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Learn more at hancher.uiowa.edu/embracing-complexity.

This project is made possible in part by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Professionals - Building Bridges: Arts, Culture, and Identity, a component of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.



Rahim AlHaj and string ensemble *Letters from Iraq*

Saturday, February 16, 7:30 pm

Born in Baghdad, Rahim AlHaj is a master of the oud—a stringed instrument with a history unfurling back 5,000 years. Music has been a constant in his life throughout his years as an Iraqi, a political refugee, and now an American citizen. In this performance, AlHaj and his string quintet will play his composition created from the text of actual letters—letters expressing the emotions of Iraqis living in their war-torn country—transposed into eight gripping compositions.

This presentation is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Iowa Arts Council and the Crane Group.

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TWO FREE RESIDENCY EVENTS:

Embracing Complexity Lunch Series: Rahim AlHaj

Thursday, February 14, 2019, 12:00 pm
Iowa City Public Library, Meeting Room B

Join Hancher's Micah Ariel James and Chuy Renteria for a conversation with virtuoso oud musician and composer Rahim AlHaj about the role that art and music have played in his life throughout his years as an Iraqi, a political refugee, and now an American citizen.

An Evening With Rahim AlHaj

Friday, February 15, 2019, 6:00 pm
Robert A. Lee Community Recreation Center

In collaboration with the Center For Worker Justice, join Rahim AlHaj for an evening of fellowship and conversation about his life and work in advance of his Hancher performance.

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We Shall Overcome—A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. featuring Damien Sneed

Thursday, February 21, 2019, 7:30 pm

Damien Sneed—vocalist, multi-instrumentalist, composer, and conductor—delves deeply into the full range of African American music in *We Shall Overcome*. Jazz, classical, Broadway, gospel, and spirituals are woven together with the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speeches to exemplify a living musical tradition that continues to inspire, uplift, and challenge us. "In the realest sense," says Wynton Marsalis, "[Sneed] uses his artistry to make our world a better place."

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COLLEGE STUDENT: \$31 | \$10
YOUTH: \$17 | \$10

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Russian National Orchestra

Saturday, February 23, 2019, 7:30 pm

Founded in 1990 by pianist and conductor Mikhail Pletnev, the Russian National Orchestra quickly established itself as one of the foremost ensembles to be found anywhere. Heard frequently on NPR, the orchestra is the first from Russia to win a Grammy and many of its more than 80 recordings are widely acclaimed. But of course, neither radio broadcasts nor recordings can replace the power and beauty of a live performance by an orchestra *Gramophone* lists as one of the top 20 orchestras in the world.

PROGRAM (subject to change):

Rachmaninoff: *Vocalise*
Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18;
George Li, piano
Prokofiev: Symphony No. 6 in E-flat Minor, Op. 111

TICKETS

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David and Noreen Revier

Photo: © Courtesy of
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*OH! BLAME NOT THE BARD.
Dir! blame not the bard, if he fly to
Where Pleasure lies, carelessly sm
Fame! burn for much more, an
the night have heard*

LITTLE VILLAGE

VOL. 26 ISSUE 257
FEB. 6–19, 2019

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PUBLISHER MATTHEW STEELE
DIGITAL DIRECTOR DREW BULMAN
ART DIRECTOR JORDAN SELLERGREEN
MANAGING EDITOR
EMMA MCCLATCHEY
ARTS EDITOR GENEVIEVE TRAINOR
NEWS DIRECTOR PAUL BRENNAN
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

ALLANA C. NOYES
VISUAL REPORTER—PHOTO
ZAK NEUMANN
VISUAL REPORTER—VIDEO
JASON SMITH

FOOD & DRINK DIRECTOR
FRANKIE SCHNECKLOTH
SALES MANAGER

CLAIRE MCGRANAHAN
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
TREVOR LEE HOPKINS

MARKETING COORDINATOR,
GRAPHIC DESIGNER
JAV DUCKER

ADVERTISING
ADS@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

LISTINGS
CALENDAR@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

CONTRIBUTORS
MIRA BOHANNAN KUMAR, AUDREY BROCK,
LEV CANTORAL, KATE GOODVIN, JOHN
MARTINEK, IVAN PARRA GARCIA, TREY
REIS, MICHAEL ROEDER, TOM TOMORROW,
PAIGE UNDERWOOD, CECILIA VICUÑA, SAM
LOCKE WARD, CHRIS WIERSEMA**, ANDREA
WILSON

SUBMISSIONS
EDITOR@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

DISTRIBUTION REQUESTS
DISTRO@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

CREATIVE SERVICES
CREATIVE@LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM

CONTACT (319) 855-1474, 623 S DUBUQUE
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MIRA BOHANNAN KUMAR

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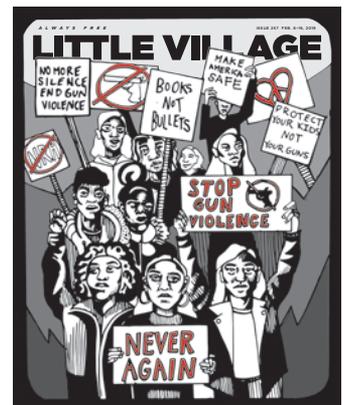
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ANDREA WILSON

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

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



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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.

IN HIS EXCELLENT article on the abolitionist John Brown (Jan.-Feb.), Nicholas Dolan rightly expresses surprise that the fiercely pacifist Iowa Quakers tolerated and, in a few cases, even supported Brown's violent raid on Harpers Ferry. The explanation lies in a series of court decisions and new laws regarding fugitive slaves. Young Iowa men were being forcibly conscripted to take up weapons and hunt down runaway slaves coming up from Missouri. So it was no longer possible to stay out of the fight. For those pacifist Quakers, it had been reduced only to a decision about which side to fight for.

—Richard Johnson, Iowa Yearly Meeting of
the Society of Friends (Quakers)

REMEMBER WHEN you were young and got into trouble and had to clean up your mess and shape up.

You spilled milk, cleaned it up and modeled your brother asking for help.

You were caught throwing lunch away, ate it because kids are going hungry.

You whined and blamed others for causing a fight, took responsibility and learned how to get along.

You broke a vase, cleaned up the mess and saved money to buy glue.

You threw a tantrum, calmed down and learned how to negotiate.

You wanted another toy, listened and played with what you had.

You tracked in mud, cleaned the floor, helped your sibling remove his boots and

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

HEY BOB, HOW'S THIS FOR AN OVER-THE-TOP, SATIRICAL CARTOON IDEA--WHAT IF, TWO YEARS INTO HIS PRESIDENCY, TRUMP SUDDENLY DECIDED HIS BORDER WALL WAS A NATIONAL EMERGENCY, AND SHUT DOWN THE GOVERNMENT TO GET HIS WAY?



OR, HOW'S THIS FOR AN ABSURD PREMISE--WHAT IF THE SHUTDOWN DRAGGED ON FOR MORE THAN A MONTH, WITH PEOPLE NOT GETTING PAID, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES STRETCHED TO THE BREAKING POINT, AND THE NATION'S AIR TRAFFIC SYSTEM HANGING IN THE BALANCE?



AND WHAT IF, THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE THING, TRUMP KEPT REPEATING WEIRD, UNSUBSTANTIATED STORIES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKERS WITH DUCT-TAPED WOMEN...AND TWEETING SOME SORT OF DUMB RHYME? LIKE, I DUNNO, "MY HANDS AREN'T SMALL AND I WANT A WALL!"



OK--HERE'S A TRULY OUTLANDISH ONE--WHAT IF THE PRESIDENT WERE ACTING LIKE AN ACTUAL MOBSTER, TWEETING THREATS UNTIL A WITNESS AGAINST HIM CANCELLED TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESS?



AND--I AM JUST BRAINSTORMING HERE--WHAT ABOUT A CARTOON SET IN A RIDICULOUS ALTERNATE UNIVERSE, WHERE MORE INFO COMES OUT ABOUT TRUMP'S MOSCOW TOWER DEAL, PROVING CONCLUSIVELY THAT HE'S BEEN LYING ALL ALONG-- BUT EVERYONE'S SO EXHAUSTED FROM THE CONSTANT BARRAGE OF NEWS THAT IT BARELY EVEN REGISTERS!



YOU'RE MAKING SOME SORT OF POINT HERE, I TAKE IT.

I THINK I MIGHT NEED A NEW JOB.

I HEAR THEY'RE HIRING WIENER-MOBILE DRIVERS.



TOM TOMORROW © 2019

HAVE AN OPINION?

BETTER WRITE ABOUT IT!
SEND LETTERS TO
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stopped building new mud piles.

I think the same ideas should be applied to climate change. We need to:

clean up our mess and model what other countries are doing.

stop wasting food and eat what we have.

stop whining and blaming others and take responsibility for our own actions and change.

fix broken things, reuse, and save for the future for solutions of our past actions.

stop the tantrums and learn how to work together.

love what we have, stop producing so much carbon and support the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

clean up our rivers and land, stop building factory farms through the Factory Farm Bill and create ways to support the family farmer.

As my parents taught me, I will help clean up my mess and look for ways to stop creating the mess.

—Charlene Lange, Iowa City



I WOULD LIKE TO THANK

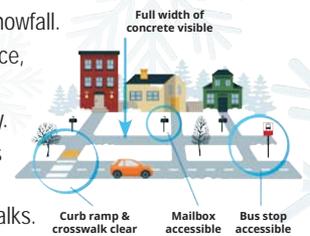
Senior Judge James Gritzner for his unequivocal support for the First Amendment and the freedom of speech. The Senior Judge evaluated the facts against the "Agricultural Production Facility Fraud" law, a deceptive name and offensive statute. He found no provision in the Constitution wherein the rights of corporations override the rights of natural persons. (Corporations are not people.)

If these corporations had nothing to hide, and all facilities treated land, water, people and animals with respect, then why hide behind this law? If this were so, they should want outsiders to verify that these are great

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR THIS WINTER

Shovel your sidewalks to avoid fines upwards of \$100

- * Sidewalks must be cleared within 24-hours of a 1" or greater snowfall.
- * The entire width of the sidewalk must be cleared of snow and ice, down to the concrete.
- * Do you rent? Check your lease! This may be your responsibility.
- * Remember to clear curb ramps and crosswalks for wheelchairs and strollers.
- * Leaving for an extended time? Find someone to shovel your walks.



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LETTERS & INTERACTIONS

facilities; it would be great PR!

But the Farm Bureau and pork producers are infuriated. They are terrified that so-called “radical” groups who care about public health, food safety, fair treatment of workers and preserving a healthy environment can now educate the public about these giant corporations’ violence against people, animals

and our rural communities in the name of pure greed.

After all, who cares about public health or food and worker safety or Iowa’s waterways when profits are at stake? Don’t corporations have the absolute right to pursue profit no matter the cost, regardless of individual freedoms and liberties of the U.S. Constitution?

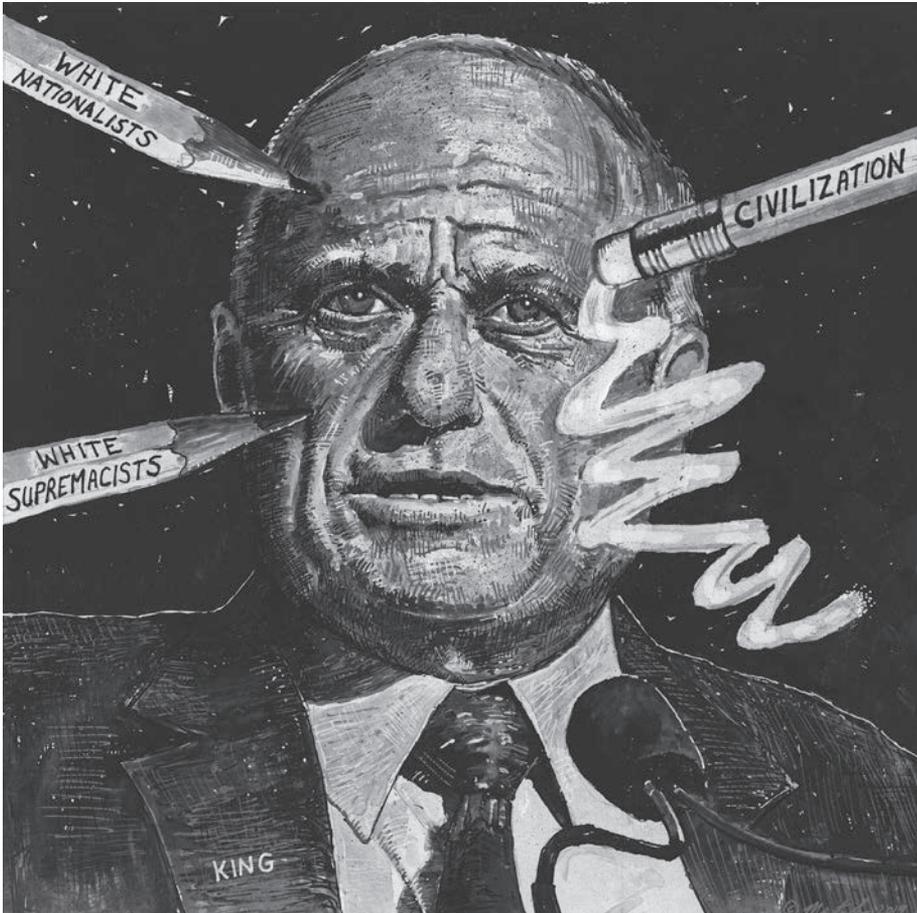
The Farm Bureau and pork producers clearly think so.

