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ISSUE 244 JUNE 6-19, 2018

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LITTLE VILLAGE



The Shape of Water

Cedar Rapids stories from the 2008 flood

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8 The Last 10 Years

Struggles and successes in Cedar Rapids after the '08 flood.

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& ROB CLINE**

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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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LETTERS

LV encourages community members, including candidates for office, to submit letters to Editor@LittleVillageMag.com. To be considered for print publication, letters should be under 500 words. Preference is given to letters that have not been published elsewhere.

It is appalling and shameful that the Iowa legislature and Governor Reynolds just passed the largest tax cut in state history, over \$2.1 billion over the next six fiscal years. This huge tax cut will disallow adequate funding for education, health care, environmental protection and many other essential programs. It is a giveaway to wealthy individuals and large corporations and will provide minimal benefits and raise property taxes for working families, seniors and small businesses.

It is also terrible that the state passed a highly restrictive voter ID law that will prevent at least 85,000 Iowans, especially minorities, the elderly, young people and people with disabilities from voting. These people more frequently have difficulty obtaining ID, because they cannot afford or cannot obtain the underlying documents that are a prerequisite to obtaining a government-issued photo ID card.

I hope that we can mobilize to help candidates in flippable districts take back the Iowa House and governorship to Democratic candidates. We can find out about progressive candidates, events and organizations on the ActivateIowa website, www.activateiowa.org.

We can also support Democratic candidates in flippable districts all over Iowa by attending or donating to Flip It Iowa events. Flip It Iowa sponsors teams to "adopt" and support these candidates. They have already worked with over 15 teams here in Johnson County and are starting to work with other teams across the state. You can find out more about Flip It Iowa and about upcoming events at www.facebook.com/FlipItIA.

—John Macatee, Iowa City

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



HAVE AN OPINION?

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Months after pushing for massive tax subsidies for Apple, a top Reynolds aide gets a job at Apple

How very convenient for him.
—Susan D.

Bought and sold. 'Merica. —Paul G.

Your Village: Is there a veggie-based conspiracy at the Iowa City Farmers Market?

It is good that this article draws attention to the fact that the ICFM (unlike many markets) requires vendors to grow their own, vs. trucking in or buying from brokers. However, it does leave out the real reason that these tomatoes look too perfect, which is that they are grown hydroponically (that is, not in soil). They certainly beat a Hy-Vee Florida tomato harvested green (with dubious labor practices) and ripened in a warehouse with ethylene—don't get me wrong—but they are fundamentally different than a tomato grown in the soil like the rest of of the CSA and truck farms that sell at market. —Thomas A.

Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing not to put a tomato in a fruit salad. —M

ACLU of Iowa, Planned Parenthood and the Emma Goldman Clinic sue to overturn Iowa's new abortion law

Wish they could sue the jerks that passed it and the major jerk that signed it directly—the people don't want the damn bill, yet we'll pay to prove it's unconstitutional. They should have to foot the damn bill. —Ronda K.

And that's why I have committed to monthly charitable contributions to those groups! —Kristina V.

INTERACTIONS



Philip Roth (1933-2018) on Iowa City

As a resident in the mid to late '70s and an arms length observer of Iowa City thereafter, I see things both familiar and foreign in this early 1960s description. For those of you who feel our country has made no progress in the past fifty years, you need to honestly compare your observations from today with Mr. Roth's of a half century ago. We are far along a path that still stretches before us but still has

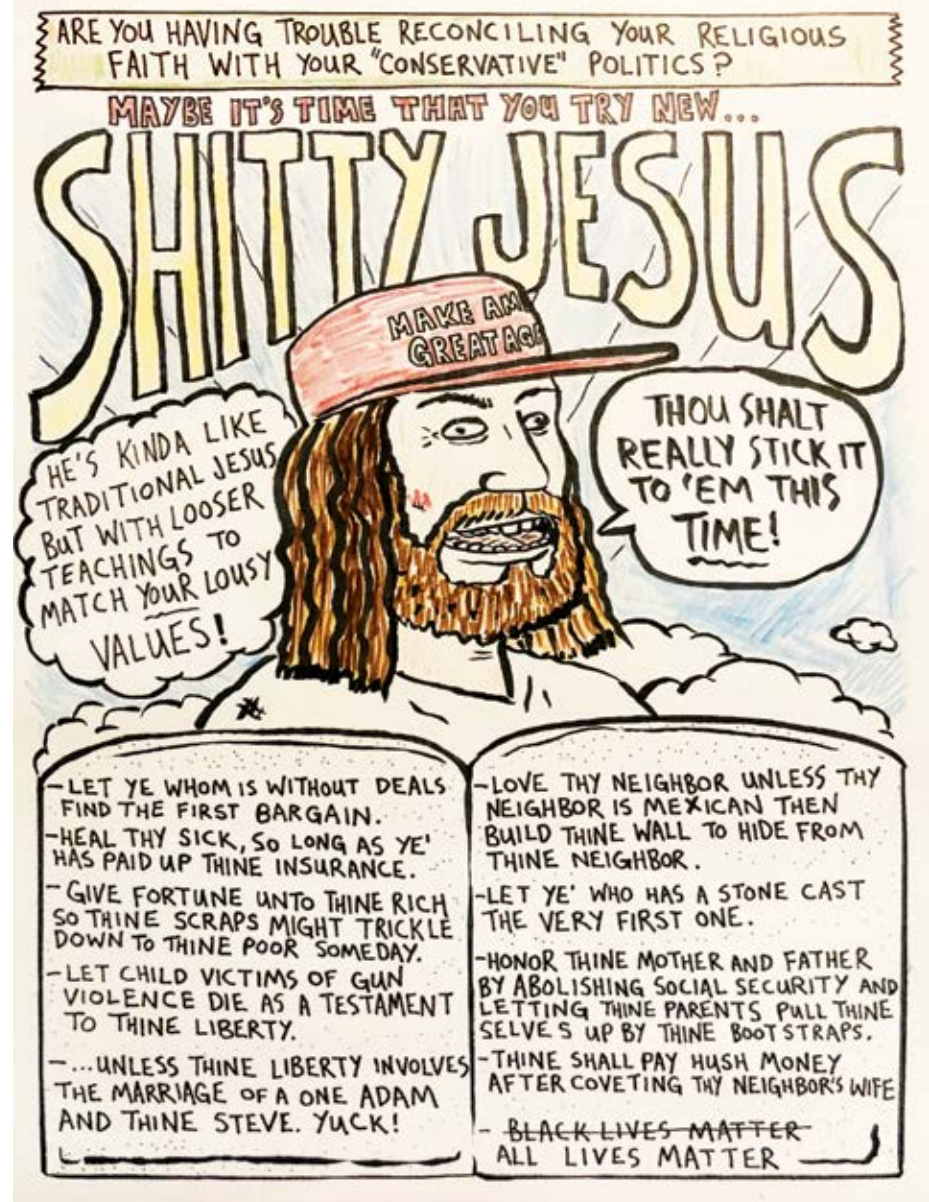
miles to go. Philip Roth was for a time part of that journey, an awakening in our nation and our conscious. I love what Iowa City has accomplished and its potential for the future. —Richard P.

Democratic candidate for governor Nate Boulton accused of sexual misconduct

LV, I would strongly advise you omit the mention that he was married at the time of

FUTILE WRATH

SAM LOCKE WARD



the allegations. It makes it sound like you think it would have been okay if he was single. —*Ella B.*

I think it spells out that it's even worse because he's hurting his family and another woman all at once.
—*Andrew D.*

Your Village: How did B'jaysville Lane get its name?

I'll say what nobody else has: Blowjobsville. Don't crush the mystique and wonder for everyone; some of us still have dreams. —*Dan R.*

How about a story on how Foster Rd. was named? Records are sketchy on this.
—*Bobby J.*

On the subject, I cannot but share the Daily Iowan's June 30, 2006 poll below: "What's your favorite racy local street name?"
B'Jaysville Lane
Dingleberry Road
Vixen Lane
Stoner Court
Broken Woods Drive"
Also, is Bernard Alberhasky the former founder, in 1948, and owner of Bernie's Foxhead Tavern, now Dave's Fox Head Tavern?
Self-correction/addition: "The Fox Head, at East Market and Gilbert streets, was opened in 1934 by Bernie Alberhasky, 19. His father, Charlie, held the license until Bernie turned 21 in 1936." Name "was changed to Dave's Fox Head around 1969 when his son and current proprietor, Dave, took over," (Cedar Rapids Gazette Sunday, November 11, 2001 – Page 79)
—*Matthieu B.*

Joan Osborne, '90s chanteuse, will perform for Iowa Arts Fest

I saw her last summer in Telluride. One fantastic show. Her band (guitar and keys) was stellar. Her renditions of Dylan songs were creative and innovative without losing any of Dylan's original statements. Highly recommended —*Bruce B.*

I crashed my car to that song ["One of Us"]! Not on purpose. —*Zoë*

Letter to the editor: Zach Wahls just knocked on my door

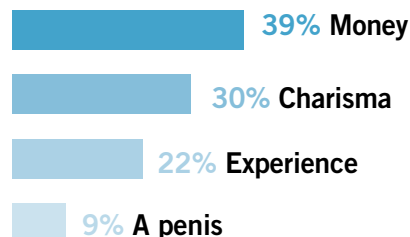
Yes. A resounding yes. I am no longer a resident in Iowa but I remember the day I met Terry Wahls—she gave an inspiring lecture while I was a medical student at the University of Iowa about her success with battling MS. Not long after, Zach was on Ellen after giving his speech to the Iowa House Judiciary Committee concerning gay marriage. What a privilege to have a connection to both Terry and Zach, even if it's just that they are from my state. Zach, thank you for fighting the good fight and for giving so much of yourself. You are helping make the world a better place!
—*Randi*

Plan for the future of Cedar Rapids schools calls for closure of eight elementary schools (Sept. 27, 2017)

Class size is always a concern—enough said, I hope. Of the schools that are

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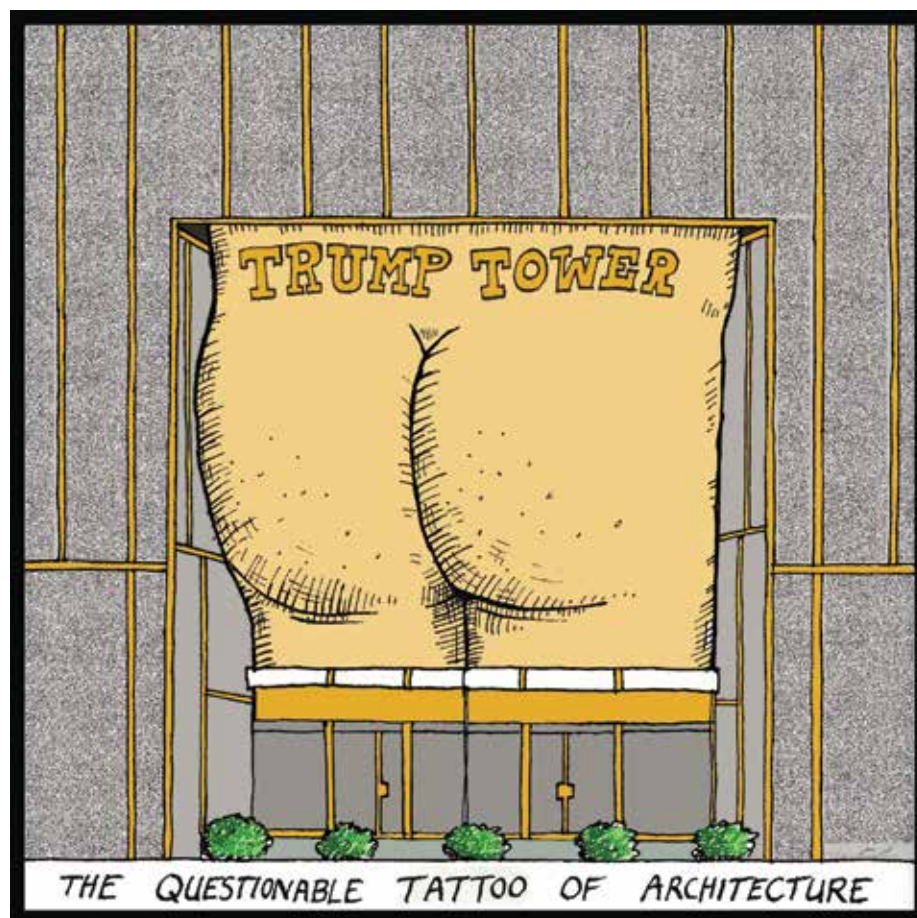
What does a Democrat need most to win the Iowa governor seat?



