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ISSUE 258 FEB. 20–MAR. 5, 2019

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CR COUNCILMAN DALE TODD: 'WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE'

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LITTLE VILLAGE

VOL. 26 ISSUE 258
FEB. 20–MAR. 5, 2019

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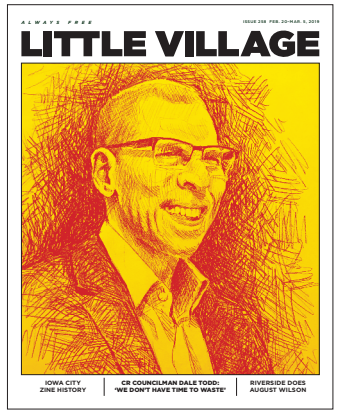

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LETTERS

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.

WOMEN LEAD CHANGE.

That's an empowering statement and one I can believe in.

Women Lead Change (WLC) is also the name of a non-profit organization headquartered in Cedar Rapids with the stated goals of advancing, developing and promoting women.

I like the goals. The mission statement is solid. The concept sounds great. But for WLC, what does it look like in practice?

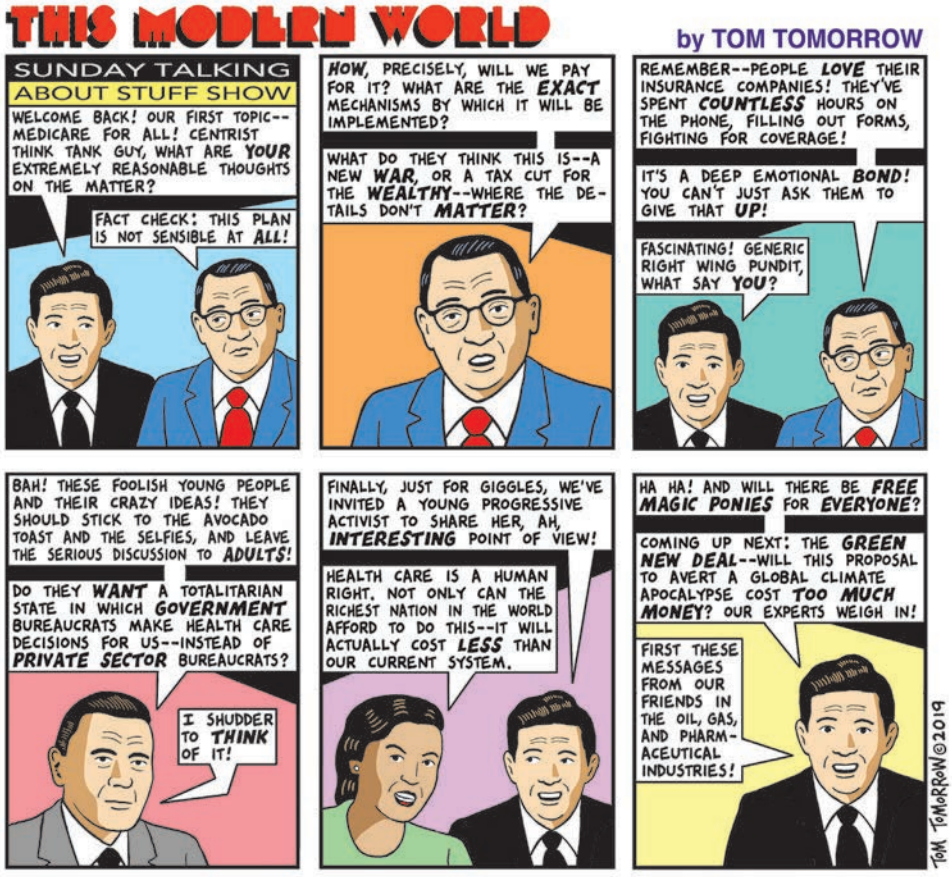
Last week, WLC announced that Rachel Hollis will give a keynote address as part of the upcoming Women Lead Change 2019 Corridor Conference in Cedar Rapids on April 10. Hollis is a popular blogger, motivational speaker and author of the *New York Times*' number one bestseller *Girl, Wash Your Face*.

Now, there are multiple speakers at the event, but Hollis is the featured presenter. She's the person who got the publicized press release announcing her participation. It would benefit us to learn a little about Hollis.

