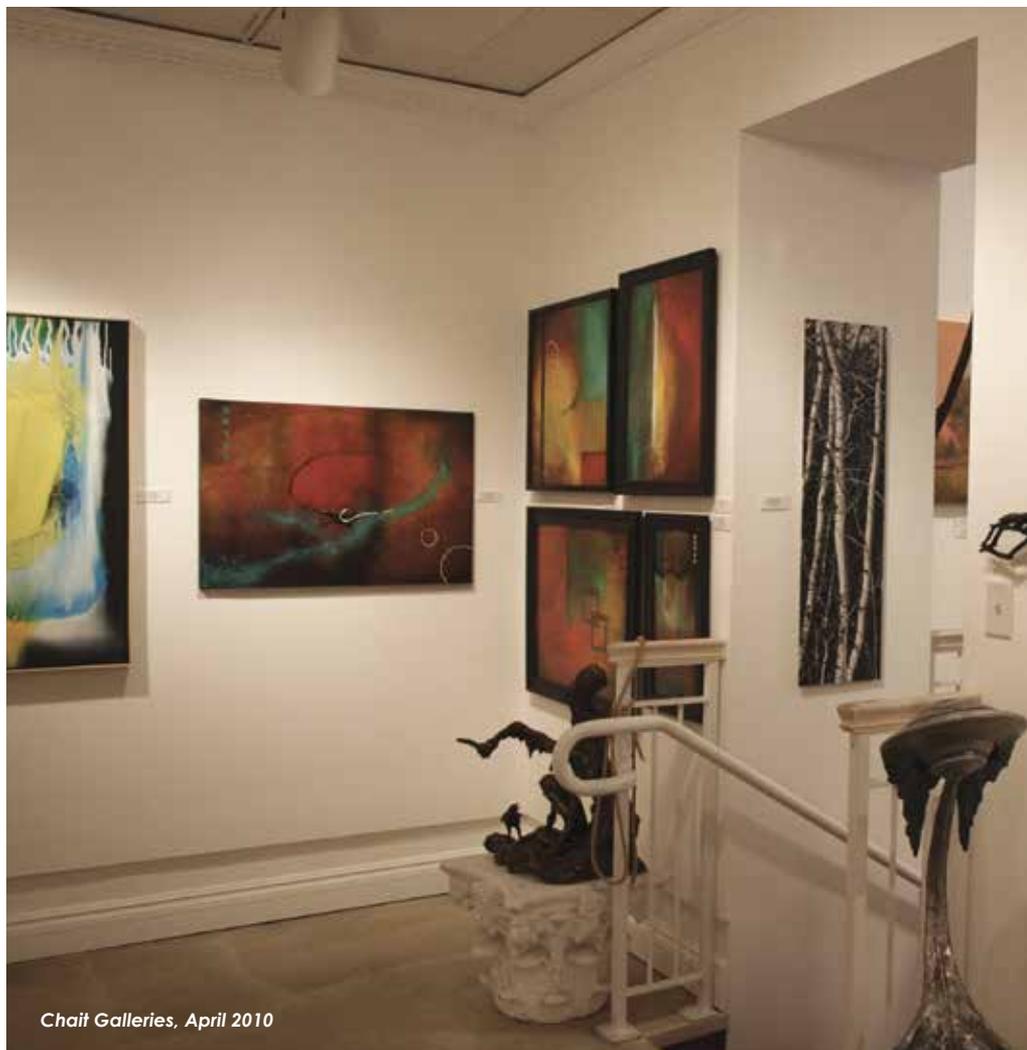
Also in 2003, Terri and Benjamin did a stylistic 180, renovating 218 E. Washington so that the ceilings were higher and the wood floors shone. Chait was realizing a dream of owning a fine arts gallery. Now, “People

not in SOHO anymore. The walls might be white, but the atmosphere is warm and inviting. “The mission of the Chait Galleries has always been to make the visual arts accessible to everyone,” says Terri Miller Chait, who does most of the marketing and outreach.

A few renowned artists have been shown at Chait—notably Warhol and Bogenrief—but Iowa City will sorely miss Chait’s art demos, presence at Arts Fest and annual high school juried art show. Chait Galleries even “hosted an erotic art discussion forum and exhibit several years ago, incorporating visual art and tattoo artists who had also mastered body painting, [as well as] local dance and theater groups,” says Terri, who also values the performing arts.



Chait Galleries, Aug. 2004



Chait Galleries, April 2010

FINAL RETROSPECTIVE: BENJAMIN CHAIT

**Opening reception for the sixth
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Photos courtesy of Benjamin Chait

Some familiar spaces come up when you ask Chait's artists where they will show downtown. Metal artist Louise Rauh said that the Iowa Artisans Gallery has been a great place to see primarily functional art. Terri Chait names "the Gallery Walk participants, Public Space One and the banks that host children's and high school shows." She also sees a good deal of potential in the

ArtiFactory, which is run by the 501(c)(3) non-profit, Arts Iowa City. ArtiFactory is currently a series of programs bringing artistic learning opportunities to Iowa City. For now, their events happen in local businesses that donate space and time. A community arts center is included in plans for the proposed Riverfront Crossing District, though the project still requires funds and community input. Terri voiced a couple of concerns about Iowa City's artistic future: "Few local publications seem to find information about the visual arts relevant to their mission ... and with the recent vote from the City Council not to help finance the fund raising for the Balmond ped mall project, the visual arts took another blow."

Chait has hosted a spring-long program that can help you recover from this blow, and from the fact that Chait Galleries is closing. Their six part Retrospective Series has featured work by 28 different artists. The series will culminate in a final show featuring Benjamin Chait's art. One of his initial goals in opening the galleries was to have a venue



for his “Wall-Architecture”—pieces that use both 2D and 3D surface to play with a viewer’s sense of depth and space. However, the work to be shown at his June 3 opening is photographic—he now digitally prints his Midwestern landscapes onto canvas.

This is what you will find Benjamin Chait doing after June 15. In retirement, he looks forward to spending more time in his studio. In addition, both of the Chaits are excited to babysit their 18-month-old grandson, Gavin, who attended the most recent opening in footy pajamas. As for what the public can do when the Chaits retire, Terri advises that “people who love the visual arts need to support the places where it is available, for otherwise these places will slowly die away.” **IV**

Anna is a artist, teacher, and writer by day, and a treasure hunter and podcast fiend by night. She has worked at small presses on both coasts, but returned to the midwest because: the prairie. Anna will graduate from the University of Iowa with an MFA in print-making in 2017.

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LV RECOMMENDS

BLACK SHEEP SOCIAL CLUB

600 1st St SE, Cedar Rapids

Photo by Craig Cone



When Black Sheep Social Club recommends reservations, they aren't kidding. The new Cedar Rapids restaurant hummed over the lunch hour on a recent Tuesday. Located in the former Great Furniture Mart building on First Street downtown, the social club opened for business Apr. 19 and has generated plenty of conversation among the city's foodies.

The open floor plan and industrial décor work well in a space once used as a grain and spice warehouse. The lunch menu offers an eclectic selection of appetizers, soup, salads and sandwiches. Evening diners will find the

dinner menu similar, but with the addition of several entrées.

After perusing the amazing cocktail/beer/wine list, I worked to narrow down the lunch options; they all sounded interesting. The twists on classic fare and unusual combinations appealed to me. As the restaurant's website explains: "Black sheep do things just a little bit differently, an attitude we've taken since the inception of the restaurant." This philosophy is certainly evident in the menu featuring ingredients sourced from local and responsible growers.

Rave reviews of the Duck Fat Fries pepper the Black Sheep Social Club's Facebook

DID YOU KNOW?

The landmark Great Furniture Mart building, which now houses Black Sheep Social Club, was erected by the John Blaul's Sons Company and recently celebrated its centennial.

page. I hate to be a follower—I have to read a book *before* it becomes a bestseller or I don't read it at all—but something the menu describes as "Yukon Gold potatoes double-fried in duck fat. Gruyere cheese. Black Sheep bacon. garlic scape. black salt. tomato jam. chicory aioli" cannot possibly be wrong.

And it's not wrong. It is so, so right. My husband was in the bathroom when the appetizer arrived. I was close to diving in without him, but good manners prevailed. The minute he sat back down, it was on. I can usually take or leave French fries, but these—*wow*. The melted Gruyere with the best bacon I've ever tasted was an astonishing combination. If the side of chicory aioli had been bigger, I would have eaten it with a spoon.

The salad I selected as my entrée was light after the heavy appetizer, but still filling. It featured smoked salmon, pickled pears (unexpectedly amazing), tomatoes and sweet peppers over spinach and chives, finished with a Black Sheep bacon vinaigrette. I added a slow-poached egg, a nice complement to the smoky fish. Two crostini with a cheesy smoked salmon spread completed the presentation.

I look forward to returning to Black Sheep Social Club in the evening to sample more of their delicious food, but I will order the Duck Fat Fries again. **lv**

—Susan Bednar Blind

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DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY

BEER OF THE MONTH: JUNE REUNION LAGER

ReUnion Brewery, 516 2nd St., Coralville

Lager gets a bad rap. Commonly associated with the macro pilsners stacked ceiling-high in walk-in coolers across the nation, lager is panned by many craft beer enthusiasts as boring and simple, worthy only for the unenlightened to drink from plastic cups. Sure, it is simple, but dismissing it overlooks the fact the lagers being brewed at your local microbrewery—as opposed to those less flavorful versions from Milwaukee and St. Louis—are often clean, crisp, complex and delicious. In other words, amazing.

Once such amazing, local, microbrewed lager is being brewed on the Coralville strip—the ReUnion Brewery’s ReUnion Lager.

ReUnion Lager is a German-style helles. (It was originally called ReUnion Helles but was recently rebranded.) ReUnion brewer Logan DePover said it is brewed with all-German ingredients: German pilsner malt, Magnum and Tettnang hops and yeast from Weihenstephaner, a brewery in Bavaria that is the oldest continuously operating brewery in the world. Crisp, flavorful and easy drinking, DePover said ReUnion Lager is an everyday-drinking beer. In fact, he said it is go-to beer after a long day at work.

ReUnion Lager is clear, clean gold in color. The aroma is fruity but crisp, with scents of pale malt and herbal hops. The flavor has a nice, herbal bite. It is like the first beer you ever tried—only thousands of times better. There are grassy notes in both the aroma and flavor. It features a light toastiness and light fruit (mostly reminiscent of strawberry and maybe apple), and has a spicy, herbal bitterness that lingers on the taste buds.

ALCOHOL CONTENT: 5 percent ABV.

FOOD PAIRINGS: DePover said the style is very versatile and pairs well with just about anything, except desserts. It does not drown lighter flavors and provides a pleasing contrast to more robust dishes.

WHERE TO BUY: ReUnion Lager is always on tap at the ReUnion Brewery (516 2nd Street, Coralville). DePover said it has also been on tap at Micky’s Irish Pub, Mondo’s Saloon, Joseph’s Steakhouse, Bread Garden Market, Share, The Englert, Devotay, Forbidden Planet and the Coralville Kum & Go, so look for it at those locations.