to be reconstructed, I certainly hope dropping off and picking up is going to be considered in the construction; it is important. Is it really cost effective to bus children and tear down schools like Truman and Van Buren? I worry that the needy in the class will simply be left behind in a situation where the class size is increased, even by a few. —*Angie D.*

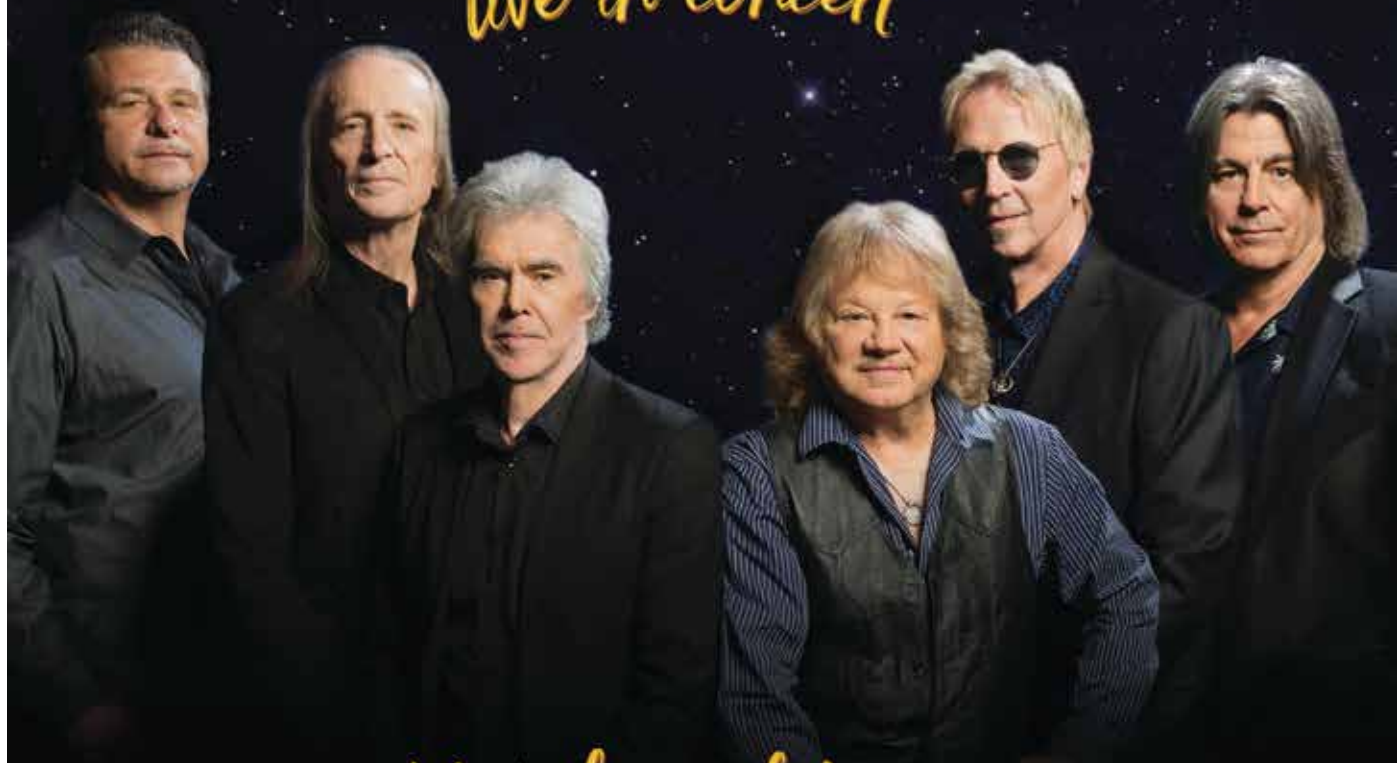
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The Art of Water

Mel Andringa brings the 2008 2x2xU project full circle.

Mel Andringa brings the 2008 2x2xU project full circle.

OF MEL
THE ART

“The very first work I did was about a man who worked 25 years on a painting that he couldn’t complete. And it was seen as a disaster, but I tended to see it differently,” Mel Andringa, producing director of Cedar Rapids nonprofit Legion Arts, said in a recent phone call. “I tended to see it as the story of a person remaining engaged in their work despite everybody’s expectations for the finishing of it. And I’ve used that as my guiding aesthetic ever since.”

Ten years ago, Andringa experienced a different sort of disaster, in the catastrophic flooding of the Cedar River that drowned much of the New Bohemia district, Czech Village, Time Check neighborhood and downtown Cedar Rapids. And, as the anniversary of the flood approaches, he’s finding ways to defy expectations and stay engaged while engaging others.

In 2008, he had been considering retirement. Now, he’s curating two major shows, both opening June 7. One is of his own post-flood work (running through July), and will be held at CSPS Hall, the

renovated New Bo building that houses his studio and Legion Arts, both of which suffered great losses due to the flood. The other (running through June 16) is a look back at the 2x2xU exhibit that was hanging all around New Bo when the flood came through. For that exhibit, Art Lost and Found, he reached out to the artists who had created the 2-by-2-foot paintings, many of whom had their pieces returned to them after the flood, to ask for them to be included.

Looking forward and looking back are both part of one process for Andringa. They’re inextricably linked in the way that artists face disaster and manage the grief and loss that come with it.

“Some of my [newer] work is a reference to things like gentrification,” he said. “Others of it is a reference to the loss of a broken-tree forest behind our building, or the flora and fauna changing in the neighborhood. I didn’t really think of these as all flood-related until this anniversary came up. And then I went through and I sorted all my photographs from that time, and from the time between, and I recognized

that there was just a lot of it that seemed to have as a theme this idea of lost and found art, or of loss and how artists deal with it.”

“I believe that artists are a little bit of a different animal when it comes to dealing with loss,” Andringa continued. “When most people deal with loss they have one of two reactions. The first is kind of like the Beatles song: ‘Get back to where you once belonged.’ They want everything back exactly the way they had it before the catastrophe. If they lost their microwave, they want a new microwave exactly like the old one. They want their wallpaper back that they had, they want their possessions back, their photos back, they want their job back if their livelihood depended on it. The problem with that is that the flood is still ahead of them. When they get everything restored to them, they’re still looking at a disaster, because they spend all that time recovering.

“The second kind of response is like Rodgers and Hammerstein: ‘I wanna wash that man right out of my hair.’ ‘I want a new microwave, I want new wallpaper, I want a house on high ground, I want a new





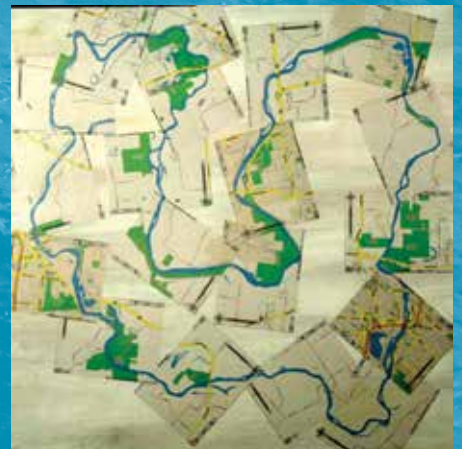
CSPS Hall, 1103 3rd St SE, underwent major renovations after the flood, before reopening in 2011

job, I want a new partner—I want to forget about everything I had; I want to put it all behind me.’ And the problem with that is ... whatever they do that runs into the slightest obstacle, it seems like a disaster to them. It’s just so much energy to leave all that behind you.

“I think artists have a third response. It’s not like a song, exactly. It’s like, ‘Something was taken from me. And I’m going to wrestle with that experience until it gives me something back—a picture, a song, a dance, a poem, a novel, whatever. I’m gonna wrestle something from that experience, because that experience in many ways is my unique possession, and I’m gonna use it in my art.’”

Andringa found that third response in hearing from the 2x2xU artists that he contacted for Art Lost and Found. That sense of utilizing the past as a means of moving forward was so strong that, in many cases, he’ll be printing out those communications and incorporating them as text into the exhibit. They’ll be displayed alongside works that have been returned or, in some cases, in place of paintings that are still missing.

Works from the 2x2xU My River exhibit, May 2008, all unnamed. From top: Peter Thompson, Barbara Campbell, Jacob Hughes (lost in the flood), Karla McGrail (stolen; returned several years later by relatives of the thief, after his death).
Photos by David Van Allen



There’s opportunity in this for the larger community to learn to embrace that artistic method of integrating looking back and looking forward, even as new, high-end construction brings influxes of residents to the neighborhood ready to call themselves (New) Bohemians (a term that, Andringa points out, “loses its meaning when it gains majority status”). As part of the Art Lost and Found opening reception, which begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 7, a conversation with some of the still-local artists will take place at 7 p.m. And, as part of his CSPS exhibit, the Morphing Murals of the Drawing Legion, Andringa will be in his studio during extended gallery hours on Thursdays, giving talks or drawing lessons, or doing performed paintings.

Despite the expectations of those who view an anniversary as a moment to mark and then move on from, Andringa will remain engaged in the work. LV

Genevieve Trainor owns a 2x2xU painting of a mermaid, but it’s not from the 2008 exhibit.

**Sue Millar Owner,
Millar Woodwind Repair**

My business was in the Kouba building located on Third Street in [the New Bohemia district]. We all knew the water was coming, but had no idea of the possible magnitude of the event. Even my landlord told me I was working too hard as I piled things on tables three feet off the ground. There just wasn't a strong sense of urgency as we prepared. Most people thought they'd just have to clean their floors and replace a rug or two.

But I started getting nervous the night before the water was supposed to start trickling into New Bo, so I packed my toddler in the car and went out at midnight to grab a few tools and clarinets in case I needed to work from home for a few days. Those few days turned into nine months.

“We all knew the water was coming, but had no idea of the possible magnitude of the event.” —Sue Millar

After that, I moved into a teeny room in the Cherry Building. I didn't need much space at the time, as I had lost every last scrap of my business to the flood.

Ten years later and now in one of the renovated spaces on the first floor, I still call the Cherry Building home. The 10-year lore of the community coming together to heal and rebuild is real. The energy

of us all rebuilding together sustained us during the tough times. I simply could not have rebuilt my business without the unwavering support of my family, my friends, the “can do” spirit of the Chadima family (who helped many of us in New Bo get back on our feet) and my amazing customers, who so patiently and generously hung in there with me as my business recovered.