By the way, Judge Gritzner was appointed by George W. Bush and confirmed by a Republican-controlled Senate. Clearly an “activist judge” if I ever saw one.

—Matthew Peirce, Urbandale

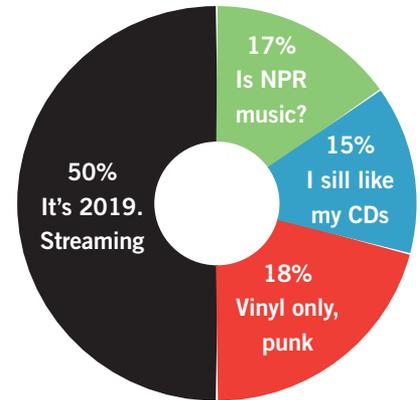
STRESS FRACTURES

JOHN MARTINEK



READER POLL

What is the very best way to listen to tunes?



Iowa Supreme Court rules in favor of Cedar Rapids I-380 speed cameras

Perhaps they could rule in favor of Cedar Rapids fucking itself. —Andrew D.

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Saigon's Corner is set to open in the Old Capitol Town Center on Jan. 29

Pho k'ya —*Pete P.*

Following backlash, the Iowa City Council has decided to replace some of the new Ped Mall benches

Iowa City is and always will be a town where anyone is free to protest about anything. Love it or leave it :). Personally, I LOVE the old benches because they are way more comfortable to sit on and I love the artsy part because they truly represent Iowa City. I am very glad to see some being saved! —*Cynthia J.G.*

So glad to see they are not removing the sectioned benches, and changing the second half of the order to unsectioned benches. As a senior with mobility issues, I was glad to see the arms in the benches to help in sitting and standing. Iowa City has a large senior population who appreciates this. —*Connie P.*

So how much did THAT COST!!!! Sigh. So sick of wasting my tax dollars. —*Patti B.F.*

It's almost like an expense divided among a large group of people to demonstrate compassion is nothing to be petty about. Your tax dollars are wasted on more inefficient things than that but this is where your outrage lies. Priorities. —*Rachel G.*

BROCK ABOUT TOWN BY AUDREY BROCK

Hi, my name is Audrey, and I'm addicted to cereal. Not just any cereal, mind you, but the tooth-achingly sweet variety advertised by manic-depressive tropical birds during Saturday morning cartoons—the kind that gives you *just* enough energy to make it to second period before a massive blood sugar crash leaves you shaking and sweating like a 12-year-old junkie.

Like most addictions, mine is rooted in childhood trauma. My mother believed that breakfast was the most important meal of the day and should therefore be the least enjoyable. On cold winter mornings back in the early aughts, she'd make me choke down a bowl of Red River before sending me off to school. (For those of you not in the know, Red River is birdseed disguised as oatmeal. It looks and tastes like something that would be endorsed by a late 1800s fire-and-brimstone preacher for preventing impure thoughts. It is soul-crushing.)

As soon as humanly possible, I got away from those dirty hippies and went off to college. I found in the campus dining hall a spiritual home, one which, unlike my actual home, had 10 different varieties of cereal on tap at every meal. I spent my first semester at the University of Iowa face down in a bowl of two percent. Those were dark days. For the last five years, I've abstained for the sake of my pancreas, but when I heard about Melk, the new cereal bar on Washington Street in Iowa City, I knew I was ready to throw it all away in the name of journalism.

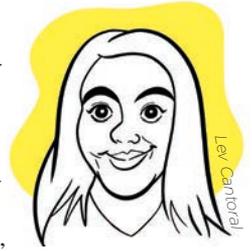
"Cereal bars" are the sort of food trend that can't come to Iowa City fast enough, because they justify our collective decision not to move to New York when we had the chance. Who needs the big city when you can walk down Clinton Street and find both froyo and gourmet

cupcakes? Melk, in particular, is purposefully urbane, with its minimalist menu, industrial décor and waiters wearing impractically small beanies. On the website, its proprietor instructs patrons to "come thru." There doesn't appear to be a cut-off age limit. Maybe touch up your roots first, just in case.

While Melk does offer a variety of other breakfast and lunch options, its centerpiece is the enormous wall of cereal boxes behind the bar. They have everything from granny standbys like Honey Bunches of Oats to cereals so sugary it's hard to believe they actually exist, like Sour Patch Kids. Those were tempting, but ultimately, I knew there was nothing to do but get back to my roots. You see, I grew up in Cedar Rapids, known to one and all as the City of Five Smells. Most of those smells emit from the Quaker Oats plant downtown, and while no one likes the stale, yeasty aroma of grain processing that hits you like a ton of bricks when you step outside in the morning, the plant has given us one gift: Crunch Berry day. The smell of artificial fruit flavors hangs so heavy in the air, you can practically see it. It's the best part of growing up in Cedar Rapids.

So, I ordered a bowl of Crunch Berries. The first bite was bliss. It was like going home for Christmas and using the body spray you wore in middle school: terrifyingly sweet and reminiscent of beautiful, cringey memories. Immediately, I made plans to move into Melk, pitch a tent in the kitchen and eat nothing but breakfast cereal for the rest of my life.

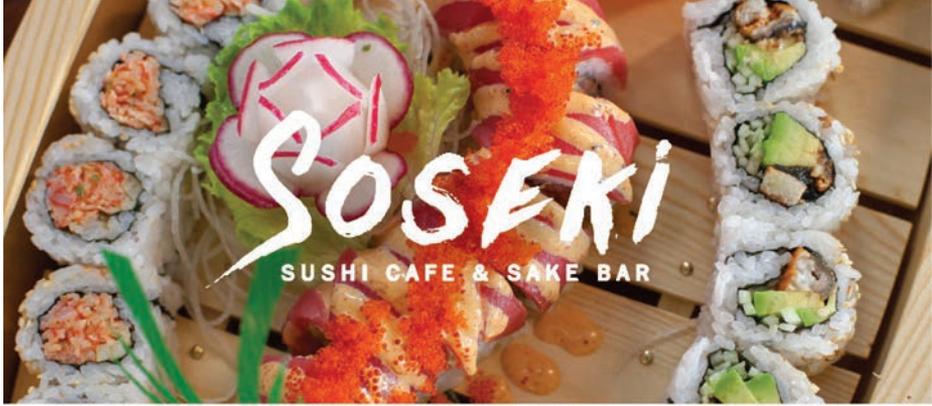
The second bite instantly gave me a headache. Like your first real hangover and bringing earplugs to a concert, getting too old for cereal is one of those aging milestones that happens a lot sooner than you'd think. LV /




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March On

The Parkland shooting made activists of teenagers across Iowa. One year later, Students Against School Shootings is grasping onto their momentum.
BY MIRA BOHANNAN KUMAR

Before news of the shooting in Parkland, Florida started to spread through City High on Feb. 14, 2018, I was mostly worried about the flower I was giving to my newly minted boyfriend, Theo, for Valentine's Day. That's what my teenage life feels like: Every little thing is the decision of a lifetime, until something big throws life into harsh chiaroscuro.

Tragedy flooded the school. In the newslab of *The Little Hawk*—the student newspaper that was and is my life and where I serve as opinion editor—we stayed glued to the news coverage on our computer screens. On Sunday night, my editor friends asked whether there would be a walkout. I created a group chat with everyone I knew who was interested in this prospect. We realized that some South East Junior High students were planning to walk out of class the following day, and we knew we couldn't let them do it alone. We had to get everyone on board.

I worked with peers on preparing the march until 12:30 a.m. Later that morning, I led students from South East to the Pentacrest, then to the Iowa City Ped Mall. I

herded the seventh and eighth graders, making sure we didn't lose anyone who didn't know where they were going, keeping everyone moving. We all shouted ourselves hoarse, trying to get the grief in our chests out into the world, where we could make something of it. There was a sense of unity among us, as though we were standing in a line with hands linked, a chain of paper dolls.

Afterward, organizers took to the group chat. We have to make this something more, we said. Students Against School Shootings was born.



We started with a scant 20 or so teenagers; this group would become known as SASS's "core." What began about the size of a school club now has more than 150 members: mostly Iowans, mostly teens, all passionate about gun reform. SASS is an official chapter of the national March for Our Lives nonprofit organization, but we're currently applying to become a nonprofit ourselves.

A few days after the initial walkout, we

Students Against School Shootings (SASS) led the March for Our Lives in Iowa City on March 24, 2018. Jason Smith / Little Village

drove an hour and a half to Manchester, Iowa to attend Sen. Chuck Grassley's town hall. (The six-term senator prides himself on doing a town hall in "every county, every year," but he's skipped Johnson for five.) I was nervous about two things. First, I was trying to word a question to a man who was supposed to represent us but was voting down policies that could save Iowans' lives. Second, we were being driven by Theo's mother, whom I had not yet met.

When we arrived, SASS member Edie Knoop described in terrible detail the gunshot wounds Marjory Stoneman Douglas students sustained from the shooter's AR-15 and implored Grassley to change his mind on gun safety restrictions. Another member, Wala Siddig, questioned the senator on his history of taking money from the NRA. He evaded our questions like a pro. As fruitless as the interaction seemed, the prevailing feeling on

the drive back was excitement. We were already on to the next step.

Organizing a March for Our Lives in Iowa City was a whirlwind for our small but dedicated group. By March 24, we managed to get

HE BROUGHT UP THE SAME ARGUMENT OVER AND OVER: GUNS ARE A HUMAN RIGHT. ASSAULT WEAPONS? HUMAN RIGHT. HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES? HUMAN RIGHT. ABILITY TO BUY A GUN WITHOUT A BACKGROUND CHECK, MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING, GUARANTEED SAFE STORAGE PROCEDURES OR REGISTRATION IN ANY DATABASE? HUMAN RIGHT.

everything in order, and we marched through a blizzard with a crowd of almost 1,000, beginning and ending with speeches about gun violence and the need for change. SASS's core members embraced, still clutching our signs. It felt like the tide was turning.



“We want to reassure you—there is no bias hidden in this special edition magazine. That is because we do not intend to hide it.”

On April 5, *The Little Hawk* put out a special magazine addressing gun violence. In a staff editorial I wrote with Edie, my fellow opinion editor, we laid bare our bias. We wrote of the overlap between SASS and

The Little Hawk; of our liberal-leaning staff, whose views come through in the opinion section; of the reluctance of students with diverse political viewpoints to contribute.

“Silence should not be possible,” we wrote.

“Inaction on this issue is as damning as the most pro-gun position, because silence is complicity. We are seeking a change in this absurd, this violent, this completely unacceptable status quo.”

We received plenty of positive feedback on the magazine (including a retweet by *The Eagle Eye*, Marjory Stoneman Douglas' student newspaper), but the Iowa Firearms Coalition pushed back, publishing an article on their website tearing us apart. We were rather enthusiastic about this criticism,

about hearing the other side's perspective. Not only is debate productive, but on this particular topic, it can allow us to dispel the stereotype that gun control proponents don't care about the opinions of gun owners.



SASS, invited by several representatives sympathetic to our cause, visited Des Moines in early April 2018. A score of SASS members from across the state walked through the security gates and up the narrow, dark-wood stairs of the Capitol Building. The hushed cacophony of murmurs in the Supreme Court Chamber created a soothing undertone to our visit, reminding me of a museum.

We met with Rep. Matt Windschitl, a Republican from Iowa's 17th district, and the speaker pro tempore of the Iowa House. Windschitl studied gunsmithing in college, and has been advocating for gun rights since many of us were in diapers.

In our meeting, he brought up the same argument over and over: Guns are a human right. Assault weapons? Human right. High-capacity magazines? Human right. Ability to buy a gun without a background check, mental health screening, guaranteed safe storage procedures or registration in any database? Human right. The only change Windschitl would consider was increased reporting of lost and stolen firearms.

After he left, we all turned to one another and went over the conversation. Mostly, we acknowledged the fact that staunchly pro-gun elected officials such as Windschitl were going to dismiss underage gun-control proponents out of hand. We would never agree on some aspects of this issue.

Directing our efforts toward the midterm elections was the best way to enact change, we decided. Windschitl was a professional Second Amendment advocate, but the average American agrees with many of our proposals.



Above all, SASS pushes for common-sense policy: universal background checks (according to Gallup, supported by 92 percent of Americans), a digitized database of gun sales, funding for CDC research into gun violence (previously impossible due to the Dickey Amendment, which was weakened thanks to language in the 2018 government spending bill; Congress still refuses to allocate funds for the research), guidelines for firearm storage (many underage shooters



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procure their weapons from their own household, and small children may accidentally harm themselves with firearms not properly secured by parents).

Another SASS policy I personally championed is the introduction of group violence intervention (GVI) programs and others like them. The intersectional aspects of gun violence are often ignored, as is the constant undercurrent of homicide that makes up the vast majority of gun violence in our nation. For example, according to the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, “black men make up 6 percent of the U.S. population, yet account for more than half of all gun homicide victims each year.” Gun violence in underserved groups is a massive problem—but GVIs, using a combination of social services, community involvement and other healing approaches, can lower rates of gun homicide in target communities by 30 to 60 percent within two years, according to the Giffords Center.

Our platform developed as the spring of 2018 progressed. I researched and revised, added and cut. We cycled into summer,

bringing with us a successful benefit concert and “die-ins” in memorial of the Columbine shooting, followed crushingly by a school shooting in Santa Fe in May. It’s hard not to be disheartened when you know the horrors you’re working against are still happening every day, when there’s a niggling doubt in the back of your mind telling you that you might live your life twice over before something changes, and that’s if you don’t get shot.