PRICE: A 12-ounce pint at the ReUnion Brewery costs \$5 and a 21-ounce pour into a “Willi” glass is \$6. ReUnion growlers can be bought and filled for \$20; any growler can be refilled for \$15. **lv**

—Casey Wagner



Photo by Adam Burke

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immersed in nature's splendor, then you're in luck. This travel recharger has two USB ports so you can charge your phone or your tablet or both at the same time. It's pretty much completely waterproof; I watched a Youtube video of some guy dunking it in water. The device itself charges via USB or solar panel, which is sweet—the only bummer is that the solar panel is sold separately.



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—Tim Taranto

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Product photos by Jordan Sellergren & Tim Taranto. Background photo by Dawn Frary.



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TALKING MOVIES

ISLAND LIFE

Two films, one fresh at FilmScene, seek emotional rescue and explore isolation. • BY WARREN SPROUSE



In 2010, Judith Scharansky, a graphic designer who grew up in East Germany and was thus restricted in her ability to travel abroad, published a book called

Atlas of Remote Islands: 50 Islands I Have Never Set Foot on and Never Will. In this small but entertaining volume, she reminds us that “paradise is an island. So is hell.” Modern movie directors, when setting films in island locales, seem to have borne her words in mind. Luca Guadagnino’s *A Bigger Splash*, currently at FilmScene, and Keneto Shindo’s *The Naked Island*, recently re-released by Criterion, for instance, take both parts of Scharansky’s dichotomy to heart.

As summer approaches, you might be in the mood to watch good English-language actors take their clothes off and frolic in the Italian sun. If so, then *A Bigger Splash* is the film for you. Marianne Lane (Tilda Swinton) is a stadium-level rock star whose stage costume was stolen from David Bowie’s closet and who at the opening of the film is recovering from throat surgery; she and her flawless hairstyle are relaxing with boyfriend Paul (played by Matthias Schoenaerts) on Pantelleria, an island roughly halfway between Tunisia and the west coast of Sicily. Into her recuperative idyll explode the flamboyantly manic record producer and former lover, Harry (Ralph Fiennes in an indelible performance) and his recently and somewhat mysteriously discovered daughter, Penelope (played by the sultry Dakota Johnson). Trouble is clearly in store.

Though Harry’s arrival is ostensibly coincidental, he is clearly there with an agenda, one which involves barely subdued emotions and also seems to involve his daughter and her mysterious past. As the siroccos build and the whipsnakes appear, the dramatic and emotional tensions rise. The title track from the Rolling Stones’ 1980 release *Emotional Rescue* forms an ironic soundtrack to the film, in which we see very little emotional rescue of any kind, and Ralph Fiennes does a

PARADISE IS AN ISLAND. So is hell. Luca Guadagnino’s *A Bigger Splash* (above), now playing at FilmScene, and Keneto Shindo’s *The Naked Island* (below), just re-released by Criterion.

hilarious dance to the song near the midpoint which forms a sort of tense comic interlude.

As with *I am Love*, Guadagnino's previous collaboration with Swinton, *A Bigger Splash* is concerned with superficiality and appearances—perfect settings, perfect cars, shots of food that are practically pornographic, perfect clothes, perfect skin. But it is also concerned with the tensions, jealousies and histories

“As the siroccos build and the whipsnakes appear, the dramatic and emotional tensions rise.”

that go unrevealed. Indeed, the first 75 minutes of the movie is all about this building tension, with the remaining runtime being a quickly accelerating downhill ride. Typical of Guadagnino's approach, there are many hints, often told in flashback or in small details within the frame, but little overt exposition of the events and relationships that impact the current action. This at times feels like a cheap way to engage audience interest after the film ends, but is also useful in convincing us of the genuine weirdness of these characters, especially the mysterious Penelope.

If *A Bigger Splash* is about an island filled with naked people, Keneto Shindo's *The Naked Island* is about an island as a background for almost emotionless family struggle and hardship. As with *Pantelleria*, Shindo's unnamed island is a place both removed from central populations and with rules and traditions all its own. It is, however, entirely unpopulated except for the family that forms the central characters of the



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film. As if in common solidarity with Tilda Swinton's character, the cast of Shindo's film is all but silent; a full third of the runtime passes before any human voice is heard. The protagonist here is the island itself, the surrounding sea, and the hardships and rare simple pleasures of a life so isolated from more popular residential locations.

The Naked Island can be read either as paean to the overwhelming beauty of nature and its utter disregard for human endeavor, or as a neorealist critique of modern work, with its sameness, repetition and dull routine. In either case, the cinematography is beautiful, shot in lush black and white, it comes across like a nature film that happens to have a few people in it, and serves as a reminder of Japan's deep and enduring traditional ways of life during a period of immense change and development in postwar Japan. The Naked Island is available on the Criterion Collection website and can be streamed on Criterion's Hulu channel.

Whether used as a stage for overblown human emotions or as an imposing natural backdrop for seemingly tiny human struggles, the island as a cinematic setting can lend a heightened isolation and drama that calls attention to the sense of place in a way mainland settings can't. In the preface to her book of remote islands, Judith Scharansky claims that there is "no more poetic book in the world" than the geographic atlas, since it lays out so straightforwardly the separateness of countries, continents and islands, while

at the same time showing their spatial relationships to each other.

Some of that same sense of poetry runs through both of these engaging summer films. **lv**

Warren Sprouse teaches in Cedar Rapids and is a regular contributor to Talking Movies.



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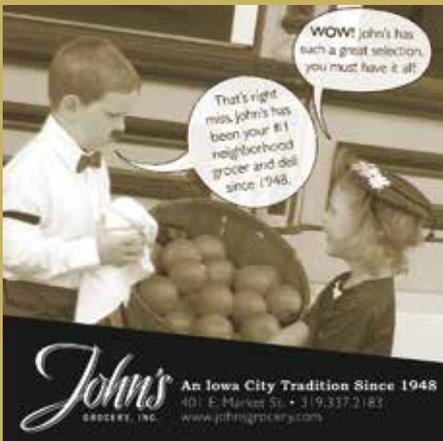
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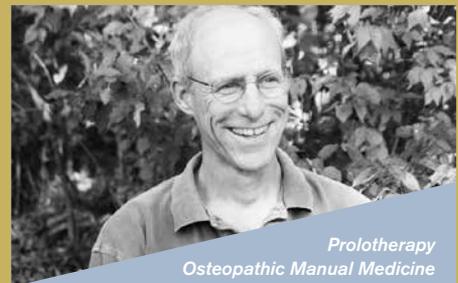
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THE EARLY TEARS WITH VIC PASTERNAK

LESSON 5: MUNICIPAL AS A FIREPLUG AND JUST AS PISSED ON

Here's lookin' at you. • BY SEAN PRECIADO GENELL

Illustration by Josh Carroll



I'd see her around town a lot back then, a bony woman walking fast in a country headscarf. From a distance you could see she wore her face garishly made up, and I wondered at her story.

When I got her aboard the taxi at Campus Amoco, I realized it wasn't makeup she was wearing. She had, in fact, applied Magic Marker in heavy doses: blue over eyelids running to purple and ultrablack for the liner, brick red lips sloppily colored in. She went as far as shading in the round of her nostrils.

"We're going fucking home!"

"So where's home?"

"Are you out of your mind on drugs? Or just stupid?"

"I don't know where you live. That's why I asked you."

She sat beside me and, removing bare feet from cowboy boots, brought heels up to the seat to squeeze them against her butt. Then she began touching each of her toes. For inquiring minds: yes, she'd marked in her nails too.

"Oh, you're not the one," she growled.

"Maybe I am."

Not that it matters but before all this, on

one of those days seeing her downtown, she lost her headscarf to the wind and I chased it and ran it back. That was me in those days: Vic Pasternak, local good guy.

But inside the cab, she didn't see him. She only saw the Cabdriver.

She frowned with her clown-face, disgusted: "Just take me home."

* * *

I'd first seen him in the Hy-Vee breakfast lounge. One particular morning, I'd just gotten off shift and was in no mood for bullshit, per usual.

I shouldn't describe it as he being seen by me inasmuch as I was being stared at by him—a tall, wide Latino, impeccably dressed, black coat over a blazing red shirt and silver slide on the bolo tie, big paws handling utensils in the Continental style. He stared with eyes big and black like the vacuum of space.

And what's a motherfucker like me to do but maddog him right back? We stared hard at each other, abyss versus abyss, neither of us blinking and both keeping up the game

until my breakfast arrived. At which point he said, "Bon appetit," then resumed his meal.

Next time I saw him was a few weeks following breakfast and two calls after the Painted Lady. He was at the Iowa Lodge wanting a ride into town. Maybe it was his devil-from-another-place style and his bottomless eyes, but he was tilted in his own special way, *mos def*. And he didn't recognize me from breakfast.

He brought along a gym bag and, as we rolled through the light at 1st Ave, he unzipped the end to let poke out the head of a big-eared Chihuahua.

"This is Lulu."

"Hi, Lulu."

"I rescued her and she rescued me," he said. "I don't know what'll happen to her when I go inside."

I pointed in our direction of travel: "If you're just stepping in for a minute, you can leave her in the cab."

"Naw, I couldn't do that to you, buddy. I'm going to jail."

He'd only told me downtown.

"I'm taking you to jail now?" Then I considered his best friend: "So what's the plan with Lulu?"

"I'll find somebody to take her. Somebody always takes her when I go inside."

* * *

Ed & Janet worked overnights together at one of the assembly shops on the highway, and off the clock they were professional drunks. We'd heard Janet was in the hospital, and hadn't seen them in a bit.

Soon as I had cleared the county jail, Dispatch pitched me to Mike's Tap for the lovely couple. I expected the usual dawdling and falling off the curb, then hollering at each other in a perpetual reek of bar smoke and beer sweats.

Except Janet was dry as a bone. She promptly exited the bar then stood beside my cab. Only Ed kept up with expectations and rolled out four minutes later flat busted drunk.

She let him fumble his way in back then

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popped up front beside me.

“You’re not drinking,” I observed.

“I got that hospital scare and while I was inside my papa died. So I just quit. I need my life back. And this dumb son of a bitch, he’s the only reason I go in a bar anymore—ay you dummy!” she hollers at him, then back to me: “And there he goes pissing himself.”

* * *

After bar rush, hours later, I was called to a house party where four figures trundled down the walk waving goodbyes: three dudes, who climbed in back, plus a sorority sister who climbed in front. They yammered on and I had to pry an address out of them.

Turns out, short trip, since dudes lived 200 feet around the corner. They piled out and attempted to entice the sorority sister to come inside. She turned them down but they kept it up. As I took cash on the ride, one dude yanked her door, thumbed her out: “Let’s go.”

She turned to me for a lifeline. So I plunged the pedal, peeling from the curb and letting gravity shut the door.

“Ah, those guys were dicks,” she said, and then gave me her address. “How’s your night been?”

“Pretty fucking screwy.” I highlighted the Painted Lady, Satan and Lulu, Ed pissing the backseat, the girl who puked on the side of my cab, the kids with a stolen drive shaft, the guy who told me he had a boner, etc., etc.