John Schwartzkopf Woodworker

I responded to the threat like everyone else, stacking as much as possible on workbenches and tables, expecting a couple of feet of water in the shop at the most. When we left the shop we tiptoed through water on the ground. The area was blocked off after that. The storms that night north of Cedar Rapids caused the flood to crest about 8 feet higher than expected, so preparations were in vain. No one expected anything close to that.

Cleanup was a messy operation, sorting salvage items from much larger piles of debris. There was never a question about quitting. Like most of us

in New Bo, I had no employees. I was my business. I was doing what I enjoyed. This was an opportunity to restart and rehab my business, replacing tools and improving my working space.

Months later I had relocated across the alley to the Cherry Building, where my woodworking shop is currently located. I have a better shop than before and am still

busy. It wasn't easy rebuilding even with grants, forgivable loans, SBA loans and an overused credit card, but I'm still here along with friends whose stories match my own. Those of us who were in the same building still feel like we have a bond that has resulted in long-term friendships. What was very real then seems more like a surreal dream now—one I don't need to repeat.

**Kristine Olsen Materials Librarian,
Cedar Rapids Public Library**

I remember what an uncommonly snowy winter we had that year bookended by an unusually wet fall and spring. It was little wonder that the area rivers rose as they did. Given the Cedar Rapids Public Library's proximity to the river, at that point, it was only natural that we would be concerned by what we saw, although precedent would suggest that the river would not reach our doors. In the days leading up to the flood ... we did ensure everything of value was off the floor ... All of the bottom book shelves were emptied ... High value items, such as our Zerzanek Collection, went up to the second floor. As a further precaution, we did sandbag our entrances as well. The information we had suggested that we would come back to wet carpet and nothing more ...

I know so many in the community were devastated by the loss of the library—I can guarantee that that devastation was so much more for those of us who had so lovingly tended to its collections, patrons and programs for so many years (almost six for me at the time). My library family had lost its home ...

For me the silver lining that emerged

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The Cedar Rapids Public Library (1985-2008) at 500 1st St. SE lost half its collection and closed permanently.

from all of the muck is the outstanding facility we now have to serve our community's needs for information, building community, transforming lives or to simply fill a desire to have fun. We've seen a dramatic increase in library use since the flood. Our door counts, program attendance, circulation numbers (how many materials get checked out) and meeting room usage are through the roof (which happens to be a wonderful space in and of itself). Our library family has a new place to be extremely proud to call home! LV



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The Weight of Water

Some neighborhoods are thriving, but others still struggle.

SOME NEIGHBORHOODS ARE THRIVING, BUT OTHERS STILL STRUGGLE.

OF WATER
THE WEIGHT

The 10-year anniversary of the devastating floods of 2008 lends itself to a certain kind of narrative—one in which we extol the resilience of our communities and shine a light on successes that seem to point toward a future filled with sunshine after the rain. And to be fair, that narrative is, in many ways, true. But it isn't the whole story.

Clint Twedt-Ball, executive director of Matthew 25 in Cedar Rapids, is well aware of this. Matthew 25 was founded in 2006 to strengthen and elevate west side neighborhoods in the city. The flood and its aftermath thrust the organization into the forefront of recovery efforts, and from that position, Twedt-Ball has had a good view of those who have found success in recovery and those who are still feeling the negative impact of the disaster.

"I think the people who are struggling are people like those who used up all of their retirement savings to come back from the flood and will never recover that money," Twedt-Ball says. "Or people that are in a neighborhood that hasn't been fully revitalized. If they were in their house for one to five years and then their property value dropped by 40 percent after the flood and it's just gotten back up to where it originally was, they've essentially been trapped in their house and unable to sell it unless they were willing to sell it at loss. And there are a lot of folks in that situation."

He points to the vagaries of the 100-year floodplain, which he says "weaves and bobs its way in and out of blocks," often leaving just a house or two unable to rebuild due to stipulations regarding what's permissible in the flood zone. "They are stuck in this cycle

with the value of their house not going up and their neighbors are stuck with these one or two houses on a block that can't be fully rehabbed."

Twedt-Ball also notes that homeowners in the hazard and mitigation areas who didn't accept a buyout will likely have their homes taken via eminent domain.

All of that said, Twedt-Ball is quick to acknowledge the positives of the post-flood period, as well.

"The community as a whole has benefited from the flood," he says. "When you look at NewBo and how it's come back or Kingston Village the way it's starting to come back ... Overall, you'd have to say the region has been strengthened because of this."

While New Bo City Market and various entertainment and dining venues get much of the attention when the neighborhood is considered, Twedt-Ball suggests it is organizations like the Iowa Startup Accelerator and the tech business moving in that will ultimately define the neighborhood.

"I think long term, it's going to have to be some of those larger, stable businesses that anchor it and push it forward," he says.

He identifies Kingston Village as an example of how success and inaction can exist side-by-side. On the one hand, the area near the McGrath Amphitheater is seeing growth in terms of housing and businesses, signaling a successful blending of public and private sector investment. On the other hand, Taylor Elementary School, which serves the Kingston Village area, is set to be closed, which is arguably in keeping with the state of its immediate neighborhood.

"While there's all this boom happening in Kingston, which is officially part of the

Residential neighborhoods were devastated when the Cedar River swelled over its banks in June 2008.

Taylor neighborhood, there are all these places in the Taylor neighborhood where nothing's hardly happening," Twedt-Ball says.

Twedt-Ball sees ways in which local government can help shrink the gap between the post-flood losers and winners.

"There are definitely policy solutions, and we've tried to support some of those, like the city working on developing a vacant and blighted property ordinance. I think that's led some landlords who weren't reinvesting in their properties deciding to get out of the landlord business. That's helped," he says. "This neighborhood finance corporation that the city's developing where people will be able to get \$10,000, essentially forgivable, loans to invest in their properties, I think that's going to be a huge help to neighborhoods like the Taylor neighborhood. And then long term, I think we're going to have to look at questions like how do we have inclusionary and supportive housing? How do we invest in affordable housing? Those are going to be important things to think about."

In the meantime, Twedt-Ball encourages everyone in the community to remember both the positive and the negative side of the flood recovery story. His organization faces both every day.

"We can kind of forget the people that financially were impacted and emotionally were impacted and they're kind of sitting on the sideline or sitting out and not benefiting from all this new stuff. And that's the heart of our role—to keep those people at the forefront of what we do." LV

Rob Cline is an arts professional, freelance writer and author of Murder by the Slice.

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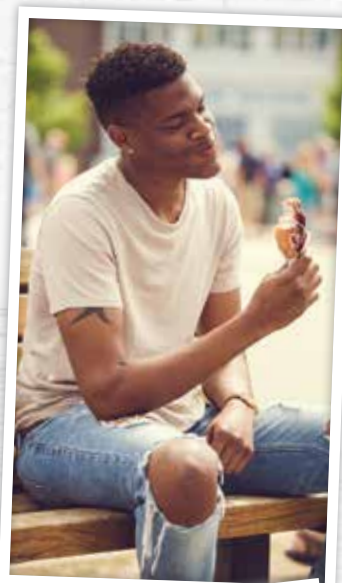
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UR Here

Bonding with an Iowa Prairie

Scientific study of nature doesn't have to—and shouldn't—be merely clinical.

BY THOMAS DEAN

Over the past year and a half, I have grown to know and love the Iowa prairie as never before. I am in the final stages of a project with my co-author, Cindy Crosby, that involves writing about and photographing the tallgrass prairie. While I have always relished visits to a prairie, this project has obliged me to make regular sojourns to Iowa tallgrass sites. In so doing, I have been able to experience the prairie much more for what it truly is: a dynamic ecosystem full of constant

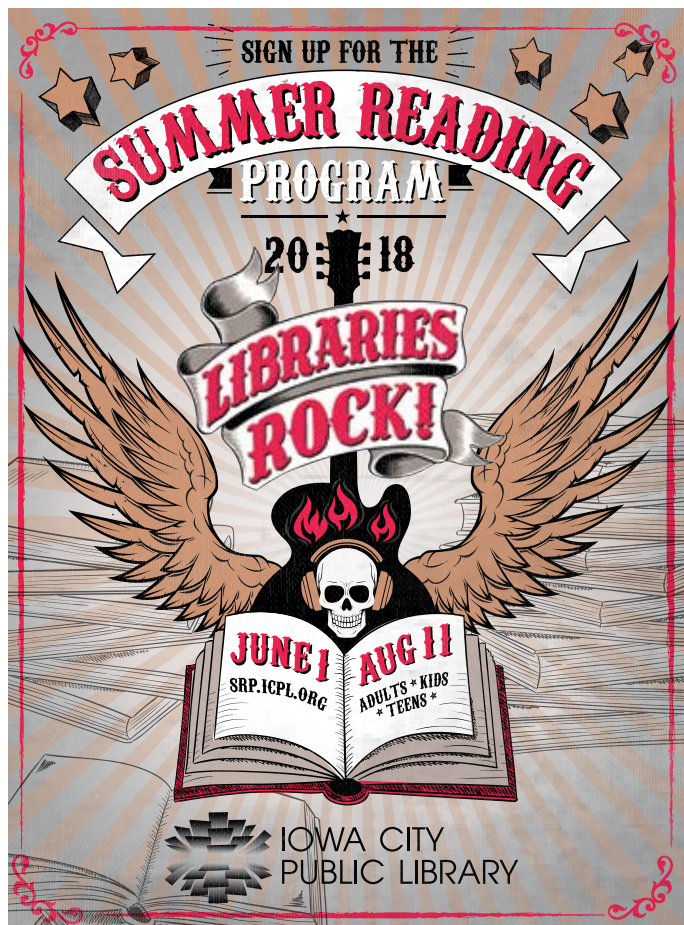
change and surprise.

Since at times I was making at least weekly photo expeditions to various prairies dotting eastern and central Iowa, I could observe the succession of growth and bloom in a more coherent way than ever before. Doing so not only gifted me with a wealth of visual delights as shooting star gave way to spiderwort gave way to compass plant gave way to the tall majesty of bluestem in full vigor, but it also gave me a new sense of time and place as the markers of prairie life marched in succession before me. My sense

of the transmuting round of the year was enriched well beyond the changes in tree leaves and garden plants of my backyard, and my sense of connection to my home ground was deepened.

My experience admittedly was nothing profound. As a naturalist, my co-author, Cindy, sees the daily changes on the prairie and the spectacle of gradual transformation as everyday life, though still wondrous. And incorporating more regular, focused observation of the natural world around me hardly made a Leopold-level phenologist of me.

Thomas Dean



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Iowa-born Aldo Leopold started building his conservationist chops in his backyard on the banks of the Mississippi in Burlington, recording in observant, accurate detail the daily life of birds and plants on his family's grounds. Observing and recording the cycles of life in this way is phenology, which became a lifelong practice for Leopold, who passed on these phenological habits to his family. Leopold died in 1949, but his daughter Nina continued her phenological observations and recordings at the legendary Shack in Wisconsin until her death in 2011. The Leopold legacy is bound in Aldo's classic *A Sand County Almanac* and the tremendous conservation work he and his family accomplished across the decades of the 20th century.

Yet perhaps one of the

Leopolds' most profound and valuable contributions to our understanding of the natural world are the volumes of notebooks that they kept, recording the arrivals and departures of migrating birds, the behaviors of native mammals and the blooming and fading of plants on that small patch of ground on the Wisconsin River. Through these decades of meticulous records, a story of place—and of changes in the landscape, including both the bounties of ecological restoration and the vitiating effects of climate change—has been told in ways rarely seen.

