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LITTLE VILLAGE



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PUBLISHER MATTHEW STEELE
PUBLISHER@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

DIGITAL DIRECTOR DREW BULMAN
WEB@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

ART DIRECTOR JORDAN SELLERGREN
JORDAN@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

ARTS EDITOR GENEVIEVE TRAINOR
GENEVIEVE@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

NEWS DIRECTOR LAUREN SHOTWELL
LAUREN@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

VISUAL REPORTER ZAK NEUMANN
ZAK@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

FOOD & DRINK DIRECTOR FRANKIE SCHNECKLOTH
FRANKIE@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER TREVOR LEE HOPKINS
DISTRO@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

VENUE ACCOUNT MANAGER JOSHUA PRESTON
JOSHUA@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

OFFICE & PRODUCTION MANAGER
NATALIA ARAUJO
NATALIA@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

EDITOR & PRODUCTION MANAGER
ELEANORE TAFT
ELEANORE@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

MARKETING COORDINATOR JAV DUCKER
JAV@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

ADVERTISING ADS@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

LISTINGS CALENDAR@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

CONTRIBUTORS CECIL ADAMS, COURTENAY BOUVIER, LIV CARROW, NATE LOGSDON, D. J. MOSER, MIKE ROEDER, KENT WILLIAMS, BAYNARD WOODS

IMAGERY BLAIR GAUNTT, L. D. MAY, MIKE STENERSON, JOSHUA TIBBETTS, SAM LOCKE WARD

SUBMISSIONS EDITOR@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

DISTRIBUTION REQUESTS
DISTRO@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

CREATIVE SERVICES
CREATIVE@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

CONTACT (319) 855-1474
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Bever Avenue, Cedar Rapids, 1960

8

Meeting in the Middle

Fair housing, 1960s-style.

KENT WILLIAMS

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Stoned on the Right

Is Roger Stone blowing smoke?

BAYNARD WOODS



IN BLOOM
Photo by Mike Stenerson

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Photo: Bethanie Hines Photography

/peh-LO-tah/

BY MARC BAMUTHI JOSEPH

Thursday, May 4, 2017, 7:30 pm

Poet and performer **Marc Bamuthi Joseph**'s new multi-disciplinary work considers soccer as a conduit for both joy and corruption around the globe. With live music drawn from multiple traditions, dance, poetry, shadow work, and film, **/peh-LO-tah/** connects the beautiful game to our beautiful, complex, interconnected lives.

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TURN AROUND

NOSTALGIA CAN BE a powerful force. Looking back can trap us in the past, or be the trigger that propels us forward. The past informs who we are today, even as we sometimes try to escape it.

In this issue, we take an in-depth look back at a turning point in Cedar Rapids civil rights history through the lens of one family's fight for housing, exploring what has and hasn't changed since.

Democracy in Crisis visits with a politician who is re-thinking some of the views that drove him in the past.

Hot Tin Roof dives into the depths of childhood memory and how it defines the author's present.

Meanwhile, the ongoing struggle to push politics toward deeper understanding of science takes to the streets with several local satellites of the Washington D.C. March for Science. Looking back on how we have treated the earth in the past, and what science tells us the future may look like, has highlighted the importance of taking action and made the way forward clear to many.

The key to engaging our past is that we must always be learning from it. Don't get stuck there, but don't ignore it either. Let it motivate you.

—LV Editors

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Clothes to enjoy the warmth in.

MIKE STENERSON

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An alternative to alternative facts.

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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.

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**PLEASE SAVE,
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THIS MAGAZINE.**

The opening of the Rapid Creek Cidery at Wilson's Orchard on Dingleberry Road has been noted in several media stories applauding the project. While I am agnostic about the new building itself, there is an aside to the cidery story that should concern all county citizens. The cidery offers unique amenities, but those came at a high price and I hope they remain one of a kind.

The item in the June 2015 agenda was simple: An application by Wilson's Orchard for a conditional use permit for a retail orchard

and winery. As defined in the Johnson County Code of Ordinances, a retail orchard is "land used for the growing and limited sale of trees, fruits, vegetables and the retail sale of assorted products not produced on site." The ordinance defines a cidery as "a facility for the preparation, marketing and distribution of (cider). May include a tasting room or sales area." Good for Wilson's, I thought. Not thinking those definitions would be abused, I did not attend that meeting.

What was not evident from the agenda, and

what I did not have an opportunity to object to, was the orchard's proposal for a 400-seat events center, hosting an unlimited number of events and a five-days-a-week restaurant. These two uses do not exist in our ordinance and have never before occurred on agricultural zoned land.

According to the ordinance, people with events centers on agricultural land may only apply for a multiple special events permit that allows them to host a maximum of 12 events a year. Only an events center on commercial zoned land can have unlimited events. The ordinance also states the only place a restaurant can be located is on commercial zoned land.

If Wilson's Orchard's expansion occurred on commercial land, the ordinance would permit it and I would have no objection. But it is on agriculture land, so I am disappointed in a process and policy failure and the lack of political will to immediately correct it. The ordinance failed to protect us, and this abuse of discretion should not be repeated.

The new Planning Development and Sustainability administrator has stated that the process that resulted in the expansion of Wilson's Orchard would not be repeated. Johnson County has applied zoning ordinances for 57 years that clearly state what structures and what activities can occur on land with specific types of zoning—residential, agricultural and commercial. When properly applied, the ordinance minimizes incompatible uses between neighbors; gives residents rules they depend on; preserves farmland; and helps define orderly growth in the rural areas of the county. The failure at Wilson's Orchard to prevent the separation of agricultural and commercial activities should give county residents sober pause as we look ahead.

Johnson County is presently reviewing its land use policies as it creates a new comprehensive plan in 2018. We need to prevent the drip, drip, drip of rural development such as the Dooley Farm in 2013 and Wilson's Orchard that cumulatively creates urban sprawl. We also need creativity to increase options for small-acre farmers and ag-tourism businesses. These opportunities need to be in proportion to what rural areas can sustain. Rapid Creek Cidery came at a heavy price for the county. We cannot ruin with unsustainable development the very rural ambience we cherish and that attracts visitors. **lv**

—Tom Carsner



INTERACTIONS

Twenty-week abortion ban passes Iowa house

“2018 elections are less than 2 years away. We’ve got a lot of work to do to let some (too many) legislators know they have made some very bad decisions this session—by voting them out of office.” —*Pam Haines Willard*

“These people are all for ‘babies,’ but not for the people who are already born. The physical and mental health of women means nothing to them. The toll a severely malformed fetus, if born, takes on a family emotionally and economically means nothing to them. The suffering a child with severe physical problems endures means nothing to them. Yes, they are all about babies, yet they want to pull healthcare for pregnant women and infants at the national level. Hypocrites all of them.” —*Dianne Roche*

“I disagree with their legislation—there can be reason after twenty weeks.” —*Bill Waterbury*

An ephemeral night at Mission Creek as day four captures Dickie, DIIV and Pieta Brown

“A great night at The Englert—Karen Meat was an excellent surprise. But the night belonged to DIIV’s Zachary Cole Smith, whose much publicized struggle with heroin addiction has been a tough go. If I’m not mistaken this was his first appearance since rehab. Here’s hoping he stays sober because he’s a phenomenal talent.” —*John Duignan*

LV Recommends: 4 diners and restaurants to find pancakes supreme in the Iowa City area

“Sorry LV, this list is incomplete without Leaf Kitchen’s granola pancakes!” —*Nicole Yeager*

Big Grove Brewery and Taproom brings a homey vibe to former lumberyard

“Really cool place. Can’t wait to see it once the “backyard” is done. Love the speaker collage behind the stage.” —*Bradley Grupe*

“Not sure why they keep saying former lumberyard because it wasn’t. It was Iowa surplus store.” —*Pat McArtor*

“It was a lumberyard, before it was the surplus.” —*Renee Pityer*

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

1. PRIVATE CORPORATION ENLISTS POWER OF THE STATE TO ENFORCE CAPRICIOUS REGULATION.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE'VE REACHED OUR CRUISING ALTITUDE OF 36,000 FEET! BUT IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE FUEL EFFICIENCY, THE UNDERCOVER SKY MARSHALS ARE GOING TO SELECT A VOLUNTEER TO JUMP OUT OF THE PLANE!

WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE!

2. VIDEO OF INCIDENT GOES VIRAL; COMPANY'S SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS ARE UNAPOLOGETIC.

Passengers are cargo, stripped of human rights and any vestige of dignity. If you don't like it, stay home!

Anyway, it's not OUR fault if the guy didn't know how to use a parachute! _(ツ)_/

Please direct further inquiries to someone else. We have better things to do with our time, LOL! 🤪🤪🤪

3. SOMEBODY DIGS UP SOME DIRT ON THE PASSENGER IN QUESTION.

HE RECEIVED SEVERAL SPEEDING TICKETS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS!

SO HE HAD A HISTORY OF LAWLESS BEHAVIOR?

HE WAS DEFINITELY NO ANGEL!

4. CEO ISSUES INCREMENTAL APOLOGIES AND WAITS FOR THE WHOLE THING TO BLOW OVER.

WE ARE SORRY THE DISRUPTIVE PASSENGER DID NOT COMPLY WITH OUR NEED TO RE-ACCOMMODATE HIM OUT OF THE AIRPLANE MID-FLIGHT!

ER, THAT IS-- WE ARE VERY SORRY!

THAT HE WAS SO UNCOOPERATIVE.

5. PUBLIC OUTRAGE IS INEVITABLY FOLLOWED BY CONTRARIAN HOT TAKES.

ACTUALLY, THROWING PASSENGERS OUT OF AIRPLANES IS GOOD!

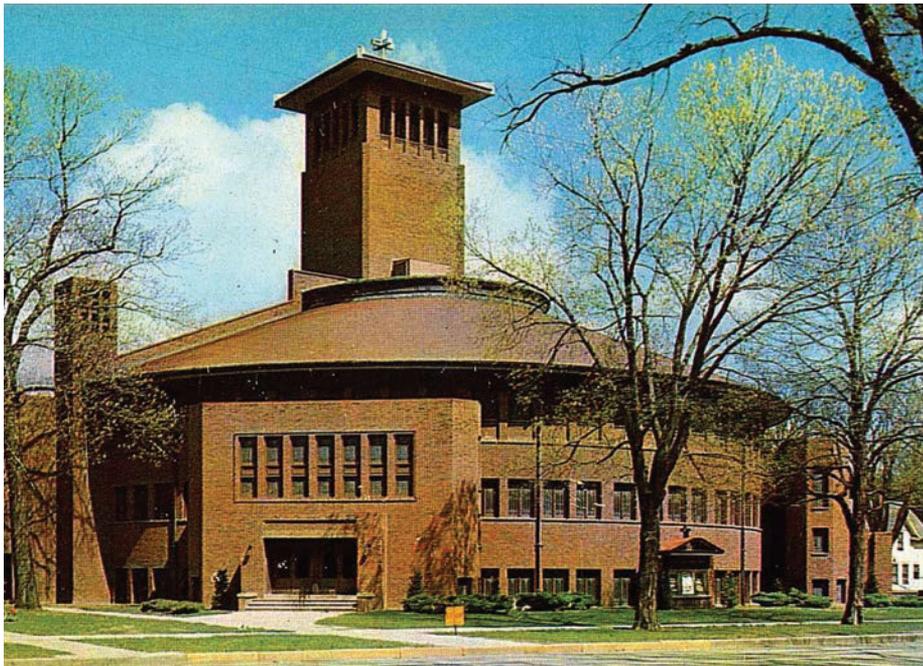
IF YOU READ PARAGRAPH 97 SUBSECTION 15(e) OF THE CONTRACT OF CARRIAGE, THE RIGHT TO EJECT PASSENGERS AT ANY ALTITUDE IS CLEARLY SPELLED OUT!

6. EVENTUALLY IT ALL SEEMS PERFECTLY NORMAL.

AGENTS FROM THE BUREAU OF ARBITRARY ENFORCEMENT JUST VAPORIZED AN ENTIRE FAMILY IN THEIR OWN QUARTERS!

WELL, THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RESIST A POLITE REQUEST TO VOLUNTARILY RE-ACCOMMODATE YOURSELF TO THE NEAREST INTERNMENT CENTER!

TOM TOMORROW © 2017



**St. Paul's
Methodist
Church
1340 3rd
Ave SE,
Cedar
Rapids**

**Photo
courtesy of
The History
Center, Linn
County
Historical
Society**

practice across the street from Armstrong's Department Store. Harris told him he could not find a decent lot to build a home on for his rapidly expanding family, as no one would sell land in a white neighborhood to an African American. Armstrong proposed the church sell land to Harris as a win-win—the church would receive money for its building fund, and the Harrises would have their new home. A meeting was held in order for the congregation of St. Paul's to vote on whether to allow the sale to go forward.