“Crazy! So like what’s the weirdest thing that ever happened in here?”

“Goddamn, lady, take your pick. Shit’s weirder than the ruler all the time.”

When I got her home, we exchanged names and she smiled at me. “I’ll ask for you next time I need a cab. Have a beautiful morning.”

I watched her go, waiting for her to get inside the sorority house, waiting until she shut the door.

Wheeling off, I saw she’d left a left behind a folded slip of paper. I took it up and held it tight. Her phone number maybe. Hopefully.

At the first stop light I opened the paper slip; it turned out to be rather intricately folded. Then a petite cloud of cocaine dusted into my lap.

I never saw her again. **lv**

Sean Preciado Genell is the author of the Vic Pasternak novel 'All the Help You Need,' available now at Prairie Lights

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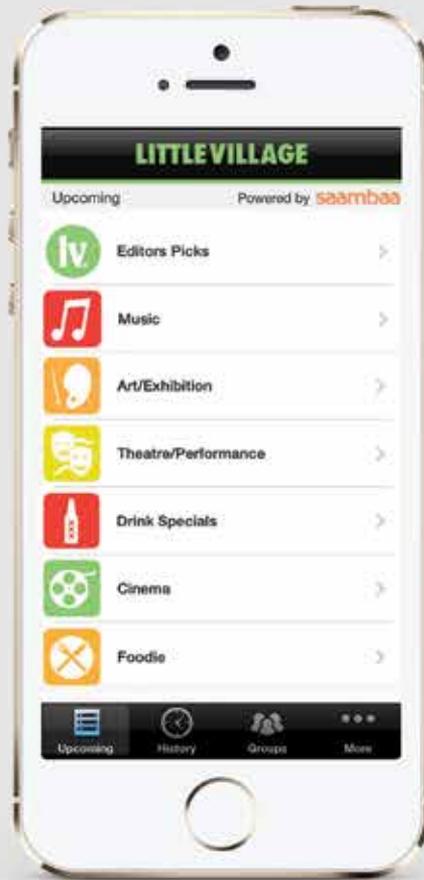
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THIS INTERVIEW IS TOTALLY UNSCIENTIFIC

With an ongoing tour and another book forthcoming, Paula Poundstone discusses Pixar, SNL and Donald Trump.

BY RYAN MORROW

Comedian Paula Poundstone has been performing stand up for 37 years and counting. She is also an author, accomplished voice actor and, for the better part of the last 15 years, has been a frequent panelist on the NPR quiz-show *Wait Wait Don't Tell Me!* Despite abhorring the effects tiny pocket screens are having, Poundstone is an avid tweetcaster. Just follow @paulapoundstone on Twitter where you can always one of her fine jokes.

Poundstone will be performing at the Englert Theatre at 8 p.m. on Friday, June 10. She took the time to talk about her creative endeavors with *Little Village* recently; here are some excerpts from that conversation.

So, I had read that you actually did one of the rare proper stand-up routines on *Saturday Night Live*, and that has not happened that often. What was that experience like? Horrifying. It was very hard to do. It was great to be included; Robin Williams was the host and he brought me on as the guest comic. That was very sweet of him. But it was really hard. It's funny but I don't even remember standing on that stage ... I remember standing at the Ford's Theatre or standing at Carnegie Hall, but I don't remember standing at the *Saturday Night Live* stage. I think it was just so scary—it was a long time ago and I was still pretty new to the job. It was a daunting task.

“I think when you fear the word ‘science’ as a broadcaster maybe you’re not uplifting your patrons?”

—Paula Poundstone

Daunting task or no, that sounds like an incredible accolade to have under your belt. It’s just a very different type of entertaining than what they usually do on that stage. Yeah, but I do think it was Robin who got me that opportunity, because he was hosting. This was a long time ago. This was the Eddie Murphy cast.

In addition to stand up, you’ve had wide ranging experience doing voice work—most recently in the film *Inside Out*—which is hilarious. What was that experience like? Did you record your parts at the same time as Bobby Moynihan? Or were they separate performances? Yeah we did work together at one point. Now, I went in a couple of times, which is so funny for such a small part. It was very Pixar of them. You know when sometimes in a tennis tournament there is an “extra” participant, and they just send someone through to the next round? I think both Bobby and I felt strongly that we got a bye. The

part itself was very very funny. I think I did a good job, I think Bobby did a good job, but the truth is anybody could have done those lines and it would have been funny because it’s just a funny concept that there are little factory workers in your head getting rid of the unwanted memories—and, for whatever reason, recycling the really annoying one. It was fun. Pixar is the gold standard of animation and to be in a Pixar film was a real thrill. It’s not just animation—the writing on those things is just so goddamn good.

Continuing on the topic of voice work: you voiced Paula Small on *Home Movies*—I personally enjoy that cartoon. I find *Squigglevision* highly entertaining on its

own. Were you in the same room as the other actors? It was very fun, but no. Maybe one time I was in the room with the others. It was made in Watertown, Mass. and I live in Santa Monica, Calif. so I would go to a studio down the street from my house. I would be hooked up via wire with the director and he would do the other lines and I would sometimes improvise and sometimes read from the script. And I think that's how [they] did it with most of them; I don't how many actually sat in a room together.

You know *Squigglevision* use to be called *Science Court*, but ABC feared that people wouldn't watch something with the word “science” in the title. Which by the way was a sign of the early steps for Donald Trump to get the nomination. Let's just dumb ourselves down a little bit more if we possibly could.

Yeah, race to the middle. Not even a race to the middle—we'd be lucky to make it to the middle. But I think when you fear the word “science” as a broadcaster maybe you're not uplifting your patrons? (laughter)

Now when I would go to do *Science Court*



A-LIST

PAULA POUNDSTONE

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Friday, June 10, 8 p.m., \$36.50-55

Illustration by Benjamin Mackey

I was often late; I had a bunch of little kids at home and there was always some kind of goddamn crisis. So I would get in and I'd say, "Oh, I'm sorry"—and because I couldn't help myself, I would explain what the problem was or whatever. I would talk about my kids, and my this and my that. Well one day the director asked, "Do you mind if I record this?" (laughter) and that was kind of the genesis of *Home Movies*—in fact the little black baby with the glasses is my daughter Toshia. I've never really known, but I must have shown them a picture of her. Because really it looks like her when she was a baby, and she had glasses [when she was] very little. But regardless it still makes us laugh. They sent me a book of all the characters, and when I see little cartoon baby Toshia it gives me a laugh.

I'd like to congratulate you on being an author now, too. Which is a terrible job by the way; it's awful. I don't know how anybody does it.

You have a very clean and concise title for that first book: *There's Nothing in This Book That I Meant to Say* (laughter). On all the shipping statements it just says "there's nothing" (laughter). I've also written a follow-up—my newest book is on the way to the copy editor as we speak. It's intended to come out in May of next year. The title is *The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness* (laughter) so those packing slips will all just read "the totally" or maybe "the totally un"—yeah, I'm no Malcolm Gladwell.

Well as long as they don't go with "science" on the label ... No! It says UN-scientific! (laughing) I think it's the "un," that un-science, that'll make it popular! **lv**

Ryan Morrow is a native son of the great state of Illinois—after several transplants he's made his home in Iowa City Iowa. He has a passion for comedy and those who have chosen it as a profession.

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AREA EVENTS

Are you planning an event? Submit event info to calendar@littlevillagemag.com. Include event name, date, time, venue, street address, admission price and a brief description (no all-caps, exclamation points or advertising verbiage, please). To find more events, visit littlevillagemag.com/calendar.



Carefully Taught: A Performance & Discussion about Inclusion & the Arts, Thursday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m., African American Museum of Iowa, Free. This collaboration between the Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre and the African American Museum of Iowa begins with a performance by cast members from CRO's upcoming production of 'South Pacific.' A panel discussion on inclusion in the arts follows, with Bill Fabris (director of CRO's 'South Pacific'), John Herbert (CSPS Executive Director), Micah Ariel James (Hancher Auditorium Education Manager) and Dr. Rachel Williams (UI Department of Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies). Krystal Gladden of the AAMI moderates.

WED., JUNE 1

/EDUCATION: ICPL Tech Help, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10 a.m.

/COMMUNITY: Teen Dungeons and Dragons, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 3:30 p.m.

Build A Pallet Garden, Indian Creek Nature Center, \$12-15, 6 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Art Bites: Ladies Of The Club, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, Free, 12:15 p.m.

CAS Presents: Kameelah J. Rasheed Artist Talk & Gallery Showing, Public Space One, Free, 6 p.m.

/CRAFTY: Sewing: Lisette Dress, Home Ec. Workshop, \$65, 6 p.m.

/FOODIE: Kirkwood Culinary Kitchen: Kitchen Basics; Introductory Training for the Home Chef, NewBo City Market - Kirkwood Kitchen, Free, 6 p.m.

/MUSIC: Funkwerks, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Free, 6 p.m.

Kris Allen w/ Sean McConnell, Legion Arts CSPS Hall, \$20-25, 7 p.m.

Jesse RS, Gabe's, Free, 9 p.m.

Jam Session, Iowa City Yacht Club, Free, 10 p.m.

/CINEMA: The Dandy Andy Film Series: 'The Wizard of Oz,' National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, \$2-5, 6:30 p.m.

/LITERATURE: Spoken Word Night: Poetry and More, Uptown Bill's, Free, 7 p.m.

Humanities & Public Life Book Launch, University of Iowa Obermann Center, Free, All Day

THU., JUN. 2

/COMMUNITY: Discover Volunteering at the Nature Center, Indian Creek Nature Center, Free, 2 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Million Dollar Quartet,' Old Creamery Theatre, \$30, 2 p.m.

'Funny Girl,' Coe College, \$20-34, 8 p.m.

/SPORTS-N-REC: Meet Me at the Market, NewBo City Market, Free, 5 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Diego Lasansky: A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man Opening Reception, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, Free, 5 p.m.

Auguste Rodin Opening Reception, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, Free, 5 p.m.

/CRAFTY: Gems of Hope Workshop, Beadology Iowa, Free, 6 p.m.

Iowa City Press Co-op: Free @rt School - Zine Making, Public Space One, Free, 6 p.m.

/MUSIC: Steve and Michaela McLain, Cafe Paradiso, Free, 6 p.m.

Dave Moore, Motley Cow Cafe, Free, 7 p.m.

The Whistles & The Bells w/ Paul Spring, Adam Torres, Daytrotter, \$8-12, 8 p.m.

Jake McVey, Blue Moose Tap House, \$5, 8 p.m.

Bat House w/ Burden the Bear, Rozz-Tox, \$5-10, 8 p.m.

DJ noDJ, River Music Experience Redstone Room, \$8-10, 8:30 p.m.

Justin Payne, Gabe's, Free, 10 p.m.

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/EDUCATION: Carefully Taught - A Performance & Discussion About Inclusion & The Arts, African American Museum of Iowa, Free, 7:30 p.m.