We—and our local place, even our planet—could all benefit from a little phenology in our lives. I suggest giving it a try. It needn't be burdensome, and you don't have to keep decades of notebooks for it to have an

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important effect. Maybe choose just one thing—say, a favorite tree or a particular type of bird in your yard. Make a daily habit of observing it, noticing both the subtle and profound changes it goes through as the days pass and as the seasons turn. If you have more time and ambition, make some regular treks to one of our local prairies or woodlands, especially those with native plants, and tune into the changes from week to week. I

Through these decades of meticulous records, a story of place—and of changes in the landscape, including both the bounties of ecological restoration and the vitiating effects of climate change—has been told in ways rarely seen.

can guarantee your relationship with the natural world will change as well as your perspective on the cycles of life.

Ultimately, the fate of our environment depends on the ecological integrity of our local places, and the integrity of our local places depends on our deep understanding of and emotional connection to them. As Wendell Berry said in the title of his 2012 National Endowment for the Humanities Jefferson Lecture, “It All Turns on Affection.” Paying attention and regular connection are the sources of this essential affection in which lies, truly, the fate of the world. *LV*

Thomas Dean is excited about the arrival of ‘Tallgrass Conversations: In Search of the Prairie Spirit,’ co-authored with Cindy Crosby, coming in spring 2019 from Ice Cube Press.

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Ser escritor internacional en la Ciudad de Iowa: Reflexiones sobre mi experiencia

POR OLLIN GARCÍA PLIEGO

legué a Iowa City el 5 de agosto de 2016. Estaba por comenzar la maestría en Escritura Creativa en Español. Traía conmigo una bolsa de dormir, bastantes libros y maletas con ropa. Tenía la ilusión de tener tiempo para escribir una novela y me encontraba aterrado por enseñar español en la Universidad de Iowa. Mi experiencia en Iowa City, como escritor mexicano y persona de tez morena, ha sido fructuosa, aunque también he tenido vivencias que me han hecho reflexionar sobre algunos de los retos que enfrentamos las personas que no somos blancas.

Antes de mi llegada a Iowa no había formado parte de talleres literarios. En Lawrence University (donde estudié la carrera) me abrí un blog. También escribí para el periódico de la escuela y formé parte del review board de *Tropos*, nuestra revista de arte y literatura. La maestría y mi estancia en Iowa City serán siempre parte fundamental en mi trayectoria. Conocí a escritores y escritoras de distintas partes del mundo, de quienes aprendí muchísimo, e intercambié ideas sobre literatura, escritura, historia, traducción, política, filosofía, sociología, economía y otras disciplinas. Además, mejoré incalculablemente en mis escritos, y tuve dos años muy fructíferos en mi producción literaria. Asimismo, me di cuenta de la posibilidad de escribir no ficción, al grado de que actualmente me encuentro juntando una serie de crónicas, material que espero se consolide en un libro sobre algunas de mis vivencias.

Sin embargo, el panorama social me ha presentado momentos en los que he tenido que guardar silencio como medio de protesta pacífica, a fin de evitar la violencia física hacia mi persona. Una tarde de agosto de 2016, circulaba por el Highway 6 en mi vehículo. No me di cuenta de que la luz del semáforo estaba en verde. Detrás de mí tenía a un Yellow Cab. El conductor, un hombre, de unos cincuenta años,

blanco y con barba, se bajó del auto, gritando. Creí que necesitaba ayuda, por lo que bajé el vidrio de mi ventana. Al darme cuenta de que me estaba insultando, y a punto de agredirme, cerré los vidrios y aceleré. Mi reacción, supongo, fue mi instinto de supervivencia. Me detuvo el siguiente semáforo. El conductor me alcanzó. Siguió insultándome. El semáforo se puso en verde. Volví a acelerar.

Hace poco más de un mes, un domingo por la noche, me bajé de un Uber en Clinton St. y me detuve en un cajero automático de Wells Fargo para sacar dinero. Metí mi tarjeta, puse mi contraseña, retiré el efectivo. De reojo veía a un par de hombres que estaban parados afuera de una tienda de licor en el Pedestrian Mall. Uno de ellos, un individuo de cabello largo, blanco, me comenzó a hablar. Aunque esa situación le hubiera podido suceder a cualquiera, me sentí nervioso y consciente de mi posición como estudiante internacional y persona de color. Guardé el efectivo en mi cartera inmediatamente y me la metí al pantalón. El hombre me pedía dinero. Le dije que no había retirado mucho, que era estudiante y lo sentía. Le temblaban las manos, se puso nervioso. Intenté emprender la retirada sobre Clinton St. con dirección a E. Washington St. a fin de que

yo no fuera objeto de un ataque físico o verbal, o en todo caso, racial. El sujeto se me paró enfrente, y se metió las manos a los bolsillos. Me seguía repitiendo que le diera dinero, lo que fuera. Me vi obligado a sacar la cartera.

An International Writer in Iowa City: Reflections on My Experience

WRITTEN BY OLLIN GARCÍA PLIEGO, TRANSLATED BY DALLIN LAW

On Aug. 5, 2016 I arrived in Iowa City. I was about to start my master's in Spanish Creative Writing. I had with me a sleeping bag, a ton of books and suitcases filled with clothes. I had hopes of having time to write a novel and was terrified of teaching Spanish at the University of Iowa. My experience as a Mexican writer and brown-skinned person in Iowa City has been fruitful, but I've also



Blair Gauntt

had experiences that made me reflect on some of the challenges that those of us who aren't white face.

Before coming to Iowa, I'd never been a part of a literary workshop. At Lawrence University (where I got my bachelor's) I wrote in my blog and for the school newspaper. I also joined the review board of *Tropos*, our journal of art and literature. The master's program and my stay in Iowa City will always be a fundamental part of my career. I met writers from all over the world, from whom I learned so much as we exchanged ideas about literature, writing, history, translation, politics, philosophy, sociology and economics, among other subjects. My writing improved incalculably, and I enjoyed two very productive years of literary production. In addition, I realized I could write nonfiction, to the point that I'm currently putting together a series of stories that I hope to consolidate into a book about a few of my experiences.

However, this social setting has presented moments when I've had to keep silent as a

way of peaceful protest, in order to avoid being subject to physical violence. One afternoon in August 2016, I was driving along Highway 6 in my car. I didn't realize that the stoplight had turned green. A Yellow Cab was waiting behind me. The driver, a white, bearded man around 50, got out of his car, yelling. I thought he needed help, so I rolled down my window. When I realized that he was screaming insults at me, about to assault me, I shut the windows and slammed on the gas pedal. My reaction, I suppose, came from my survival instinct. I braked for the next light. The driver caught up. He continued insulting me. The light turned green. I accelerated again.

A little over a month ago, on a Sunday night, I got out of an Uber on Clinton Street and stopped by an ATM at Wells Fargo to take out some money. I put my card in the slot, punched in my PIN and retrieved some cash. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw a couple men standing outside a liquor store on the Pedestrian Mall. One of them, a white, long-haired individual, started talking to me.

Although this kind of thing could happen to anyone, I felt nervous and very aware of my status as an international student and person of color. I immediately shoved the bills in my wallet, pocketing it. The man was asking for money. I told him I hadn't taken out much, that I was a student and was sorry I couldn't help. His hands were shaking, and he began looking nervous. I tried to start retreating along Clinton Street towards East Washington, to avoid being the victim of an attack, physical or verbal, or, in either case, racial. The man moved to stand in front of me and put his hands in his pockets. He kept asking for me to give him money, any money. I found myself forced to pull out my wallet. LV/

Ollin Garcia Pliego is a fiction and nonfiction writer, poet and journalist from Mexico, with an MFA in Spanish Creative Writing from the University of Iowa.

Dallin Law studies literary translation at the University of Iowa.



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June 4 - August 17 Schedule

Monday

10:30-11:30am Willow Creek Park
 Noon-12:30pm North Dodge Hy-Vee
 1:30-2:00pm Legacy Independent Living
 2:15-2:45pm Bickford Senior Living
 3:00-3:30pm Regency Heights Apartments
 3:45-4:30pm Lemme Elementary

Tuesday

9:30-10:15am Weber Elementary
 10:30-11:30am Oaknoll Retirement Comm., George St.
 11:45-12:15pm Melrose Meadows
 12:30-1:00pm Emerson Point
 2:00-2:45pm Alexander Elementary
 3:00-4:00pm Grant Wood Elementary

Wednesday

10:30-11:30am Wetherby Park
 12:30-1:00pm First Avenue Hy-Vee
 1:30-2:00pm Iowa City Rehabilitation
 2:30-3:00pm Frauenholtz-Miller Park
 3:30-4:00pm Forest View
 4:30-5:30pm UI Comm. Credit Union, Mormon Trek

Thursday

11:00-1:00pm UI College of Medicine
 MERF/PBDB/BSB Courtyard
 2:30-3:30pm Mark Twain Elementary
 4:00-4:30pm Regency Mobile Home Community
 5:00-5:30pm Waterfront Hy-Vee
 6:30-7:30pm Party in the Park (various locations)

Friday

10:30-11:30am Mercer Park
 Noon-1:00pm Breckenridge Estates
 1:30-2:00pm Cole's Community, Riverside Dr.

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K. Michael Moore

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Mount Vernon has a little-known gem of a restaurant, tucked just down the hill from Main Street: Big's BBQ. From the street, this stately manor would pass for a Cornell professor's home. But inside waits a tidy little restaurant and brewery serving big flavor.

Big's delivers a surprising variety of delicious smoked meats, all smoked on-site over locally harvested cherry wood. Traditional favorites like pulled pork and smoked chicken, sausages and ribs are side by side with spectacular burnt ends and clever additions such as BBQ Tacos or the Iowa BBQ Pie (Fritos, pulled pork, baked beans and cheese—the barbecue version of the taco salad).

Brisket fanatics should go on a Saturday or Sunday, when the amazing brisket special is available: Tender and flavorful with a bit of zip, this weekend special is truly incredible. And there are other great treats in store any day of the week.

Without doubt another perk of Big's is the impressive beer menu. Regardless of your preferences, Big's has you covered with a

wide selection, brewed in house—complex microbrews to suit any taste.

Having quite happily eaten half the menu, there are three things I'd like to see Big's add or adjust. For one, no barbecue joint can do with substandard baked beans. Big's exceeds expectation in so many other ways, but the beans do fall short. Choose the nice mustardy potato salad or the remarkable cole slaw instead.

Also, cornbread is a staple in excellent barbecue joints—Big's meets the requirements otherwise, but a good cornbread would elevate their greatness. Last, desserts: While the menu provides delicious meal options, great local beer and bottled soft drinks, something sweet would be a fantastic complement. A waitress mentioned that peach cobbler might be in the works—an excellent idea!

Big's BBQ may be a bit of a drive for some readers, but it's well worth it. This restaurant's amazing flavor and truly gifted local beer menu is competing rather well in the eastern Iowa BBQ scene. Definitely check it out. **LV**

—K. Michael Moore

A-List

A pink-painted world

Alisabeth Von Presley brings her colorful stage show to Iowa City Pride Fest.
BY EMMA MCCLATCHEY

When Alisabeth Von Presley was a little girl, she believed she was the reincarnation of Elvis. She'd perform in front of a mirror, singing into her dad's hairbrush.

The 30-year-old entertainer now embodies the King of Rock and Roll in other ways, from her name—changed from Caraway to Von Presley—to the Elvis portrait tattooed on her left forearm. She's taken up guitar, and often performs in glam, eye-catching outfits that harken back to Elvis' sequined jumpsuits.

But Von Presley has forged her own larger-than-life persona onstage—a persona that will be on full display during her headlining performance for the Iowa City Pride Festival on June 16.