But we worked on, sending a speaker to a Moms Demand Action rally in June, presenting on gun violence against the LGBTQ+ community at Iowa City Pride. When the summer ended, several of our original members took off for their first year of college.

With this departure came fears about the longevity of our organization, and we were spurred to revitalize our work and create sustainability. We regrouped, went about recruiting more core members—underclassmen who were involved and passionate about SASS—and planned several events leading up to the midterm elections.

None were particularly successful. Interest

was waning. We registered dozens of voters around town and at school, but our events were poorly attended. Low turnout made us nervous, but we continued working through the midterm elections, cheering at the victories of candidates who promised to work harder to keep Americans safe from gun violence.



The sixth anniversary of the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut fell on Friday, Dec. 14. We knew we couldn’t let it pass without protesting the inaction on gun reform that followed the tragedy, so we organized a walkout—the first we had planned since our protest following Parkland.

The night before the walkout was a work night for *The Little Hawk*. I took a break from designing my features spread to complete my speech. I opened tabs, checking my facts on Sandy Hook. A lump formed in my throat as I took in details of the tragedy: First graders had hidden under desks and in closets, had

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mistaken gunshots for “hammering sounds,” had begged the shooter to let them go home before they were killed.

I began to cry, stood from my chair to find a Kleenex and some privacy, and my friends and co-editors, most of whom were also fellow SASS core members, followed. I sobbed in the hallway as they comforted me. The speech was finished that night, but I don’t remember how I did it.

Once again I began the walkout at South East and led the junior high students to meet the high school students. As we neared the Ped Mall, core members ran out to us, urging us on.

By the time we arrived, it was my turn to speak. I sprinted to the platform opposite the jungle gym, looked out at the center of the city I’ve lived in my entire life, at the people I’ve taken on this journey with me, and talked about the need to protect the lives of Americans, to speak, to create a better nation. When I was done, Esti Brady, another core SASS member, leaped up onto the stage and hugged me fiercely. My speech, folded on

itself over and over, crinkled in my hand.



Most days, I put my fear aside. If I was constantly expecting the worst, I would be paralyzed by terror. Some days, though, when first period starts, I wonder, *What if someone came in this room with an AR-15? Would I hide? Run? What about in the hallway, between periods, or in the street?* I glance at passersby, noting bulges in backpacks and coats.

Fear like that is useless, I know. You can’t control all fear, and I am lucky to never have been in a situation where the loss of my life was a real possibility. This privilege gives me the responsibility to remember those we’ve lost, to do my best for them and for everyone still in danger.

SASS, and the gun safety movement in general, are beset by what I call the reverse trainwreck effect: In a trainwreck, people cannot look away; with gun violence, they look away when they shouldn’t. Our job is to stay focused, to remember what’s at stake and that nothing is for certain—even with new

legislation that gives us hope, like the universal background checks bill introduced in the House on Jan. 8, the eighth anniversary of the Arizona shooting in which Gabby Giffords was injured.

We have so many ideals left to accomplish: planning another March for Our Lives rally; changing minds in the Iowa Congress; becoming a nonprofit and creating a more official capacity for ourselves in an adult world; making our community and, in some small way, our state and our nation safer.

I’m ready for it all. I’ve shed so many tears, waited and worked and hoped and hurt for this movement, and though we may have ups and downs, none of us, SASS members and students and Americans, can afford to forget: This fight isn’t over. LV /

Mira Bohannon Kumar is a junior at City High in Iowa City. She is the web editor for The Little Hawk, City High’s student-run newspaper, and the policy director for Students Against School Shootings. In her free time, she enjoys words, food and dogs.



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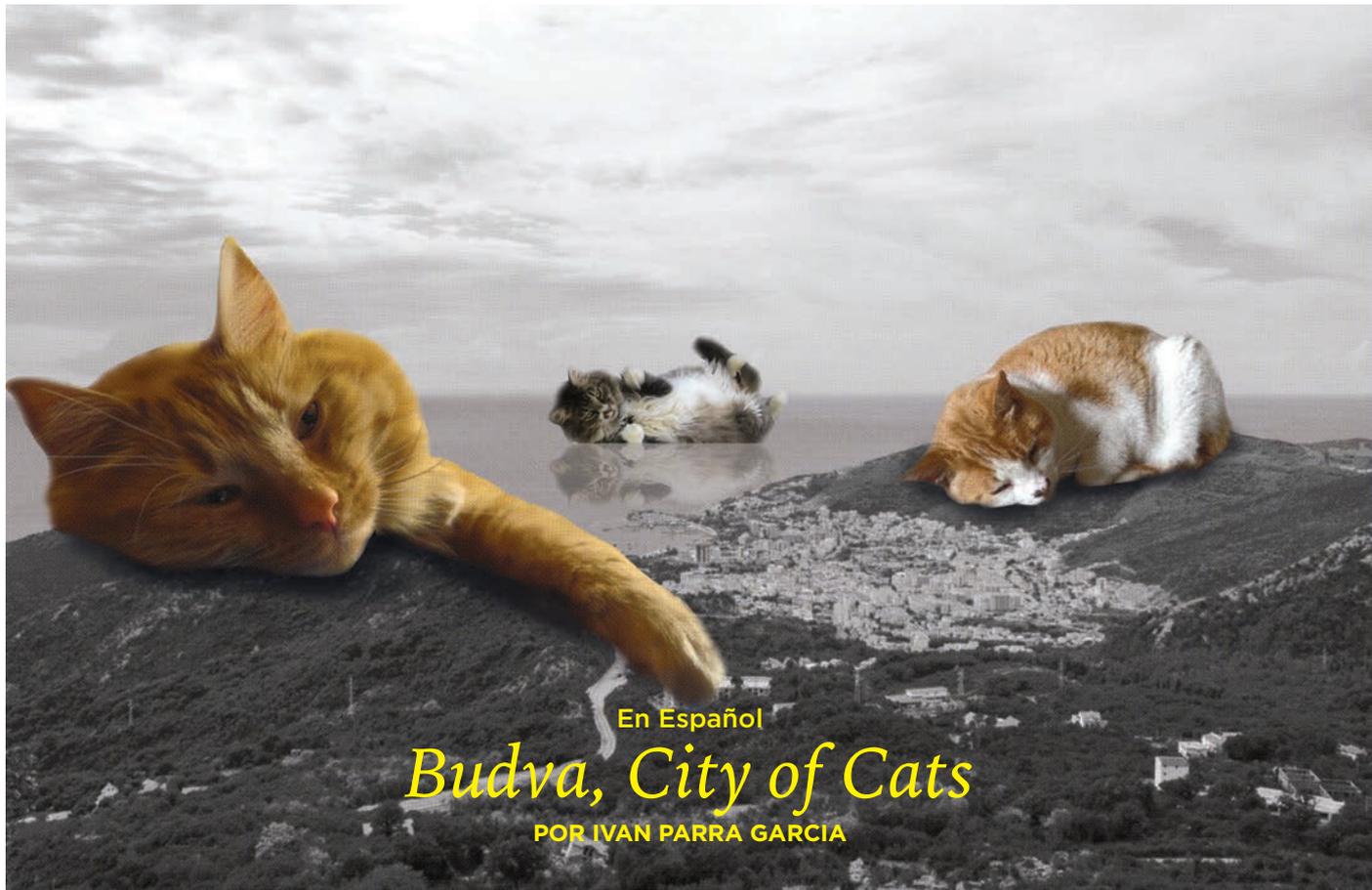
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En Español
Budva, City of Cats
 POR IVAN PARRA GARCIA

Situada en el mar Adriático, la rívera de Montenegro es una de esos lugares que debido al prestigio de otras costas europeas, todavía es un lugar inexistente para muchos viajeros. Tan grande como Connecticut, Montenegro tiene el cañón del río Tara, el más largo de Europa, una costa en el Adriático de trecientos kilómetros, y más de cuarenta lagos y parques naturales...La rívera de Montenegro tiene una gran cantidad de gatos también.

Los gatos se paseaban por el estacionamiento del conjunto residencial en donde nos vinimos a quedar. Algunos dormían a la sombra de los árboles. Otros husmeaban entre los contenedores de basura. Eran de diferentes colores, unos pardos, otros completamente negros, otros con manchas en el pelaje y otros del color del aserrín. Por la noche escuchábamos sus maullidos como si llegaran con el sonido del mar.

El apartamento tenía una habitación, un baño y una cocineta, un sofá y un balcón. Olía a humedad, y una grieta se desplegaba por las paredes de la habitación.

Aquella tarde el sol cada vez mas cerca del mar brillaba en el agua. Un crucero navegaba lento a varios kilómetros de la Riviera como alejándose de la noche y acercando se al nuevo día. Al oriente las montañas detrás de edificios desgastados por la violencia del tiempo y de la historia política de los Balcanes se erguían fuertes e imponentes.

- Deja de mirar esos gatos -dijo ella.
- Por qué hay tantos -dije desde el balcón.
- No sé.
- Lo mismo fue en Croacia -dije.
- Ni siquiera me había dado cuenta.
- Tengo hambre -dije.

- Llevo esperándote una hora.
- Recuerdas la taberna que vimos esta mañana.
- La de los pensionados.
- Esa.

Komovi, así se llamaba la taberna. La habíamos visto por la mañana cuando llegamos del aeropuerto. Tres hombres del vecindario, viejos con una mínima pensión observaban un partido fútbol entre la selección de Rusia y Arabia Saudita. Tenían una cerveza Nikšičko sobre la mesa cerca de su mano. El cenicero con cecina en el centro, un cigarrillo encendido. Nos sentamos cerca del televisor.

Habíamos viajado desde el norte de Europa via Belgrado sin planes, ni expectativas. Así lo habíamos decidido la noche anterior cuando después de encontrar en internet un vuelo por Serbian Airlines a mitad de precio a Montenegro, decidimos comprarlo y arrendar un apartamento en la Riviera para el resto del verano.

- No me gusta que fumen- me dijo ella al oído.
- Vamos a comer a la ciudad antigua -dije.
- Es más caro -dijo.
- Es el primer día podemos darnos un lujo-dije.
- Voy al baño.

La brisa del Adriático entraba por las ventanas de la taberna, traía un olor a sal marina y por la vía principal solían cansados de la playa turistas ucranianos. Llevaban todo el peso sol y del mar en su cuerpo.

Otro pensionado entró al recinto. Sigiloso detrás de él, venía un gato blanco, de ojos grises y una mancha negra en su pelaje alrededor de su ojo. Caminaba tímido con la cola para arriba, se metió debajo de una mesa como si se escondiera de la raza humana. Otro felino de color

mermelada con la cola para abajo lo esperaba indeciso en la puerta de la taberna.

-No empieces otra vez -me dijo ella cuando regresó del baño y me encontró mirando a los gatos.

-Pobres-dije.

-¿Te das cuenta?-dijo.

-Es increíble cuantos gatos en estos países...-dije.

-Necesito caminar...sola-me dijo.

Intenté tomarle la mano, pero ella la quitó y salió de la taberna. Los tres pensionados me miraron. Hicieron un gesto como si ya hubieran vivido esto mucho tiempo atrás. En la puerta llamé su nombre pero ella ya iba calle abajo. Dirigí mi atención al gato indeciso de color mermelada parado al lado de la puerta. El felino tenía la mirada clavada en el interior, en el cocinero que venía con una vasija llena de sobrados de comida en sus manos.

Empecé a caminar en dirección a ella que cada vez avanzaba más lento hasta que la alcancé. Tu y tus gatos, me dijo y me agarró de la mano.

De regresó a Estocolmo ella lucía un vestido de verano que había comprado en Kotor, yo llevaba mi camiseta con el estampado que todavía dice "Budva, City of Cats, Summer 2018."

Budva, City of Cats

BY IVAN PARRA GARCIA

TRANSLATED BY ALLANA C. NOYES

Located on the Adriatic Sea, the Montenegro Riviera is one of those places that, due to the prestige of other major European cities, is not yet a destination for many travelers. Montenegro is as large as the state of Connecticut and home to the Tara River Canyon, which is the longest canyon in Europe, as well as 300 kilometers of coastline and more than 40 lakes and parks. It also has a lot of cats.

They stalk around the parking lot of the apartment complex where we've come to stay. A few doze under the shade of trees. Others scrounge through the trash cans. Their fur comes in all different colors, some a tawny grey, others completely black, others with spots, some the color of sawdust. At night we listened to their meowing roll in as if carried by the sound of the ocean.

The apartment had one room, a bathroom, a kitchenette, a couch and a balcony. It smelled of humidity, and the walls were peeling away in the bedroom.

That evening, the sun sparkled in the water as it descended closer to the horizon. A cruise liner slowly drifted several kilometers from the Riviera as if departing from the night, drawing closer to a new day. To the west, mountains stood imposing and strong behind the row of crumbling buildings, weathered by the Balkan's long and violent political history.

"Quit looking at those cats," she said.

"Why are there so many?" I asked, leaning over the balcony.

"I don't know."

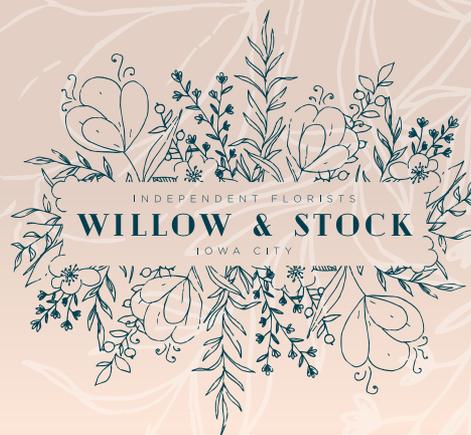
"Same as in Croatia."