/FAMILY: Iowa Children's Open, Brown Deer Golf Club, Free, All Day

FRI., JUN. 3

/EDUCATION: REDUCE: Mending 101 to Extend the Life of Your Clothes, Iowa City Senior Center, Free, 1:30 p.m.

/COMMUNITY: Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale & Festival, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Free, 3 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Iowa City Carnival Parade, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 5:30 p.m.

Bluebird Hike, Indian Creek Nature Center, \$2-6, 6 p.m.

Ballroom and Latin Social Dancing, Old Brick, Free, 7:30 p.m.

/MUSIC: First Friday Jazz w/ Tim Daugherty, Opus Concert Cafe, \$12, 5 p.m.

Uptown Friday Nights: Slap'n'Tickle, McGrath Amphitheatre, \$5, 5 p.m.

Friday Night Live Music: The Remains, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Free, 6 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Aoife O'Donovan, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 7 p.m.

Shooter Jennings & The Waymore's Outlaws, First Avenue Club, \$22, 8 p.m.

Ghosts I've Met, Rozz-Tox, \$5-10, 9 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: The Wood Brothers, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 9 p.m.

Charles Walker Band, Iowa City Yacht Club, \$7, 10 p.m.

Interstellar II - A party by the Center of Afrofuturist Studies, Gabe's, \$8, 10 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Gallery Retrospective, The Chait Galleries Downtown, Free, 5 p.m.

Arts Festival Gallery Walk, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 5 p.m.

Postcards at an Exhibition, Iowa Artisans Gallery, \$25, All Day

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Disney's The Little Mermaid,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$24-39, 7:30 p.m.

'Now. Here. This.,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$18-26, 7:30 p.m.

'Million Dollar Quartet,' Old Creamery Theatre, \$18.50-30, 7:30 p.m.

Christine Stedman, Penguin's Comedy Club, \$12-15, 7:30 p.m.

'Funny Girl,' Coe College, \$20-34, 8 p.m.

/FAMILY: Iowa Children's Open, Brown Deer Golf Club, Free, All Day

SAT., JUN. 4

/COMMUNITY: National Trails Day, Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Free, 8:30 a.m.

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Queen Bee Rearing, Indian Creek Nature Center, \$65-75, 9 a.m.

Free First Saturdays for Students, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Free, 9:30 a.m.

/CRAFTY: Twisted Sister, Beadology Iowa, \$58, 10 a.m.

/FOODIE: Chocolate Stroll 2016, Mount Vernon, IA, Free, 10 a.m.

/MUSIC: Summer of the Arts: Iowa City Community Band, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 10 a.m.

Summer of the Arts: Red Rock Hill, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 11:30 a.m.

Summer of the Arts: Sean Costanza, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 1 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Henhouse Prowlers, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 2:30 p.m.

Irish Music Session, Uptown Bill's, Free, 3 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Parsonsfield, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 5 p.m.

Bret Michaels w/ Ratt, Lita Ford and Downtread, McGrath Amphitheatre, \$29.75-79.75, 6 p.m.

Scott Engledow, Uptown Bill's, \$5-10, 7 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Middle Western, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 7 p.m.

A Hero's Life, Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$19-49, 7:30 p.m.

Terry McCauley, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Free, 8 p.m.

Henhouse Prowlers, Iowa City Yacht Club, \$8, 8:30 p.m.

Karen Meat w/ Tambourine, Rozz-Tox, \$5-10, 9 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Buckwheat Zydeco, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 9 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Art Goes LIVE!, Iowa Artisans Gallery, Free, 10 a.m.

Rodin: Portraits of a Lifetime. Selections from the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Collections, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, Free, 12 p.m.

/EDUCATION: Backyard Chicken Workshop, Indian Creek Nature Center, \$10-12, 10 a.m.

June Family Day, Macbride Raptor Project, Free, 11 a.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Now. Here. This.', Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$18-26, 7:30 p.m.

'Million Dollar Quartet', Old Creamery Theatre, \$18.50-30, 7:30 p.m.

Christine Stedman, Penguin's Comedy Club, \$12-15, 7:30 p.m.

'Disney's The Little Mermaid', Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$24-39, 7:30 p.m.

'Funny Girl', Coe College, \$20-34, 8 p.m.

SUN., JUN. 5

/MUSIC: Summer of the Arts: Goin' Up Caney, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 10 a.m.

Summer of the Arts: Parsonsfield, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 11:30 a.m.



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Live Music with Dustin Printz, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Free, 1 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Cedar County Cobras, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 1 p.m.

Summer of the Arts: Dandelion Stompers, Downtown Iowa City, Free, 2:30 p.m.

Live Music: Mississippi String Band, Sutliff Cider Company, Free, 3 p.m.

EGI, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Free, 4 p.m.

Arthur Lee Land, Cafe Paradiso, Free, 8 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Art Goes LIVE!, Iowa Artisans Gallery, Free, 10 a.m.

/CRAFTY: Perfect Picnic Blanket Part II, Home Ec. Workshop, \$45, 12 p.m.

Fundamentals of Hollow Glass, Beadology Iowa, \$98, 1 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Million Dollar Quartet,' Old Creamery Theatre, \$18.50-30, 2 p.m.

'Disney's The Little Mermaid,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$24-39, 2:30 p.m.

'Funny Girl,' Coe College, \$20-34, 2:30 p.m.

'Now. Here. This.,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$18-26, 2:30 p.m.

MON., JUN. 6

/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Fun With Felt Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 9 a.m.

Kids Summer Camp: Print, Print! Dye, Dye!, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 1 p.m.

Peyote Stitch Beaded Beads through Kirkwood Community College Continuing Education Program, Beadology Iowa, 6 p.m. \$58

/EDUCATION: ICPL Tech Help, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10 a.m.

image + word workshop (IYWP), Public Space One, Free, 12 p.m.

The Great War, Women's Roles, Iowa City Senior Center, Free, 1 p.m.

BAM! Linking the Big Ancient Mediterranean, University of Iowa Obermann Center, Free, All Day

/CINEMA: Monday Matinee, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 2 p.m.

/COMMUNITY: Nature Stroll: Floodplains with Summer Growth, Indian Creek Nature Center, \$4-6, 6 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 2016 Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards, Des Moines Civic Center, \$15-45, 7 p.m.

/MUSIC: All People w/ Pelvis, Bankshot, Rozz-Tox, \$5-10, 8 p.m.

TUE., JUN. 7

/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Fun With Felt Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 9 a.m.

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Kids Summer Camp: Print, Print! Dye, Dye!, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 1 p.m.

/EDUCATION: ICPL Tech Help, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 12 p.m.

image + word workshop (IYWP), Public Space One, Free, 12 p.m.

BAM! Linking the Big Ancient Mediterranean, University of Iowa Obermann Center, Free, All Day

/MUSIC: (Hed)pe w/ The Veer Union, Gabe's, \$15-20, 6 p.m.

Caravan of Thieves, Legion Arts CSPPS Hall, \$16-19, 7 p.m.

/LITERATURE: Iowa Writers' House Presents: Writer's Toolbox Talks, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 6 p.m.

/CINEMA: Rooftop Showing: 'Purple Rain'—SOLD OUT, FilmScene, Free, 10 p.m.

WED., JUN 8

/EDUCATION: Summer Institute for Educators: Teaching Human Rights in a Global Context Day 1, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Free, 8:30 a.m.

ICPL Tech Help, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 10 a.m.

image + word workshop (IYWP), Public Space One, Free, 12 p.m.

BAM! Linking the Big Ancient Mediterranean, University of Iowa Obermann Center, Free, All Day

/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Fun With Felt Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 9 a.m.

Bobbin Lace Making Demonstration, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Free, 11 a.m.

Kids Summer Camp: Print, Print! Dye, Dye!, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 1 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Million Dollar Quartet,' Old Creamery Theatre, \$18.50-30, 2 p.m.

Variations 3, The Englert Theatre, \$14-24, 7:30 p.m.

/COMMUNITY: Teen Dungeons and Dragons, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 3:30 p.m.

Garden Party, Indian Creek Nature Center, Free, 5:30 p.m.

/FOODIE: Wine Dinner, Motley Cow Cafe, Free, 6 p.m.

/MUSIC: Oh Wonder, Codfish Hollow Barn, \$23-25, 7 p.m.

Peter Nordberg, Rozz-Tox, Free, 8 p.m.

THU., JUN. 9

/EDUCATION: Summer Institute for Educators: Teaching Human Rights in a Global Context Day 2, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Free, 8:30 a.m.

image + word workshop (IYWP), Public Space One, Free, 12 p.m.

/COMMUNITY: Coffee & Chat, Indian Creek Nature Center, Free, 9 a.m.

/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Fun With Felt Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 9 a.m.

Kids Summer Camp: Print, Print! Dye, Dye!, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 1 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Million Dollar Quartet,' Old Creamery Theatre, \$18.50-30, 2 p.m.

Miss Iowa, Adler Theatre, \$40-115, 7 p.m.

Variations 3, The Englert Theatre, \$14-24, 7:30 p.m.

/SPORTS-N-REC: Meet Me at the Market, NewBo City Market, Free, 5 p.m.

Yoga By The Glass, Cedar Ridge Distillery, \$25, 6 p.m.

/MUSIC: Apocalypso Tantric Noise Choir, Cafe Paradiso, Free, 6 p.m.

Grant Wallace Band, Legion Arts CSPPS Hall, \$15-18, 7 p.m.

Ben Schmidt, Motley Cow Cafe, Free, Free, 7 p.m.

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Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus, Des Moines Civic Center, \$20, 7:30 p.m.

Blues & Roots Series Featuring Curtis Salgado, River Music Experience Redstone Room, \$25, 7:30 p.m.

Gleemer w/ Stars Hollow, Groggy Darko & The Influence, Rozz-Tox, \$5-10, 8 p.m.

Seasaw w/ Hot Tang, Crystal City, Gabe's, Free, 9 p.m.

FRI., JUN. 10

/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Fun With Felt Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 9 a.m.

Kids Summer Camp: Print, Print! Dye, Dye!, Home Ec. Workshop, \$199, 1 p.m.

/FAMILY: Read on the Rug: 'Exploring the World of Art,' Old Capitol Museum, Free, 10 a.m.

/EDUCATION: image + word workshop (IYWP), Public Space One, Free, 12 p.m.

/CRAFTY: Intro to Metal Working: Make a Copper and Brass Pendant through Kirkwood Community College (2 Session Class), Beadology Iowa, \$100, 1 p.m.

/COMMUNITY: REUSE: Paperwork and Rag Rugs, Iowa City Senior Center, Free, 1:30 p.m.

CHOCOLATE STROLL

First St., Mt. Vernon
Sat., June 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Photo by Dick Johnson



Chocolate Stroll, Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m., First St., Mount Vernon, Free. The seventh annual Chocolate Stroll once again celebrates the chocolatiers of Mount Vernon. The event runs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. In addition to chocolate for sample and sale, the event features music, contests and events. The Bijou Theatre will be screening 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory' at noon, preceded by a parade (costumes encouraged). Music, including the Eastern Iowa Brass Band and Dale Beeks and Ben Schmidt, will be at the First Street Community Center, and there will be a children's lawn party at Memorial Park. Applications for this year's Chocolate Baking Contest can be found at visitmvl.com.