Elvis isn't the only inspiration Von Presley has commemorated on her skin: She also has tattoos of Madonna, Dr. Frank-N-Furter from *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (with his quote, "Don't dream it, be it") and Barbie.

"Growing up, I lived out in Springfield, Iowa which was miles and miles away from, dare I say, civilization. So I kind of had to find things to do with my time, and if I got bored, I'd play a silly song on the piano or I'd go in

my room and play with Barbies," she said. "I would play all the parts. I'd play the guys, the girls, the moms, the teachers, the babies. I'd have friends over and we'd play Barbies together and it would turn into them just sitting and watching me play Barbies because I'd make it such a show."

Though Von Presley hasn't performed at a Pride event before and doesn't identify as LGBT herself, it's not hard to see why Pride Fest organizers turned to the stage actor and *American Idol* alumna to top their bill. Von Presley's shows are Lady Gaga meets

Pat Benatar with a dash of Michael Jackson, full of electric guitar, back-up dancers and, she says, "all-out girl

"I would play all the parts. I'd play the guys, the girls, the moms, the teachers, the babies."

power."

Von Presley is coming off her first tour, which took her 4,800 miles and included a performance for the Girl Scouts of America.

For Pride, she plans to present a rock-pop medley, as well as a couple brand new original songs being developed for her upcoming album, *Pink Renegade*.

"I'm obsessed with the color pink," she said. "Everything in my life is pink. My electric guitar is pink. My outfits are pink. My



via Alisabeth Von Presley



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2018 IOWA CITY PRIDE GUIDE SAT., JUNE 16

★ **Queer Coffee Shop The Englert Theatre, 9 a.m., all ages** Start Pride Fest with coffee and friendly conversation.

★ **Pride Parade College Green Park to downtown, 12 p.m., all ages** Promised to be bigger than ever, the 2018 parade will no doubt be a colorful and glittery spectacle.

★ **Vendor Fair, Downtown, 1-6 p.m., all ages** Browse nearly 100 booths to grab a bite to eat, play a few games and get the low-down on some LGBT-friendly organizations, businesses and churches. The fair will take place on Washington and Linn streets and the U.S. Bank parking lot.

★ **Queer Thrift Shop Pop-Up The Englert Theatre, 1-6 p.m., all ages** Thrifty shoppers are encouraged to "break the binary for a good cause," and hunt for

deals on gently used clothing and accessories (including rainbow Pride gear) at the third-annual queer pop-up shop. Proceeds will benefit Transformative Healing, a safe space for LGBT+ survivors of sexual violence.

★ **Mainstage shows Downtown, 1-9:30 p.m., all ages** To start, Iowa City singer-songwriter **Elizabeth Moen** will bless Pride Fest with a performance before embarking on her new international tour. Next, belly dancers from the Iowa City-based **Kahraman Dance Studio** will take the mainstage (1:30), followed by local drag queen collective **Haus of Eden** (2 p.m.).

★ **Pride Royalty** will greet their subjects at 2:30, joined by at least 10 decorated drag kings and queens. The next generation of drag stars will perform for the **Youth Drag**

Show at 3:30, before the **I.C. Kings** present their smoldering brand of exaggerated masculinity at 3 p.m.

★ The body-positive and gender-bending burlesque group **Heartland Bombshells** will shake their assets starting at 4 p.m. **The Quire**, an LGBT chorus that first performed publicly for the 1995 Iowa City Pride Talent Show, will begin belting at 4:30. Iowa City blues/soul group **Six Odd Rats** will jam from 5 to 5:50, followed by transgender entertainer and Cher impersonator **Candi Stratton** at 6 p.m.

★ Headlining acts begin at 6:30, starting with **Alisabeth Von Presley**. *RuPaul's Drag Race* alumni **Roxxy Andrews, Jujubee** and **Monica Beverly Hillz** will dominate the stage starting at 8 p.m., joined by **Pride Royalty** and **Joey D**, an I.C. King turned national academic drag expert.

★ **McKellen: Playing the Part** screening Englert Theatre, 7:30 p.m., all ages Sir Ian McKellen has embodied fantasy/comic book icons and Shakespearean roles alike. He's also a giant in the world of LGBT activism. This documentary explores the British actor's upbringing during WWII, early acting days, the impact of his coming out and more McKellen insight. Cost: \$10-15

★ **Meet and Greet with RuPaul's Drag Race All-Stars Studio 13, 10 p.m., 18 and up** Want to congratulate Roxxy Andrews, Jujubee and Monica Beverly Hillz on a fantastic Pride performance? Meet the reality TV stars and snap a picture at Studio before dancing the night away. Cost: \$10

For more Pride Week events, see the events calendar, pgs. 25-27.

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world is a pink-painted world. I love color, I love seeing color and costumes that are eccentric and crazy.”

Her songwriting process usually takes place in an empty parking lot, sitting inside her Volkswagen Bug, she said, before she and co-writer Tim King put the ideas to music.

Von Presley has a range of creative currency: as a photographer, who serves as visual director of TINT Photography in Cedar Rapids; as a musical theater performer, whose roles have included Maureen in *Rent*, Holly in *The Wedding Singer* and Cassie in *A Chorus Line*—“determined women who also sing and dance,” she said; and as a dancer, choreographing for Cedar Rapids’ Kennedy High School and honing her craft as a backup dancer for drag queens at Club Basix and Studio 13.

“I pretty much grew up at Studio 13,” she said. “I was pretty young backup dancing for [drag queen and former Miss Gay Iowa] Natasha Cass. I think I really learned how to be a woman from her. Those girls kick over their heads, they do splits, they put more

effort into their shows than some people touring as professional musicians. They’ve got it, and they look gorgeous.”

She said she’s ecstatic to share the Pride Fest stage with Roxxy Andrews, JuJubee, Monica Beverly Hillz and Iowa City’s own Sasha Belle, veterans of *RuPaul’s Drag Race*.

Von Presley has some experience with reality TV herself. She earned a golden ticket for the 12th season of *American Idol* in 2013, and said it was both thrilling and nerve-wracking to meet and perform for the likes of Nicki Minaj, Mariah Carey, Keith Urban and Randy Jackson.

“You have to know who you are and you have to stand strong in who you are, because cameras are always rolling and always trying to catch you,” Von Presley said. “My roommate I was staying with in Hollywood—she broke down, she completely broke down. They’d open our door in the morning and videotape us waking up and she would just cry, she was so tired ... I loved the experience. It was fun being there and representing Iowa.”

Von Presley also had an untelevised

audition for *The Voice* in 2015, which she said was a less stressful affair. But she thinks *Idol* is going in a better direction now, to which Iowan Maddie Poppe’s win this season attests.

“I was rooting for her! I think Maddie Poppe is a great representation of Iowa. Just a girl and her guitar singing songs from the heart,” she said.


Von Presley’s own shows have a lot more glitter and choreography than Poppe’s, but Von Presley never neglects to spend some time on heart, breaking for ballads at her piano.

“I’ll do a song with six backup dancers and then my next song will be just me all by myself on the stage, exposed. I like to take my audience on a ride, and I guess that’s exactly who I am as a person. Ups and downs all the time,” she said. “[Performing] is elevated reality. It’s just who you are times 10 and with tighter pants.” LV/

Emma McClatchey will spend Pride Month blasting Janelle Monáe, repeat-watching Call Me By Your Name and partying at Pride Fest.





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JUNE 6-19, 2018

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FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERIES

The Picture Show: 'Paddington 2,'

FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5 Also showing 6/9 & 10

OPENING RECEPTION

Art Lost and Found, Cherry Building, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., Free

FEED ME WEIRD THINGS VOL. 3, EDITION #3

Sarah Hennies w/ special guest Ramin Roshandel, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$8

FRI., JUNE 8

'We Rise to Resist: Voices From A New Era in Women's Political Action,' Prairie

Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free Readings by Miriam Kashia and Danielle Wirth, local contributors to the anthology.

OPENING NIGHT!

'The Secret Garden,' Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$26 The classic family musical runs through 7/1

BLUES PIONEER

Catfish Keith, Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$20

SOULFUL JAZZ-POP

Elle Casazza w/ Lily Detaye, B-Sides, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$7

KIDS

Summer Camps!

There is hope yet...



MON., JUNE 11

Theatre Cedar Rapids: Puppet Making Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m., \$150, through 6/15, ages 5-8

Young Footlitters: 'Masks, Puppets and More,' Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 9 a.m., \$55-68.75, through 6/15, ages 8-10

Kids Summer Camps 2018: Little Big Kid Fiber ART Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$150, through 6/15, ages 5+

Iowa Youth Writing Project: Worlds Away—Fantasy Writing, Iowa City Public Library, 1 p.m., Free, through 6/15, teens

Theatre Cedar Rapids: Acting & Audition Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$150, through 6/15, ages 13+

Theatre Cedar Rapids: Movie Makers Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$150, through 6/15, ages 5-8

Kids Summer Camps 2018: Horse Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$220, through 6/15, ages 8+

TUES., JUNE 12

Iowa Youth Writing Project: A Play on Words—Crafting an Original Choreopoem, The Dream Center, Iowa City, 1 p.m., Free, through 6/13, teens

WED., JUNE 18

CRMA Summer Art Camp 2018, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 8:30 a.m., \$125-150, through 6/22, grades 1-5

Animation Summer Camp, FilmScene, Iowa City, 8:30 a.m., \$375, through 6/22, ages 12-14

Theatre Cedar Rapids: Marvel Super Heroes & Heroines Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m., \$150, through 6/22, ages 5-8

Theatre Cedar Rapids: Puppet Making Camp,

Theatre Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m., \$150, through 6/22, ages 9-12

Theatre Cedar Rapids:

Improv Comedy Camp, Theatre

Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m., \$150, through 6/22, ages 13+

Kids Summer Camps 2018: Sewing—

Patchwork Camp, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 9 a.m., \$220, through 6/22, ages 8+

Young Footlitters: 'So You Want To Be An Actor?' Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 9 a.m., \$55-68.75, through 6/22, ages 9-11

Iowa Youth Writing Project: A God's Toolkit—World Building 101, Downtown Iowa City, 1 p.m., Free, through 6/22, teens

Theatre Cedar Rapids: DC Super Heroes & Heroines Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$150, through 6/22, ages 5-8

Theatre Cedar Rapids: Movie Makers Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$150, through 6/22, ages 9-12

Theatre Cedar Rapids: The Greatest Showman Camp, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$150, through 6/22, ages 13+

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SAT., JUNE 9

HONE THOSE CIRCUS MOVES!

Circus Jam, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$5 suggested donation Get active and share skills with juggling, hula hooping and other big top tricks.

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

Old Capitol City Roller Derby: All Stars vs St. Chux Derby Chix, Coralville Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, 6 p.m., \$13-15



CHICAGO RAPPER AND SINGER

▲ **Tink w/ FMG Red, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$25-60** Recently released from her label after months of negotiations, Tink dropped her first independent EP, 'Pain & Pleasure,' in March. The \$60 tickets include a meet-and-greet.

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

The Quire Presents: 'Out of the Shadows,' Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7 p.m., **Free** Eastern Iowa's GLBT chorus performs the works of Maya Angelou and Steve Milloy's telling of the story of Bayard Rustin, organizer of the 1963 March on Washington.