Growing up in Cedar Rapids, I'd heard the story of this famous St. Paul's meeting, but never heard much detail; attending Harris' memorial sparked my interest in finding out what information was available. I visited the African American Museum of Iowa to see what they had and was surprised to find a transcript of the meeting. There is an audio recording of the proceedings, currently archived at the University of Iowa Library. There are also articles about it from the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* and a report in the national African American magazine *Jet*.

The transcript of the meeting is at turns dramatic and bureaucratic. The last third is taken up with wrangling over the rules of order and how a vote would be taken. But Armstrong's opening speech is remarkable for a well-to-do white man in 1961. In it, he said, "There is a world issue today and that world issue is whether there are second-rate people in the world. Whether the white race is a supreme race. And whether men and women are entitled a life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, regardless of their race, color or creed. And that is the reason that we can't dodge this issue."

Armstrong gave some of Harris' personal history: losing both his parents, growing up poor, working his way through college and medical school at Howard University as a janitor at the Senate Office Building in Washington D.C.

"I feel that this man as a Christian brother in this church should be given the opportunity to live where he wishes to live, and if this man is good enough to become a member of St. Paul's Church and take the oath of membership in this church, I believe that he is good enough to live beside me, or you, or any

"The Whole World Is Here Tonight"

One small step in pushing a community towards greater tolerance.

BY KENT WILLIAMS

At Percy Harris' Memorial Service on Jan. 30 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Cedar Rapids, Ted Townsend, the president of St. Luke's Hospital, began his eulogy for Dr. Harris by saying that before he met him, he'd heard so many good things about him that he was surprised to find out he was still alive. It was a funny line and on the edge of inappropriate for a memorial, but would have tickled Harris' famous sense of humor. It would be difficult to find someone in Cedar Rapids who has a bad word to say about Harris. He devoted his life to serving Cedar Rapids, becoming its first black physician in 1957. He later served as the Linn County Medical Examiner, President of Medical Staff at St. Luke's and for two terms as a member of the Iowa Board of Regents.

One of the most famous incidents of Harris' life was the controversy that surrounded the 1961 decision of St. Paul's United

Methodist Church—where he was, according to fellow parishioner Carolyn Wellso, the only African American member—to sell him a lot on which to build his home. Robert Armstrong, owner of Armstrong's Department Store, had donated land adjacent to his Bever Avenue home to the church as a contribution to its building fund; he proposed to the board that they sell a lot to Harris.

The parcel to be sold was in an affluent, all-white neighborhood. Indian Creek Hills, still an affluent area of town, is bordered by Cottage Grove Road on the north, Mount Vernon Road on the south, 34th Street on the west and East Post Road on the east. This southeast-side area of Cedar Rapids was and is the home to business people and professionals. In 1961 it was exclusively white. The race line was enforced by property owners, who refused to sell to black people, and by realtors who steered black families to black neighborhoods. Syrian and Lebanese families were also not allowed east of 19th Street until the mid-1950s.

Armstrong had become friends with the family when Harris opened his medical



The Harris Family
Percy and Lileah Harris pictured in their Bever Avenue home with ten of their twelve children, 1968. Photo from 'A Healing Presence in Our Community: the Percy G. Harris Story'. This photo originally appeared in a Maytag advertisement in 'Ebony' Magazine.

other member of this church.”

The opposition to selling the land among the congregation was substantial. Their unofficial leader was Jack Hatt, who lived across the street from Armstrong and the vacant lot Harris wanted to purchase. He was actually in business with Armstrong, as part owner of the Armstrong's Parking Garage.

Hatt's stated concern—and the concern of the other parishioners who opposed the

sale—was the value of his home. The loss of property value if black families moved into a neighborhood was a long standing rationale for opposing integration of housing. Armstrong, in his speech, addressed this by citing an academic study and a story in the *Saturday Evening Post* magazine that he called, “When a Negro Moves Into Your Neighborhood” (actual title: “When a Negro Moves Next Door,” by Ellsworth E. Rosen with Arnold Nicholson, which was published April 4, 1959).

Hatt's feelings ran high in his speech. He told the congregation, “You have a man right before you that went through more things than Percy Harris has ever gone through.” He then challenged the audience, “What would you do if it was next door to you?” before discussing delivering newspapers and his family being too poor to buy shoes.

The assumption of the statements against the sale were that the objection was not about race, or about the Harris' character. Aside from property values, some people were upset that the church had become involved in the controversy, no matter the outcome, just because of the attention it generated amongst

non-members and the news media. No one would say out loud that Harris' skin color was the problem.

This was the “Iowa Nice” of 60 years ago. Iowa has historically been progressive with regard to civil rights. Schools were integrated and black men allowed to vote before the turn of the 20th Century. Compared to some places in the United States, black folks had it relatively good in Cedar Rapids. But it would be

naive to say—even now—that there is no racism in Iowa. In 1961 and now, it was simply impolite in the extreme to express it openly.

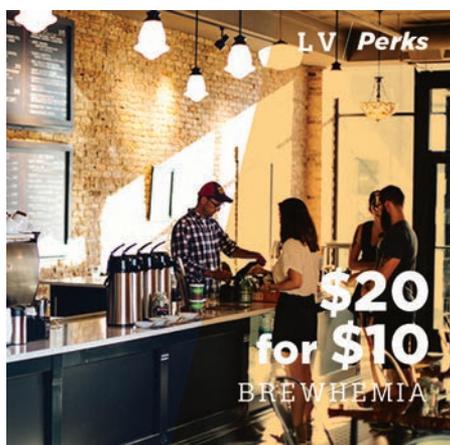
In the context of St. Paul's congregation, it was even less acceptable. The minister Dr. Jackson Burns, the church board members and most of the congregation had welcomed Harris enthusiastically. The social concerns committee of the church had passed resolutions supporting civil rights since the 1950s. Burns went so far as to say, if the congregation did not vote for the sale, “it will break my heart.”

Wellso, a lifelong member of St. Paul's United Methodist, was at the meeting 56 years ago. She identified several speakers in the transcript for me, and recalled vividly the speech of Mrs. Shirley Finger, who she described as “thin and soft spoken, wearing her beige cloth coat and matching hat.” Finger reiterated the opposition's arguments against the sale, and against the church even being involved at all.

But then she got right to the point with her blunt counterargument: “This is the issue: Are we a Christian church or not?” Finger asked. “And if we are not, then this is a good time to decide it and get it decided definitely and not go on being hypocritical about it. If the majority of this church do not believe that



Robert Armstrong Photo courtesy of The History Center, Linn County Historical Society



people are equal in the sight of God, then let's say so to the world. I look at this congregation from a place where I stand Sunday after Sunday, and I cannot believe that this congregation will not vote for this man. There will be nothing in my life which would ever break my heart as much as to have this congregation vote 'no' on this issue tonight."

She continued, raising the stakes for the congregation, "This is not just St. Paul's Church here tonight ... This is the world, the whole world is here tonight. And this is one of the great problems of the world. And to say that the church should not be involved in facing the great problems of the world is to say that the church should not do its job. Where else should this problem be solved if not in the church?"

In the end the congregation voted 460 for the sale and 291 against. But the story did not end there. Some of the parishioners who voted "no" left and formed their own congregation called Lovely Lane United Methodist, which, it should be noted, now explicitly welcomes all people to their congregation.

Percy Harris and his wife Lileah built their house and raised their 12 children there. And as Armstrong predicted it did not change real estate values at all.

The teachings of the Methodist Church were central to the decision made. Churches have led the way in the civil rights movement throughout the country. In 2017, we have a secular tradition of social justice and racial equality. In 1961 and before, the teachings of the New Testament—arguably the the most important moral force in the United States then—were crucial in those fights. The teachings of Jesus and Christianity were argued effectively to be fundamentally incompatible with segregation.

The black community in 1961 was generally supportive of Harris, according to Harriet Johnson, who attended grade school with Harris' son Bruce and whose mother was the first black nurse at St. Luke's Hospital, where Harris interned. She told me, "The attitude was that he should be able to live wherever he wanted to live as long as he had the money."

Relating these events to the current thought and rhetoric around civil rights, it might be easy to minimize what occurred at St. Paul's. The congregation was a group of white people, secure in their own privilege and standing, granting a small concession to one black family. At the same time, just standing for the integration of one of the whitest

CAS Summer 2017 Film Series

and most affluent neighborhoods in the city was not a decision to be taken lightly. The congregation had a lot of businessmen and professionals who had to interact with people not as forward thinking as the congregation of St. Paul's.

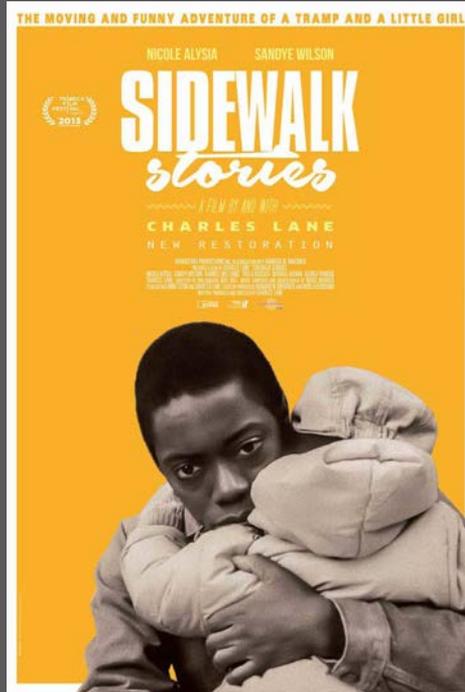
The vote at St. Paul's did not end housing discrimination in Cedar Rapids. But it was a beginning. In the 60s and 70s a small number of black professionals bought homes in the city's more affluent neighborhoods. Since African Americans are on balance less affluent, they are still concentrated mostly in traditionally black neighborhoods, where house prices are lower and rental units plentiful. The black middle class has expanded as well, and events like Rotary Club lunches and Symphony Concerts, where the Harrises were for years the only black people in attendance, have become more diverse.

Though discrimination against African-Americans has diminished since 1961, it has not gone away. Former director of the Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission Karl Cassell told me, "There's absolutely still housing discrimination happening. It's coded in different language, but you have property managers who are steering people away or not giving people the opportunity to live in their units." Some realtors are "directing black people to lower income or 'tough' neighborhoods because they believe it's the only place they should live," Cassell said.

Harris' greatest contribution to civil rights may have been what now might seem like an old fashioned idea. As a black man, he engaged the overwhelmingly white population of Iowa personally. He and Lileah would visit small towns and have Sunday teas to bring together two or three families to discuss race, humanizing African Americans for white people who had never personally encountered them before.

In later years, Lileah Harris referred to the dispute over the Harrises buying the land from the church as "quite a little fight." It was, but it was a seminal fight for the Harrises, the church, the city and the country. To the Harrises, civil rights was a long war fought over many years, but one with hundreds of "little fights," fought not with weapons or harsh words, but kindness, compassion and humor. **lv**

Kent Williams (CR Washington 1975) has had an uneasy relationship with his adopted hometown, Cedar Rapids.



Sunday April 23 at 8pm
Sidewalk Stories
A 1989 remake of Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid* by Charles Lane, and a humorous and subtle meditation on race, class, and fatherhood.

Sunday, May 28 at 8pm
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Sunday, June 25 at 8pm
My Brother's Wedding
by Charles Burnett

Sunday, July 23 at 8pm
A Program of Short Films



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Roger Stoned

Republican Dirty Trickster can almost sound like a hippie (when he's not talking crazy) • BY BAYNARD WOODS

Roger Stone has two bongs shaped like his hero, Richard Nixon. “One’s in the shape of his head, the other is kind of more artsy,” he said. “They’re both very cool but they’re a symbol to me that the war on drugs, as waged by Nixon, was a failure. *Is a failure.*”

Stone, the famous Republican dirty-trickster dandy who first came to public attention when a stunt to discredit a Nixon opponent came to light in the Watergate hearings, is as responsible for Trump’s ascent to the presidency as anyone. He has been urging Trump to run since the late 1980s and was an early manager of last year’s campaign. He saw Nixon’s anti-elitism as key to a future Republican victory—and was proven right when he helped a billionaire ride to the White House on the back of resentment against “the establishment.” He has a long history of racist and sexist remarks and founded an organization—Citizens United Not Timid—so he could call Hillary Clinton a “cunt.”