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THEATRE:

Old Capitol Opera: A second round of auditions will be held for 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' on Thursday, June 2 from 5-8 p.m. at the Iowa City Public Library. Full audition details can be found at obrienstudios.net/auditions. Email oldcapitoloopera@gmail.com to schedule an audition time. Rehearsals begin Aug. 1 for a condensed rehearsal period leading up to the show's Aug. 19 opening.

Brucemore Outdoor Children's Theatre: Auditions will be held Sunday, June 12 beginning at noon at Theatre Cedar Rapids for the summer production of 'Sleeping Beauty,' directed by Erica Jo Lloyd. Actors high school age and older are invited to audition. Scripts will be available at TCR in June; auditions will include readings from the script. Rehearsals will be Mondays through Thursdays with occasional Sunday evenings. The show runs Aug. 3-6.

/MUSIC: RME 12th Anniversary Show Featuring The Giving Tree Band, River Music Experience Community Stage, Free-\$12, 4 p.m.

Uptown Friday Night: Cheese Pizza, McGrath Amphitheatre, \$5, 5 p.m.

JUNETOPIA DAY 1, Rozz-Tox, \$7-12, 6 p.m.

Friday Night Live Music: Vicebox, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Free, 6 p.m.

Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus, Des Moines Civic Center, \$20, 7:30 p.m.

Lil' Wayne, iWireless Center, \$48.50-68.50, 8 p.m.

The Cactus Blossoms, Legion Arts CSPPS Hall, \$16-19, 8 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Warholmania! Party, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Free, 6 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: Miss Iowa, Adler Theatre, \$40-115, 7 p.m.

'Million Dollar Quartet,' Old Creamery Theatre, \$18.50-30, 7:30 p.m.

Joe Kilgallon, Penguin's Comedy Club, \$12-15, 7:30 p.m.

'Now. Here. This.,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$18-26, 7:30 p.m.

'Disney's The Little Mermaid,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, \$24-39, 7:30 p.m.

Paula Poundstone, The Englert Theatre, \$36.50-55, 8 p.m.

/LITERATURE: Valerie Wetlaufer, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Free, 7 p.m.

SAT., JUN. 11

/CRAFTY: Roaring Twenties Weave Bracelet, Beadology Iowa, \$58, 10 a.m.

Sewing: Oilcloth Farmers Market Tote, Home Ec. Workshop, \$35, 11 a.m.

Intro to Screenprint at the IC Press Co-op, Public Space One, \$32, 1 p.m.

/MUSIC: JUNETOPIA DAY 2, Rozz-Tox, \$15-25, 12 p.m.

Community Folk Singing, Uptown Bill's, Free, 3 p.m.

Sin City Escape: Silent Redemption, Achilles, Dueling at Dawn, Doppelganger, Blue Moose Tap House, \$8-10, 5 p.m.

Dave Moore, Uptown Bill's, \$5-10, 7 p.m.

Gregory Alan Isakov & The Ghost Orchestra w/ Andrea Gibson, The Englert Theatre, \$28, 8 p.m.

Whensday w/ A\$thmattic, Rextyreckie, JoJo Montana, & Dillon Fuego, Gabe's, \$5, 8 p.m.

The Awful Purdies, Cafe Paradiso, Free, 8 p.m.

Saul Lubaroff, Motley Cow Cafe, Free, 8 p.m.

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Jason Stuart Cobalt Blue, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 8 p.m.

Robert Ellis w/ Tom Brosseau, *Daytrotter*, \$10-15, 9 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Bohemian Boudoir: An Unofficial Museum Tour, *National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library*, \$5-15, 1 p.m.

/FOODIE: Heritage Garden Program: Preserving Family Recipes, *National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library*, Free, 2 p.m.

/LITERATURE: Garrard Conley in Conversation w/ Garth Greenwell, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, Free, 4 p.m.

Iowa City Electric Writers' Open Mic, *The High Ground Cafe*, Free, 7 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: Miss Iowa, *Adler Theatre*, \$40-115, 7 p.m.

A Gay Traveler's Journey Through Alternate Realities, *The Temple Theater*, \$10, 7:30 p.m.

Joe Kilgallon, *Penguin's Comedy Club*, \$12-15, 7:30 p.m.

'Now. Here. This.,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$18-26, 7:30 p.m.

'Disney's The Little Mermaid,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$24-39, 7:30 p.m.

'Million Dollar Quartet,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, \$18.50-30, 7:30 p.m.

/SPORTS-N-REC: Cedar Rapids Titans vs. Billings Wolves, *US Cellular Center*, Free, 7:05 p.m.

/CINEMA: Vino Vêrité: 'All This Panic,' *FilmScene*, \$20-25, 7 p.m.

SUN., JUN. 12

/MUSIC: Live Music With Drew Hurn, *Cedar Ridge Distillery*, Free, 1 p.m.

Live Music: Jasmin, *Sutliff Cider Company*, Free, 3 p.m.

Lecrae w/ Switchfoot, *McGrath Amphitheatre*, \$22-47, 6 p.m.

Chris Cornell, *Adler Theatre*, \$40.50-76, 8 p.m.

/EDUCATION: Nature Play: The Power of the Sun, *Iowa Children's Museum*, Free, 1:30 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: 'Million Dollar Quartet,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, \$18.50-30, 2 p.m.

'Disney's The Little Mermaid,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$24-39, 2:30 p.m.

truTV Impractical Jokers 'Santiago Sent Us' Tour, *US Cellular Center*, \$52.50, 7:30 p.m.

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Artifactory's Art in the Afternoon: Tom Linden, *Beadology Iowa*, Free, 2 p.m.

Artifactory's Life Drawing Drop-In, *Beadology Iowa*, \$8, 5 p.m.

MON., JUN. 13

/EDUCATION: Digging up the Past Camp, *Iowa Children's Museum*, Free, 9 a.m.

Aequora: Latin Summer Camp for Elementary Students, *Old Capitol Museum*, \$150, 9 a.m.

ICPL Tech Help, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 10 a.m.

/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Sewing Camp, *Home Ec. Workshop*, \$210, 12 p.m.

/COMMUNITY: Iowa City History Series with Tom Schulein: The Lustron Steel Home, *Iowa City Senior Center*, Free, 1 p.m.

Big Gay Bar Crawl 2016, *Studio 13*, Free, 7 p.m.

/CINEMA: Monday Matinee, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 2 p.m.

/SPORTS-N-REC: YOGA In The Gallery, *Public Space One*, \$2, 6 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: The Naked Magic Show, *Adler Theatre*, \$29-79, 7 p.m.

/LITERATURE: Stephen King—SOLD OUT, *The Englert Theatre*, \$37.50, 7 p.m.

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AREA EVENTS

VARIATIONS 3

The Englert Theatre
Wed., June 8 & Thu., June 9
7:30 p.m., \$14-24
Photo courtesy of Nolte Academy



Variations 3, Wednesday, June 8 and Thursday, June 9 at 7:30 p.m., The Englert Theatre, \$14-24. Pre-professional dancers from Ballet at Nolte will present Variations 3, part of Iowa City's Summer of the Arts. The program features both contemporary and classical ballet, engaging the music of Gershwin ('Rhapsody in Blue') and Saint-Georges (highlights from 'Le Corsaire').

/FAMILY: 2016 Trail Trekkers Preschool Camp, Indian Creek Nature Center, Free, All Day
2016 Creek Camp, Indian Creek Nature Center, Free, All Day

TUE., JUN. 14

/EDUCATION: Digging up the Past Camp, Iowa Children's Museum, Free, 9 a.m.
Aequora: Latin Summer Camp for Elementary Students, Old Capitol Museum, \$150, 9 a.m.
ICPL Tech Help, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 12 p.m.
/CRAFTY: Kids Summer Camp: Sewing Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, \$210, 12 p.m.

/MUSIC: Silver Strings Guitar Orchestra, Iowa City Senior Center, Free, 1 p.m.
The Dirty Bourbon River Show, Legion Arts CSPS Hall, \$16-19, 7 p.m.
Rodrigo Amarante w/ Big Thief, Daytrotter, \$8-12, 7:30 p.m.
/FOODIE: Baroncini Makes Ravioli—SOLD OUT, New Pioneer Food Co-op Coralville, \$30, 6 p.m.
/LITERATURE: Iowa Writers' House Presents: The Violet Realm, Iowa City Public Library, Free, 6 p.m.
Anna Noyes, Amie Barrodale & Brian Booker, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Free, 7 p.m.
/ART-AND-EXHIBITION: Iowa City Press Co-op: Drawing Experiments, Public Space One, \$20-35, 6:30 p.m.
/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE: Pride Karaoke Night!, Studio 13, Free, 9 p.m.



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MONDAYS

Moeller Mondays, *Daytrotter*, 7 p.m. **Open Mic**, *The Mill*, Free, 8 p.m. **Honeycombs of Comedy**, *Yacht Club*, \$3, 10 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Iowa City Farmers Market, *Mercer Park*, 3-6 p.m. **Acoustic Music Club**, *River Music Experience*, Free, 4:30 p.m. **Tuesday Evening Jazz**, *Motley Cow Cafe*, Free, 5:30 p.m. **Karaoke Tuesdays**, *The Mill*, Free, 10 p.m. **Blues Jam**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 7 p.m. **Underground Open Mic**, *The Yacht Club*, Free, 8 p.m. **Weekly Old-Timey Jam Session**, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe*, Free, 8:30 p.m. **Comedy & Open Mic Night**, *Studio 13*, Free, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Iowa City Farmers Market, *Chauncey Swan Ramp*, 5-7 p.m. **Music is the Word: Music on Wednesdays**, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 12 p.m. **Low Cost Yoga**, *Public Space One*, \$2, 5 p.m. **Honest Open Mic**, *Lincoln Wine Bar*, 6 p.m. **Burlington Street Bluegrass Band**, *The Mill*, \$5, 6 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays) **Open Mic Night**, *Penguin's Comedy Club*, Free, 6:30 p.m. **Spoken Word**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. (1st Wednesday) **Open Mic**, *Cafe Paradiso*, Free, 8 p.m. **Karaoke Wednesdays**, *Mondo's Saloon*, Free, 10 p.m. **Open Stage**, *Studio 13*, 10 p.m. **Open Jam and Mug Night**, *Yacht Club*, Free, 10 p.m. **Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, *FilmScene*, \$4, 10 p.m.

THURSDAYS

I.C. Press Co-op open shop, *Public Space One*, Free, 4 p.m. **Thursday Night Lineup: Nooks and Crannies Tour**, *Brucemore Mansion*, \$10-15, 5:30 p.m. **Thursday Night Lineup: Hired Help Tour**, *Brucemore Mansion*, \$10-15, 5:30 p.m. **Novel Conversations**, *Coralville Public Library*, Free, 7 p.m. (3rd Thursday) **Thursday Night Live Open Mic**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. **Daddy-O**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 7 p.m. **Live Jazz**, *Clinton Street Social Club*, Free, 8 p.m. **Karaoke**

Thursday, *Studio 13*, Free, 8 p.m. **New Tribe**, *The Bar'ber Shop Tavern*, Free, 8 p.m. **Gemini Karaoke**, *Blue Moose*, Free, 9 p.m.