"I didn't even notice."

"I'm hungry."

"I've been hungry for an hour."

CONT.>> ON PG. 32



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Jordan Sellegren / Little Village

Recipe

Instant Pot Red Beans & Rice*

BY THE CONDESCENDING COOK**

This is where I tell you a personal story about my time in NOLA,*** how it profoundly changed my understanding of what living free truly meant, and where I mastered the alchemy of turning meaning and memory into nutrients and flavor.****

Now, this being an amateur***** cooking article, this second paragraph is reserved for some folksie yarn about how I run a household and how my absentee spouse, the volunteer firefighter/Bible teacher on an oil rig, is such a picky eater***** that “almost dern nuthin” I make satisfies, yet they somehow find it in their hearts to inhale-eat the slop I prepare.***** Let’s assume you relate, and we’ve formed a kinship that will provide you with the confidence needed to follow simple instructions.

Author’s note: You’ll notice a large collection of addenda throughout the recipe. Don’t be nervous; this is to address

frequently asked questions so you will have no need whatsoever to use the online comment forum that is regrettably standard these days.

Ingredients*****

- 2 tbsp vegetable or olive oil
- 1 lb andouille***** sausage***** cut into thin slices
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 3 stalks of celery, chopped
- 4-37 cloves of garlic, minced*****
- 1 lb dry red beans*****
- 2-4 sprigs of thyme*****
- 1 tsp cayenne pepper, or to taste
- 1 tsp basil
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1/2 tsp dried sage
- 2 or 3 bay leaves*****
- 1 tsp salt, or to taste

- 1 tsp black pepper, or to taste*****
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 smoked ham shank*****
- 4 green onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup parsley or cilantro*****, chopped
- Cooked rice to serve

Instructions

SELECT “SAUTE” MODE and give it 5 minutes to get hot.

ADD OIL and allow it to “shimmer” but not smoke.

ADD SAUSAGE. Once browned, remove with a slotted spoon to a paper-towel-lined plate and set aside*****.

ADD ONION, bell pepper, celery and garlic. Stir until onion is translucent and somebody



walks by and says, "What smells so good?"

ADD ALL SPICES and stir to coat, about 30 seconds.

DEGLAZE THE INNER POT with a splash of broth, so there's nothing stuck to the bottom.

STIR IN REMAINING BROTH, bay leaves, red beans and ham shank.

CLOSE THE INSTANT POT and pressure cook on "high" for 60 minutes.

ALLOW FOR a natural pressure release (NPR) and open the Instant Pot.

REMOVE THE HAM SHANK, chop into bite-sized pieces and set aside.

REMOVE 1 CUP OF BEANS, and mash with a fork. This will give you the desired creaminess. Wand mixer is ideal for the task if you've got one.

STIR IN HAM SHANK (sans bone), mashed beans and reserved andouille sausage to the inner pot.

SERVE OVER RICE. Garnish with green onions and parsley/cilantro.

SERVE hot sauce on the side.

"But I don't have an Instant Pot, can I still—" No. You do not have the tools required. Turn to another page, play with those articles. Maybe there's a word jumble. You can't sit with us.

*** "Oh, I know who wrote this." Take this personal, I guess?*

**** Don't ever say it like that.*

***** I won't, it didn't, I haven't.*

****** I have never been paid to cook; I like it too much.*

****** A note on picky eaters: Get them out of your life. Cook whatever and however you like. They don't like it, fine; they can have a piping cold bowl of cereal from the cabinet or go to that restaurant in downtown Iowa City where cereal is the specialty. Same goes for your sullen, dead-eyed children. Leave them in the deep of the woods.*

****** Seriously, get a divorce.*

****** "Here's what I have in my cupboards: powdered milk, rock salt, several commemorative plush characters from the film Shark Tale, baking chocolate and the complete set of Homies figurines. What can I make with this?" An absolute mess of your life.*

****** "EVERYONE KNOWS THAT U CAN ONLY GET REAL ANDOUILLE SAUSAGE IN THE FORGOTTEN CREOLE GRAVEYARDS OF LOUISIANA DURING THE BUCK MOON OF THE SEVENTH DAY OF THE SEVENTH MONTH AND IF U TRY TO CROSS STATE LINES THE OLD SWAMP WITCH'S CURSE TURNS IT INTO TRAIN SMOKE WRAPPED IN GATOR SKIN. THIS RECIPE IS HORRIBLE!" Which is why using a kielbasa is fine.*

****** "How do I make this vegetarian? You are legally required to tell me." Just turn to the next page.*

****** "This recipe is too vague, please specify amount, my wife is crying and my dinner guests are leaving." Listen, I don't know your life. I'm an 8-clove-minimum cooker, but do you, playboy.*

****** "Ya'll, this is SO dangerous, I have a friend and her cousin did not soak her beans for exactly 38 hours and she took one bite and her jaw exploded." You lost me at "I have a friend." But this is where the IP saves time and money: Red beans are like \$2 a pound and the pressure cooker takes care of tedious soaking in an hour and a half while cooking.*

****** Good luck figuring out what to do with the other 796 sprigs that come in the pack.*

****** Warning: these suckers are like goddamn razor blades. Remember all the urban legends about kids getting razors in their apples and popcorn balls while trick or treating? Bay leaves.*

****** "This is TOO SPICY to serve my clan, so I substituted three skinless chicken breasts for everything else on this list, cooked at 350 for 75 minutes and served with a garnish of ice cubes. Turned out perfect! New favorite dish, ya'll!" Cool, I'm going to come to your house and feed you spiderwebs in your sleep.*

****** "Does this—" Nope, doesn't mean pig knife.*

****** "Cilantro ruins everything." No, Dave, your drinking ruins everything. The kids miss you.*

****** "Yeah, hi, I'm the vegetarian from earlier in the article and I don't know if my magazine is missing a page or what, but there wasn't another recipe conforming to my dietary needs on the next page; please advise." Shoot, maybe check the online version. LV |*

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FEBRUARY 8 DJ & Daddy O
8:00 - 10:00 PM

FEBRUARY 9 Steve Grismore Trio
8:00 - 10:00 PM

FEBRUARY 11 Three Jazz Cats
5:30 - 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY 15 Mina Jazz Quartet
8:00 - 10:00 PM

FEBRUARY 16 Mike Maas & Carlis
8:00 - 10:00 PM

FEBRUARY 21 Express N' Impress
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FEBRUARY 22 Harper & Lee
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A-List
Founded in Resistance

Cecilia Vicuña talks hope, death and the end of humanity. **BY ANDREA WILSON**

There are artists—those who produce art—and there are those who live a life that is a work of art in itself: an ode of an existence. Visual artist, writer and filmmaker Cecilia Vicuña embodies a life in which those lines are blurred.

To speak with her is to be in the presence of someone so intensely dedicated, so embedded in their own art, that it becomes difficult to tell what is the piece or performance and what is the person.

Chilean by birth and childhood, Vicuña has been living in exile since 1973 when her country's sitting president was displaced in an American-backed coup d'état led by military dictator Augusto Pinochet. The fear of communism within America gave way to the fear of death by dictator within Chile. In

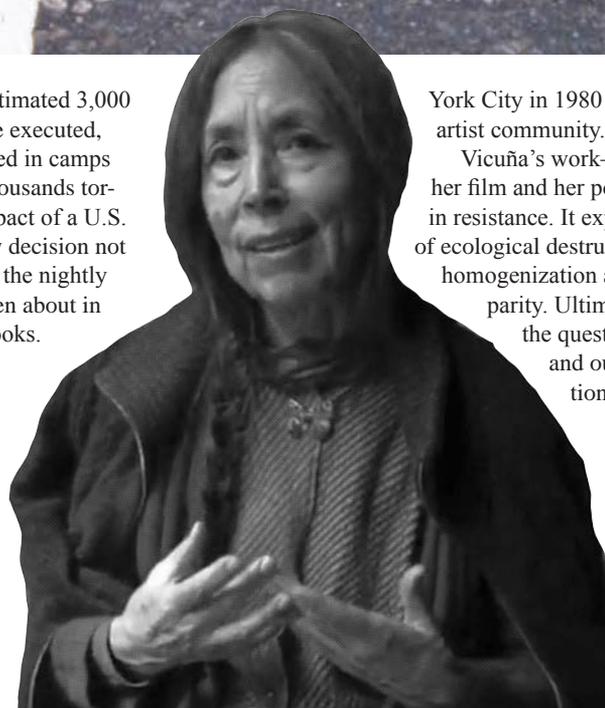
the end, an estimated 3,000 Chileans were executed, 80,000 interned in camps and tens of thousands tortured—an impact of a U.S. foreign policy decision not publicized on the nightly news or written about in our history books.

After leaving Chile, Vicuña lived first in London and then Bogotá, Colombia before moving to New

York City in 1980 and finding her artist community.

Vicuña's work—her visual art, her film and her poetry—is founded in resistance. It explores themes of ecological destruction, cultural homogenization and economic disparity. Ultimately, it deals with the questions of humanity and our collective actions.

Vicuña has written over 22 books of poetry and art. Her earliest work was as part of an action-based group artists





Lecture and discussion, 240 Art Building West, Thursday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., Free

Poetry reading and reception, Frank Conroy Reading Room, Dey House, Friday, Feb. 15, 4:30 p.m., Free

Film screening, 'Kon Kon' (dir. Cecilia Vicuña), 105 Adler Journalism Building, Saturday, Feb. 16, 3 p.m., Free

Above: from El Vaso de Leche (The Glass of Milk).

Left: still from Latin American Art Symposium: Cecilia Vicuña, an artist interview by Haus der Kunst

and poets, La Tribu No. Vicuña gave the group its name and authored its “No Manifesto.”

Between 1972-73, during Pinochet’s take-over, Vicuña created more than 400 sculptural interventions called precarios as an act of political resistance. In 1979, while living in Bogotá, Vicuña performed a piece called *El Vaso de Leche (The Glass of Milk)*, in which she gathered an audience and spilled a glass of white paint to protest the deaths of an



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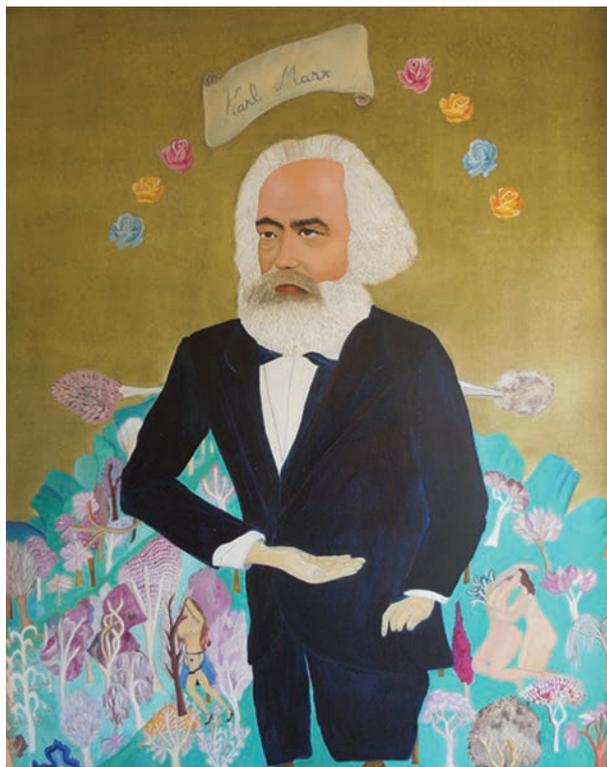
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Karl Marx, 1972, oil on canvas, Cecilia Vicuña

estimated 1,920 children due to contaminated milk. (The company responsible had mixed fillers such as paint into the milk to maximize their profits.)

Museums that have exhibited her work include the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Santiago; the Whitechapel Art Gallery in London; the Whitney Museum of American Art; and many others. Her work is also displayed in the Cerrillos National Center for Contemporary Art near where she grew up. Alongside her paintings, poetry and films, there is also documentation of the work she has done with activist groups like La Tribu No, Artists for Democracy in London and the Heresies Collective. In 2018, she became the Princeton University Art Museum's Sarah Lee Elson International Artist-in-Residence.

Today, Vicuña divides her time between Chile and New York. This February she'll visit Iowa City to collaborate with University of Iowa writing programs as well as give a reading performance at the UI's Dey House. In advance of her visit, *Little Village* spoke with her about her inspirations, her musings and the future of humanity.

Your work deals with complex existentialist themes. What are you most captivated with right now? Death. Because death from the indigenous perspective is what makes

life important. It's what makes us completely grounded in the present. Death is your companion. Your wisdom comes from death. Death is what unites you, and everything that was before and what comes after you. Death is the great connector. That is the indigenous view—that death is a creative force. Now humanity is facing a completely different description of death—one as a terminal affair. We are causing the death of so many things. Death of the oceans, forests, languages, of cultures. I am facing this new kind of death.

Death of ecology, languages and cultures—these have a permanence to them. How do these make you feel? I feel sorrow that I didn't know was possible. I had an inkling of that sorrow when the military culture in Chile destroyed everything—this was a death of our culture and the first time in my life that I feel this deep pain. But this sorrow now is about the possibility of the end of humanity—and that this is all happening but without humanity even aware of this itself.