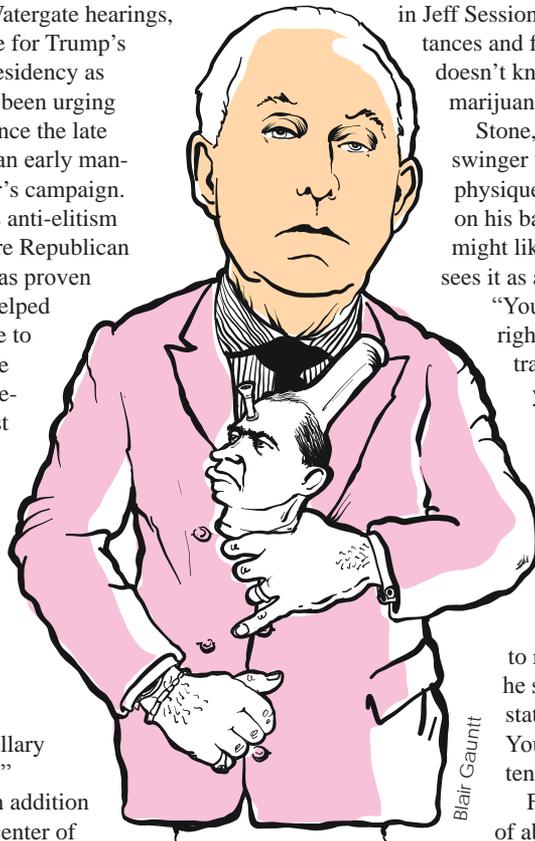
But of late, in addition to being at the center of

the Russia scandal, Stone has been chiding the president for not reigning in Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ outdated ideas about drugs.

“Sessions comes out of that conservative, southern, old-time tradition,” Stone told me on the phone. “I think he’s quoted as saying, ‘Good people don’t smoke marijuana.’ No, senator, sick people smoke marijuana. And

it helps them. More than western medicine sometimes. He has no life experience with that. He could not possibly understand because, you know, with-

Stone was starting to sound like a hippie again.



Blair Gaunt

in Jeff Sessions’ circle of acquaintances and friends, he probably doesn’t know anyone who smokes marijuana.”

Stone, a snazzy-dressing swinger with a bodybuilding physique and a tattoo of Nixon on his back, is a libertine who might like to toke. But he also sees it as a philosophical issue.

“You can’t be for states’ rights when it comes to transgender bathrooms; you can’t be for states’ rights when it comes to abortion; you can’t be for states’ rights when it comes to medicinal marijuana, and then be against states’ rights when it comes to recreational marijuana,” he said. “Either you’re for states’ rights or you’re not. You’ve got to be consistent.”

For a crafty veteran of about 10 presidential

campaigns, it's a political issue as well.

"I think a lot of younger voters, I think a lot of libertarian-oriented voters—they may not even know that term—but voters who are fiscally conservative but socially progressive, I think they voted for Trump," Stone said. Among those coming to Trump were pothead supporters of Gary Johnson.

I asked if he had talked to the president about it directly. "I'm gonna duck that question," he said. "I just don't want to fuck up my effectiveness, so I'd rather not address it."

I wondered if Sessions—and by extension, Trump—might want to keep the drug war going for the same reason they started it, according to Nixon aide John Ehrlichman, who told *Harper's* reporter Dan Baum that the administration used it to target and demonize its political enemies.

"The Nixon campaign in 1968, and the Nixon White House after that, had two enemies: the antiwar left and black people. You understand what I'm saying?" Ehrlichman told Baum in 1994. "We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities. We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did."

"I'm not sure if it was as nefarious as Ehrlichman would put it," Stone said. "I mean, yeah, at the time, the Nixonites, myself included, thought that all hippies smoke marijuana and all hippies were against the war and therefore all hippies were wrong."

Now he has rethought all of that.

"In retrospect, I—any objective person has to realize that the war on drugs has been one giant, expensive, ignominious failure. We're incarcerating people, we're not rehabilitating anyone. We're destroying lives over non-violent crimes, sometimes first-offense crimes. The whole question of drug abuse should be viewed as a public-health issue, not a criminal issue."

And to show just how bizarre our political world is now, Stone, the ultimate Nixonian, is not only pro-pot but anti-war ("Anti pointless war when our national interest is not perfectly clear" he later clarified via text). Even if he recognizes some political benefits—including taking the "wind out of" the Russia investigations—to bombing another country, he said

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that, “going forward, Syria to me is a defining moment.”

“If this extends to a wider war, boots on the ground, saturation bombing, well then, the Trump coalition will fracture, and it will be hard for him to govern.”

Ever conspiracy-minded, Stone wondered if the chemical attack on civilians may have been what conspiracy theorists call a false flag.

“Could the use of chemical weapons in Syria have been a false flag not perpetrated by Assad?” he asked. “Look up Gulf of Tonkin, but carefully. It never fucking happened. It was a phony operation Johnson used to justify a wider Vietnam War. That’s an indisputable fact today. We didn’t know it at the time. So yeah, I think the Deep State is capable of anything.”

It is true that Johnson—who Stone believes had Kennedy assassinated—lied about U.S. ships coming under fire in the Gulf of Tonkin, justifying the resolution which remains the blueprint for military action undertaken by presidents without congressional approval. But that doesn’t necessarily say much about what is happening now in Syria.

But for Stone, it’s all part of the Deep State.

“There’s a permanent bureaucracy—I think what Eisenhower called the military industrial complex—of people in the Pentagon and the intelligence agencies and the defense contracting industry who have one neocon-based worldview,” he said. “They like foreign wars; they’re extremely profitable for some people.”

Stone was starting to sound like a hippie again.

But as he went on about the Deep State, which he thinks may have twice tried to assassinate him recently, I wondered if weed was making him paranoid—he has, after all, claimed to be developing a strain called Tricky Dick, whose primary feature, I imagine, would be paranoia.

“Am I paranoid? No, I’m pretty realistic,” he responded. **lv**

Baynard Woods is editor at large at the 'Baltimore City Paper.'

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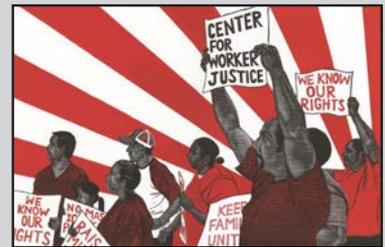
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Caucho

Tacos are perfect, no matter what form they take: Whether hard shell or soft, spicy or mild, meaty or vegetarian, a taco's deliciousness and convenience are peerless. I'd argue that, like sex, even a bad taco is still pretty damned good.

A margarita, on the other hand, is easy to ruin. Too often, the flavor of tequila is barely discernible in the too-sweet tang of frozen sour mix, and the whole thing amounts to nothing more than a mediocre Slurpee. A middling margarita can dull the shine of even the most stellar taco.

This is part of why Caucho is such a gem:

Their margaritas are perfection. Whether delivered as a mixed-from-scratch top-shelf cocktail rimmed with smoked paprika salt, or as a frozen, blended house margarita straight from a machine, the drink combines perfectly with their fresh, farm-to-table, eclectic selection of Mexican favorites.

The smokiness of a high-end reposado supports and enhances the earthy bite of the tlacoyo, a savory, tender masa empanada stuffed with black beans and melty, molten chihuahua cheese. The cooling crispness of the frozen house margarita cuts the charred piquancy of the addictive house escabeche, which features grilled farm-fresh vegetables pickled with vinegar and chilies.

Variations on the margarita, like the Up in



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Photo by Joshua Tibbetts

Smoke—a succulent blend of mezcal, pineapple, lime and smoked salt—complement the herbed echoes of Berkshire pork lard in the frijoles refritos, which are freakishly delicious in their own right. And the tacos, served on soft corn tortillas, go well with everything—though I’m partial to the carnitas, served with house-made chicharrones, black mole, onion and lime, washed down with a Lion Bridge draft.

It’s almost a shame that the menu is so full of deliciously executed small plates and entrees, though, because it is imperative that you order dessert. A snifter from their vast selection of higher-end tequila embraces the

tart heat of the tamarind and ancho that coat the dark chocolate pelotas; I prefer the Don Julio añejo, though I’m open to suggestions.

And let the pelotas be dessert, round one;

if you leave Caucho without indulging in the churros and chocolate, you have done Caucho incorrectly. Rolled in cinnamon sugar and served with pasilla-dark chocolate ganache for dipping, the warm, melty pastry

of the churro is what every doughnut and beignet wishes it were. Wash it down with a lightly sweet house-made horchata, but make sure you’re close to home: You’re going to need a nap. **lv**

—Courtenay Bouvier

It’s almost a shame that the menu is so full of deliciously-executed small plates and entrees, though, because it is imperative that you order dessert.

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Hot Tin Roof: April

Gratitude

So I'm like eight, and my hair is slicked with Vitalis, and I'm riding in the back seat of our old Ford station wagon, surrounded by my brothers and my sister, my parents up front, my old man smoking Tareytons. He's rolled the windows up tight to seal in the goodness like Tupperware, and we're rolling down the Mass Pike to GG's funeral.

GG was our great grandmother. (We really should have called our grandmother G, but never did.) It's a two-hour drive and I don't—or didn't—know GG well enough to be crazy sad; instead, I'm shifting around my clip-on tie, feeling around the floor with my feet, bored as shit.

Underneath some jumper cables a sandy black sweatshirt has been pressed flat and stiff as a dead cat. A glass 7Up bottle moves with the car; I stop it with my toe. It's small but heavy, the kind you'd get from a gas station soda machine with a wooden crate next to it for the empties.

I pick it up and position my middle finger inside. The bottle's neck is satisfyingly snug and still a little sticky. I swing my hand around a bit, the bottle tipped up, the weight causing it to lurch around like a drunk puppet.

The puppet counts the trees, until another matter takes priority.

Almost as fast as ESP, the news that my finger is stuck spreads, first through the back

seat and then the way back. It's understood by all that transmitting this news to the cockpit would be unwise. My strongest brother tugs on the bottle, twisting and pulling as both our faces redden. Maybe a little spit'll do it. Nope.

Uh ... Dad?

He's surprisingly calm at first, maybe even happy to have a distraction, and he tells me to reach over his shoulder. His cigarette at high noon in his driving hand, with his free hand he nearly tears my goddamned arm off.

Christ—that's really stuck.

A minute later, we've pulled over, and Dad and I are standing at the side of the road, but no amount of pulling will set me free. In fact, the part of my finger inside the bottle seems to get fatter by the minute, so that when my old man turns the bottle, the finger turns, too. *Well ... we'll just have to break it, he says.*

I'm not sure which he means, but does it matter? I wrench myself away from him, losing my balance and falling on my ass in the wet snow with my ridiculous 7Up bottlefinger held up towards the sky, like: *Yeah, fuck you, Universe!*

Mom emerges from her grief. She wants to get there hours ahead of time to help Gladys with the flowers, but recognizes that now we have to go home and find a better way. Back we go—forty minutes of silence—equal parts Mom's sadness, Dad's exasperation, my

increasing panic and my siblings' swallowed laughter.

It's a comfort being home, but still nothing works. Butter? Pam? Something called KY Jelly? Nope. Nope. Nope. Minutes pass. Mom's on the kitchen phone explaining that something has come up. She looks skinny and sick, and I can tell from her end of the conversation that Gladys is freaking out.

It's when the old man gives up and lights another smoke that the truly drastic solution comes to him. He puts our big spaghetti pot on the stove, half full of water, and heats it up. It steams and starts to bubble. *Hey—get over here.* Suddenly, smashing the bottle with a tire tool seems pretty smart. *Stick the bottom of the bottle in there—just the bottle not your hand—not your hand—got it?* I am starting to cry, but I do what he says, and almost instantly my finger is freed with a loud champagne pop. It's a happy, festive sound followed by a family hurrah—not what you expect on funeral day.

Back in the car, we speed toward central Mass, finally getting there with fifteen minutes to spare. Plenty of time to rotate a couple flower vases, it turns out. During the service I try to feel sad about GG, but it's been a hell of a morning, and I rub my sore finger, feeling lucky to still have it, lucky to be whole. It's an immature and selfish gratitude, but I've felt it at every funeral since. **lv**

A native of Massachusetts, D. J. Moser has lived and worked in Iowa City since 1999.

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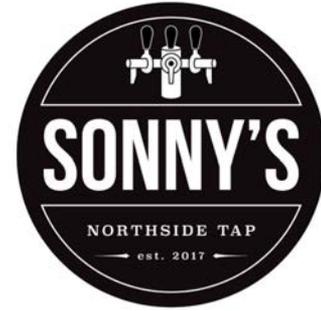
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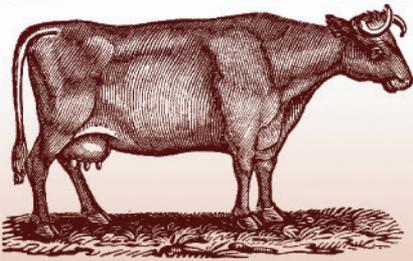


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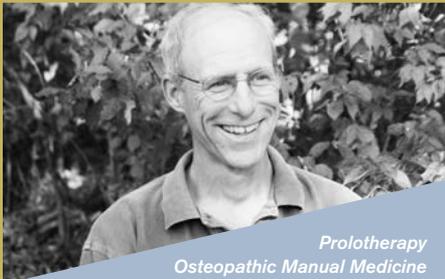


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A-List

Fight For the Future

Scientists across the nation come together to defend evidence-based policy.
BY LAUREN SHOTWELL

This Earth Day, April 22, people are taking a stand to defend science and evidence-based policy with a March for Science. In addition to the march planned on the National Mall in Washington D.C., over 500 satellite marches are planned around the country and the world. In Iowa, marches are planned in Des Moines, Iowa City, Davenport, Independence, Tipton, Decorah, Dubuque, Mason City and Cedar Falls.