Pull a quick Google search for Rachel Hollis and you'll find countless articles about her selling out events and rallying crowds to get on their feet and lose their inhibitions. There's no doubt Hollis is a social-media force, but troubling questions have recently arisen concerning plagiarism and the underpinnings of her message. And, while *Girl, Wash Your Face* is a *New York Times*' bestseller, *Entertainment Weekly* also named it one of the worst books of the year.

There are many troubling aspects of Hollis and her philosophy, but here are just a few of the more concerning ones:

Hollis' message of personal responsibility and self-guided well-being seem empowering on the surface, but don't take into account the outside forces that impact a person's social and



HAVE AN OPINION?

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economic mobility, like systemic racism, sexual-orientation bias or working-class poverty. Hollis' credo seems to boil down to a mix of religious faith and tough love. Hollis' brand of tough love can also take on some dark tones, like in the form of body shaming. In *Girl, Wash Your Face*, Hollis states that "humans were not made to be out of shape and severely overweight" while also urging people to keep their commitments around diets, even though diets have shown to be statistically ineffective at weight loss.

Hollis' close association with multi-level marketing is also troubling. In a recent Instagram post, Hollis mentioned MLMs and encouraged women in MLMs to tell their fellow team members to read her book. If you're not familiar with MLMs, they're a modern form of a pyramid scheme in which an emphasis is put on recruiting new members in order to boost your commission. According to a [2011] report [by the Consumer Awareness Institute] on the Federal Trade Commission's website, 99 percent of people who join MLM companies lose money. Not exactly an agent of empowerment or upward mobility for women, right?

Last but not least is Hollis' idea of success. Hollis essentially pushes a prosperity gospel, combining monetary gain and Christianity to make an appeal that equates financial success and status-symbol purchases as the path to self-awareness and self-actualization.

In a world now consumed with personal branding, Hollis has centered her brand on

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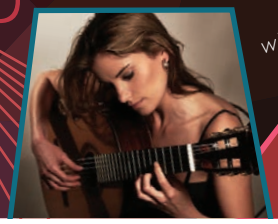

She has a finely honed technique and a remarkable stylistic sensitivity that allows her to communicate eloquently.
- Tim Smith, Baltimore Sun

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white privilege and affluence. As someone who theoretically fits Mrs. Hollis' target demographic, I feel even more of a duty to speak out. I wonder why WLC is choosing to promote her message. Is Hollis the dream? Is this what women should aspire to?

WLC presents the goal of empowering all women, but it doesn't appear they give priority to diversity nor does it seem they want anyone from a socioeconomic group that couldn't swing a $500 registration fee to attend the conference.

Women lead change.

That statement is true, but I'd ask the Women Lead Change organization if Rachel Hollis is the embodiment of that ideal, and also what they're telling women everywhere by featuring her as their keynote speaker.

—Heather Bachman

CRISIS AT THE BORDER?

Nonsense. The Reps controlled both houses of Congress for two years, never lifting a finger for a border wall. The only "crisis" they saw then was the urgent need to hand a multi-trillion dollar tax cut to the billionaires who own them. This mythical wall imposes not enough cost to put a bump on the budget, offers not enough security to exclude anyone more resourceful than a tumbleweed. It is nothing but a fire started in a dumpster by vandals hoping to divert attention while they pillage and rape the neighborhood.

—Scott Hartley

'This fight isn't over': Iowa City's student-led gun reform movement, one year after Parkland

So proud of you, Mira, and all the other members of SASS. Keep leading the way! *—Sarah P.*

Lucky's Market is closing

Really unfortunate, but I am not completely surprised. Great meat and seafood department, but not a store that I could do the majority of my shopping at. Was pretty excited when they announced it was coming. But was a bit underwhelmed by the overall selection. With all of the arguments that Iowa City can't support a chain like Whole Foods (where you *can* actually complete a shopping list), it's amazing how many small chains they keep putting up (Lucky's, Trader Joe's, Natural Grocers). I feel like we had the small health food market sort of locked up with Co-op and Bread Garden. Still very unfortunate that Lucky's is closing. *—Joshua K.*

New Pioneer should take over the space. *—Ann D.*

Loved to sip & stroll at Lucky's when I lived in IC. It always had incredibly fair beer specials, and the leadership and employees rolled out the welcome mat. I've missed both Lucky's & Bread Garden since leaving. Special spaces and people. *—Jason C.W.*

So sad. We have had access to groceries in this area suffer with repeated closings of stores. Sure hope the mall owners can find another store that offers groceries. A Target with even more options would be great. *—Monica M.M.*

Your Village: What happened to the trees on Washington Street?