INCOMPARABLE LOCAL ROOTS POWERHOUSE

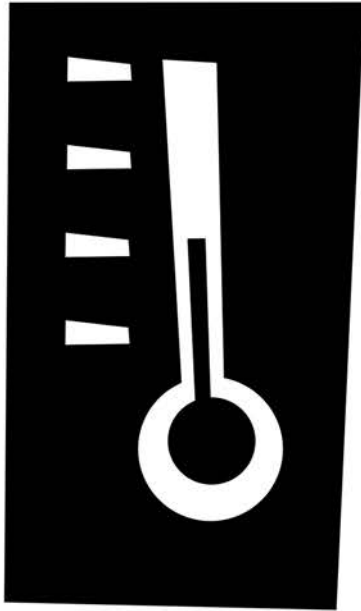
David Zollo & the Body Electric w/ Isabel Crane, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10-12

SUN., JUNE 10



▲ **Science on Screen: 'Real Genius,'** FilmScene, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$15 Val Kilmer's classic 1985 comedy presented complete with a laser demo!

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EDITORS' PICKS

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

**Brix Wine and Cheese Brunch for a Cause
for IC PRIDE, Brix, Iowa City, 11 a.m., menu prices**

LOUISIANA COUNTRY BLUES

**Luke Winslow-King: A Special Sunday
Sunset Performance, Big Grove Brewery &
Taproom, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free**

**MON.,
JUNE 11**

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

**Pride at FilmScene: 'Appropriate
Behavior,' FilmScene, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$8-10.50**

**TUE.,
JUNE 12**

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

**Big Gay Bar Crawl, Downtown Iowa City, 5
p.m. Kicks off at Shakespeare's then moves on to
Sanctuary, Studio 13, Micky's, St. Burch, Sports
Column and the Deadwood.**

NEW ORLEANS FUTURE FUNK

**An Evening with Water Seed, Iowa City Yacht
Club, 9 p.m., \$10**

**WED.,
JUNE 13**

**Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre Presents:
Menotti's 'The Telephone,' Cedar Rapids
Museum of Art, 1 p.m., Free**

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

**Drop the Mic for Pride, Studio 13, Iowa City,
7 p.m., Free Spoken word and live music presented
by The Hook.**

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

**Pride Open Mic Night, Studio 13, Iowa City,
10 p.m., Free**

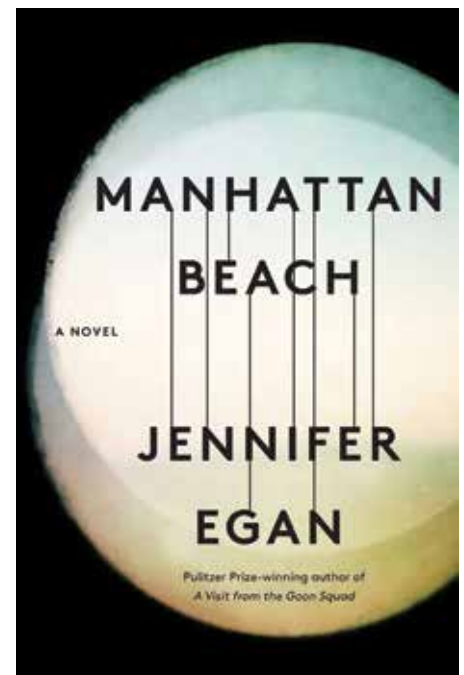
**THU.,
JUNE 14**

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERIES

**The Picture Show: 'Charlotte's Web,'
FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5 Also showing
6/16 & 17**

CEDAR RAPIDS FREEDOM FESTIVAL

**Tribute to Heroes Dinner, Hotel at Kirkwood,
Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., \$35 Dan Gable is the keynote
speaker at this year's event, honoring everyday heroes
Hal Garwood, Dennis Kendrick and Arturo Melendez.**



**▲ Jennifer Egan, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa
City, 7 p.m., Free The Pulitzer Prize winner will read
from her 2017 novel, 'Manhattan Beach.'**

RUNS THROUGH 6/17

**Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre Presents:
'Brigadoon,' Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m.,
\$15-30 Get a dose of magical mysticism with this
outdoor production that turns the Brucemore grounds
into the Scottish highlands.**

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

**I.C. Kings Pride Show, Studio 13, Iowa City,
9:30 p.m., \$5**

FRI., 15 JUNE

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

Pride Family-Friendly Picnic, Upper City Park, Iowa City, 5 p.m., Free

BRING YOUR WALKING SHOES

Feed Your Writing: Observation, Memory, & the Long Walk Home, Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$265; class continues 6/16-17 at 9:30 a.m.

JAM-FILLED ROOTS ROCK FROM THE QC

The Dawn, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free

CANADIAN RAPPER; FIRST U.S. TOUR

Merkules w/ C The Gray, DJ Scotty Wu, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$25

SAT., 16 JUNE



Jason Smith

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

Open Doors Dance Festival: 'Restless Creature: Wendy Whelan', Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10

CEDAR RAPIDS JUNETEENTH

Presentation: The Emma Oliphant Story, African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free Museum admission just \$1 today! (Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.)

NEW YORK CITY ELECTRO-POP

Lagoons and Future Generations Co-Headline Tour, Iowa City Yacht Club, 7 p.m., \$10

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS THROUGH 6/17

City Circle Presents: 'Return to Forbidden Planet', Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$12-27 Billed as Shakespeare's forgotten rock and roll masterpiece

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

Pride Pub Quiz, Deadwood, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

▲ Iowa City Pride Festival, Downtown Iowa City, 9 a.m. See page 21 for a full schedule of events, kicking off with coffee and conversation at the Englert!

CEDAR RAPIDS JUNETEENTH

Free Family Festival, Viola Gibson Park, Cedar Rapids, 11 a.m., Free

RUBBER DUCKIE, YOU'RE THE ONE!

Great Eastern Iowa Duck Race, Green Square Park, Cedar Rapids, 11:30 a.m., Free Adopt a duck (\$5); win prizes; help kids' charities. Or just go to watch a duck race!

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Indigo Trip w/ Sutphin, Coopers Run, Iowa City Yacht Club, 7 p.m., \$7

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SUN., JUNE 17

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

Pride Drag Brunch, Sanctuary, Iowa City, 11 a.m., menu prices

CLOSING PERFORMANCE

'Fuddy Meers,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$19-24

NASHVILLE ART POP

Quichenight w/ Karen Meat, BStar, Dana T, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$5

IOWA CITY PRIDE WEEK

Summer of the Arts Presents: 'In & Out,' outside McBride Hall, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free

MON., JUNE 18

IOWA CITY JUNETEENTH

Reclamation Workshop: I know why the caged bird READS, Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 5 p.m., Free

TUES., JUNE 19

CEDAR RAPIDS FREEDOM FESTIVAL

Balloon Glow, Bruce more, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., Free-\$5

FOLK SINGER-SONGWRITER

Brandi Carlile w/ the Secret Sisters, Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$35-65



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MONDAYS Open Mic, *The Mill, Iowa City*, 8 p.m., Free **Honeycombs of Comedy**, *Iowa City Yacht Club*, 9 p.m., \$3

TUESDAYS Blues Jam, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids*, 7 p.m., Free **Yahoo Drummers**, *Public Space One, Iowa City*, 7 p.m., Free **Weekly Old-Timey Jam Session**, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City*, 7:30 p.m., Free **Karaoke**, *Studio 13, Iowa City*, 9 p.m., Free **Karaoke Tuesdays**, *The Mill, Iowa City*, 10 p.m., Free

WEDNESDAYS Gentle Yoga, *Public Space One, Iowa City*, 5 p.m., \$5-10 **Break Dance Group**, *Public Space One, Iowa City*, 6 p.m., Free **Burlington Street Bluegrass Band**, *The Mill, Iowa City*, 6 p.m., \$5 (2nd & 4th Wednesdays) **Bluegrass Jam**, *The Mill, Iowa City*, 7 p.m., Free (3rd Wednesday) **Open Mic Night**, *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids*, 8 p.m., Free **Open Mic**, *Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield*, 8 p.m., Free **Open Stage**, *Studio 13, Iowa City*, 10 p.m., Free **Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, *Film Scene, Iowa City*, 10 p.m., \$4 **Talk Art**, *The Mill, Iowa City*, 10:30 p.m., Free (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

THURSDAYS I.C. Press Co-op open shop, *Public Space One, Iowa City*, 4 p.m., Free **Iowa City Meditation**

Class: How To Transform Your Life, *Quaker Friends Meeting House, Iowa City*, 6:30 p.m., \$5-10 **Novel Conversations**, *Coralville Community Library*, 7 p.m., Free (3rd Thursday) **Thursday Night Live Open Mic**, *Uptown Bill's, Iowa City*, 7 p.m., Free **Daddy-O**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids*, 7 p.m., Free **Underground Open Mic**, *Open Jam and Mug Night, Yacht Club*, 8 p.m., Free **Live Jazz**, *Clinton Street Social Club, Iowa City*, 8 p.m., Free (1st & 3rd Thursdays) **Karaoke Thursday**, *Studio 13, Iowa City*, 8 p.m., Free **Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Olaz Fik**, *Dick's Tap & Shake Room, Cedar Rapids*, 9 p.m., Free

FRIDAYS Friday Night Out, *Ceramics Center, Cedar Rapids*, 6:30 p.m., \$40 **FAC Dance Party**, *The Union, Iowa City*, 7 p.m. **Sasha Belle Presents: Friday Night Drag & Dance Party**, *Studio 13, Iowa City*, 10:30 p.m., \$5 **SoulShake**, *Gabe's, Iowa City*, 10 p.m., Free

SATURDAYS Pop-Up Market, *NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids*, 10 am **Family Storytime**, *Iowa City Public Library*, 10:30 a.m., Free **I.C. Press Co-op Open Shop**, *Public Space One, Iowa City*, 12 p.m., Free **Elation Dance Party**, *Studio 13, Iowa City*, 9 p.m., \$5

SUNDAYS Pub Quiz, *The Mill, Iowa City*, 9 p.m., \$1

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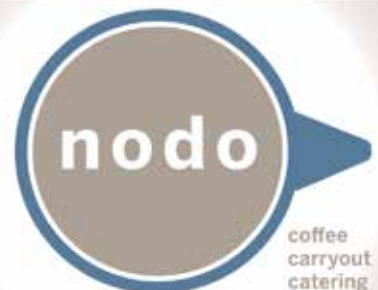


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DEAR KIKI

LittleVillageMag.com/DearKiki

Dear Kiki,
My boyfriend is wonderful and feminist and sex positive, but he has issues with me being bisexual. It's not that he's openly raged at me or anything. It's just that whenever it happens to come up, you can see the micro-flicker of discomfort on his face that he's trying to suppress. I know it's normal to feel a little uncomfortable at the idea of your partner having a past, but he feels especially threatened by the idea of me checking out a girl over a guy (when I actually don't check out anyone; I'm too in love with him to really notice anyone else in that way). This is just one example, and it's a one-off, but this sort of thing has happened. I've tried asking him about it and explaining all my feelings about this gently and directly: No dice. He acts like it's fine because it bothers him that it bothers him or he just clams up. What do I do?

Signed, Too in Love to Notice Anyone Else

Dear Too in Love,

As the Buddhists and Elsa would suggest, let it go. Let him be with his micro-flicker of discomfort. Jealousy about a lover's past, although not uncommon, is never productive, and it seems your beau knows this and is trying to be cool and calm. He doesn't want to be bothered with being bothered, and reminding him that he's being bothered will remind him to be bothered. Do not summon the green-eyed monster, but certainly don't tolerate unhealthy jealousy from him. (And because you mentioned the possibility, I hope he never openly rages at you about anything.)

Here are some questions for self-reflection (I don't think it's important to ask him these directly): Does he have issues with your bisexuality, or could it be more like curiosity? What does he need to feel more secure? Is he fearful because he thinks he can't give you what only another woman could, sexually and/or emotionally? Has he had an experience that might be causing him to be triggered or uncomfortable with bisexuality? Why are you bothered by him being

bothered by being bothered? When and why is the subject of your ex-girlfriends coming up? Could it be he feels less sexually experienced?