The idea for the march sprang up in the wake of the massive post-inauguration Women's March and has gained support following actions from the new presidential administration and from state and federal legislators that undermine or ignore scientific knowledge. Over the past few months, the science march's main Facebook page has gained over 500,000 likes and has been championed by Bill Nye (the Science Guy), who was named one of the honorary national co-chairs, and Jane Goodall.

"People started talking about it based on concerns about the way science has been handled by legislators and out of a desire to make a statement that policy should be determined by evidence, rather than along party lines," said Kaitlin Higgins, of Ames, who is one of the lead organizers of the Iowa marches. "It went very quickly from discussing it to starting to implement these ideas."

The march aims to provide a non-partisan call to action, celebrating science and urging policymakers to base decisions on scientific evidence.

"The march is nonpartisan because science itself celebrates diversity," Higgins said. "All of our innovations

celebrate diversity of thought, and that only happens when you have a diverse set of people who think in different ways. That's really important because it seems like people want to make this into an us versus them thing and that's not what it is supposed to be."

Generally, scientists have avoided taking political stands, but, according to the national march mission page, "people who value science have remained silent for far too long in the face of policies that ignore scientific evidence and endanger both human life and the future of our world."

President Donald Trump campaigned on statements that directly undermined or denied scientific knowledge. He has also notoriously called climate change a

hoax and tweeted that "'environment friendly' lightbulbs [sic] can cause cancer." Words alone can have enough of an impact; but more importantly, the

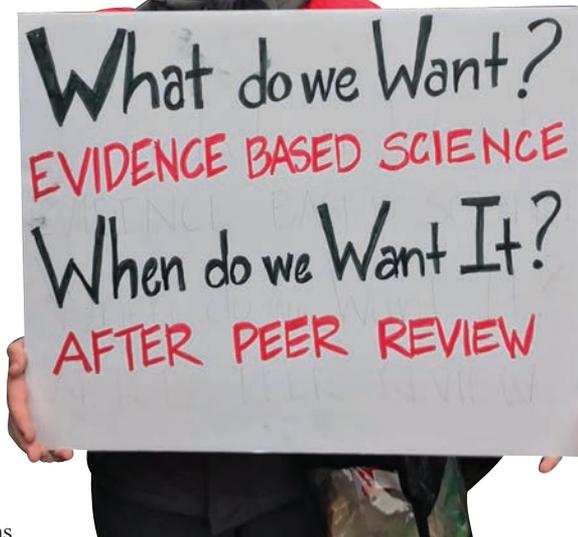


Photo by L.D. May

March for Science around Iowa

Saturday, April 22

- Iowa City: 12 p.m.
 - Decorah: 10 a.m.
 - Davenport: 10:30 a.m.
 - Independence: 11:40 a.m.
 - Des Moines: 12 p.m.
 - Tipton: 12 p.m.
 - Mason City: 1 p.m.
 - Cedar Falls: 2 p.m.
- ### Sunday, April 23
- Dubuque: 2 p.m.

Times may change

president is now in a position to act on those words, including upending funding and support for scientific research.

In a proposed budget, Trump would slash the Environmental Protection Agency's budget by 31 percent, including major cuts to scientific research and climate change programs. A small cut at NASA, just one percent of its budget, masks the fact that the cuts would target earth science and education programs that contribute to our understanding of climate change. Medical research would also take a hit, with a proposed 18 percent cut—roughly \$6 billion—to the National Institutes of Health.

The march is a response to these and other recent anti-science statements and policies.

"It's hard to say exactly what needs to happen, but it needs to start somewhere," Higgins said.

Higgins said organizers have reached out to federal, state and local politicians, including Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds (who has supported STEM programs and education in Iowa) and U.S. Sens. Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst.

But while she said she valued including legislators in the conversation, she added that it was crucial to speak to the public, "because they are the ones who vote in people who are so vehemently against scientific evidence."

"It's important to reach out to voters to let them know that it's okay to ask questions, and it's okay to not know something, and to show them where to reach out to good sources rather than fake news," she said.

Shamus Roeder, of Iowa City, another lead organizer for the Iowa marches, said now that science has become politicized it's hard to separate the two and, because of that, many people will view the march as partisan even if it remains nonpartisan.

LECTURE

JAUNE QUICK-TO-SEE-SMITH

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Jaune Quick-to-See Smith is a contributing artist to the UIMA spring exhibition *Come Together: Collaborative Lithographs from Tamarind Institute*, on view at the Black Box Theater, IMU through May 17.

Full details available at uima.uiowa.edu



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“I see science as a way to help people and a way to get an objective truth about the world,” he said. “I appreciate that science allows us to have the argument about the explanation of facts and not the facts themselves. Because of politics we are having an argument about whether or not it is raining rather than why it is raining. Our representatives don’t seem to think that this is an important issue to voters. But we care about this. This is something that Iowans do value. The fact that we live in a world where alternative facts are a thing is scary.”

Higgins said sometimes people see scientific theories as unwieldy or impenetrable, and it can be hard for people to relate to scientists themselves, “because it seems like science and scientists are in this ivory tower and hard to talk to.”

“So, then there are all these people who don’t want to talk to experts or trust what they are saying,” she said. “This [march] is a really good way to make science accessible, easier to understand and make it easier to find people to talk to.”

Higgins acknowledged the vitriol that often springs up when discussing things like climate change, GMOs and vaccines, but said she hoped the event would help people have a conversation about science “without drawing battle lines.”

Roeder also said he hoped for change.

“The food we eat, the products we purchase, every single piece of technology and every medical miracle owes its existence to science; and right now they are actively rejecting science in terms of policy making and in terms of funding,” Roeder said.

He cited the famous Isaac Newton quote: “If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”

“This is us refusing to climb any further, refusing see any further,” Roeder said. “I don’t think that is what our representatives should be doing. If you value these things, come out and show that this is something you believe in. Regardless of what side of the aisle you are on. We benefit from applying science to the policies we make.”

He encouraged people to check on the Iowa marches Facebook page (facebook.com/marchforscienceiowa/) or email hello@marchforscienceiowa.org to find out about ways to help, including volunteering, donating or registering to participate in a march. **iv**

Lauren Shotwell is Little Village’s News Director



May 5, 2017, 5:00–7:00 pm

FilmScene, 118 E. College St., Iowa City



CHARACTER LIMIT

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the UIMA in advance at 319-335-1727.

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WELCOME TO NIGHT VALE LIVE PODCAST RECORDING Englert Theatre, Saturday, April 22, 8 p.m., \$27.50 *Cult classic podcast 'Welcome to Night Vale' brings its spooktacular live show recording to the Englert again this year. The series, which has run since 2012, was created by Joseph Fink and Jeffrey Cranor. It takes the form of a news program for a town where, Fink has said, "all conspiracy theories [are] real." The podcast has spawned numerous other properties, including several spin-off podcasts and two novels. The tour coming to the Englert features host Cecil Baldwin, music by Disapparition and musician Erin McKeown in her recurring guest role as "the weather." Photo from Welcome to Night Vale*

Love, Sex & Relationship Advice
p.35

Submit anonymously:
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WED., APR. 19

FOODIE

Hancher Culinary Arts Experience: Share, Hancher, 5 p.m., \$40

Celebration of Citizen Diplomacy Dinner, hotelVetro, 6 p.m., \$60-65

EDUCATION

Community Ed: Tarot 101 w/ Liv Carrow, Rozz-Tox, 6 p.m., \$20

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Break Dance Group, Public Space One, 6 p.m., Free

Funniest Person In Iowa, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m., Free

MUSIC

First Fleet Concerts Presents: Basement, w/ Touche Amore, avoid., Kayak Jones, Blue Moose Tap House, 7 p.m., \$15

Dead Man Winter ft. Dave Simonett of Trampled By Turtles w/ The Pines, The Mill, 8 p.m., \$15-17

The Sextones w/ Stonebelly, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$5-7

LITERATURE

Paul's Book Club April, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 7 p.m., Free

THU., APR. 20

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'Making God Laugh,' Old Creamery Theatre, 2 p.m., \$10-30

'A Dope Opera,' Rozz-Tox, 7 p.m., Free

'Relativity,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Great White Narcs, Public Space One, 9 p.m., Free

ART & EXHIBITION

Art Lovers Book Club: The Vanishing Velázquez: A 19th Century Bookseller's Obsession with a Lost Masterpiece, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 4 p.m., Free

Hired Help Tour, BruceMore, 5:30 p.m., \$10-20

MUSIC

Bird Bash 2017, Big Grove Brewery, 5 p.m., \$50

CINEMA

'The Mask You Live In,' Iowa Memorial Union, 6 p.m., Free

Iowa City International Documentary Film Festival, RADinc, 6 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

School of Sewing Part I, Home Ec. Workshop, 6 p.m., \$85/series (four sessions)

Wine & Design: Kokedama Workshop, Moss Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$45

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.

FOODIE

Pickles Gone Wild: Homemade Probiotics with Chef Katy Meyer, *New Pioneer Food Co-op Coralville*, 6 p.m., \$20
Third Thursday Public Tasting Party—Treat Yourself, *Harvest Oil & Vinegar*, 6 p.m., Free

MUSIC

Speed Gang w/ Whensday, Will Murk, Jordan Burgett, Yung Flxx, *Iowa City Yacht Club*, 6 p.m., \$10-12
Benefit Concert for the Center for Worker Justice w/ Kyle Miller Culshaw's Nightmare ft. John, The Mill, 8 p.m., \$7
Lagunitas Burn Down: Dead Larry w/ Zeta June, The Commanders, Gabe's, 9 p.m., \$8-10

SPORTS & REC

Iowa City Meditation Class—How To Transform Your Life, *Quaker Friends Meeting House*, 6:30 p.m., \$5

LITERATURE

Henry Israeli w/ Christopher Kempf, Allison Benis White, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 7 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Hot Tamale Louie: The Story of Zarif Khan Told with Music, *Voxman Music Building*, 7:30 p.m., Free

EDUCATION

Neri Oxman Lecture, *IMU Main Lounge*, 7:30 p.m., Free

FRI., APR. 21

FOODIE

Culinary Demo: Indian Spiced Kale and Chickpeas, *NewBo City Market*, 11:30 a.m., Free

MUSIC

Music on Wednesday: Preucil School of Music, *Iowa City Public Library*, 12 p.m., Free

Friday Night Live Music w/ Justin Goodchild, *Cedar Ridge Distillery*, 6 p.m., Free

Showcase Chamber: Spring Serenade, *Opus Concert Cafe*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-25

Cheryl Wheeler, *Legion Arts CSPPS Hall*, 8 p.m., \$18-22

Luka Duffie w/ Shakes, Collidescope, Kamil Kardashian, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe*, 8:30 p.m., \$5

Zuul w/ Johnny Scum, Abnormal Man, Viva Moxie, Gabe's, 9 p.m., \$5

Sister Wife Album Release Show, *Rozz-Tox*, 9 p.m., \$10

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Greg Louganis (left) has lived with HIV since 1988.