Thank you for such a thorough reply to the reader's question. And thanks to John Thomas and the City Council for doing what they can to preserve our older neighborhoods' trees. I've spent the last few years driving down many of these streets, quietly saying, "Ash, ash, ash, ash," as we pass tree after tree, which for so long have contributed to our quality of life. I mourn their loss. And our loss. *—Ginalie S*

This also serves as a good illustration of the dangers of monoculture. Iowa farms are virtually all corn and soybeans. *—Craig A.*

Yeah, like where's the hemp? *—Michael C.*

I appreciate EAB being referred to as little bastards, personally. High-key mood. *—Nolan P.*

/LittleVillage

READER POLL

What's your favorite couple from this year's Best Picture-nominated films?

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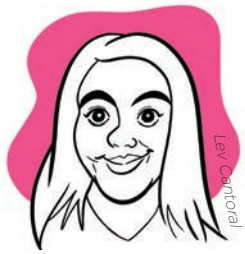

Lex Cantoral

Well, kids, another Valentine's Day has come and gone. I'm as enthusiastic about the holiday as I was at 10, when I was not yet embittered and 28 classmates were obligated to give me candy.

I understand that, for most people, it's not the focal point of the year, but most people are not 20-something single girls who watched *Bridget Jones's Diary* on their grandma's VCR every single day of seventh grade. Because of its wildly exaggerated importance in my emotional life, I like to use this time to take stock and reflect on the progress I've made over the year.

Last Valentine's Day was, um, bad. Mostly unavoidably so; I was freshly dumped and failing math, and that cease-and-desist letter from Adrien Brody's attorneys certainly didn't help matters. I decided to "lean in" to these feelings, really let it all out. This turned out to be a mistake. After a little too much rosé and a lot too much adult contemporary, I was practically inconsolable. My nextdoor neighbor, a surly, middle-aged Scot, actually came over to check on me, because apparently my sobs of anguish sounded "like a goat being murdered." I'd call that rock bottom, but I don't want to jinx myself.

Truthfully, I'm no less lonely now, but this year, rather than lamenting all I don't have, I've decided to celebrate all I do—a great job, wonderful friends, a freezer full of half-price chocolate and soon, the first of many senior cats. (Shoutout to the Cedar Valley Humane Society. Adopt don't shop.) That's pretty good, right? Medical science has made so many advancements in the last few years. There are people who have babies at 50. It'll be fine. Anywho ...

In the aftermath of what is easily the second-most devastating Hallmark holiday, I encourage you to follow my lead. It's hard, especially this time of year, to realize how fortunate we are, but please try. Look on the bright side, and take care of yourself during this long, hellish winter. If you were lucky enough to share V-Day with a special friend, go get tested. It's not VD-Day, am I right? Get it?

And if you're reading this, Adrien, give me a call sometime. We can work this out.

—Audrey Brock

Dale Todd's Town

From marching with MLK in Chicago to fighting LGBT discrimination and "recreational apartheid" in Cedar Rapids, Councilman Todd is not your average elected official.

BY PAUL BRENNAN

Zak Neumann / Little Village

Dale Todd would rather not talk about himself. Sitting in Parlor City Pub and Eatery, one of his favorite places to grab lunch, he matter-of-factly acknowledged making history in 1997, when he became the first black person elected to the city commission in Cedar Rapids (the commission was the pre-2006 version of the city council), but he'll talk at length about how NewBo Market across the street is helping new businesses grow.

It's not the standard, well-practiced politician's patter. The 61-year-old Todd credits working as a bartender while he was a student at Coe College with teaching him how to talk to people. The experience still shows—his speaking style is casual, candid and occasionally profane.

Todd feels his barroom-born style has helped him connect to voters. When he decided to return to politics and ran for the District 3 seat on the Cedar Rapids City Council in 2017, Todd won with 71 percent of the vote. But it didn't help him in 2001 when he ran for reelection to the city commission. Todd had been targeted by conservative groups because, two years earlier, he'd voted to expand the city's anti-discrimination laws to cover discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

"People were just starting to come out the closet then in Cedar Rapids," he said. "But there was still a relatively sizable amount of people that were still scared. The reality was they could easily lose their job."