FRIDAYS

Music is the Word: Music on Fridays, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 12 p.m. **Friday Night Out**, *Ceramics Center*, 6:30 p.m. **FAC Dance Party**, *The Union Bar*, 7 p.m. **Sasha Belle presents: Friday Drag & Dance Party**, *Studio 13*, 8 p.m. **SoulShake**, *Gabe's*, Free, 10 p.m.

SATURDAYS

Iowa City Farmers Market, *Chauncey Swan Ramp*, 7:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. **Family Storytime**, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 10:30 a.m. **I.C. Press Co-op open shop**, *Public Space One*, Free, 12 p.m. **Saturday Night Music**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. **Elation Dance Party**, *Studio 13*, 9 p.m.

SUNDAYS

Live Music, *Sutliff Cider Company*, 3 p.m. **Drag U**, *Studio 13*, 8 p.m. **Pub Quiz**, *The Mill*, \$1, 9 p.m.

/THEATRE-AND-PERFORMANCE:

'Disney's *The Little Mermaid*,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$24-39, (through Jun. 5), 'Now. Here. This.,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, (May 22-Jun. 11), 'Funny Girl,' *Coe College*, \$20-34, (Jun. 3-5) 'Million Dollar Quartet,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, \$18.50-30, (Jun. 2-26)

/ART-AND-EXHIBITION:

CAS: Kameelah Rasheed in Residence, *Public Space One*, (May 27-Jun. 2), **Mikel Rouse**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall*, (through May 29), **Jen P. Harris: 'Ghost Prairie'**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall*, (through Jul. 3), **Tori Lawrence: 'Man and Woman with Plants'**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall*, (through Jul. 3), **Katy Collier: 'Sampler'**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall*, (through Jul. 3), **Postcards at an Exhibition**, *Iowa Artisan's Gallery*, \$25, (Jun. 3-17)



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MEDICAL MILESTONE

Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign announced they had recently (a first, they claimed) transmitted high-speed digital data through slabs of pork loin and beef liver. The signal cleared the muscle and gristle so cleanly that it permitted streaming of high-definition video—enough to watch Netflix, said the lead researcher. (Actually, the advance is crucial in that it allows a patient to swallow a transmitter and for physicians to monitor inner workings of the body in real time and externally control implanted devices such as cranial sensors and defibrillators.)

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

- Religious leaders associated with the quiverfull ministry announced intentions for a November retreat this year in Wichita, Kansas, at which parents will meet to plan “arranged” Christian marriages for their pre-pubescent daughters, to maximize the future couples’ childbearing potential—supposedly the No. 1 priority of all females. Quiverfull activist Vaughn Ohlman has written that female fertility is optimal during their teens (actually, just after age 12) and drops off in their 20s. The local district attorney, queried by *The Wichita Eagle*, said such marriages are legal as long as all parties consent—but Ohlman has maintained that the Bible does not require the bride’s consent if her father has given his.

- Apparently, Japanese taste buds easily become bored, for manufacturers seem eager to create extravagant food combinations to satisfy them that might prove daunting to most Americans. The latest exhibit: the familiar Kit Kat chocolate-coated wafer—but with the taste of ripe melon and cheese (specifically, “Hokkaido Melon With Mascarpone Cheese”). As Japanese foodies know, Kit Kats in Japan come in at least 15 coatings, according to a 2013 review by *Kotaku.com*, including Edamame Soybean, Purple Sweet Potato, Hot Japanese Chili, Matcha-Green Tea, Wasabi and Red Bean Sandwich.

LATEST RELIGIOUS MESSAGES

- Great Britain’s prisoners claiming to be adherents of the ancient Celtic pagan religion are allowed, under rules from the National Offender Management Services, to be excused from jailhouse routines to celebrate four festivals, including the Festival of the Lactating Sheep. Although “Skyclad,” or

naked worship, is not permitted, prisoners can wear the silver pagan ring and are permitted their own chalices, crystals, prayer beads, pentagram necklaces, hoodless robes and flexible twig-wands.

- An Israeli man (unidentified in press reports) petitioned the Haifa Magistrate’s Court recently for a restraining order against God, pointing out that the Almighty has exhibited (according to a *May Times of Israel* report) “a seriously negative attitude toward him,” especially over the previous three years. The judge rejected the petition even though God was not present to argue against it (or at least His presence could not be detected).

PARENTAL VALUES

- In the latest ruling on a familiar theme, a court in Modena, Italy, ordered a father to continue paying living expenses for his son, age 28, who had meandered through a degree in literature but now has decided to seek another, in experimental cinema. (Almost two-thirds of Italians aged 18 to 34 still live with their parents.)

- In Beijing, an elderly couple secured a court order in March forcing their 36-year-old daughter finally to move out after she had refused for years. The couple admitted to the *Beijing Morning Post* that they might have pampered her excessively over the years, even lending her the equivalent of \$23,000 to buy a house. (Still, she stayed.)

NEW WORLD ORDER

Gynecologists interviewed by *The New York Times* for an April report said they were baffled by the recent increase in teenage girls demanding cosmetic surgery on the external folds of their vulvas—since there is rarely a medical need and the safety of the operation on young women has not been demonstrated. Some doctors called the “need” just an extreme example of teen womens’ beauty obsessions and suggested the presence in some girls of the psychiatric malady of body dysmorphic disorder, in which a person imagines or exaggerates a physical characteristic. (The phenomenon is different from the “vaginal rejuvenation” requested by older women, especially after childbirth, because that involves tightening internal tissue.)

TEXAS SCHOOL BLUES

- Houston’s KHOU-TV revealed in May that the French teacher at the Houston school

district’s Energy Institute High School doesn’t speak French (but did take one year of it, in high school).

- The Sheldon school district near Houston admitted in May that a 7-year-old student at

Sheldon Elementary had written her own successful “please excuse Rosabella early” note (using lettering typical of 7-year-olds) and was allowed to go home instead of attending her after-school program.

- School police at Christa McAuliffe Middle School in Houston threatened to arrest a 13-year-old girl during the last school year because they were unaware that the girl’s \$2 bill (cafeteria payment) was valid U.S. currency.

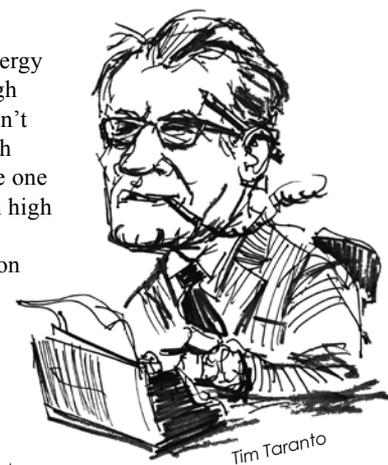
POLICE REPORTS

- In April, police in Brighton, Ontario, responded to what was reported by neighbors as a domestic dispute, involving shrieks like, “I hope you die!” They found only a man “arguing” with his pet parrot (who the man said was “beaking off” at him). No arrests were made.

- Kayvon Mavaddat, 28, was arrested in Natick, Massachusetts, as police enforced three arrest warrants. He had been on the loose until May 6, when he politely (inadvertently) held open a door at Natick Mall for a police officer who, in that brief moment, thought he recognized Mavaddat. Checking his cruiser’s computer, he found the warrants, went back inside and arrested Mavaddat.

CAVALCADE OF REDNECKS

Timothy Trammell, 36, was arrested on several charges in Jonesville, South Carolina, in May after a sheriff’s deputy spotted him spray-painting a car that was not his. According to the deputy’s report, Trammell had just finished angrily painting “C-h-e-e-t-e-r” (sic) on the car (belonging to a woman, identified in a WSPA-TV report as his girlfriend). **IV**



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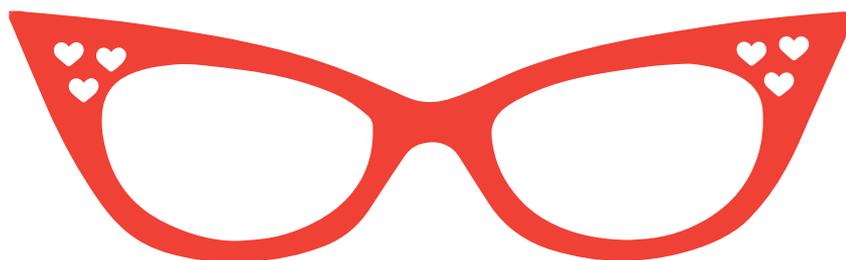
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**H** i Kiki,

I'm in love with a man who is much older than me and happily married. I used to work for him, so telling him how I felt then was out of the question. Now I'm working somewhere else, he's moved away, but we still email almost every day. I'm not sure if he knows how I feel; I've been obvious about it, but I've never been direct. I don't want to hurt him or his wife, but I feel like I'm going to go crazy if I don't do something different. Should I tell him? Stop emailing and try to move on? —Sad Sack

Hi Sack,

I am sorry dear, truly. Because this trope rarely plays out like a Hollywood romance. More often it plays out like reality TV: trashy, absurd and ultimately made up of empty calories of emotional energy. Don't bother spilling your sad sack of beans all over your keyboard for that mess!

You wonder if he is interested? Does he know you're interested? Are you being obvious enough? None of those questions matter

to wise old Kiki here: the "Other Woman" is a bum deal.

Even if your feelings are mutual and he is interested in having a romance with you, would you be able to depend on or trust a man who is cheating on his wife? Suppose he wanted to pack up and leave his wife for you—are you in a position in your own life to have a long-distance relationship with a

much older man who is untrustworthy, going through a painful and costly divorce and probably having a midlife crisis? Didn't think so.

Whether you like it or not, this guy is not for you, and confessing your crush will only erase a reference from your resume. It might be a good idea to ease the frustration and cut off communication for a while until the passion fades

from your typing fingers.

But look: You won't go crazy, and the world won't end. Feelings are not facts; they are all yours to manage and deal with, and they are known to change rather quickly. So let the feelings do their thing to you while your old buddy sits blissfully unaware, miles away, at home with the wife. When you're ready, you can go searching for a love interest who is appropriate for you to date (i.e. not your boss, not your dad's age and not married.) **Xoxo, Kiki**

Listen to wise old Kiki here: the "Other Woman" is a bum deal.

because you're talking about an older, married man who was your boss and lives far away. Nothing about your email leads me to believe that this man is either interested or available. Think this one through, tootsie.