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ECOFEST 2017 New Bohemia Arts and Culture District, Saturday, April 22, All Day, Free Cedar Rapids' annual EcoFest has a full slate of activities planned to enjoy on Earth Day. The family-friendly events kick off at 10 a.m. at NewBo City Market with a free face painting booth, an interactive composting demonstration, a giant Connect Four game and much more. Our Feathered Friends Raptor Program will be outside the market at 10:30 a.m. and films and speakers begin at CSPA at 10:30 a.m. with a screening of 'Cowspiracy.' CSPA also hosts new work from Grant Wood Art Colony fellows, including University of Iowa visiting assistant professor Colin Lyons, who speaks at 3 p.m. on a new art installation at Mount Trashmore. Music starts at 11 a.m. at the NewBo Market Stage with Jonny Lipford. Events run through 4 p.m. Photo by Von Presley Studios

Angela Perley & The Howlin' Moons w/ Lunar Tricks, Dead Perezidents, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9:30 p.m., \$7

EDUCATION

In the Words of Ancients, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 12:15 p.m., Free

LITERATURE

Brandi Janssen, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 7 p.m., Free

FOODIE

Antique Show, Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, 4 p.m., Free

CINEMA

Friday Night Flicks: 'Because Of Winn-Dixie,' NewBo City Market, 6 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

Wine & Design: Succulent Terrarium Sphere, Moss Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$45

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Run of The Mill Presents: 'The Last Day of Judas Iscariot,' The Mill, 7 p.m., \$10-12

'The Diary of Anne Frank,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$9-17

'Making God Laugh,' Old Creamery Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$10-30

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$20

Stephanie J. Block: Broadway Cabaret Concert, The Temple Theater, 7:30 p.m., \$42-56

'Relativity,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

'On Golden Pond,' Giving Tree Theater, 8 p.m., \$15-30

Kevin Bozeman, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m., \$12.50-15

Magic Men Live!, Adler Theatre, 8 p.m., \$23-73
Paperback Rhino, Public Space One, 9 p.m., Free

SAT., APR. 22

COMMUNITY

Barbara Schlachter Walk & Run for Victims of Climate Change, Lower City Park, 9 a.m., \$30

EcoFest, NewBo City Market, 10 a.m., Free

Community Critique Night, Public Space One, 6 p.m., Free

SPORTS & REC

Tai Chi, Public Space One, 9 a.m., Free

Earth Day Silence and Walking Meditation, Indian Creek Nature Center, 10 a.m., \$15

Kites Over Hoover Park, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, 10 a.m., Free

EDUCATION

Pollinator's Paradise: Establishing a Pollinator Garden Class, New Pioneer Food Co-op Coralville, 10 a.m., \$15

CRAFTY

2-Hole Bead Components, Beadology Iowa, 10 a.m., \$58

Workshop: Fairy Garden, Moss Iowa City, 11 a.m., \$30
Intro to Letterpress, Public Space One, 1 p.m., \$77

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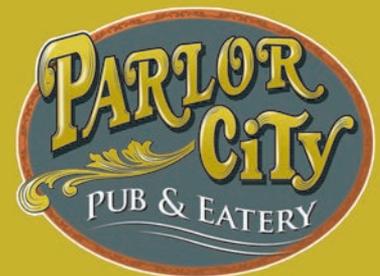


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AREA EVENTS

Machine Quilting, Home Ec. Workshop, 1 p.m., \$40
New Class: Wire Wrapped Ring, Beadology Iowa, 3 p.m., \$58

Ukester Brown: Workshop, Uptown Bill's, 3 p.m.

Wine & Design: Plant Party, Moss Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$10

FOODIE

Peter Pan Cooking Class, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., \$10

ART & EXHIBITION

Antique Show, Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, 10 a.m., Free

CINEMA

Special Event: 'Wizard Mode,' FilmScene, 12 p.m., \$8

MUSIC

Hypnotic Brass Ensemble, Des Moines Civic Center, 1 p.m., \$10

Ukester Brown in Concert, Uptown Bill's, 5 p.m., Free

Rock Against Rape Culture, Public Space One, 6 p.m., \$5

Saturday Night Concert: Muckrockers, Uptown Bill's, 7 p.m., Free

Showcase Chamber: Spring Serenade, Opus Concert Cafe, 7:30 p.m., \$10-25

Close to You: The Music of the Carpenters, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$18-25

First Fleet Concerts Presents: Thank You Scientist w/ Bent Knee, Blue Moose Tap House, 7:30 p.m., \$13-15

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

Griffin House w/ Dan Vaughn, Gabe's, 8 p.m., \$17-20

Curt Oren w/ Terror Pigeon, Rozz-Tox, 9 p.m., \$5-10

Jessica Who, EDEN Lounge & Nightclub, 10 p.m.

Slow Stoics w/ Soul Sherpa, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Stephanie J. Block: Broadway Cabaret Concert, The Temple Theater, 5 p.m., \$42-56

'The Niche,' Elkader Opera House, 6 p.m., Free-\$7

Run of The Mill Presents: 'The Last Day of Judas Iscariot,' The Mill, 7 p.m., \$10-12

'Relativity,' Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

'The Diary of Anne Frank,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$9-17

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 & 10 p.m., \$20

'Making God Laugh,' Old Creamery Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$10-30

'Welcome to Night Vale' w/ Erin McKeown, The Englert Theatre, 8 p.m., \$27.50

Stephanie J. Block: Broadway Cabaret Concert, The Temple Theater, 8 p.m., \$42-56

'On Golden Pond,' Giving Tree Theater, 8 p.m., \$15-30

Kevin Bozeman, Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m., \$12.50-15

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SUN., APR. 23

ART & EXHIBITION

Antique Show, *Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, 10 a.m., Free*

CRAFTY

New Class: Metal Beads and Chain Making, *Beadology Iowa, 12 p.m., \$98*

Intro to Letterpress, *Public Space One, 1 p.m., \$77*

COMMUNITY

Brews for Branches: Trees Forever Event, *Lion Bridge Brewing Company, 12 p.m., Free*

18th Annual Iowa City Hospice Walk for Dignity, *Iowa City Hospice Volunteer Trail Site, 1 p.m., Free*

Community Worktime, *Public Space One, 1 p.m., Free*

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Run of The Mill Presents: 'The Last Day of Judas Iscariot,' *The Mill, 2 p.m., \$10-12*

'Relativity,' *Riverside Theatre, 2 p.m., \$12-30*

'On Golden Pond,' *Giving Tree Theater, 2 p.m., \$15-30*

'Making God Laugh,' *Old Creamery Theatre, 2 p.m., \$10-30*

'The Diary of Anne Frank,' *Iowa City Community Theatre, 2 p.m., \$9-17*

National Theatre Live: 'Twelfth Night,' *The Englert Theatre, 3 p.m., \$15-18*

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

MUSIC

Showcase Chamber: Spring Serenade, *Old Capitol Senate Chamber, 2:30 p.m., \$10-25*

Viva Music Group Presents: Adrian Uribe & Omar Chaparro's 'Imparables,' *Des Moines Civic Center, 3:30 p.m., \$43.50-93.50*

Footings w/ Liv Carrow, Ryan Davis, *Rozz-Tox, 8 p.m., \$5-10*

SeepeopleS, *Gabe's, 9 p.m., \$8-68*

LITERATURE

Peter Frase, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 4 p.m., Free*

World Book Day: Community Reading of '84 Charing Cross Road,' *Uptown Bill's, 6 p.m., Free*

ART & EXHIBITION

Artifactory's Life Drawing Drop-in Session, *Beadology Iowa, 5 p.m., Free*

CINEMA

CAS Presents: 'Sidewalk Stories,' *RADInc, 8 p.m., \$10*

MON., APR. 24

CINEMA

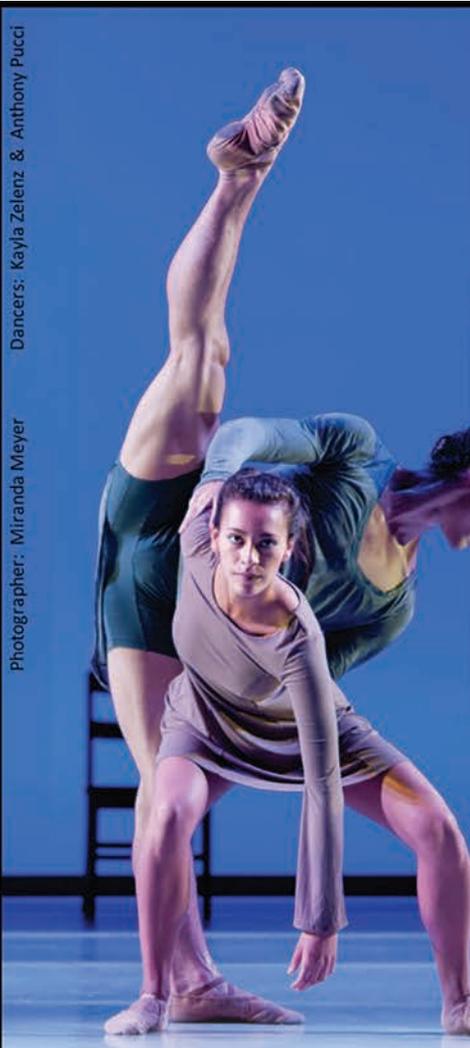
'Beyond Borders: Undocumented Mexican Americans,' *New Strand Theatre, 7 p.m., Free*

LITERATURE

Stephanie Danler, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 7 p.m., Free*

Dancers: Kayla Zelencz & Anthony Pucci

Photographer: Miranda Meyer



11th Annual Iowa Dance Festival

April 28th - 30th

Directed by Nora Garda
Co-Directed by Eloy Barragán
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Friday, April 28th
7:00 - 10:00 pm Opening Reception @ Penthouse, Park at 201 E. Washington St.

Saturday, April 29th
10:00 - 11:30 am Modern Dance Master Class w/ Autumn Eckman @ Hotel Vetro
12:00 - 2:30 pm Iowa International ScreenDance Festival, 1st showing @ FilmScene
Keynote Speaker Ellen Brumberg: ScreenDance & its Impact in the Field of Dance
3:00 - 4:30 pm Musical Theatre Dance Master Class w/ Ramon Flowers @ Hotel Vetro
7:00 - 9:00 pm Dance Concert by Iowa Dancers @ Hotel Vetro

Sunday, April 30th
10:00 - 11:30 am Brown Bag Brunch @ Nora Garda's House (TBD)
12:00 - 2:00 pm Iowa International ScreenDance Festival, 2nd showing @ FilmScene

For tickets & information, visit iowadance.org or contact interdance2015@gmail.com or Nora Garda at 319-400-4695

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TUE., APR. 25

FOODIE

'STOMP' Pre-Show Dinner, *The RiverCenter*, 5:30 p.m., \$25

MUSIC

Live TV Broadcast: Tom's Guitar Show, *Uptown Bill's*, 6 p.m., Free

Snoop Dogg 'Wellness Retreat' w/ Flatbush Zombies, Berner, *US Cellular Center*, 7:30 p.m., \$42.50-52.50
B. Dolan w/ DJ Abilities, Cas One vs Figure, Dope Knife, Ion, Jim Swim, *Gabe's*, 8:30 p.m., \$10-12

CINEMA

Bijou Film Forum: 'Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell,' *FilmScene*, 6 p.m., \$5

LITERATURE

Iowa Writers' House Presents: *The Violet Realm*, *Iowa City Public Library*, 6 p.m., Free

Brian Harrison, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 7 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

Backyard Chickens Workshop, *Indian Creek Nature Center*, 6 p.m., \$10-12

FOODIE

Hands-On Tamales with Bill Schintler, *New Pioneer Food Co-op Coralville*, 6 p.m., \$20

COMMUNITY

Take Back the Night, *University of Iowa Pentacrest*, 6 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'STOMP,' *Adler Theatre*, 7:30 p.m., Free

Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?,' *The Temple Theater*, 7:30 p.m., \$25

WED., APR. 26

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'Making God Laugh,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, 2 p.m., \$10-30

Break Dance Group, *Public Space One*, 6 p.m., Free

Funniest Person In Iowa, *Penguin's Comedy Club*, 8 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

Quilt Start to Finish, *Home Ec. Workshop*, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m., \$80

Garden Party: Calling All Nature Lovers, *Indian Creek Nature Center*, 5:30 p.m., Free

ART & EXHIBITION

Vino Van Gogh, *Lion Bridge Brewing Company*, 6:30 p.m., \$32

LITERATURE

Kory Stamper, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 7 p.m., Free
Talk Art, *The Mill*, 10:30 p.m., Free

MUSIC

Coax w/ Golden Jaybird, *Good Mr. Square*, *Rozz-Tox*, 8 p.m., \$5-10

Hippo Campus w/ Anthony Worden, *Gabe's*, 8 p.m., \$12-15

Twinsmith w/ Viva Moxie, *Iowa City Yacht Club*, 9 p.m., \$6

THU., APR. 27

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'Making God Laugh,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, 2 p.m., \$10-30

Murder Mystery Dinner: 'Offing Ferris Bueller,' *Cedar Ridge Distillery*, 6 p.m., \$50

Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?,' *The Temple Theater*, 7:30 p.m., \$25

'Relativity,' *Riverside Theatre*, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

FOODIE

Pre-Cinco de Mayo Fiesta w/ La Renya, *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 5 p.m., \$15

MUSIC

The Cantafios, *Cafe Paradiso*, 6 p.m., Free

Hickory Dickory Rock: A Benefit Concert by UIEC, *Public Space One*, 6 p.m., Free

Ballet Jazz of Montreal, *Des Moines Civic Center*, 7:30 p.m., \$15-47

MWC Presents: Spectra w/ Natalie Eilbert, Derrick Austin, *Rozz-Tox*, 8 p.m., Free

The Feralings w/ Society of Broken Souls, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe*, 9 p.m., \$5

Bass Physics w/ Blunt Force, *Gabe's*, 10 p.m., \$7

ART & EXHIBITION

Clothesline Project, *University of Iowa Pentacrest*, 10 a.m., Free

Marion Arts Festival 25th Anniversary Cocktail Reception, *Campbell Steele Gallery*, 5 p.m., \$50

Hired Help Tour, *Brucemore*, 5:30 p.m., \$10-20

EDUCATION

The History of Iowa's Camp Dodge, *Old Capitol Museum*, 6 p.m., Free

Straight Outta Oskaloosa: The Music, Life and Times of Arthur Russell, from Iowa to Downtown New York City