In answering these, hopefully discomfort fades into the days of yore, and you two can love happily ever after. *xoxo, Kiki*

Dear Kiki,
My wife and I have regularly engaged in BDSM throughout our relationship. I'm mostly dominant, but we switch on very rare occasion, and it's something I'd like to explore more. However, I've been struggling with anxiety and depression this year and have self-harmed several times.

Is engaging in sex that could involve degrees of pain and humiliation a particularly bad idea considering my current mental health, even if we're both enthusiastic about it? It's not a topic I'm comfortable discussing with my doctor or therapist.

Thanks, J

Dear J,

I am sorry about and empathize with your recent mental health struggles and masochistic tendencies, but it is important to separate BDSM from mental illness. Your marriage sounds strong and sexually healthy, which are important while experimenting with each other. She will not want to be manipulative nor tortuous in trying this switch with you, so that your play can hurt so good and be a cathartic experience.

Since you aren't ready to discuss your concerns with your doc or therapist, I would suggest doing some reading and preparing about how to submit enthusiastically—here's a direct link to a collection of articles: www.leathernroses.com/submission/journeysub.

Your wife might really enjoy being the dominant one to see you "Bleed Like Me" (an apropos Garbage song). This change could really liven up the relationship and bring new insights. It might even pull you out of your funk. *xoxo, Kiki LV*

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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THE STRAIGHT DOPE BY CECIL ADAMS

Now that Bill Cosby has been found guilty, it seems possible President Trump could issue a pardon, letting Cosby off scot-free. Congress has the authority to override a presidential veto. Couldn't we also give Congress the ability to override a presidential pardon? —Curious in Indy

see where you're going there, Indy, but the scenario you've cooked up won't work.

Presidential pardon power extends only to federal crimes, whereas Cosby was convicted under the state law of Pennsylvania. It's simply not the president's jurisdiction. This may come as some surprise to the current officeholder, who last year tweeted that "all agree the U.S. President has the complete power to pardon." Who wants to tell him?

But OK, let's play this one out. Say Cosby had been convicted on federal charges, and say Trump, motivated by whatever feeling of kinship, pardoned him. For Congress to block such an action would require not just a law but an amendment to the Constitution. The power of executive clemency derives from Article II, Section 2, which permits the president "to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States"; an 1866 Supreme Court decision affirmed that it "cannot be fettered by any legislative restrictions."

If you're looking to challenge a presidential pardon, then, don't call your congressperson—call your lawyer, because the real action is in court. Take Trump's first pardon: that of Joe Arpaio, the longtime Arizona sheriff who made a personal brand for himself out of civil rights violations. In 2011, Arpaio was ordered by an Arizona judge to stop racially profiling Latino drivers; in 2017, a second judge found him in violation of the earlier order and convicted him, in a bench trial, of criminal contempt of court. A month later, the president handed Sheriff Joe a get-out-of-jail-free card.

We'll pause here to consider the well-established conventions surrounding the pardon: It's typically given, after consultation with the Justice Department, to people who, having admitted guilt and expressed remorse, petition the president for mercy. Alternately, a pardon may be issued when the president deems it in the public good, the most famous example being Ford letting Nixon off the hook for Watergate. So Trump's already swimming upstream here: He didn't talk to anyone from Justice beforehand, Arpaio remains defiant and it's hard to see what broad benefit follows from a symbolic embrace of white supremacy.

Still, conventions aren't laws, and none of the above makes the Arpaio pardon legally invalid. Where things get interesting is in the fact that Trump pardoned Arpaio not for any old offense but specifically a contempt conviction. He wasn't extending mercy so much as second-guessing

how a federal judge—i.e., a representative of a theoretically coequal branch of government—runs her courtroom. And *that* may be constitutionally troublesome.

The scope of executive clemency hasn't been fully hashed out, and one open question is what happens when the president, in exercising his or her power as enumerated, bumps up against some other part of the Constitution. In an article last November, legal scholar Kimberly Wehle offered the hypothetical of a president effectively invalidating a new law by preemptively pardoning anybody who might later break it. That wouldn't fly, Wehle contended, as it would infringe the delineated authority of Congress to make laws in the first place.

Trump's action in Arizona is analogous—or at least that's the argument made by critics, including a group of House Democrats, who in an amicus brief claimed the pardon represents "an encroachment by the Executive on the independence of the Judiciary." The judge in the case subsequently refused to grant Arpaio's post-pardon motion to get his conviction thrown out, leaving the former sheriff in legal limbo: He's been pardoned by the president, but the court won't clear his record. Arpaio has appealed, raising the possibility of a higher court overturning the president's pardon on the grounds that he overstepped his authority in issuing it.

That'd be an extraordinary development, but one suspects l'affaire Arpaio won't be the only constitutional strain this particular prez puts on his pardon authority. As various investigations into Trumpworld heat up, another Democratic representative has introduced a constitutional amendment that would curtail a president's ability to make the move that anyone can now see coming: namely, to pardon the president's own family members, campaign aides, appointees or other staff, thus relieving them of the pressure to testify to any executive misdeeds. The amendment—which stands not a snowball's chance of going anywhere, of course—also proposes to take care of the big orange elephant in the room, prohibiting the president from pardoning himself.

Could he do so under current conditions? Jury's out. The last real word we got was a 1974 memo from the Office of Legal Counsel, dated three days before Nixon announced his resignation, concluding that the president doesn't have the authority: "No one may be a judge in his own case." But that's an untested proposition that frankly may not remain untested for much longer. Buckle up. **LV** |

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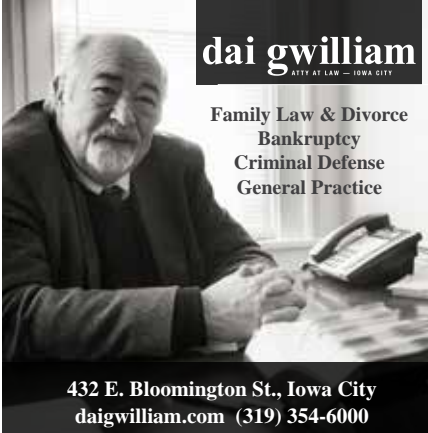
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GEMINI (June 21-July 22): Between 1967 and 1973, NASA used a series of Saturn V rockets to deliver six groups of American astronauts to the moon. Each massive vehicle weighed about 6.5 million pounds. The initial thrust required to launch it was tremendous. Gas mileage was seven inches per gallon. Only later, after the rocket flew farther from the grip of Earth's gravity, did the fuel economy improve. I'm guessing that in your own life, you may be experiencing something like that seven-inches-per-gallon feeling right now. But I guarantee you won't have to push this hard for long.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Mars, the planet that rules animal vitality and instinctual enthusiasm, will cruise through your astrological House of Synergy for much of the next five months. That's why I've concluded that between now and mid-November, your experience of togetherness can and should reach peak expression. Do you want intimacy to be robust and intense, sometimes bordering on rambunctious? It will be if you want it to be. Adventures in collaboration will invite you to wander out to the frontiers of your understanding about how relationships work best.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Which astrological sign laughs hardest and longest and most frequently? I'm inclined to speculate that Sagittarius deserves the crown, with Leo and Gemini fighting it out for second place. But having said that, I suspect that in the coming weeks you Leos could rocket to the top of the chart, vaulting past Sagittarians. Not only are you likely to find everything funnier than usual, I bet you will also encounter more than the usual number of authentically humorous and amusing experiences. (P.S.: I hope you won't cling too fiercely to your dignity, because that would interfere with your full enjoyment of the cathartic cosmic gift.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): According to my analysis of the astrological omens, a little extra egotism might be healthy for you right now. A surge of super-confidence would boost your competence; it would also fine-tune your physical well-being and attract an opportunity that might not otherwise find its way to you. So, for example, consider the possibility of renting a billboard on which you put a giant photo of yourself with a tally of your accomplishments and a list of your demands. The cosmos and I won't have any problem with you bragging more than usual or asking for more goodies than you're usually content with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The coming weeks will be a favorable time for happy endings to sad stories, and for the emergence of efficient solutions to convoluted riddles. I bet it will also be a phase when you can perform some seemingly clumsy magic that dispatches a batch of awkward karma. Hooray! Hallelujah! Praise God! But now listen to my admonition, Libra: The coming weeks won't be a good time to toss and turn in your bed all night long thinking about what you might have done differently in the month of May. Honor the past by letting it go.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Dear Dr. Astrology: In the past four weeks, I have washed all 18 pairs of my underpants four times. Without exception, every single time, each item has been inside-out at the end of the wash cycle. This is despite the fact that most of them were *not* inside-out when I threw them in the machine. Does this weird anomaly have some astrological explanation? —Upside-Down Scorpio." Dear Scorpio: Yes. Lately your planetary omens have been rife with reversals, inversions, flip-flops and switchovers. Your underpants situation is a symptom of the bigger forces at work. Don't worry about those bigger forces, though. Ultimately, I think you'll be glad for the renewal that will emerge from the various turnabouts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As I sat down to meditate on your horoscope, a hummingbird flew in my open window.

Scrambling to herd it safely back outside, I knocked my iPad on the floor, which somehow caused it to open a link to a YouTube video of an episode of the TV game show *Wheel of Fortune*, where the hostess Vanna White, garbed in a long red gown, revealed that the word puzzle solution was **USE IT OR LOSE IT**. So what does this omen mean? Maybe this: You'll be surprised by a more-or-less delightful interruption that compels you to realize that you had better start taking greater advantage of a gift or blessing that you've been lazy or slow to capitalize on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You're in a phase when you'll be smart to bring more light and liveliness into the work you do. To spur your efforts, I offer the following provocations. One, "When I work, I relax. Doing nothing makes me tired." —Pablo Picasso. Two, "Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them." —Ann Landers. Three, "Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work." —Aristotle. Four, "Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep." —Scott Adams. Five, "Working hard and working smart can sometimes be two different things." —Byron Dorgan. Six, "Don't stay in bed unless you can make money in bed." —George Burns. And seven, "Thunder is good, thunder is impressive; but it is lightning that does the work." —Mark Twain.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "There isn't enough of anything as long as we live," said poet and short-story writer Raymond Carver. "But at intervals a sweetness appears and, given a chance, prevails." My reading of the astrological omens suggests that the current phase of your cycle is one of those intervals, Aquarius. In light of this grace period, I have some advice for you, courtesy of author Anne Lamott: "You weren't born a person of cringe and contraction. You were born as energy, as life, made of the same stuff as stars, blossoms, breezes. You learned contraction to survive, but that was then." Surrender to the sweetness, dear Aquarius.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Between you and your potential new power spot is an imaginary 10-foot-high, electrified fence. It's composed of your least charitable thoughts about yourself and your rigid beliefs about what's impossible for you to accomplish. Is there anything you can do to deal with this inconvenient illusion? I recommend that you call on Mickey Rat, the cartoon superhero in your dreams who knows the difference between destructive destruction and creative destruction. Maybe as he demonstrates how enjoyable it could be to tear down the fence, you'll be inspired to join in the fun.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you would be wise to ruffle and revise your relationship with time. It would be healthy for you to gain more freedom from its relentless demands; to declare at least some independence from its oppressive hold on you; to elude its push to impinge on every move you make. Here's a ritual you could do to spur your imagination: Smash a timepiece. I mean that literally. Go to the store and invest \$20 in a hammer and alarm clock. Take them home and vociferously apply the hammer to the clock in a holy gesture of pure, righteous chastisement. Who knows? This bold protest might trigger some novel ideas about how to slip free from the imperatives of time for a few stolen hours each week.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Promise me that you won't disrespect, demean or neglect your precious body in the coming weeks. Promise me that you will treat it with tender compassion and thoughtful nurturing. Give it deep breaths, pure water, healthy and delicious food, sweet sleep, enjoyable exercise and reverential sex. Such veneration is always recommended, of course—but it's especially crucial for you to attend to this noble work during the next four weeks. It's time to renew and revitalize your commitment to your soft warm animal self. **L.V.**

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May 31 - June 24

Written By Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten

After a hot yoga class brings four women "of a certain age" together, they decide their sassy humor and Southern charms are better suited for solving life's problems over cocktails. Bottoms up!