If, as you say, he's happily married, and he isn't into you like that, then telling him your feelings could seriously disrupt the friendship/mentorship you have now. You'd be risking outright rejection and rebuke. If he did want to have an affair, do you think you could follow through with that? Listen



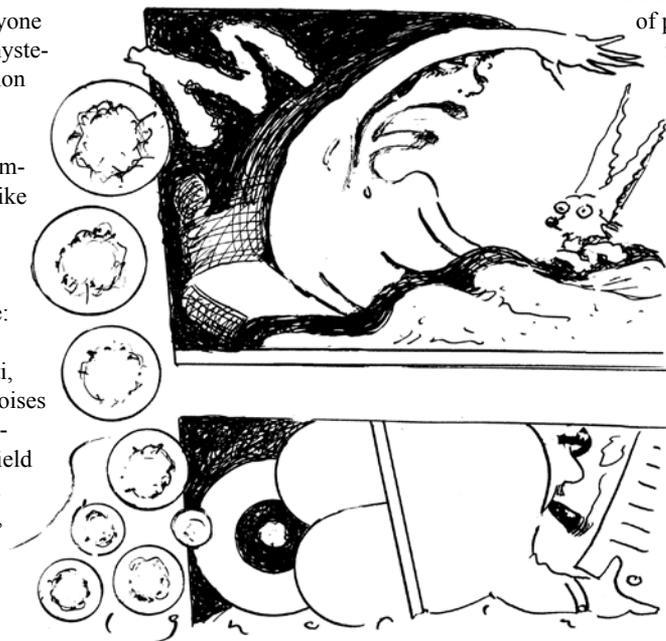
Questions about love and sex in the city of Iowa City can be submitted to dearkiki@littlevillagemag.com, or anonymously to littlevillagemag.com/dearkiki. Questions may be edited for clarity and length, and may appear either in print or online at littlevillagemag.com.

WHAT'S THAT MYSTERIOUS BOOMING SOUND?

Since April 2011, a mysterious deep, echoing, boom has been heard every Tuesday morning, spring through fall, throughout northwest Washington, D.C. It's always the same noise, between 6:30 and 8 a.m., and seems to originate from the south, likely across the Potomac River. The rumor was that it was early-morning drills from Arlington Cemetery, but I haven't been able to confirm this. Conspiracy? Very loud garbage truck? My dog and I are dying to hear your answer booming across cyberspace. —Beth Venit

You, your dog and everyone else, my friend. The mysterious-boom phenomenon is widespread enough to warrant an entry in the dictionary—*brontide*, defined by Merriam-Webster as “a low muffled sound like distant thunder” that’s “thought to be caused by feeble earth tremors”—as well as a robust selection of regional appellations worldwide: Off the coast of the Netherlands, they’re called *mistpoeffers*; in Haiti, it’s the *gouffre*. Here in the U.S., noises of murky provenance have been reported, in recent memory, as far afield as Charleston, South Carolina, and Clintonville, Wisconsin. The latter, a series of which Wisconsinites heard in 2012, were ultimately blamed on shallow earthquakes, not strong enough to cause any shaking but variously audible, according to CNN, as “rattling pipes, clanging metal, thunder or firecrackers.”

The former? Who knows? It’s not like no one’s had time to work it out, either—these booms have been going off for centuries. On expedition in Montana in 1805, Meriwether Lewis (of “and Clark” fame) reported hearing at irregular intervals a noise he called “the unaccountable artillery of the Rocky Mountains.” James Fenimore Cooper, describing circa 1850 the noises heard over Seneca Lake in upstate New York, arrived at the same metaphor: “a sound resembling the explosion of a heavy piece of artillery, that can be accounted for by none of the known laws of nature. The report is deep, hollow, distant, and imposing. The lake seems to be speaking to the surrounding hills, which send back the echoes of its voice in accurate reply.” “Seneca guns” caught on as a term for the phenomenon, yet folks are still fighting



about what it actually is; no less than the U.S. Geological Survey concedes that there “does not appear to be any agreement on what causes the Seneca guns.” Let’s look at some of the contenders:

- It’s probably not UFOs, not that that hasn’t been (inevitably) suggested. It’s also probably not a hypersonic U.S. spy plane, though some Brits were keen to suggest such when they heard a series of loud booms coming from the sky in late 2014. That said, the military *has* claimed responsibility in some cases; some coastal Virginians spent weeks trying to figure out the source of one boom in the 1970s before the Navy finally admitted that, yep, one of its planes had gone supersonic off the coast. It’s probably worth keeping in mind that Charleston, where such noises are frequently reported, is home to a joint Air Force-Navy base, and it’s not like those guys are eager to spill the beans about

what they’re getting up to.

- The credit for those booming noises in Britain ultimately went to a meteorite, which—it was surmised—flamed out over the British Isles before ditching into the sea.

- As mentioned above, seismic activity is always a good guess. According to a 2011 paper from the Seismological Society of America, “it seems that even smaller earthquakes are capable of producing audible sounds with no perceptible shaking,” as was the case in Wisconsin. This includes activity offshore—tsunamis, such as those caused by subsea earthquakes, are known to be capable of producing loud booming sounds—and a phenomenon called cryoseisms, wherein subterranean ice thaws or freezes rapidly, giving off a cracking sound in the process.

- Back at Seneca Lake, the prevailing theory points to underground natural gas deposits escaping to the surface. Given your proximity to the U.S. Capitol, Beth, I don’t think gaseous outbursts can be definitively ruled out here.

While we’re here, we’d be remiss not to mention the mysterious boom’s sonic cousin known as “the Hum”: a low-frequency auditory phenomenon that, by some estimates, between 2 and 10 percent of the world’s population is able to hear. (And perhaps be driven mad by—at least one amateur researcher has tried to link the Hum to the prevalence of U.S. mass shootings.)

A 2004 paper in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration* excluded the possibility that it’s just tinnitus (for what it’s worth, I’d excluded that possibility myself in a 1998 column) and suggested—not conclusively—that radio transmissions might have something to do with it. Further tests are pending.

Anyway, which of the above is you? Well, none of them, actually—I’m afraid your initial hunch was the correct one. “Yes, it is coming from here,” emails Jennifer Lynch, a public affairs officer at Arlington National Cemetery. “The Old Guard practices its battery salute every Tuesday before the cemetery opens.” The Old Guard, officially known as the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, conducts military ceremonies at high-profile occasions—presidential inaugurations, state funerals, and the like—and thus naturally needs to stay sharp. So much for nature’s timeless mysteries. **lv**

—Cecil Adams

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GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I foresee fertile chaos in your immediate future, Gemini. I predict lucky accidents and smoldering lucidity and disciplined spontaneity. Do you catch the spirit of what I'm suggesting? Your experiences will not be describable by tidy theories. Your intentions will not fit into neat categories. You will be a vivid embodiment of sweet paradoxes and crazy wisdom and confusing clarity. Simple souls may try to tone you down, but I hope you will evade their pressure as you explore the elegant contradictions you encounter. Love your life exactly as it is! Methodical improvisations will be your specialty. Giving gifts that are both selfish and unselfish will be one of your best tricks. "Healing extremes" will be your code phrase of power.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): According to many sources on the Internet, "werifesteria" is an obscure word from Old English. But my research suggests it was in fact dreamed up within the last few years by a playful hoaxster. Regardless of its origins, I think it's an apt prescription to fix what's bugging you. Here's the definition: "to wander longingly through the forest in search of mystery and adventure." If you are not currently seeking out at least a metaphorical version of that state, I think you should be. Now is an excellent time to reap the catalytic benefits of being willingly lost in a wild, idyllic, relaxing setting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): I'm debating about which of your astrological houses will be your featured hotspot in the coming days. I'm guessing it will come down to two options: your House of Valid Greed and your House of Obligatory Sharing. The House of Valid Greed has a good chance to predominate, with its lush feasts and its expansive moods. But the House of Obligatory Sharing has an austere beauty that makes it a strong possibility, as well. Now here's the trick ending, Leo: I'd like to see if you can emphasize both houses equally; I hope you'll try to inhabit them both at the same time. Together they will grant you a power that neither could bestow alone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Between now and July 25, there's a chance you will reach the peak of a seemingly unclimbable mountain. You could win a privilege that neither you nor anyone else ever dreamed was within your reach. It's possible you'll achieve a milestone you've been secretly preparing for since childhood. Think I'm exaggerating, Virgo? I'm not. You could break a record for the biggest or best or fastest, or you might finally sneak past an obstacle that has cast a shadow over your self-image for years. And even if none of these exact events comes to pass, the odds are excellent that you will accomplish another unlikely or monumental feat. Congratulations in advance!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "My mother gave birth to me once, yeah yeah yeah," writes author Sara Levine. "But I've redone myself a million times." I'm sure she is not demeaning her mom's hard work, but rather celebrating her own. When's the last time you gave birth to a fresh version of yourself? From where I stand, it looks like the next 12 to 15 months will be one of those fertile phases of reinvention. And right now is an excellent time to get a lightning-flash glimpse of what the New You might look like.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Author Rebecca Solnit offers some tough advice that I think you could use. "Pain serves a purpose," she says. "Without it you are in danger. What you cannot feel you cannot take care of." With that in mind, Scorpio, I urge you to take full advantage of the suffering you're experiencing. Treat it as a gift that will motivate you to transform the situation that's causing you to hurt. Honor it as a blessing you can use to rise above the mediocre or abusive circumstances you have been tolerating.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Aphorist James Guida contemplates the good results that can come from not imposing

expectations on the raw reality that's on its way. "Not to count chickens before they're hatched," he muses, "or eggs before they're laid, chickens who might possibly lay eggs, birds who from afar might be confused with chickens." I recommend this strategy for you in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. Experiment with the pleasure of being wide open to surprises. Cultivate a mood of welcoming one-of-a-kind people, things, and events. Be so empty you have ample room to accommodate an influx of new dispensations. As James Guida concludes: "Not to count or think of chickens."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "No gift is ever exactly right for me," mourns Capricorn poet James Richardson. Don't you dare be like him in the coming days. Do whatever you must to ensure that you receive at least one gift that's exactly right for you. Two gifts would be better; three sublime. Here's another thought from Richardson: "Success repeats itself until it is a failure." Don't you dare illustrate that theory. Either instigate changes in the way you've been achieving success, or else initiate an entirely new way. Here's one more tip from Richardson: "Those who demand consideration for their sacrifices were making investments, not sacrifices." Don't you dare be guilty of that sin. Make sacrifices, not investments. If you do, your sacrifices will ultimately turn out to be good investments.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Life will invite you to explore the archetype of the Ethical Interloper in the coming days. The archetype of the Helpful Transgressor may tempt you, as well, and even the Congenial Meddler or the Compassionate Trickster might look appealing. I urge you to consider experimenting with all of these. It will probably be both fun and productive to break taboos in friendly ways. You could reconnoiter forbidden areas without freaking anyone out or causing a troublesome ruckus. If you're sufficiently polite and kind in expressing your subversive intentions, you might leave a trail of good deeds in your wake.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your theme comes from the title of a poem by Fortesa Latifi: "I Am Still Learning How to Do the Easy Things." During the next phase of your astrological cycle, I invite you to specialize in this study. You may imagine that you are already a master of the simple, obvious arts of life, but here's the news: Few of us are. And the coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to refine your practice. Here's a good place to start: Eat when you're hungry, sleep when you're tired, and give love when you're lonely.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The voices in our heads are our constant companions. They fill our inner sanctuary with streams of manic commentary. Often we're not fully cognizant of the bedlam, since the outer world dominates our focus. But as soon as we close our eyes and turn our attention inward, we're immersed in the jabbering babble. That's the bad news, Aries. Now here's the good news. In the coming weeks you will have far more power than usual to ignore, dodge, or even tamp down the jabbering babble. As a result, you may get a chance to spend unprecedented amounts of quality time with the still, small voice at your core -- the wise guide that is often drowned out by all the noise.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): We are inclined to believe that the best way to see the whole picture or the complete story is from above. The eagle that soars overhead can survey a vast terrain in one long gaze. The mountaintop perspective affords a sweeping look at a vast landscape. But sometimes this perspective isn't perfectly useful. What we most need to see may be right next to us, or nearby, and it's only visible if our vision is narrowly focused. Here's how poet Charles Bernstein expresses it: "What's missing from the bird's eye view is plain to see on the ground." Use this clue in the coming weeks. **lv**

—Rob Breszney



MAX JURY

Max Jury
www.maxjury.com

A series of strong singles in 2014 established West Des Moines native Max Jury as able to craft instantly-classic songs influenced by laid back seventies West Coast singer-songwriters. These singles, which included the tongue-in-cheek “Black Metal,” started the snowball of acclaim and fueled expectation of his self-titled debut album, out on June 3.