Panel discussion with Tim Lawrence, Geeta Dayal and Lucy Schiller, moderated by Kembrew McLeod, *140 Schaeffer Hall University of Iowa*, 7:30 p.m., Free

CRAFTY

Makerspace: Electric Play Dough, *Museum of Natural History at UI*, 6 p.m., Free

School of Sewing Part I, *Home Ec. Workshop*, 6 p.m., \$85/series (four sessions)

Joyful Learning Workshop, *Iowa Children's Museum*, 6:15 p.m., Free

CINEMA

'Tolkien & Lewis: Myth, Imagination & The Quest For Meaning,' *Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art*, 7 p.m., Free

LITERATURE

Ed Pavlic, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 7 p.m., Free

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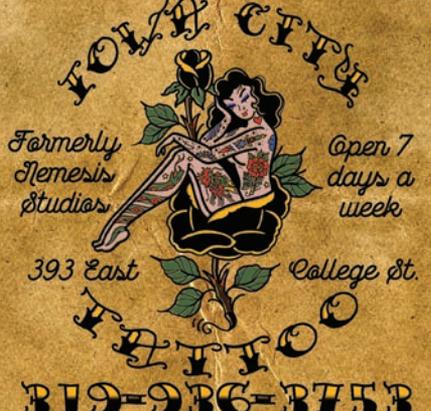
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AREA EVENTS

FRI., APR. 28

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

- 11th Annual Iowa Dance Festival 2017: 'Dancing Our Visions,'** *Downtown Iowa City, All Day, \$0-50*
- City Circle Acting Company Presents: 'Annie Get Your Gun,'** *Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$12-27*
- 'The Diary of Anne Frank,'** *Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$9-17*
- Whose Live Anyway?,'** *Des Moines Civic Center, 7:30 p.m., \$28.50-63.50*
- Janelle Lauer Sings Broadway,** *Opus Concert Cafe, 7:30 p.m., \$30*
- 'Making God Laugh,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$10-30*
- 'Relativity,'** *Riverside Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30*
- Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?,'** *The Temple Theater, 7:30 p.m., \$25*
- Rocky LaPorte,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, 8 p.m., \$12.50-15*
- 'On Golden Pond,'** *Giving Tree Theater, 8 p.m., \$15-30*
- Studio Improv,** *Theatre Cedar Rapids, 10 p.m., \$20*

MUSIC

- Arthur Russell Lunchtime Listening Party,** *FilmScene, 12 p.m., Free*
- St. Thomas & The Fervors w/ Remod, Garbage Man 2014,** *Leather Parachute, Inbred Trash, Gabe's, 5 p.m., Free*
- Friday Night Live Music w/ Ace Jones,** *Cedar Ridge Distillery, 6 p.m., Free*
- Friday Night Flicks: 'The Book Thief,'** *NewBo City Market, 6 p.m., Free*
- This Wheel's On Fire: Celebrating the Music and Words of Bob Dylan,** *The Englert Theatre, 7 p.m., \$20-25*
- Angaleena Presley w/ Angela Meyer, Jake McVey,** *Daytrotter, 7 p.m., \$8-12*
- Ice Hockey Reunion Show w/ Victor Shores, The Truth About Dreaming, Ice Hockey, Closet Witch, Rozz-Tox,** *8 p.m., \$5-10*
- Winterland w/ Pine Travelers,** *Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$8*

FAMILY

- STEM Family Free Night,** *Iowa Children's Museum, 5 p.m., Free*

CRAFTY

- Techniques and Strategies for Multi-Strand Pieces through** *Kirkwood Community College, Beadology Iowa, 5:30 p.m., \$68*
- Wine & Design: Miniature Garden,** *Moss Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$45*

LITERATURE

- Tim Lawrence,** *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, 7 p.m., Free*

CINEMA

- Iowa Dance Festival and Iowa International ScreenDance Festival Party at the Penthouse Opening Reception,** *Park 201 Penthouse Suites, 7 p.m., \$30*



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ART & EXHIBITION

Members Only: 'Chihuly Venetians' Exhibit Opening Party,
*National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 8 p.m.,
Free*

SAT., APR. 29

COMMUNITY

24th Annual Women In Nature Day, *Indian Creek Nature Center, 8 a.m., \$50-60*

Walk MS: Cedar Rapids, *NewBo City Market, 8:30 a.m.,
Free*

Edible Plant Sale Fundraiser, *Robert A. Lee Rec Center,
9 a.m., Free*

Guest Artisan's Market, *NewBo City Market, 10 a.m.,
Free*

SPORTS & REC

Tai Chi, *Public Space One, 9 a.m., Free*

Roller Derby: OCCRD Ped Maulers vs. MNRG Derbu-Taunts,
*Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 5:15
p.m., \$10*

LITERATURE

Independent Bookstore Day, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe,
9 a.m., Free*

Spanish Creative Writing MFA Reading, *Prairie Lights
Books & Cafe, 6 p.m., Free*

CRAFTY

Herringbone Cuff Bracelet, *Beadology Iowa, 10 a.m.,
\$68*

Basic Book Repair, *Public Space One, 12 p.m., \$70*

Knitting: Baby Sophisticate Cardigan, *Home Ec.
Workshop, 1 p.m., \$60*

Machine Quilting, *Home Ec. Workshop, 1 p.m., \$40*

Wine & Design: Succulent Bowl, *Moss Iowa City, 6 p.m.,
\$65*

FAMILY

Celebration of the Young Child, *Iowa Children's Museum,
10 a.m., Free*

MUSIC

Trumpet Blossom's 5th Anniversary Party, *Trumpet
Blossom Cafe, 11 a.m., Free*

Music for Meals Benefit Concert, *Brown Deer Golf Club,
6:30 p.m., \$20-200*

Mark Bernat & Friends Concert Series: Notes of Spring,
Old Capitol Museum, 7:30 p.m., Free

Simon & Garfunkel: Through the Years, *Legion Arts CSPS
Hall, 8 p.m., \$25-30*

Williams & Wallace, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery, 8 p.m.,
Free*

Her Crooked Heart w/ J.E. Sunde, *Cafe Paradiso, 8 p.m., \$10*

The Nadas, *The Mill, 8 p.m., \$15-17*

Jack Lion w/ Mouthbreather, *Rozz-Tox, 9 p.m., \$5-10*

**Must Build Jacuzzi w/ Sheltering Sky, The Mamiltons,
Hitsleep,** *Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$7*

FOODIE

Eat. Drink. Architecture. *Cedar Rapids, Lion Bridge
Brewing Company, 12 p.m., \$35*

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MARION ARTS FESTIVAL 25TH ANNIVERSARY COCKTAIL RECEPTION Campbell Steele Gallery, Thursday, April 27, 5 p.m., \$50

This May, the Marion Arts Festival will be celebrating its 25th anniversary, boasting along the way of numerous listings among the top arts festivals in the U.S. This cocktail reception at Campbell Steele Gallery, a cornerstone of the arts community in Marion, gives the community an early chance to pay its congratulations to the festival and its quarter century of accomplishments. The event will feature tiny meatballs, cheese platters and the chance to honor Priscilla Steele and Craig Campbell. Photo courtesy of Campbell Steele Gallery

Midwest Telegraph Fundraising Dinner, *Beadology Iowa*, 6:30 p.m., \$20

CINEMA

Iowa International ScreenDance Festival 2017, *FilmScene*, 12 p.m., \$10

'The Exorcist,' *FilmScene*, 11 p.m., \$5

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, 1 p.m., \$10-30

Musical Theatre Dance Master Class w/ Ramon Flowers, *hotelVetro*, 3 p.m., \$10

Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?,' *The Temple Theater*, 5 p.m., \$25

'Making God Laugh,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-30

'Relativity,' *Riverside Theatre*, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Janelle Lauer Sings Broadway, *Opus Concert Cafe*, 7:30 p.m., \$30

'The Diary of Anne Frank,' *Iowa City Community Theatre*, 7:30 p.m., \$9-17

City Circle Acting Company Presents: 'Annie Get Your Gun,' *Coralville Center for the Performing Arts*, 7:30 p.m., \$12-27

Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?,' *The Temple Theater*, 8 p.m., \$25

Magic Men Live!, *Des Moines Civic Center*, 8 p.m., \$23.50-53.50

'Menopause' The Musical, *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 8 p.m., \$45.50-55.50

Rocky LaPorte, *Penguin's Comedy Club*, 8 p.m., \$12.50-15

'On Golden Pond,' *Giving Tree Theater*, 8 p.m., \$15-30

Let's Do This! Comedy Show, *Blue Moose Tap House*, 8 p.m., \$5

Studio Improv, *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 10 p.m., \$20

FASHION

Women's Empowerment Fashion Show, *Mount Mercy University*, 5 p.m., Free

SUN., APR. 30

CRAFTY

Sewing: Willow Tank or Dress, *Home Ec. Workshop*, 12 p.m., \$55

1, 2, 3 Reductive Linoleum, *Public Space One*, 1 p.m., \$92

CINEMA

Iowa International ScreenDance Festival 2017, *FilmScene*, 12 p.m., \$10

Rozz-Tox Animation Series: 'Wizards,' *Rozz-Tox*, 8 p.m., Free

FOODIE

Know Your Local: Zaza's Pasta, *NewBo City Market*, 1 p.m., Free

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Dear Kiki
My ex-boyfriend was really gross (as in “kinky”-choking-without-any-consent gross), and I have to encounter his current boyfriend every time I walk around campus. Not only that, but I’m in a play with said boyfriend and I’m expecting to see the ex/strangler at the cast party. I really want to enjoy the party without any drama, but as far as I know the current boyfriend doesn’t know a thing. How can I keep the strangler as far away from me as possible in this situation without having to splurge details? Thank you!

—Choking on my own words

Hi Choking,

I’m going to make a few assumptions here: I am assuming that you’re not friendly with the ex’s current boyfriend. I’m also assuming you wanted to break up with the strangler, and that he didn’t leave you for the new guy. I’m assuming that even though the ex was gross, you broke up with him, told him what the problems with non-consensual choking are (and there are lots!) and have no lingering attachments.

The best way to avoid drama, Choking, is to not be in theater. No, I kid! But seriously, you only have control over yourself, so all you can do is not start any of your own trouble with these folks. The ex and his current sweetie—and any business they are up to in their free time—are not your problem anymore. It seems like being in the same spaces as your ex or his current partner is absolutely impossible for you; if so, it is a bad idea to stay in those places. While it cannot be totally prevented, you need to do what it takes to make yourself comfortable.

It sounds like you had some unfortunate BDSM mishaps with this person, which is problematic

but maybe not worth dragging out into the town square for all to pass judgment upon. You’re safely out of the relationship. If you feel that things went beyond “gross” and you were seriously abused or endangered by this ex and that he is a danger to others, you can try having a private chat with the new partner about your experience.

Keep in mind, that approach

rarely works to do anything other than galvanize the new partner and the ex against you even further, and you’ll be further embroiled in drama that you claim not to want. The new partner might be having a completely different experience than you did, and it’s unlikely that your warnings or information will help someone in the throes of NRE (new relationship energy).

ship energy).

Again, if you feel like the ex is a real danger to someone and you want to warn them, be advised that this may not have the desired effect, and might be considered “drama” by other parties. If it’s not that pressing, keep out of direct exposure as much as you can, keep your head down and keep moving on to better dating experiences! *xoxo, Kiki* 



The ex and his current sweetie are not your problem anymore.

KIKI WANTS QUESTIONS!

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



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AREA EVENTS

COMMUNITY

Community Worktime, *Public Space One*, 1 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'The Diary of Anne Frank', *Iowa City Community Theatre*, 2 p.m., \$9-17

'On Golden Pond', *Giving Tree Theater*, 2 p.m., \$15-30

'Making God Laugh', *Old Creamery Theatre*, 2 p.m., \$10-30

City Circle Acting Company Presents: 'Annie Get Your Gun', *Coralville Center for the Performing Arts*, 2 p.m., \$12-27

'Relativity', *Riverside Theatre*, 2 p.m., \$12-30

Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?', *The Temple Theater*, 3 p.m., \$25

MUSIC

Iowa City Orchestra Concert, *The Englert Theatre*, 3 p.m., Free

Jan Vancura & Plavci in Concert, *National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library*, 4 p.m., Free

Ice Nine Kills w/ ROYALZ, Switchblade Saturdays, Far From Fearless, Vuarna, Gabe's, 6 p.m., \$13-15

Community Concerts: Tribute to the King, *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$40-55

LITERATURE

Jane Wong & Nick Gulig, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe*, 4 p.m., Free

TUE., MAY 2

ART & EXHIBITION

Iowa's Living Landscapes Workshop & Conference, *Indian Creek Nature Center*, 8 a.m., Free

CRAFTY

Soak It Up Series, *Indian Creek Nature Center*, 5 p.m., \$50-60

FOODIE

The Wahls Protocol: Cooking for Life Presentation, *New Pioneer Food Co-op Cedar Rapids*, 6 p.m., \$15

LITERATURE

Iowa Writers' House Presents: Rainbow Room, *Iowa City Public Library*, 6 p.m., Free

SPORTS & REC

Practice In The Prairie: Free Summer Yoga Series, *Indian Creek Nature Center*, 6 p.m., Free

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?', *The Temple Theater*, 7:30 p.m., \$25

MUSIC

An Evening with George Winston, *The Englert Theatre*, 8 p.m., \$35

ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS 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 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. Open Mic, *Cafe Paradiso*, Free, 8 p.m. Karaoke Wednesdays, *Mondo's Saloon*, Free, 10 p.m. Open Stage, *Studio 13*, Free 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. 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. Gemini Karaoke, *Blue Moose*, Free, 9 p.m. Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Slimpickens, *Dick's Tap & Shake Room*, Free, 9 p.m.