Why do you think there is such a gap between people who see the great risks we are facing and people who don't? This culture that we are in believes that everything has

CONT. >> ON PG. 30



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CALENDAR

EVENTS AROUND THE CRANDIC FEB. 6-19, 2019

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WED., FEB. 6

Iowa City Open Coffee, Merge, Iowa City, 8 a.m., Free (Weekly)

Gentle Yoga, Public Space One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

Break Dance Group, Public Space One, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Black History Month Film: 'I Am Not Your Negro', Iowa City Public Library, 7 p.m., Free

Open Mic Night, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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Federal Workers Relief Fundraiser, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$7 suggested donation

Underground Karaoke Wednesday, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Open Stage, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

THIS WEEK: BEYOND THE WALL OF BELIEF DOUBLE FEATURE

Late Shift at the Grindhouse, Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$4 (Weekly)

WHAT ARE WE DOING? FEB. 6-19, 2019



Tom Pich / National Heritage Fellowship

Deleters w/ Max and the Megababes, The Mill, Iowa City, Friday, Feb. 8, 9 p.m., \$7 Local scene veterans Deleters are set to release their first full-length album, recorded in Solon at The Magic Barn. In anticipation of the new album, the band will perform a set at The Mill on Feb. 8, alongside Iowa City indie group Max and the Megababes. As per usual, I expect Deleters songwriter Adam Havlin's new tunes to be chock full of rock and get stuck in my head for days. Get out of the *basement*. Don't forget to drink beer. —Brian Johannesen

John F. Kennedy's Life and Times, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, exhibit open Feb. 8 through May 19, admission free-\$7 President's Day—falling on Feb. 18 this year—is an odd duck of a federal holiday, but it does provide a *student* of U.S. history (a.k.a., a lounge chair history nerd like me) with an excuse to sing old campaign jingles (“I like Ike, you like Ike, everybody likes Ike...”) and binge History Channel's *The Presidents* series. This year, it's also a good excuse to check out the new CRMA exhibit on John F. Kennedy. Distilling Kennedy's life and career down to 77 photographs can't have been an easy task, but the JFK mythology—including his fairytale marriage, *rise* to the White House and earth-shaking assassination—is etched into American identity, and deserves measured, internet-less observation. While you're at CRMA, check out the complementary exhibit “Power and Protest: Political Photographs and Prints,” up until April 28. —Emma McClatchey

◀ **An Evening with Rahim AlHaj**, Robert A. Lee Community Recreation Center, Iowa City, Friday, Feb. 15, 6 p.m., Free “Letters From Iraq” is the latest work from master oudist and composer Rahim AlHaj. (The oud is an ancient, lute-like string instrument with a body resembling a halved avocado.) AlHaj has taken letters from individuals in the war-torn country of Iraq and turned those words into eight beautifully moving instrumental pieces; these gorgeous melodies will *flood* Hancher auditorium with sound on Feb. 16. Once a political refugee in Iraq and now an American citizen, AlHaj and his string quintet use their instruments to remind us that our emotions are universal. The day before his Hancher performance, Alhaj will deliver an hour-long conversation about his life at the Robert A. Lee Rec Center, free and open to the public. The event is sponsored by Hancher and the Center for Worker Justice.

—Jason Smith



Doug Nye

▲ **An Evening with Paul Cary & Liberty Leg**, Hosted by Jarrett Mitchell, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Saturday, Feb. 16, 9 p.m., \$7 Three reasons to get to this show: Number one, Liberty Leg returns. Iowa City's elusive, percussive, bluesish, guitar-heavy, bass-vocaled, Nick Cave and Jon Spencer-esque three-piece is back. Number two, Paul Cary and Brendan Spengler are playing one last show before Spengler takes his sweet synth sounds south. Cary's reverbed-out vocals will make you feel like you've escaped your shitty life in some old car with bench seats on a distant highway. Turn on your headlights and *floor* it. And number three, to lighten things up? Business-ham Jarrett Mitchell, raffling Cobra Verdes and making you feel like you're on *The Price is Right*. Come on down!

—Jordan Selligren LV

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▲ **QC Beats Launch Party & Concert, Redstone Room, Davenport, Friday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m., Free** QCBeats.org is a new streaming site from the collaborative efforts of Davenport Public Library, River Music Experience and St. Ambrose University. To celebrate the new site, which will soon feature a collection of music from local artists, they're throwing a free, all-ages launch event featuring Soultru, Lojo Russo, Rebecca Casad & Alan Morrison, TC Boyd, Avey/Grows and TAJ. This launch party is a great chance to discover and support local musicians who contribute to the QC creative community.



▲ **Moeller Nights Fest, The Rust Belt, East Moline, Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 14-16, \$25-40** Moeller Nights Fest, previously known as GAS Fest, will be the first show happening at the Rust Belt, the new 4,000-capacity music venue in East Moline. Catch sets from headliners Anderson East, Lolo and Hiss Golden Messenger, and discover

bands you'll undoubtedly love, like Rookie, Illuminati Hotties and more. Tickets are \$25 per day or \$40 for the entire weekend; snag them and shake your cabin fever.

St. Valentines Day Bash, Village Theatre, Davenport, Friday, Feb. 15 and Rock Island Supper Club, Saturday, Feb. 16, \$12-\$20 Anything Goes Productions is hosting a two-day, all-ages music and comedy festival, with a portion of the proceeds going to Hope For the Day, a suicide prevention organization that provides mental health education and resources, and RAINN, the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization. The two-day fest features music from over 20 performers as well as a few of the QC's most hilarious comedians. Tickets are \$12 per day, or \$20 for a two-day pass. See the Zealots, Nonnie Parry, Still Standing, Stepping Stones, Sunshine, Wayne Lyter and many more.

Nu Gruv Showcase and Jam, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, Saturday, Feb. 16, 8 p.m., Free For over two years, the Nu Gruv Society has been curating a bi-monthly night of hip hop, jazz, soul, R&B, rap and poetry at Rozz-Tox. One of my favorite things about Nu Gruv is the range of experiences you can get in just one night; they can book chill-inducing soulful performers and high energy rappers on the same showcase and the crowd's energy transforms to the moment. Whether you know every name on the bill or show up without a clue what you'll hear, I can assure you'll have a good time.

—Paige Underwood LV/

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EDITORS' PICKS

THU., FEB. 7

The Picture Show: 'Mirai,' FilmScene, Iowa City, 3:30 p.m., Free-\$5

I.C. Press Co-op open shop, Public Space One, Iowa City, 4 p.m., Free (Weekly)

NewBo Happier Hour, NewBo City Market, 5:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

Hancher and UI Persian Students Organization Present: 'MAHAK: A World She Founded,' Iowa City Public Library, Meeting Room A, 6 p.m., Free

Iowa City Meditation Class: How To Transform Your Life, Quaker Friends Meeting House, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

Line Dancing and Lessons, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

READING FROM 'BOWLAWAY'

Elizabeth McCracken, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

Thursday Night Live Open Mic, Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Daddy-O, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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Improv Incubator, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$5



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Joe Diffie w/ Boot Jack Duo, First Avenue Club, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$25-220

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 (Weekly)

SUB/DOM COSPLAY ENCOURAGED!

I.C. Kings present Leatherversary, Studio 13, 9:30 p.m.,

FRI., FEB. 8

ICAD Winter Investor Council Breakfast, Kirkwood Regional Center, Coralville, 7:30 a.m., Free

NewBo Open Coffee, Roasters Coffeehouse in NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., Free (2nd & 4th Fridays)

Friday Night Out, Ceramics Center, Cedar Rapids, 6:30 p.m., \$40 (2nd Friday)

FAC Dance Party, The Union, Iowa City, 7 p.m. (Weekly)

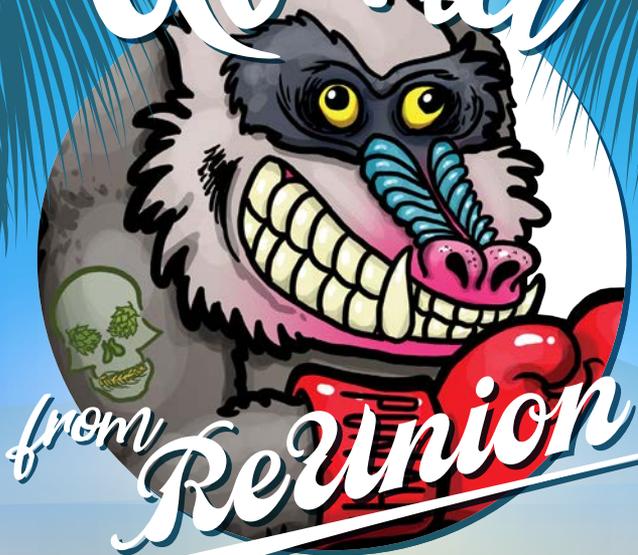
FORMER MEGADETH GUITARIST

Marty Friedman w/ Immortal Guardian, Tanzig, Virtus, Gabe's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$20-300

SCW Wrestling Presents: Hawkmania 8, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-20

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EDITORS' PICKS

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS

THROUGH FEB. 10

'Jersey Boys,' Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$65-90

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS

THROUGH FEB. 16

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'Really,' Public Space One, 7:30 p.m., \$10-13

WANDERING MIND COMEDY TOUR

TOUR

Demetri Martin, Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$35-155

DJ & Daddy-O, Sanctuary Pub, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

"IOWA RAISED, IRELAND

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Blame Not the Bard, Shakespeare's Pub and Grill, 8:30 p.m., Free

Underground Pianos w/ Jeff Mead, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

DEATH DUB

Peak Dead w/ Cult of Volac, Van Allen, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$7

Deleters w/ Max the the Megabgabes, The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$7

SoulShake, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Sasha Belle Presents: Friday Night Drag & Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., \$5 (Weekly)

SAT, FEB. 9

RESCHEDULED FROM PREVIOUS DATE

2019 Local Foods Roundtable, MERGE, Iowa City, 9 a.m., Free (registration recommended)

ALSO 2/10 AT 10 A.M. & 2/14 AT 3:30 P.M.

The Picture Show: 'Small-foot,' FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5

Family Storytime, Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free (Weekly)

ANIMATIONS SHORTS FOR FAMILIES

Black History Month Short Film Fest, Iowa City Public Library, 11:30 a.m., Free

I.C. Press Co-op Open Shop, Public Space One, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Chad Whitthoeft, Iowa City Yacht Club, 5 p.m. Free

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Sweetheart Saloon II, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-40

SCREENING 'THE GRAND BIZARRE'

Headroom presents Jodie Mack, Adler Journalism Building, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

ASL-Interpreted Performance: 'The Full Monty,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$25-45



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The Pork Tornadoes, Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$10-50

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Soul Sherpa w/ Charles Walker Band, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10

IOWA CITY AMERICANA

City Park, Famous Mockingbird, Marion, 8 p.m., \$10

Steve Grismore Trio, Sanctuary Pub, 8 p.m., Free

Summer Camp: On the Road Tour '19 w/ Reggae Rapids, Evan Stock Band, Hep Cat, In the Attic, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$7

GENRE-DEFYING ANTHEMS

Cherub w/ Mosie, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$22-25

Elation Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5 (Weekly)

Bijou After Hours Presents: 'Die Hard,' FilmScene, Iowa City, 11 p.m., Free-\$6.50

SUN., FEB. 10

Annie Savage's Great Big Friendly Bluegrass Jam, The Mill, Iowa City, 1 p.m., Free (2nd Sundays)

Freeze Fest Event, Terry Trueblood Recreation Center, Iowa City, 1 p.m., Free



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Organized by the Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and curated by Dr. Emily Stamey. Image: Ana Teresa Fernández, *The Ice Queen*, 2013. Studio performance (still). Courtesy of the artist and Gallery Wendi Norris, San Francisco © Ana Teresa Fernández

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>> CONT. FROM PG. 22

to be converted into profit. It destroys our humanness. It is sort of that we are covered in a sort of rubber. It prevents us from feeling anything.

What, if anything, do you believe American culture suppresses? The fear that what we are doing is not right. Because, you see, there is this American nation that was founded by the immigrants from England only three centuries ago; not so long ago, these immigrants were trying to create a pure image of righteousness. This served them to exploit and profit from what is around them, even though the view was distorted or covered up by disguises like democracy that doesn't really exist. I think there is this deep fear in America that this righteousness—that it is not quite justified. When I think of it, what can be driving the force of feeling better than others if it is not fear?

It is terrifying, isn't it? It is this notion of superiority that we can tell someone else how to think or feel. That is the most destructive force on the planet right now.

What role do you believe art and writing can play in helping us coalesce and enhance the possibilities for humanity to change?

Well, if you look at history, it shows us that in grave moments of humanity, always something new and unexpected comes to the rescue. This is what is called the phenomena of emergence. When everything rational says there is zero source of hope of survival for humanity, this is the only chance we have. Rationality is limited in terms of what we can find in it.

I have stock in the idea that we are going to move to a new dimension of humanity. I think of a quote by César Vallejo from Peru: "The function of poetry was to touch the cords that are so deeply embedded in our humanness, that change can be achieved."

Your work is a clear testament to these beliefs. What do we have to look forward to during your visit to Iowa City? I have four new books; they are very different from each other. In a way you can say they are all poetry, but they also tell stories. I sometimes speak, sometimes read, sometimes I just chant. Because in the moment of encounter, when are with a live audience, all kinds of wonderful things happen. LV/

Andrea Wilson lives in Iowa City and writes nonfiction. She is the founder of the community writing organization, the Iowa Writers' House.

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EDITORS' PICKS

Sunday Funday, Iowa City Public Library,
Iowa City, 2 p.m., Free (Weekly)

FINAL PERFORMANCE!

'Pride and Prejudice,' Giving Tree Theater,
Marion, 2 p.m., \$26

National Theatre Live: 'I'm Not Running,'
FilmScene, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$15-18

FINAL PERFORMANCE!