Jury’s current home base is London, but the songs on his debut are pages from his diary filled with his time in the US recording the album. In an interview with Huffington Post he explains that the album was written as storytelling in his voice, adding, “This is really a look into my life and the lives of my friends for the last two years.”

“It was the golden age of being lost in love,” Jury sings in “Great American Novel,” which summarizes the emotionally honest, at times achingly sad, at times hopeful and pining tour of people and their relationships from the perspective of a writer quickly becoming my favorite tortured poet. Jury’s distinctive tenor vocals serve to guide the whole affair—whispering the secrets, lifting to hope, diving to despair.

The album was recorded in two locations—New York City and North Carolina—each unique session giving the album a balanced delivery of Spector-esque wall-of-sound and an updated take on early ’70s R&B and soul. The backing chorus of singers and the brass from the North Carolina sessions add a lushness that recalls the best pre-disco sides from Memphis—Isaac Hayes and The Dramatics come to mind. Jury is a top-notch piano player who at times reminds

me of Leon Russell and his swampy soul. The latest single, “Beg & Crawl,” is an example of the brilliant arranging on the album.

Jury’s distinctive tenor vocals serve to guide the whole affair—whispering the secrets, lifting to hope, diving to despair.

The descending, slightly slowing guitar riff before the verses and the glorious, triumphant blooming of horns and backing soul vocals at the chorus and the swirling effect on his voice at the bridge all add up to a song that should blast out of every radio this summer.

Max Jury has already started to gain visibility, having opened for Lana Del Rey and Rufus Wainwright on tour. His debut album will undoubtedly establish him as a peer among such unique artists.

—Mike Roeder



THE PHINEAS INCARNATION
Liquid Karma

www.thephineasincarnation.bandcamp.com

Liquid Karma is the work of Phineas Brady, a 17 year old drummer from Iowa City. He wasn’t even born when the genre known as IDM (Intelligent Dance Music) began gaining listeners. Brady’s chief inspiration

is the restless, jackhammer rush of artists like Squarepusher and Aphex Twin, but instead of intricately programmed drums, The Phineas Incarnation is built around Brady’s live drumming, combined with software synthesizers.

Equally as important to Brady is the prog-rock and jazz fusion of the 1970s. He loves odd meters, reminiscent of Billy Cobham’s work with the Mahavishnu Orchestra. There’s also echoes of Todd Rundgren’s most over-the-top prog impulses, and Yes’ *Tales Of Topographic Oceans*.

Like *Topographic Oceans* the song titles on *Liquid Karma* reach for an unsupportable profundity. From “Void: Emergence” to “Truth: I, Infinity” Brady seeks to tell the story of the entire universe in a little more than an hour. That would be ridiculous—well, it is ridiculous—if Brady didn’t have a remarkable mastery of harmony and rhythm.

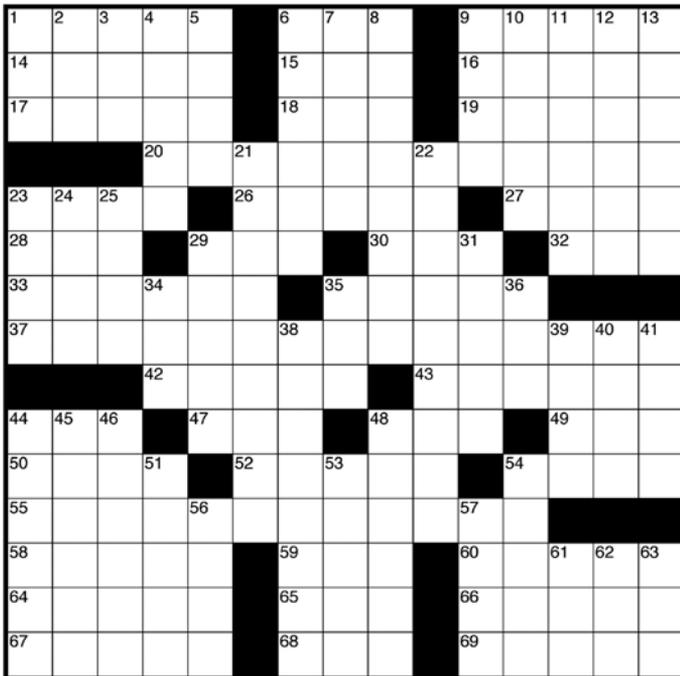
“Life: The Divine Paradox” begins with stutter-stop bass synth, and morphs through several disparate sections alternating between manic arpeggiation and sustained chords. “Life: Birth Of Omniscience,” the central section, is built on a dense rising chord sequence and stuttering drum rhythms. No one thing lasts long before moving on to other intricate vignettes.

Liquid Karma’s strength, the sheer volume of ideas, is also its biggest weakness. Brady packs so much into each track that the transitions can feel arbitrary. There’s about 10 albums worth of concepts here.

Brady flings about themes and rhythms like confetti, and its excesses, both musical and thematic, may be the point. It’s less about “Truth: Ego Death” and more about going as far as possible. It’s the same impulse that pushes a rapper to deliver the most extreme rhyme, or a punk band to be louder and snottier than anyone else. In the future, he may become a more disciplined composer—after he’s googled “Economy of Means” maybe—but *Liquid Karma* is a youthful indiscretion Brady can be proud of. **I**

—Kent Williams

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ACROSS

- 1. "Stop!," on Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 6. Cable alternative, briefly
- 9. Absent for
- 14. Working parents' hire
- 15. Helpful animal in rebuses
- 16. Singer Steve who acted in "The Wire"
- 17. Character in the "Smells Like Teen Spirit" video
- 18. Pound foot?
- 19. Carrier renamed in 1997
- 20. Starting to break free
- 23. Strokes, as a corgi
- 26. "Wake up, for I have made pancakes!"
- 27. Villain on TV's "Jake and the Never Land

Pirates"

- 28. Letters that start all Matador Records catalog numbers
- 29. Responder with smelling salts, briefly
- 30. Minuscule amount
- 32. Talk with your hands?: Abbr.
- 33. "Fine, you convinced me ..."
- 35. Renaissance musical form
- 37. Road game vibe, say
- 42. Kind of alcohol used as biofuel
- 43. Egyptian god whose name Ol' Dirty Bastard adopted homophonically
- 44. Letters for Letterman, from 1993 onward
- 47. Nat. with the world's tallest building
- 48. Musical format still sold at Best Buy

(who knew?)

- 49. "___ perfect world ..."
- 50. Central parts of bike wheels
- 52. "___ a Pill in Ibiza" (Mike Posner hit)
- 54. Taiwanese computer company
- 55. "Funny you should say that!"
- 58. Bra part
- 59. Figure head?
- 60. Court recitals
- 64. Bag that might hold guyliner
- 65. "___-haw!"
- 66. Kid's cough cause
- 67. Radiating part of a bike wheel
- 68. Odist's preposition
- 69. Butler's hand covering

DOWN

- 1. South American who lives high up
- 2. Shredding Steve
- 3. Carpenter ___
- 4. Stereotypical record store clerks
- 5. Spare in the boat
- 6. Kick out of the country
- 7. Hindu master teacher
- 8. Maine town where Bates College is located
- 9. Shrinks might address them
- 10. Brewery kilns
- 11. Emergency medicine journal
- 12. "___ Restaurant"
- 13. Studs in the bookshop
- 21. Cashmere alternative
- 22. Sky straight up, say
- 23. Hunny eater
- 24. Nevada city where a Hunter S. Thompson "Fear and Loathing" short story takes place
- 25. Plus-size model Holliday

- 29. "A Masked Ball" aria
- 31. Wet quality in the morning
- 34. Chevy El Camino, e.g., for short
- 35. Musician B or C
- 36. "You don't have to tell me every detail!," initially
- 38. Sympatico way to see
- 39. Tim's partner in sketch comedy
- 40. Baseball team, so to speak
- 41. Certain "Russian Ark" character
- 44. Daredevil's challenges
- 45. Separate
- 46. Mall pizza chain name
- 48. Pour-over beverage
- 51. Break-in covering
- 53. Groupon thing
- 54. Company that made Breakout
- 56. Foil cousin
- 57. One shouting at the sun
- 61. "Dracula" director Browning
- 62. Surround with arms?
- 63. "SNL" skit featuring Dieter and his monkey Klaus

LV199 ANSWERS



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 5 - 11pm Beverage Garden
 5 - 8pm Art Fair
 5:30pm Carnival Parade through Downtown
Main Stage
 7pm Aoife O'Donovan
 9pm The Wood Brothers

Saturday, June 4

10am - 7pm Art Fair
 Emerging Artist Pavilion
Co-Sponsored by Rockwell Collins & US Bank
 10am - 6pm Art Goes LIVE! Artist Demonstrations
 10am - 3pm Children's Day
Sponsored by MidWestOne Bank
 Family Stage
Sponsored by Dr. Suzanne Stock Orthodontist
 11am - 7pm Linn Street LIVE Stage
Sponsored by Rohrbach Associates PC Architects
 11am - 10:30pm Culinary Row
 12 - 11pm Beverage Garden

Main Stage

10am Iowa City Community Band
 11:30am Red Rock Hill
 1pm Sean Costanza
 2:30pm Henhouse Prowlers
 5pm Parsonsfield
 7pm Middle Western
 9pm Buckwheat Zydeco

Sunday, June 5

10am - 4pm Art Fair
 Art Goes LIVE!
 Artist Demonstrations
 Emerging Artist Pavilion
Co-Sponsored by Rockwell Collins & US Bank
 10am - 3pm Global Village
 Family Stage
Sponsored by Dr. Suzanne Stock Orthodontist
 11am - 4pm Culinary Row
 Linn Street LIVE Stage
Sponsored by Rohrbach Associates PC Architects
 12 - 4pm Beverage Garden

Main Stage

10am Goin' Up Caney
 11:30am Parsonsfield
 1pm Cedar County Cobras
 2:30pm Dandelion Stompers