FRIDAYS Friday Night Out, *Ceramics Center*, \$40 6:30 p.m. FAC Dance Party, *the Union Bar*, 7 p.m. Sasha Belle presents: Friday Drag & Dance Party, *Studio 13*, \$5, 8 p.m. SoulShake, *Gabe's*, Free, 10 p.m.

SATURDAYS 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*, \$5, 9 p.m.

SUNDAYS Pride Bingo, *Studio 13*, 6:30 p.m. Pub Quiz, *The Mill*, \$1, 9 p.m.

THEATRE & PERFORMANCE 'The Crucible,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$21-30 (Mar. 24-Apr. 8), 'Underneath the Lintel,' *Old Creamery Theatre*, \$16-26 (Mar. 30-Apr. 9), 'Vinegar Tom,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$18-24 (Mar. 31-Apr. 15), 'Fun Home,' *Des Moines Civic Center*, \$35-103 (Apr. 4-9), 'Relativity,' *Riverside Theatre*, \$12-30 (Apr. 14-30), 'Making God Laugh,' *Iowa City Community Theatre*, \$10-30 (Apr. 20-May 14), 'On Golden Pond,' *Giving Tree Theatre*, \$15-30 (Apr. 21-May 7), 'The Diary of Anne Frank,' *Iowa City Community Theatre*, \$9-17 (Apr. 21-30), 'Run of The Mill Presents: The Last Days of Judas Iscariot,' *The Mill*, \$10-12 (Apr. 21-23), *Studio Improv*, *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, \$20 (Apr. 21-29), Robert Dubac's 'The Male Intellect: An Oxymoron?,' *The Temple Theatre*, \$25 (Apr. 25-May 14), *City Circle Acting Company* Presents: 'Annie Get Your Gun,' *Coralville Center for the Performing Arts*, \$12-17 (Apr. 28-May 7)

ART & EXHIBITION 'Mightier Than The Sword,' *African American Museum of Iowa* (Aug. 26, 2016-Jul. 29), *The Fourth Iowa Metals Guild Exhibition*, *Cedar Rapids Museum of Art* (Oct. 22, 2016-Aug. 6), 'Cicmianske Domy: The Houses of Cicmany Village' Exhibit, *National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library* (Feb. 4-May 7), *America on Paper: Prints from Associated American Artists*, *Cedar Rapids Museum of Art* (Feb. 4-May 14), *Come Together: Collaborative Lithographs from Tamarind Institute*, *Iowa Memorial Union* (Feb. 18-May 17), *Jonathan McFadden and David Wischer: Cybersquatting With A Honey-pot*, *Public Space One* (Apr. 14-May 2), 'Chihuly Venetians from the George R. Stroemple Collection,' *National Czech & Slovak Museum of Art* (Apr. 29-Oct. 1)



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Iowa Artisans' Gallery 207 E Washington St, (319) 351-8686, iowa-artisans-gallery.com

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Iowa City Public Library 123 S Linn St, (319) 356-5200, icpl.org

Iowa City Senior Center 28 S Linn St, (319) 356-5220, icgov.org

Iowa City Yacht Club 13 S Linn St, (319) 337-6464, iowacityyachtclub.com

Iowa Memorial Union 125 N Madison St, (319) 335-3041, imu.uiowa.edu

Lasansky Corporation Gallery 216 E Washington St, (319) 337-9336, lasanskyart.com

M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art 110 E Washington St, (319) 351-1700, mcginsberg.com

The Mill 120 E Burlington St, (319) 351-9529, icmill.com

Old Capitol Museum 21 N Clinton St, (319) 335-0548, uiowa.edu/oldcap

Prairie Lights Books & Cafe 15 S Dubuque St, (319) 337-2681, prairielights.com

Public Space One 120 N Dubuque St, (319) 331-8893, publicspaceone.com

Riverside Theatre 213 N Gilbert St, Iowa City riverside-theatre.org

Sycamore Cinema 1602 Sycamore St, (319) 358-6773, marcustheatres.com

Taag Studios and Art Expressions 1041 Arthur St, (319) 855-4755, taagstudios.org

Terry Trueblood Recreation Center 4213 Sand Rd SE, icgov.org

Trumpet Blossom Cafe 310 E Prentiss St, (319) 248-0077, trumpetblossom.com

University of Iowa Museum of Natural History 17 N Clinton St, (319) 335-0480, uiowa.edu/mnh

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Cedar Rapids Museum of Art 410 3rd Ave SE, (319) 366-7503, crma.org

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National Czech and Slovak Museum 1400 Inspiration Pl SW, ncsml.org

NewBo City Market 1100 3rd St SE, (319) 200-4050, newbocitymarket.com

Opus Concert Cafe 119 3rd Ave SE, (319) 366-8203, orchestraiowa.org

Paramount Theatre 123 3rd Ave SE, (319) 398-5211, paramounttheatre.org

Parlor City Pub & Eatery 1125 3rd St SE, (319) 247-0000, parlorcitypub.com

Penguin's Comedy Club 208 2nd Ave SE, (319) 362-8133, penguinscomedyclub.com

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Shores Event Center 700 16th St NE, (319) 775-5367, shoreseventcenter.com

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Iowa Children's Museum 1451 Coral Ridge Ave, (319) 625-6255, theicm.org

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People always point out that Americans pay 2.5 times more per capita for healthcare compared to Europe and receive much poorer results. But isn't everything in Europe—gasoline, housing, food, taxes—more expensive than in the U.S.? If this is true, then how could healthcare be so inexpensive? —Pearl-Clutching Provocateur

Priorities, Pearl, priorities. European governments slap heavy taxes on gas, for instance, but they've made sure to contain healthcare costs. In the U.S. we've done the opposite: Mexico excepted, our gas tax is by far the lowest in the industrialized world, but healthcare costs are largely entrusted to market forces. American insurers are corporations seeking profits, which raises prices, requiring government to step in and cover excessive costs, and this steady flow of state money in turn allows insurers to raise prices even further. In the end, our health-insurance system doesn't look too different from what you'd get if you'd set out to design one as expensive as you could manage.

Look at administrative costs. Twenty-five percent of hospital spending in the U.S. goes to administration, compared to (e.g.) just 12 percent in Scotland. Why? The Scots use a single-payer insurance system (you know—the kind we're not allowed to have), wherein the hospital simply sends a bill to the government and gets reimbursed. In the U.S. there are multiple payers: private insurance companies, government insurance plans and patients. Sorting through this crowd to determine who'll pay for what is a full-time job—many, many full-time jobs, in fact. And insurance companies need to cover their expenses and make a little profit themselves.

So do pharmaceutical companies, which brings us to a more headline-grabbing cause: high drug costs. We all remember the outcry when Mylan marked up its EpiPen by 400 percent, but that was merely an extreme example of the rational-capitalist behavior drug firms engage in all the time. When your product can literally save a life, and you've got a 20-year patent monopoly on it, you'll tend to price it like the goldmine it is unless someone steps in to regulate you.

And European nations do. The UK's National Health Service, like other Euro programs, negotiates pricing with drug companies to limit markup. By contrast, Medicare, the biggest drug customer in the U.S., is legally barred from such negotiation, and it reimburses doctors more when they prescribe more expensive meds. Meanwhile, companies maintain their monopolies by tweaking drugs' nontherapeutic aspects to extend the patent. And even when generic alternatives exist, laws in 26 states require patient consent for pharmacists to make a substitution, meaning that prescriptions needlessly get filled with pricey name-brand drugs instead; as a result, a 2016 Harvard report found, Medicaid shelled out an extra \$19.8 million in

2006 for the cholesterol drug Zocor alone.

The pharmaceutical industry can't just shrug and say "Well, capitalism" without inflaming popular opinion, so it defends high prices by pointing to R & D costs: somebody's got to invent these new wonder drugs, they say, and that process ain't cheap. Thing is, the pharma companies aren't bearing these costs all by themselves—especially in the early stages of drug development, a lot of the key work may get done at the National Institutes of Health or in university labs. The actual cost of drug research is hard to pin down, partly because pharmaceutical companies are so secretive about their accounting. A 2014 study from a pharma-backed organization priced the per-drug development cost at \$2.6 billion, but independent research has it as low as \$161 million.

Doctors are more expensive in the U.S. too. A stateside physician may earn effectively three times what her German peers do; on the other hand, she's probably paying off debt, whereas in Germany medical education is basically free. Again: priorities. Physicians' groups also blame our litigious society, which they say leads doctors to practice defensive medicine—guarding against malpractice claims by ordering excessive testing and procedures. It's tough to say how much these tendencies may cost us, as doctors have widely varying ideas about what's necessary treatment and what's ass-covering: A 2010 Harvard study put the annual impact of defensive medicine in the U.S. at \$45.5 billion; a big healthcare staffing company used data from a Gallup survey of doctors to come up with a figure seven times higher.

Whether fear of malpractice suits motivates our docs or not, we certainly do get more care than our European counterparts: three times as many mammograms, two-and-a-half times as many MRIs, about thirty percent more C-sections. But the benefit of that extra care is hard to gauge. For instance, Pennsylvania, which has roughly the same population as Ontario, has about six times as many hospitals where patients can receive open-heart surgery. Here's the thing, though: The fact that this treatment is more readily available means U.S. patients (insured ones, anyway) who might not need it go under the knife just to be safe; meanwhile, life expectancy after a heart attack is about the same in both countries. Still, would you or I pass up a potentially life-saving operation based on that statistic? Probably not—and there's another part of what's keeping our costs so high. **lv**

—Cecil Adams



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TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Fantasize about sipping pear nectar and listening to cello music and inhaling the aroma of musky amber and caressing velvet, cashmere and silk. Imagine how it would feel to be healed by inspiring memories and sweet awakenings and shimmering delights and delicious epiphanies. I expect experiences like these to be extra available in the coming weeks. But they won't necessarily come to you freely and easily. You will have to expend effort to ensure they actually occur. So be alert for them. Seek them out. Track them down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Contagion may work in your favor, but it could also undermine you. On the one hand, your enthusiasm is likely to ripple out and inspire people whose help you could use. On the other hand, you might be more sensitive than usual to the obnoxious vibes of manipulators. But now that I've revealed this useful tip, let's hope you will be able to maximize the positive kind of contagion and neutralize the negative. Here's one suggestion that may help: Visualize yourself to be surrounded by a golden force field that projects your good ideas far and wide even as it prevents the disagreeable stuff from leaking in.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A reader named Kris X sent me a rebuke. "You're not a guru or a shaman," he sneered. "Your horoscopes are too filled with the slippery stench of poetry to be useful for spiritual seekers." Here's my response: "Thank you, sir! I don't consider myself a guru or shaman, either. It's not my mission to be an all-knowing authority who hands down foolproof advice. Rather, I'm an apprentice to the Muse of Curiosity. I like to wrestle with useful, beautiful paradoxes. My goal is to be a joyful rebel stirring up benevolent trouble, to be a cheerleader for the creative imagination." So now I ask you, my fellow Cancerian: How do you avoid getting trapped in molds that people pressure you to fit inside? Are you skilled at being yourself even if that's different from what's expected of you? What are the soulful roles you choose to embody despite the fact that almost no one understands them? Now is a good time to meditate on these matters.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In the coming weeks, there will be helpers whose actions will nudge you—sometimes inadvertently—toward a higher level of professionalism. You will find it natural to wield more power and you will be more effective in offering your unique gifts. Now maybe you imagine you have already been performing at the peak of your ability, but I bet you will discover—with a mix of alarm and excitement—that you can become even more excellent. Be greater, Leo! Do better! Live stronger! (P.S.: As you ascend to this new level of competence, I advise you to be humbly aware of your weaknesses and immaturities. As your clout rises, you can't afford to indulge in self-delusions.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I love to see you Virgos flirt with the uncharted and the uncanny and the indescribable. I get thrills and chills whenever I watch your fine mind trying to make sense of the fabulous and the foreign and the unfathomable. What other sign can cozy up to exotic wonders and explore forbidden zones with as much no-nonsense pragmatism as you? If anyone can capture greased lightning in a bottle or get a hold of magic beans that actually work, you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A friend told me about a trick used by his grandmother, a farmer. When her brooding hens stopped laying eggs, she would put them in pillowcases that she then hung from a clothesline in a stiff breeze. After the hens got blown around for a while, she returned them to their cozy digs. The experience didn't hurt them, and she swore it put them back on track with their egg-laying. I'm not comfortable with this strategy. It's too extreme for an animal-lover like myself. (And I'm glad I don't have to deal with recalcitrant hens.)