'The Gospel According to Thomas Jefferson, Charles Dickens, and Count Leo Tolstoy,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$10-30

FINAL PERFORMANCE!

'The Full Monty,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$25-45

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Fundraiser: Iowa City Democratic Socialists of America, Public Space One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10 suggested donation

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Great Lake Swimmers w/ Native Harrow, The Mill, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$15-18

Milo w/ Pink Navel, Sb the Moor, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$15-17

Pub Quiz, The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$1 (Weekly)

MON., FEB. 11

Open Mic, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Comedy Open Mic with Spencer & Dan, Yacht Club, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Say Anything Karaoke, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

TUE., FEB. 12

Bijou Film Forum Presents: 'Tangerine,' FilmScene, 6 p.m., Free-\$6.50

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COMMUNITY

>> CONT. FROM PG. 17

“Remember the tavern we saw this morning?”

“The one filled with all those old men?”

“Yeah, that one.”

The tavern was called Komovi. We'd seen it that morning as we were coming in from the airport. Three old men from the neighborhood, surely recipients of the minimum pension, watched a soccer match between Russia and Saudi Arabia. Nikšićko beers rested on the table between their hands. A full ashtray in the middle, a lit cigarette. We sat near the TV.

We'd travelled from northern Europe through Belgrade with no fixed plan or expectations. That's how we'd decided the previous night, after finding a half-priced flight on Serbian Air to Montenegro on the internet, to rent an apartment on the Riviera for the rest of the summer.

“I wish they wouldn't smoke,” she whispered.

“We could go into the old town for dinner.”

“It's more expensive down there.”

“It's our first day here, we can afford one luxury.”

“I'm going to the bathroom.”

The Adriatic breeze seeped in through the windows, bringing with it the scent of sea salt. Along the main road, tired Ukrainian tourists were returning from the beach, carrying with them all the weight of the sun and sea in their bodies.

Another pensioner entered the restaurant. A white cat with a black splotch around one of its grey eyes followed stealthily behind him, walking timidly with its tail held high, then darting under a table, hiding from humanity. Another marmalade colored cat with its tail low paused in the doorway indecisively.

“Here we go again,” she said, coming back from the bathroom to find me watching them.

“Poor cats.”

“Do you hear yourself?” she said.

“It's incredible how many there are in these countries.”

“I need some air.”

I tried to take her hand, but she moved it away and went out of the tavern. The three retirees watched me, making a face as if it were all too familiar, having lived so much of that long ago. In the doorway I called her name, but she was already down the street. I looked at the indecisive marmalade cat. Its eyes were nailed to the inside of the tavern, watching the cook who came bearing a glass dish full of scraps.

I began to walk after her, and she slowed her pace until I reached her. “You and your cats,” she said, grabbing hold of my hand.

On the way back to Stockholm, she wore the summer dress she bought in Kotor; I wore my T-shirt that says, “Budva, City of Cats, Summer 2018.” LV/

Ivan Parra Garcia (1982) graduated from the University of Iowa with an MFA in creative writing in Spanish. He now teaches classes in writing and medical Spanish in the same UI program. He is the editor in chief of Iowa Literaria and author of Texarkana, a book of short stories.



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EDITORS' PICKS

Blues Jam, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

A BLUES CAREER FORGED IN LEGEND

John Primer & the Real Deal, CSPA Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$17-21

Weekly Old-Timey Jam Sessions, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Dance Party with DJ Batwoman, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Comedy & Karaoke, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Karaoke Tuesdays, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

WED., FEB. 13

Iowa City Open Coffee, Merge, Iowa City, 8 a.m., Free (Weekly)

Gentle Yoga, Public Space One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

Break Dance Group, Public Space One, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Burlington Street Bluegrass Band, The Mill, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$5 (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

READING FROM 'ALL THE WILD HUNGRERS'

Karen Babine, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

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-African Proverb

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TOP PICKS: DES MOINES

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▲ Demetri Martin: Wandering Mind Tour, Hoyt Sherman Place, Des Moines, Sunday, Feb. 10, 8 p.m., \$39.50 I found out recently that Demetri Martin is 45 years old. It's strange: That bowl-cut hair and teenager simplicity to his standup have always given him a youthful aesthetic. Maybe it's the light-hearted subject matter of his jokes, or perhaps it's the whole drawing pad routine he does that reminds me of the presentations I had to give when I was in sixth grade. Either way, Martin's familiar deadpan delivery and wordplay are as sharp as ever. He'll make his way through Des Moines following the release of his new Netflix special, *The Overthinker*, with a stop at Hoyt Sherman Auditorium on Feb. 10.

Elizabeth Moen w/ Glitter Density, Katie Sin, Vaudeville Mews, Des Moines, Friday, Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m., \$12 A few months ago, soon after the release of Elizabeth Moen's new album, *A Million Miles Away*, we were listening to it at my job. Well, more accurately, we were listening to the first track, "Red," on repeat for about an hour before we made it into the rest of the album. That song has got some swagger, let me tell you. "Red! Red is your color, boy. Did anybody ever tell you that?" That chorus almost makes it sound like a Valentine's Day song. Almost.

Gratitude Fest, Vaudeville Mews, Des Moines, Saturday, Feb. 16, 10 p.m., \$5 As the February cold fronts begin to swirl, and we all collectively exhale the long, frozen sigh of winter-weather veterans, it's good to have gratitude. It's like a warm blanket, carrying us through the colder months when most touring bands prefer to stay out of the Midwest entirely. It's a reminder to appreciate the great balancing act of the changing of the seasons. I, for one, am grateful for Gratitude Fest, bringing together Des Moines' own Jinnouchi Power and Heavy Gratitude with touring acts Church Girls and Vermillion Heights. The fest will also include local artwork from Jonathan and Maddy Fusco, Amy Wonderlin and the folks over at Recluse.

Young the Giant: Mirror Master Tour, Hoyt Sherman Place, Des Moines, Saturday, Feb. 16, 8 p.m., \$35-50 The retromania craze of the last decade has largely been about the repurposing and reimagining of the defining characteristics of the trends of pre-21st century cultures. Oftentimes, this occurs as a deeper exploration of the details that once provided the glossy exteriors of pop culture's more shallow offerings. Take "Superposition"—the single from Young the Giant's new album, *Mirror Master*—for example. It runs the chorus-coated electronics of late '80s pop through the band's specific filter of soft psychedelia. The song sounds like now, but somehow feels like it could have been released anytime in the last 50 years.

—Trey Reis LV/



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EDITORS' PICKS

THE ULTIMATE BEATLES TRIBUTE

The Fab Four, Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$45-65

Open Mic Night, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

KANSAS CITY STRING BAND

Grassfed w/ Flash In A Pan, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., \$10

Underground Karaoke Wednesday, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

DOWNTempo ELECTRONIC

Exmag, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-15

Open Stage, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

THIS WEEK: 'HAPPY DEATH DAY 2U'

Late Shift at the Grindhouse, Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$4 (Weekly)

THU., FEB. 14

I.C. Press Co-op open shop, Public Space One, Iowa City, 4 p.m., Free (Weekly)

NewBo Happier Hour, NewBo City Market, 5:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Iowa City Meditation Class: How To Transform Your Life, Quaker Friends Meeting House, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

Line Dancing and Lessons, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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Old Creamery Theatre Presents: 'A Killer Family Reunion', Price Creek Event Center, 6:30 p.m., \$52

Thursday Night Live Open Mic, Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

READING FROM 'SPECTACLE'

Susan Steinberg, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

Daddy-O, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

VALENTINE'S DAY DESSERT TRAYS AVAILABLE

Lauren Anderson, Famous Mockingbird, Marion, 8 p.m., \$10

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Our Funny Valentine Burlesque, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., \$12-35

Karaoke Thursday, Studio 13, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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Rebellion Burlesque Presents: Valentits Day, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$5

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Planned Parenthood Benefit Dance Party, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., donations accepted

FRI., FEB. 15

THE ELECTRIC ILLUSIONIST TOUR

Tony MacAlpine w/ Monte Pittman, Loro, Gabe's, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$20-25

EMBRACING COMPLEXITY SERIES

Hancher and Center for Worker Justice Present: An Evening With Rahim AlHaj, Robert A. Lee Community Recreation Center, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free

FAC Dance Party, The Union, Iowa City, 7 p.m. (Weekly)

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS THROUGH FEB. 17

City Circle Theatre Company Presents: 'The Who's TOMMY'—In Concert, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$14-29

RIP ST. VALENTINE A NEW ONE—ALSO FEB. 16

The Second City Presents: It's Not You, It's Me, Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$32.50-37.50

Dusty Bottle, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$5

Mina Jazz Quartet, Sanctuary Pub, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

ALSO FEB. 16

SPT Theatre Presents: 'What's In a Name—Doubling Thomas?', CSPA Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20-25

ALSO FEB. 16

Hal Sparks w/ Adam Degi, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$18-20

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS SOUL-TINGED ROCK

Miles Nielsen and The Rusted Hearts w/ Crystal City, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10

Underground Pianos w/ Jeff Mead, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

PHDJ (Phil Ricks) w/ Purchase, Tailgating for a Funeral, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$7

Luca Lush w/ Montell2099, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-15

SoulShake, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Sasha Belle Presents: Friday Night Drag & Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., \$5 (Weekly)

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EDITORS' PICKS

SAT., FEB. 16

ALSO 2/17 AT 10 A.M. & 2/21 AT 3:30 P.M.

The Picture Show: 'Disney's Christopher Robin,' FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5

Family Storytime, Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free (Weekly)

I.C. Press Co-op Open Shop, Public Space One, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Soul Craft: Writing for Self-Discovery, Iowa Writers' House, 1:30 p.m., \$75

LIVE PAINTING ACCOMPANIED BY MUSIC
Journey of the Heart with Jonny Lipford & John Paul Schafer, Famous Mockingbird, Marion, 7 p.m., \$30

Lil Peep Tribute Band: Lil Weep & The Crybaby's w/ Trick James, A-Wets, 750, Gabe's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-12

ALSO FEB. 17

Tales of Hemingway w/ cellist Zuill Bailey, Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$16-55

EMBRACING COMPLEXITY SERIES
Rahim AlHaj and String Ensemble Present: 'Letters from Iraq,' Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-35

RELENTLESS COUNTRY ROAD DOG
Jake McVey, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10-80

Dancing in Love—Isaac Burris w/ Special Guest, New Bo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$15-20

Mike Maas & Carlis, Sanctuary Pub, 8 p.m., Free

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE EMMA GOLDMAN CLINIC
'The Vagina Monologues,' The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$12

SINGER-SONGWRITER
Lissie w/ Roscoe & Etta, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$20

ABT

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WHIPPED CREAM



Saturday, April 6, 2019
1:00 & 6:30 pm

In this full-length story ballet—which will include a bevy of local dancers—a young boy overindulges at a Viennese pastry shop and falls into a delirious dream, filled with sugary heroes who come to his rescue. This dollop of delightful whimsy is a treat for the entire family and features alluringly sweet costumes and sets from the mind of pop surrealist visionary Mark Ryden. Choreographed by Alexei Ratmasky and featuring a score by Richard Strauss performed by Orchestra Iowa, *Whipped Cream* will satisfy your cravings for fun and fabulous dance.

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YOUTH \$45 | \$20

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GALENTINE'S DAY



Ever since Leslie Knope, the hyper-considerate protagonist of *Parks and Recreation*, first introduced the concept of Galentine's Day to the world in 2010, Feb. 13 has become a favorite holiday of women who love kicking it breakfast

style and celebrating their lady friends. A number of local institutions are recognizing Galentine's Day with events, specials and plenty of pink.

Galentine's Day Floral Workshop, Big Grove Brewery and Taproom, Iowa City, Sunday, Feb. 10, 3 p.m., \$60

Celebrate Galentine's Day and prepare an extra-special Valentine's Day gift at the same time at this workshop-cum-party, held at Big Grove on Feb. 10. Prepare a floral centerpiece with hydrangea blooms and decorative vases—which you may, of course, take home with you when you're done—while Cedar Rapids-based DJ Riley Mullane spins tunes. Your \$60 ticket includes all your floral supplies and a drink ticket.

Mimosas at MODE: Galentine's Day Champagne Glass Etching Class, MODE, Marion, Monday, Feb. 11, 6 p.m., \$20

Nobody's as crafty as Leslie Knope (personalized embroidered pillows for all!) but you can channel your inner Leslie at MODE for their "Galentine's week" class. Your \$20 ticket buys you all the supplies you need to make a set of two (or four, for an extra \$15 fee) stemless wine glasses etched with a number of design options. Treat yo' self to snacks and mimosas as you and your date or bestie work away.

Galentine's Day at Big Grove Brewery, Big Grove Brewery and Taproom, Iowa City, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m., Free

Big Grove is busting out a playlist of songs by powerful women artists this Galentine's Day and pairing them with a special, fizzy cocktail—the Rainbow Infused Space Unicorn, combining gin, champagne, raspberry and Que Sera sour beer—and a loaded waffle fry special in honor of Leslie Knope's unconditional love of waffles.