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THE LOST TRACKS

Capitanos

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Iowa City band the Lost Tracks is on the cusp of a period of big creative output. Their new album, *Capitanos*, is the first of three releases coming out just this year. The process that brought the band here started back in 2016 when they scrapped the first attempt at the album. They brought a couple more members into the band, worked with Dave Zollo and Brian Cooper to freshen their sound and then started the recording process with local recording engineer John Svec.

The reboot has resulted in a balanced and polished album of groove-infused tunes. According to their bio, the band is made up of members who each have more than 20 years experience gigging, which lends to a natural classic fusion of guitars, keys, bass and drums. The songs have an underlying mellowness that feels like Grateful Dead or Phish without all of the attendant wandering. There's no fancy or heavy-handed production, just the natural performance captured to tape—the way it should be.

One of the songs that gets stuck in my head is track five, “Always Be In Your Band.” It does a good job of capturing the Rolling Stones’ *Let It Bleed* sound with the electric piano and the “woo-woos” from “Gimme Shelter.” I like songs that require a little more digging, and initially I was trying to suss out why they would pull such an obvious tribute—until I read the lyrics:

“I thought a lot about Nanker Phelge and their songs that sounded so fine/And when those kids were hanging out they always had a mighty fine time/Through the years they lost their way and attacked each other in their

books/But even so they found their way back to the stage with the same old hook.” (Nanker Phelge is the pseudonym the Rolling Stones used for whole-band publishing.)

There's no fancy or heavy-handed production, just the natural performance captured to tape—the way it should be.

The recording of *Capitanos* provided enough material for two more albums, so it's safe to assume that this album is a good measure for what the next two will be like: genuinely enjoyable songs that are not trying to make a big, splashy, in-your-face statement. Songs for songs' sake.

—Michael Roeder



BYRN PAUL

Dual Wielder

byrndpaul.bandcamp.com/album/dual-wielder

If you are a fan of guitar virtuosity, don't bother reading the rest of this review; just go buy this album. Byrn Paul has put in the hours of practice to become a master of the instrument. There's nothing left out of *Dual Wielder* because it was too hard to play. If you're a fan of math rock and the viola da gamba—and who isn't?—this is the only album you can buy this year that scratches that itch.

Nothing described above guarantees anything about the quality of the music on *Dual*

Wielder, but Paul has more going for him than the ability to win a shredding competition with the devil. The mixed-meter crunch of the title track is musically fluid with a melancholy, harmonic feel, and the gamba melody sounds like—and not like—a human voice. The

combination of programmed electronics and live playing give it a unique either-or flavor; the listener can never be sure how a particular sound was made, or how much digital manipulation was used to create it.

Interleaved between longer tracks are shorter, stinger tracks like “Sparring” which throw out provocative ideas in miniature. The second longer track, “A New Hero,” is less in-your-face than the title track; it has a dazzling mix of live drumming and Aphex Twin-style programmed drill-and-bass percussion. The guitar parts outline what would be a relaxed, cheerful, major-chord jazz song, but the mixed meter and frenetic drums pull it in a different direction.

The second stinger, “Oh So Sweet,” starts with digitally glitched guitars before going into jazzy territory that eschews any repetition. “Dau Ddeg Chwech” (Welsh for “Twenty-Six Six”) recalls what must have been another seminal influence, the prog-rock band Yes. “Elsewhere” foregrounds skillfully programmed string synth sounds blended with real cello and viola da gamba.

It's hard not to be stunned by what Paul has done on this album, even overwhelmed. Some of the tracks promise something cohesive but then splinter into shards of competing musical ideas. The next-to-last song, “Clear Lake,” sticks to a single sustained mood without sacrificing musical sophistication, and it's stronger for having fully embodied just one idea.

Dual Wielder is impressive, but what may be most exciting about it is what Paul's music will become as he gains experience and maturity. If you can do literally anything you can imagine, it can be difficult to choose what to leave out. When Paul finds that balance, his music will be uniquely impressive. **LV**

—Kent Williams

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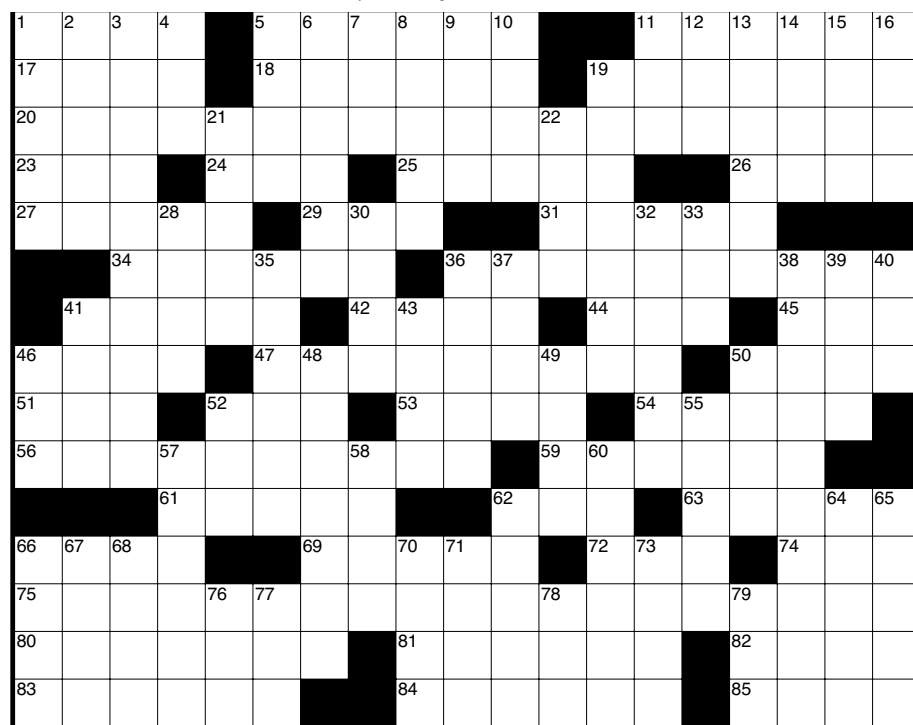
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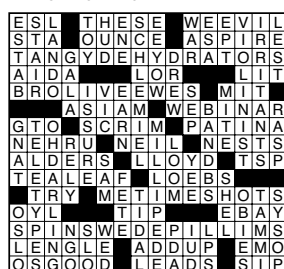
The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.



ACROSS

1. "Tearful ____ Musk Warns About Dangers Of AI After Having Heart Broken By Beautiful Robotrix" (*Union headline*)
5. Hastily arrive at, as a conclusion
11. David Bowie and Robert Redford, e.g.
17. Fictional chakram-wielding warrior
18. "Right you are ..."
19. Give for free, temporarily
20. It's the easiest way
23. Barbecue residue
24. "How do you do, fellow pirate?"
25. Elgort of *Baby Driver*
26. Electronic "your thing is ready" or "time's up"
27. Swarms (with)
29. Square dance participant
31. Bird that's better than a birdie
34. Athlete who plays in the same arena as an Athletic
36. Method that involves half-lives
41. "If you don't like the effects, don't produce the ____": Funkadelic
42. Numbered work, often
44. Inscrutable insight, briefly
45. *Bill ____ Saves the World*
46. CAT scan measurements
47. "You wanna fight?" in memes
50. Part protruding from a hull
51. Gasteyer on *People of Earth*
52. Perpetrator of some -spreading and -splainig
53. "Adios, Mario!"
54. The set of words in this clue, for one
56. Cartoon character with a crayon permanently lodged in his frontal lobe
59. Angled, say
61. Word with bull or knight
62. One generally requires an opener
63. First, second and third, but not home
66. Jessica of *Fantastic Four* and *Spy Kids 4*
69. Newfangled old-fangled diet
72. Off-stubbed part
74. "Run Away With Me" singer Carly ____ Jepson
75. Sales technique that might be a scam ... or an alternate title for this puzzle
80. Become dangerous for driving on, say
81. Muscle near a joint
82. "The ____ of Glory" (life-giving Lady Gaga song)

LV243 ANSWERS



83. Began
84. Mother canonized in 2016
85. Animal that gets hit by a car at the beginning of *Get Out*

DOWN

1. Australian in Austria, perhaps
2. Letter's document?
3. Detectable, in a way
4. "I'm not feeling it ..."
5. Longtime employee
6. Swell
7. Annoyances on the free version of an app
8. "She loves me, she loves me not ..." object
9. Fork-tailed flier
10. Things with lines for important people?
11. AL East team, on chyrons
12. *WSJ* competitor
13. How some stupid stuff gets done
14. Zip
15. Leader, in Italian
16. Unit on a wikiHow page
19. Comic strip that originated "Sadie Hawkins Day"
21. Place of refuge, as it were
22. One with a special ball
28. Graphic novel whose first book has the subtitle *My Father Bleeds History*
30. Wine taster's concern
32. Parties at some baptisms
33. Embarrass at a track meet
35. Pull up stakes
36. Indian food spice
37. "My flow can part ____" (biblically-alluding Lil Wayne line)
38. Pick-up line?
39. Word from a nixin' Gorbachev
40. It might keep liberty spikes up
41. Form of rapid transit?
43. Company whose logo shows a cat and a dog getting along
46. Barack's first chief of staff, and later Richard's replacement as the mayor of Chicago
48. In theory
49. Chase competitor, for short
50. One taken to protest?
52. Nowhere to be found, colloquially
55. "Ain't that the darned-est!"
57. Showed extreme disdain for
58. Serb, e.g.
60. 101 courses, e.g.
62. Up-and-____
64. Singer's asset
65. "Like a Rock" rocker
66. Surrounded by
67. *The Godfather* goon Brasi
68. Sucked (or did the opposite of sucking)
70. Bernie's side of the aisle
71. Magazine edited by Nina Garcia
73. Pod that can be safely eaten
76. "____ made a terrible mistake ..."
77. Took the reins
78. Middle school locker room odor
79. Big name in talks

CRST CONCERTS AT THE CREEK

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Join us this summer for CRST Concerts at the Creek at Indian Creek Nature Center! This series of three incredible concerts features a variety of genres of fantastic live music, under the beauty of the stars in our woodland amphitheater and patio. Food trucks, beer and wine, and the surrounding woodlands and prairies complete the perfect summer Saturday night.



June 16

MIDDLE WESTERN with
opener KINGBOLT
(amphitheater show)

\$15 in advance / \$18 at the door

June 23

ANDY FRASCO AND THE
U.N. with opener STRAYS
(amphitheater show)

\$18 in advance / \$23 at the door

July 21

SUSAN WERNER with opener
AMELIA AND MELINA
(patio show)

\$18 in advance / \$23 at the door

At amphitheater shows, the "Yahoo Drummers" will be playing in the vendor area in between sets and before the opener.

Buy tickets at: [INDIANCREEKNATURECENTER.ORG/GALLERY/CONCERTS](https://www.IndianCreekNatureCenter.org/Gallery/Concerts)