But maybe it's an apt metaphor or poetic prod for your use right now. What could you do to stimulate your own creative production?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Now would be an excellent time to add deft new nuances to the ways you kiss, lick, hug, snuggle, caress and fondle. Is there a worthy adventurer who will help you experiment with these activities? If not, use your pillow, your own body, a realistic life-size robot or your imagination. This exercise will be a good warm-up for your other assignment, which is to upgrade your intimacy skills. How might you do that? Hone and refine your abilities to get close to people. Listen deeper, collaborate stronger, compromise smarter and give more. Do you have any other ideas?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "If I had nine hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend the first six sharpening my ax," said Abraham Lincoln, one of America's most productive presidents. I know you Sagittarians are more renowned for your bold, improvisational actions than your careful planning and strategic preparation, but I think the coming weeks will be a time when you can and should adopt Lincoln's approach. The reader you are, the freer you'll be to apply your skills effectively and wield your power precisely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Zoologists say that cannibalizing offspring is common in the animal kingdom, even among species that care tenderly for their young. So when critters eat their kids, it's definitely "natural." But I trust that in the coming weeks, you won't devour your own children. Nor, I hope, will you engage in any behavior that metaphorically resembles such an act. I suspect that you may be at a low ebb in your relationship with some creation or handiwork or influence that you generated out of love. But please don't abolish it, dissolve it or abandon it. Just the opposite, in fact: Intensify your efforts to nurture it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your astrological house of communication will be the scene of substantial clamor and ruckus in the coming weeks. A bit of the hubbub will be flashy but empty. But much of it should be pretty interesting, and some of it will even be useful. To get the best possible results, be patient and objective rather than jumpy and reactive. Try to find the deep codes buried inside the mixed messages. Discern the hidden meanings lurking within the tall tales and reckless gossip. If you can deal calmly with the turbulent flow, you will give your social circle a valuable gift.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The best oracular advice you'll get in the coming days probably won't arise from your dreams or an astrological reading or a session with a psychic, but rather by way of seemingly random signals, like an overheard conversation or a sign on the side of a bus or a scrap of paper you find lying on the ground. And I bet the most useful relationship guidance you receive won't be from an expert, but maybe from a blog you stumble upon or a barista at a café or one of your old journal entries. Be alert for other ways this theme is operating, as well. The usual sources may not have useful info about their specialties. Your assignment is to gather up accidental inspiration and unlikely teachings.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): After George Washington was elected as the first President of the United States, he had to move from his home in Virginia to New York City, which at the time was the center of the American government. But there was a problem: He didn't have enough cash on hand to pay for his long-distance relocation, so he was forced to scrape up a loan. Fortunately, he was resourceful and persistent in doing so. The money arrived in time for him to attend his own inauguration. I urge you to be like Washington in the coming weeks, Aries. Do whatever's necessary to get the funds you need to finance your life's next chapter. **lv**

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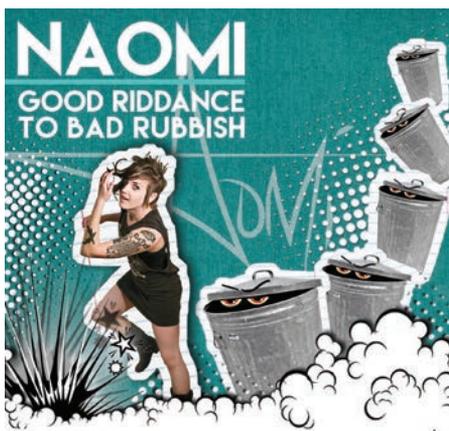


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NAOMI

Good Riddance to Bad Rubbish
www.naomi.band

In Cedar Rapids we appear to have a new trend of band names that are, um, a name: DICKIE, Colleen and the latest of these: NAOMI, which is named after its radically asymmetrically-coiffed frontwoman.

NAOMI aptly calls their high-energy music “snarky pop/rock.” On their debut record, *Good Riddance to Bad Rubbish*, I hear bits of Garbage, No Doubt, P!nk and Avril Lavigne peppered through the songs. Songs like “Hell To Pay,” “A Common Story (I Know)” and “Sex Appeal” all adhere closely to the compressed and distorted guitars, stomping drums and fun synth lines. The layers of Naomi’s edgy vocals in harmony and unison carry the melodic hooks into earworm territory.

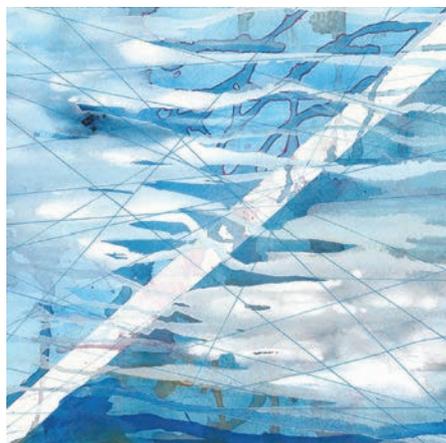
The layers of Naomi’s edgy vocals in harmony and unison carry the melodic hooks into earworm territory.

But, beyond the destined-for-the-Top-40 pop rock songs, the songs I find most satisfying are the ones where the band strays from the formula. From Naomi’s YouTube channel it’s evident she has a pretty wide range musically and a talent for bringing

that to her compositions. Track 4, “Earth Give Way,” is a building, anthemic, folksy tune that is slathered with hooks—I love the Lissie-esque five note “heart” in “feel the weight of my heart.” Track 10, “Motorcycle,” is a bouncy piano number with lots of heart and soul—as close to R&B as Naomi gets on this record. The layered acapella of track 11, “Grim Reaper,” sounds like an outtake from *Glee* (which is not a bad thing, incidentally).

What NAOMI also has in common with the other two Cedar Rapids bands I mentioned is a keen grasp of making well-crafted pop music. *Good Riddance to Bad Rubbish* is NAOMI’s calling card; here’s to their future returns.

—Mike Roeder



JORDAN MAYLAND & THE THERMAL DETONATORS

This Mess
www.jordanmayland.bandcamp.com

Come for the harmony, stay for the melancholy. The soul-stirring Ames/Des Moines pop unit Jordan Mayland & the Thermal Detonators delivers a tantalizingly dark treat with its generous new record *This Mess*, their first LP from the hand-made Nova Labs label.

Mayland is a veteran of some of Iowa’s best bands of the past two decades, starting with the beloved early 2000s (local) hitmakers Keepers of the Carpet and continuing through today with acts like Volcano Boys and TIRES. The Thermal Detonators are Dave Atchison, Paul Hertz, Sean Huston, Claire Kruesel and Frank McBroom—a

seasoned outfit that blends voices and diverse instrumentation into a rich sound that feels gracious, even compassionate. You can *hear* the band *listening*.

The record opens with the lovely instrumental “Your Pretty Intro,” which situates us in the Detonators’ world of haunted beauty. The melodic themes of the opener are cleverly elaborated and transformed in a series of interludes—“This Mess” and “The Sun”—that punctuate the track-list like a story-within-a-story through the album, gripping us with a cinematic sense of blue, delicious pain.

“It Don’t Make Any Sense” complicates an upbeat tune with subtly chaotic keyboard polyphony below the perfectly sensical melody, reinforcing the lyrical theme of watching a familiar world falling apart. “Heart Beats” follows suit with an emotional range that transforms from sunny to moody and back again with total ease and control.

“Heart Beats” is also one of the songs that shows off Mayland’s ability to swing easily into and out of the falsetto range. He is complemented throughout by his bandmates who contribute gorgeous—and brilliantly unpredictable—harmonies throughout the record.

The vocal magic approaches the sublime on the almost-unbearable “Closer to Your

The Thermal Detonators are a seasoned outfit that blends voices and diverse instrumentation into a rich sound that feels gracious, even compassionate.

Heart” and on the Queen-inflected piano gothic of “A Dark Gift.” The Thermal Detonators push way, way into hurts-so-good territory here, capturing a deep pop sensation that will resonate with the Kinks in your heart. **lv**

—Nate Logsdon

AVCX THEMELESS #13 BY KAMERON AUSTIN COLLINS

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig. Subscription information can be found at avxword.com.

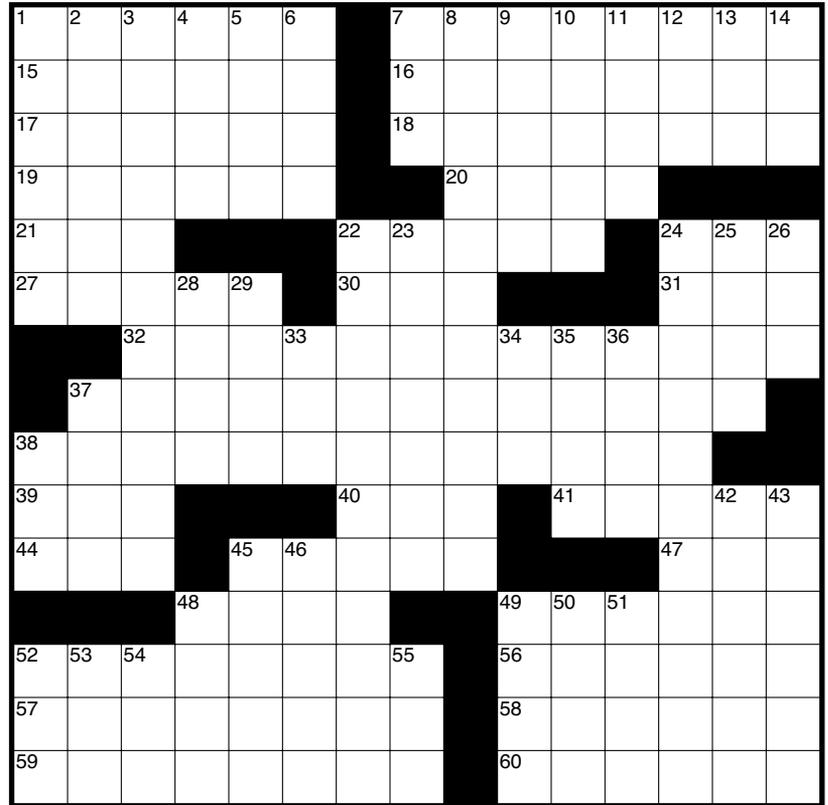
ACROSS

1. Squid's squirter
7. Lead-in to some self-quoting
15. Henner of *Taxi*
16. One concerned with social justice, say
17. Basic
18. Shiraz citizens
19. Be a stickler
20. Dating criterion, for some
21. Enjoy without rushing
22. Noisy fliers
24. Up to
27. "Surprise Symphony" composer
30. ___ up
31. Producer whose last name is a hit single he produced in reverse
32. Stay discreet
37. Tragic device
38. Study of conscious, direct experience
39. CD follower
40. Physically adept Newton
41. Numerals on novels
44. Have a bill
45. The same, to Simone
47. Certain cheer
48. Rowing machines lack them

49. Jersey area
52. Kevin Smith comedy
56. Venezuelan treats
57. Bird bug
58. *2 Fast 2 Furious* star
59. Tentative move
60. Wilds

DOWN

1. Inclined to start shit
2. Lewis locale
3. Tim Hortons alternative
4. ___ Valley
5. "Sorry, friend!"
6. Group with a charismatic leader, perhaps
7. Forest part?
8. The other shoe, as it were, before it drops
9. Exhausted plaint
10. "Cream" and "Kiss," e.g.



LV218 ANSWERS



11. Pork ___
12. Anti-lynching crusader ___ B. Wells
13. Documentarian Burns
14. Hesitant sounds
22. Chain in a stoner flick
23. Like some scans
24. Bubblegum fan?
25. 500 spot, familiarly
26. haha
28. Faculty boss

29. *Finding Dory* character
33. Anti-stick spray
34. Not a damn thing
35. Enterprise counselor
36. Takes up, as a couch
37. Boat on the Indian Ocean
38. "Don't worry, I'm a ___ ..."
42. Met group
43. Knows instinctively
45. Gets, karmically
46. Join, as tissue

48. Brand that sounds like a certain cheer
49. Rooney's *Carol* co-star
50. Margaret Atwood's ___ and *Crake* (which is about people, not antelopes)
51. Was for a few people?
52. Queen name-dropped in *Romeo and Juliet*
53. Director DuVernay
54. Lefty
55. "How's it goin'?"

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