Galentine's Day Movie Night, Tin Roost, North Liberty, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m., Free

Mean Girls may not be the exemplar of healthy female friendships, but it's certainly a slumber party favorite. Tin Roost will screen the comedy classic for Galentine's Day and offer themed drinks, including On Wednesdays We Wear Pink (a strawberry spritzer), This is so Fetch (a vodka raspberry lemon shot) and You Go Glen Cocoa (peppermint bark hot chocolate). LV /

EDITORS' PICKS

BRENDAN SPENGLER MEMPHIS SEND OFF

Paul Cary & Liberty Leg, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$7

NonGrata w/ the Unincorporated, Citrus Sunday, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$7

Elation Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5 (Weekly)

Bijou After Hours Presents: 'Mortal Combat: Annihilation', FilmScene, Iowa City, 11 p.m., Free-\$6.50

SUN., FEB. 17

Sunday Funday, Iowa City Public Library, Iowa City, 2 p.m., Free (Weekly)

ACADIAN PHENOMS

T'Monde, CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$15-18

Pub Quiz, The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$1 (Weekly)



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TOP PICKS: WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS

FEBRUARY 6-19, 2019



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▲▲ Friends of KUNI Party At The Park, Electric Park Ballroom, Waterloo,

Saturday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m., \$25-35 This fundraiser for Iowa Public Radio is a celebration of Iowa music! Featuring International Blues Challenge winner Kevin "B.F." Burt as headliner, the show also includes Coon Rapids' Chad Elliott, with his soulful Americana, and Iowa City songstress Elizabeth Moen. Tickets are \$25-30 in advance, \$30-35 at the door.

Dallas Brass, West High School Auditorium, Waterloo, Monday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m., Free-\$3

This six-member Dallas, Texas ensemble,

which features traditional brass instruments blended with a full percussion section, will bring its American Musical Journey program to Waterloo. The show serves, the group says, as a "musical travelogue" with "something for everybody," drawing on the catalogues of everyone from Aaron Copland to John Williams to the Tijuana Brass. Band students from Hoover Middle School and West High School will have the chance to take the stage

with Dallas Brass. Tickets are \$3; children 5 and under are free.

KILL CUPID—Anti-Valentines Day Karaoke Party!, Spicoli's Reverb, Waterloo, Thursday, Feb. 14, 4 p.m., Free

Valentine's Day can be a real bitch for the uncoupled or simply the unromantic. Why mess with flowers and chocolates and serenades when you can enter a Nerf Wars target shooting contest (top prize \$25) or sing some anti-love song karaoke? The Nerf Wars start at 8 p.m. and the karaoke kicks off at 9, but the \$1 loaded tacos are yours to eat alone starting at 4! Also at 8 p.m., crying into your beer gets dangerously affordable with \$0.50 draws through midnight.

Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Presents: Valentine Attraction, Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, Cedar Falls, Saturday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m., \$6.75-50.75 Love and lovers take center stage at this ready-made date night concert. The Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony takes on an array of romantic themes, with a program featuring Joachim Raff (1822-1882)—Prelude to *Romeo and Juliet*, WoO. 51; Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)—*Pelléas et Mélisande*, Op. 46; Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)—*Rhapsody on A Theme of Paganini*, Op. 43: Variation 18; and George Gershwin (1898-1937)—Catfish Row: Suite from *Porgy and Bess*. LV /

EDITORS' PICKS

MON., FEB. 18

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UI THEME SEMESTER AMERICAN DREAM

'Generation Wealth,' FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free

ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW

Combined Efforts Theatre Presents: Leap!, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7 p.m., Free-\$10

Open Mic, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Inconceivable! Movie Trivia Night, FilmScene, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$40 per team

Comedy Open Mic with Spencer & Dan, Yacht Club, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Say Anything Karaoke, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

TUE., FEB. 19

Bijou Film Forum Presents: 'Mustang,' FilmScene, 6 p.m., Free-\$6.50

Blues Jam, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

PRESENTATION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY THROUGH MUSIC

Behind the Beat, African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free

READING FROM 'FOOD FROM THE RADICAL CENTER: HEALING OUR LAND AND COMMUNITIES'

Gary Paul Nabhan, Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

Weekly Old-Timey Jam Sessions, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Dance Party with DJ Batwoman, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Comedy & Karaoke, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

Karaoke Tuesdays, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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DEAR KIKI

Dear Kiki,
 About a decade ago I fell very hard for someone, but circumstances kept us apart. We've both been able to move on and live our best lives and love the people we're actually with since our really difficult split up. Now I think it's safe to say that all is OK. I love my partner; this person loves their partner and we haven't spoken to or seen more than a glimpse of each other for years. But God, it's still there in my heart. It's always there. I say nothing, I do nothing, I just live with this knot in my chest. I love my significant other and I don't wish to change my life in any way, though what would I do for an afternoon with this old flame. I guess my question is, am I still living an honest life if I love and live with one person while maintaining this intense, secret yearning for someone else?

pop culture that love is a one-and-done. We're supposed to find that person who we're meant to be with and live out our days with them in magical wonder. Anything before them couldn't have actually been "love." If we lose them, anything after is a pale comparison.

Yawn.
 You and I know better, don't we? You've experienced it, side-by-side, the love you feel for your current partner and the love you feel (not felt) for your ex. The second has no intention of ceding space, nor should it. We're all capable of loving more than one parent, right? More than one sibling, more than one child, more than one friend. Without even veering into the territory of polyamory (which, let's face it, can be a logistical hassle!), there's no reason why we shouldn't

experience simultaneous romantic feelings for more than one person.

Besides, love is as much an action as it is a feeling. As long as you're showing your love for your current partner by honoring whatever bounds of faithfulness you've

Dear Yearning,
 I never gave you the impression that I was a poet, did I? Good. Because I'm going to offer up to you quite possibly the least poetic definition of love possible.

WE'RE TAUGHT BY PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND POP CULTURE THAT LOVE IS A ONE-AND-DONE.

Love is kudzu. Don't get me wrong. Have you seen kudzu? It's fuckin' beautiful! Kudzu covering makes the landscape look like you're living in a fairy tale. But it's pernicious. It's an infestation. It's extremely challenging to fully kill. (It also destroys other plant life basically by smothering it and blocking it from the sun, but that's an analogy for another, more bitter day).

The point is: Kudzu is a lovely fairy tale of a plant that takes hold and doesn't want to let go. Love can seem to be similarly never-ending. It takes hold of us and it never dies, not really. I have long maintained that we never actually stop loving anyone we have ever loved. Yes, even if we also loathe them. Even if they make us furious. Even if they (or we) are deeply damaged.

We're taught by parents and teachers and

put on each other, and showing your love for your ex by allowing them the space to focus on their current relationship, then you're golden.

Except.
 You asked if you're living an honest life. Well, Yearning, I'm sorry, but I can't answer that without more information. It certainly seems like you're being honest with *yourself* about your feelings, which is a great first step—but are these feelings something your current partner would want to know about? If so, you need to tell them. It may not be an easy conversation, but "I am committed to you and to our relationship, but these feelings exist, and it's important to our ability to be honest with each other that you know" would be a good place to start. *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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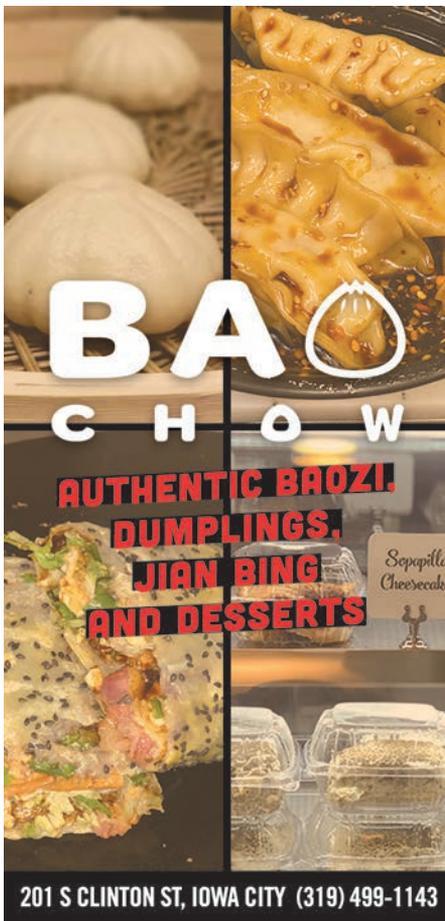
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I was sad to see the mature trees in front of Iowa Chop House (Washington Street) cut down. How come??? —Mary, Iowa City, via email



Those trees were ash trees, and ash trees in Iowa City have been under assault by an insect, the emerald ash borer (EAB), since 2014.

“[The trees] were heavily infested with emerald ash borer, and had many dead branches, which becomes a public health, safety and welfare issue,” Iowa City Director of Parks and Forestry Zac Hall told *Little Village* last year. “The way ash trees are structured, when they do die or are badly compromised, their branches become very brittle and they become hazards.”

The EAB is from Asia, where ash trees have evolved defenses against the insect that North American ash trees lack. Accidentally introduced into the United States in 2002, the insects were first discovered in Iowa in 2010. By 2014, when the first EAB-infested tree was identified in Iowa City, the city had had a plan in place for nearly a decade.

The Iowa City Parks and Recreation Department stopped planting ash trees in 2004. It also decided to remove any trees compromised by EAB. (The city is only responsible for trees on public land, such as right-of-ways. Property owners are responsible for trees on private property.)

In 2004, that was not a controversial decision. Chemical treatments to combat EAB were generally considered ineffective, and the insecticide used could spread beyond the treated tree and contaminate the soil. But by 2018, things had changed.

Chemical treatments had improved. Coralville, Cedar Rapids and other cities in Iowa opted to treat trees in early stages of EAB infestation, and only removed badly compromised trees.

Residents in Iowa City had also become increasingly concerned about the number of ash trees being removed. There are approximately 3,500 ash trees on public property in Iowa City, making it the city’s second-most common tree, behind maple trees. In 2015, the city removed 223 trees, 34 of which were ash trees. By 2017, the EAB infestation had spread, and ash trees were 107 of the 297 trees the city removed.

Ash trees are also more heavily

concentrated in older residential areas of the city. Ironically, this is because in the mid-20th century they were considered a good replacement for elms, which were decimated by Dutch Elm disease.

An email to the Iowa City Council from Susan Shullaw, who lives on the Northside, summed up a lot of the concerns residents were having in 2018:

Older neighborhoods such as mine have hundreds of ash trees in the public right of way. If all those trees succumb to EAB, the loss of this mature tree canopy will be felt for decades to come. The disappearance of these trees doesn’t just alter the green and leafy aesthetics of our neighborhoods. Loss of shade trees affects property values, drives up cooling costs, and increases the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere, exacerbating the greenhouse effect—an outcome that seems to directly contradict the intent of Iowa City’s new Climate Action Plan.

Responding to these concerns, councilmember John Thomas, a retired landscape architect, put a review of the city’s EAB strategy on the agenda for the city council’s Sept. 5 work session.

During the work session, Iowa City Parks and Recreation Director Juli Seydell Johnson said chemical treatments, while improved, still only delayed the inevitable. It was better to spend the city’s money removing EAB-infested trees and replacing them with a greater diversity of species.

But the city council decided that even if treating infested trees only delayed their demise, it was worth it to maintain the tree canopy in ash-dense neighborhoods. The council directed the Parks and Recreation Department to revise its EAB strategy.

Starting in spring 2019, the city will treat certain infested ash trees that aren’t yet compromised to the point of being a danger to public safety, at an estimated cost of approximately \$50,000 a year.

The city’s overall strategy for managing its trees still focuses on increasing diversity through new plantings. In 2017, the year the city removed a total of 297 trees, it planted 578. LV /



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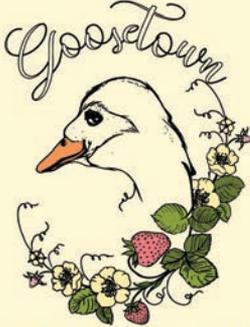
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ASTROLOGY BY ROB BREZSNEY

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Can you sit on your own head? Not many people can. It requires great flexibility. Before comedian Robin Williams was famous, he spontaneously did just that when he auditioned for the role of the extraterrestrial immigrant Mork, the hero of the TV sitcom *Mork and Mindy*. The casting director was impressed with Williams' odd but amusing gesture, and hired him immediately. If you're presented with an opportunity sometime soon, I encourage you to be inspired by the comedian's ingenuity. What might you do to cinch your audition, to make a splashy first impression, to convince interested parties that you're the right person?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Twitter wit Notorious d.e.b. advises us, "Before you diagnose yourself with depression or low self-esteem, first make sure that you are not, in fact, just surrounded by assholes." That's wise counsel for you to keep in mind during the next three weeks. Let me add a few corollaries. First, stave off any temptation you might have to believe that others know what's good for you better than you do. Second, figure out what everyone thinks of you and aggressively liberate yourself from their opinions. Third, if anyone even hints at not giving you the respect you deserve, banish them for at least three weeks.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Climbing mountains has been a popular adventure since the 19th century, but there are still many peaks around the world that no one has ever ascended. They include the 24,591-foot-high Muchu Chhish in Pakistan, 23,691-foot Karjiang South in Tibet and 12,600-foot Saury Zhotasy on the border of China and Kazakhstan. If there are any Aries mountaineers reading this horoscope who have been dreaming about conquering an unclimbed peak, 2019 will be a great time to do it, and now would be a perfect moment to plan or launch your quest. As for the rest of you Aries, what's your personal equivalent of reaching the top of an unclimbed peak?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Eminem's song "Lose Yourself" was a featured track in the movie *8 Mile*, and it won an Academy Award for Best Original Song in 2003. The creator himself was not present at the Oscar ceremony to accept his award, however. He was so convinced his song would lose that he stayed home. At the moment that presenter Barbra Streisand announced Eminem's triumph, he was asleep in front of the TV with his daughter, who was watching cartoons. In contrast to him, I hope you will be fully available and on the scene for the recognition or acknowledgment that should be coming your way sometime soon.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): While enjoying its leisure time, the peregrine falcon glides around at 50 miles per hour. But when it's motivated by the desire to eat, it may swoop and dart at a velocity of 220 miles per hour. Amazing! In accordance with your astrological omens, Gemini, I propose that we make the peregrine falcon your spirit creature for the next three weeks. I suspect you will have extraordinary speed and agility and focus whenever you're hunting for exactly what you want. So here's a crucial question: What exactly do you want?

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Now and then the sun shines and rain falls at the same time. The meteorological name for the phenomenon is "sunshower," but folklore provides other terms. Hawaiians may call it "liquid sunshine" or "ghost rain." Speakers of the Tangkhul language in India imagine it as "the wedding of a human and spirit." Some Russians refer to it as "mushroom rain," since it's thought to encourage the growth of mushrooms. Whatever you might prefer to call it, Cancerian, I suspect that the foreseeable future will bring you delightful paradoxes in a similar vein. And in my opinion, that will be very lucky for you, since you'll be in the right frame of mind and spirit to thrive amidst just such situations

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A study by the Fidelity financial services

company revealed that in 43 percent of all couples, neither partner has an accurate knowledge of how much money the other partner earns. Meanwhile, research by the National Institute of Health concludes that among heterosexual couples, 36 percent of husbands misperceive how frequently their wives have orgasms. I bring this to your attention in order to sharpen your focus on how crucial it is to communicate clearly with your closest allies. I mean, it's rarely a good idea to be ignorant about what's going on with those close to you, but it'll be an especially bad idea during the next six weeks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Torre Mayor is one of the tallest skyscrapers in Mexico City. When workers finished its construction in 2003, it was one of the world's most earthquake-proof buildings, designed to hold steady during an 8.5-level temblor. Over the course of 2019, Virgo, I'd love to see you erect the metaphorical equivalent of that unshakable structure in your own life. The astrological omens suggest that doing so is quite possible. And the coming weeks will be an excellent time to launch that project or intensify your efforts to manifest it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Multitalented Libran singer and actor Donald Glover uses the name Childish Gambino when he performs his music. How did he select that alias? He used an online Wu-Tang Clan name generator. I tried the same generator and got "Fearless Warlock" as my new moniker. You might want to try it yourself, Libra. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to add layers to your identity, expand your persona and mutate your self-image. The generator is here: tinyurl.com/yournewname. (P.S.: If you don't like the first one you're offered, keep trying until you get one you like.)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Leonardo da Vinci's painting *Salvator Mundi* sold for \$450 million in 2017. Just 12 years earlier, an art collector had bought it for \$10,000. Why did its value increase so extravagantly? Because in 2005, no one was sure it was an authentic da Vinci painting. It was damaged and had been covered with other layers of paint that hid the original image. After extensive efforts at restoration, the truth about it emerged. I foresee the possibility of a comparable, if less dramatic, development in your life during the next 10 months, Scorpio. Your work to rehabilitate or renovate an underestimated resource could bring big dividends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): We can behold colors because of specialized cells in our eyes called cones. Most of us have three types of cones, but a few rare people have four. This enables them to see far more hues than the rest of us. Are you a tetrachromat, a person with super-vision? Whether you are or not, I suspect you will have extra powerful perceptual capacities in the coming weeks. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you will be able to see more than you usually do. The world will seem brighter and deeper and more vivid. I urge you to deploy your temporary superpower to maximum advantage.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There are two kinds of minor, boring little tasks. One is when you're attending to a detail that's not in service to a higher purpose; the other is when you're attending to a detail that is a crucial step in the process of fulfilling an important goal. An example of the first might be when you try in vain to scour a permanent stain on a part of the kitchen counter that no one ever sees. An example of the second is when you download an update for an existing piece of software so your computer works better and you can raise your efficiency levels as you pursue a pet project. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to keep this distinction in mind as you focus on the minor, boring little tasks that are crucial steps in the process of eventually fulfilling an important goal. L V



KATE KANE

Meet the Cats

katekane.bandcamp.com

I can't think of a single better combination of words than "cat-themed Kate Kane album from Bloated Kat Records." Any of those three factors would have me dropping everything else to listen, but the combination is an outstanding pop-punk success filled with whimsical odes that I'm pretty sure retroactively invented the teen-talk saying, "that's a bop."

Album opener "Kyrie and Shaq," a fantastic tune with a '50s aesthetic that could fit well in any context, is followed by the 48-second "Kiki," which locks in the tone for the record. "Kiki, I love you. You're my best friend / Everything I do is for you," Kane sings, with a lilting voice and a reckless panache.

There is nothing this album wouldn't do for its feline inspirations, it would seem. Things only get a little serious with "Walter," the bad kitty of the bunch. "We've got some issues to discuss," Kane admonishes, and later, in the chorus, "You are such a bad cat / you are such a bad cat / you peed on my skull hat / you can't fuckin' fix that."

I can't help it. I feel for Walter. We've all been bad cats at one time or other, and the adoration that fills so many of the other tunes would go a long way, an optimist would hope, towards winning over the thoughtless Walter. But ultimately, over the course of the album's longest song, it becomes evident that there is still an affection for Walter (or at least his mustache).

Too much cat psychology? Perhaps. But I can't help it if Kane's lyrics are so

damned winning. Each song is a mini portrait, a compelling character sketch that captures each pussy's personality better than most of us could our nearest and dearest human companions. These aren't just

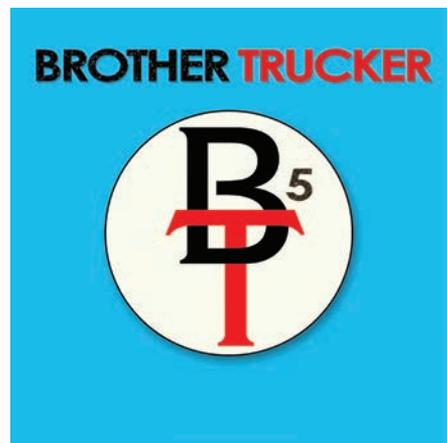
TOO MUCH CAT PSYCHOLOGY? PERHAPS. BUT I CAN'T HELP IT IF KANE'S LYRICS ARE SO DAMNED WINNING.

songs, they're love letters.

Even the one to Walter.

Don't miss this album. It's precise and delightful. Even if you don't like cats (who even are you?!), you'll love meeting them here.

—Genevieve Trainor



BROTHER TRUCKER

5

brothertrucker.rock

Des Moines band Brother Trucker is an honest-to-goodness Iowa institution. Since 2000, the band has toured extensively, bringing their roots rock and country to avid fans in bars throughout the Midwest. Their Iowa pedigree was established when they signed

on as one of the original bands on Dave Zollo's seminal Trailer Records, where they released three legendary albums before going the self-released route with their 2009 release *The Flyover*.

For the band's latest album, *5*, the group sticks to what it knows: guitar-driven country blues and rock backing lead vocalist Andy Fleming. But it's Fleming's songwriting that the band is most known for. Most of the songs in the Brother Trucker catalog capture regular lives—like Norman Rockwell paintings of Midwestern

life viewed through the bottom of a beer bottle. "Happy," the album opener, is a Wilco-esque song about the promise of the weekend: drinking beers with family and friends and racing in the streets. "Pointing at the red light, good night buddy meet my tail lights."

"Night O My Life" is a driving rap over a Bo Diddley beat about a guy sweating it out in a bathroom before holding up a fast food joint. "I got a cold sweat sliding like a knife down my back / I'm in the employee bathroom in a pantyhose mask / Tonight will be the night I say 'yeah you can deal me in.'"

Fleming told Ben Kieffer on IPR in 2015 that he gets his inspiration for songs from stories they hear from the audiences they play for. So, it's a kind of storytelling feedback loop.

Drummer Jim Viner (from The Diplomats of Solid Sound) became a member around the time of the last album, and, possibly thanks to him, there are a couple songs on this record that have some extra swing to them. One of the tunes with the most groove is "Pretty Girls (Always Get Me Down)." With the harmonies and sax, it reminds me of JJ Gray and Mofro. I could listen to that on repeat.

Some of the songs on *5* have been played live for more than three years, so the recordings feel comfortable and road-worn—like your favorite jeans. Brother Trucker is like that: familiar, worn in the right spots and your go-to for a good time.

—Michael Roeder LV/

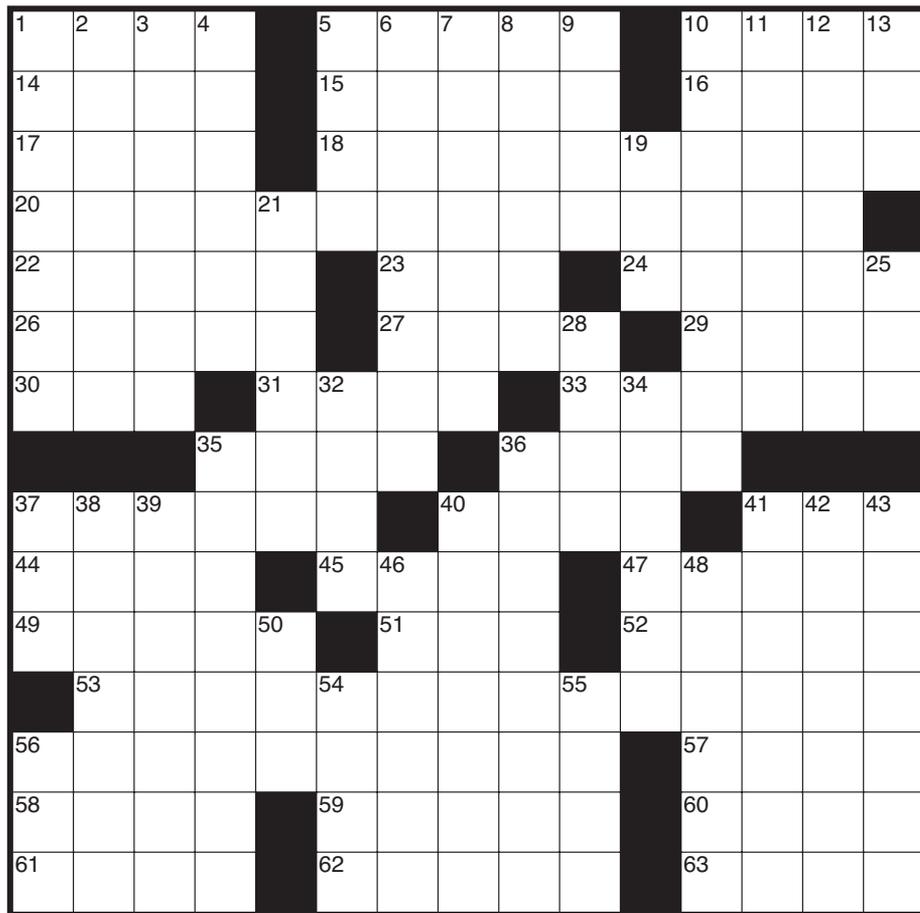
A BIT OF A MIND FLIP BY ERIN RHODE

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.

ACROSS

1. Ventimiglia of *This Is Us* and *Creed II*
5. One of a literary trio
10. Word after silver or mother
14. Movie critter that got its own spin-off in the form of an '80s cartoon
15. Scottish title held by multiple characters in *Macbeth*
16. Excited
17. Falls behind, as a gamer's computer
18. *Jane the Virgin* or *Juana la Virgen*, e.g.
20. Break during which a stretcher might be brought on the field
22. Look rudely, in some cultures
23. Buddhist practice associated with a type of garden
24. Like a snail
26. Played charades, perhaps
27. Miner victories?
29. Looney Tunes supply company
30. Short response?
31. Wears
33. Attacked

35. With 36-Across, hypothetical distortion that causes change to both position and direction, as in this puzzle's grid
36. See 35-Across
37. Stat that doesn't include walks
40. Sty sound
41. U.S. soldiers
44. One of the first programming languages I ever learned, in which "\$_" is a thing
45. Mario ____
47. Defiant refusal
49. Journeys
51. Scrooge's outburst
52. Explosions in the sky
53. Region that includes Ontario, West Virginia and Haiti
56. No longer drinking
57. What certain mushrooms can cause
58. Amazon device that is, creepily, always listening
59. For two, in Montréal
60. In fine shape
61. Like Jack Handey's classic *SNL* thoughts
62. Gets ready for a new baby, perhaps
63. Arctic transport



LV256 ANSWERS



DOWN

1. Series of notes sung on one syllable
2. "Let me play, too!"
3. River bottle-necks
4. Unenthusiastic assent
5. Bar assoc.

member

6. "Act now!"
7. Some summer tops
8. Common score during a pitcher's duel
9. Kyrsten Sinema and Jacky Rosen, soon: Abbr.
10. Groovy light source
11. Not neat
12. Pickle
13. Author/educator LeShan

19. Black ____

21. "The front page of the internet"
25. To now
28. Look over
32. Siberian oblast
34. Actors Alan and Adam
35. Discuss work-related matters
36. Earlier than necessary
37. Inclined
38. R&B artist Trent D'Arby

(who now goes by Sananda Maitreya)

39. Song title for Kylie Minogue, Pink Floyd, Faith Hill and Nickelback
40. Zestable fruits
41. Become popular online
42. Like most of my clothes, often (please don't tell my mother)
43. Prepared, as tea
46. Chafe

48. Values

50. Sault ____ Marie
54. McGregor of *Christopher Robin*
55. Michael Hutchence's band
56. Its first electronic edition was released in 1988: Abbr.

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