The proposal to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians attracted angry opposition, especially from conservative Christian groups, as soon as it was proposed in 1998.

"It was ugly, right away," Todd recalled. "We received death threats, we had to put security measures in place at city hall for the first time."

Similar proposals had recently been defeated in Des Moines, Davenport and Sioux City. At the time, only two cities in Iowa—Iowa City and Ames—prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Todd, Mayor Lee Clancey and Public Safety Commissioner Nancy Evans voted in favor banning discrimination. The other two members of the city commission, Finance Commissioner Ole Munson and Streets Commissioner Don Thomas, voted against it.

All three of the measure's supporters would be voted out of office within two years.

Evans was defeated in the 1999 election. Clancey and Todd both lost their reelection bids in 2001.

Todd said he knew it was likely his vote against discrimination would end his career as commissioner of parks and public buildings, but he didn't let that influence him.

"I thought about my parents," he said, when asked about his 1999 vote.

"My parents were from the South, and it wasn't legal for them to be together there," Todd explained. "Here was my dad, he was an African-American, and my mom, who loved this guy, was this Irish-Dutch woman. I didn't realize the real struggle that my parents went through until almost before they died."

"It wasn't until right before my mother passed, that she told me she'd actually been put in a mental institution for two weeks," Todd said. It happened after her parents found out she was in love with a black man. "It was sort of a 'scared straight' deal. It was her parents in conjunction with the police that did this."

"Luckily, she talked to a psychiatrist, who decided there was nothing wrong with her. He had her released and told her to be careful."

"Next thing, my parents hopped on a train to Chicago."

After they married, Ray and Mary Lou Todd settled in the Woodlawn neighborhood on Chicago's South Side. "It was kind of a rough neighborhood," Todd explained.

"Chicago at that time—'53, '54—was hopping," he said. "They were hanging out at this place called Jimmy's Woodlawn Tap, which was this cultural icon in Hyde Park."

The regulars at Woodlawn Tap were a mixture of people from the University of Chicago and its Hyde Park neighborhood, and Woodlawn residents. The Todds met a lot of politically active people through Woodlawn Tap.

Their church in Woodlawn, First Presbyterian, was a center of the civil rights movement in Chicago. Todd's parents became active in the movement. It was something that was always in the background of Todd's childhood.

"I actually marched with King once," Todd recalled.

The Todds took then 9-year-old Dale to a rally organized by the Chicago Freedom Movement at Soldier Field on July 10, 1966. Martin Luther King Jr. gave a famous speech at the rally ("This day we must declare our own Emancipation Proclamation"), calling for an end to housing discrimination in the city. After the rally, King led a march to Chicago City Hall, where he delivered a letter demanding the city adopt an "open housing" policy.

"To be honest, at the time, I didn't really get the importance of it," Todd said. "All I was thinking [as a 9-year-old] is that it's hotter than shit out here."

Todd's own neighborhood had been affected by Chicago's de facto housing segregation.

"Woodlawn was changing," he recalled. "It was going from predominantly a white neighborhood to an African-American neighborhood."

Poverty increased, and so did violence as gangs expanded their territories in the neighborhood.

"We lived in an apartment building, but it was like our block was insulated from the violence and the poverty," Todd said. "If you went two blocks in either direction, you were right in the middle of a warzone."

"I was lucky because my parents both worked," he continued. "We weren't poor; we weren't rich. We didn't have a car, but I never had to worry about where my next meal was coming from. I had good schools."

Cedar Rapids wasn't an obvious destination for a graduating senior from the South Side of Chicago in the '70s, but Todd's mother had friends with connections to the city who encouraged him to consider Coe.

"There was some culture shock," Todd said of going from Chicago, which had approximately 3.4 million people at the time, to Cedar Rapids, which had less than 111,000.

"I showed up and I thought I was cool, because I had a DeKalb Seed hat," he said, smiling broadly at the memory. "But I didn't know a damned thing about rural Iowa, or even Cedar Rapids."

He learned. Friends he made at Coe would take him to their family farms or the small towns they grew up in. Todd slowly settled into the very different atmosphere of Cedar Rapids.

"On Tuesdays, my classes started late, so I'd ride my bike down by Cedar Lake," he said. "I fell in love with that area. Today, I'm championing this $20 million project to revitalize the lake and to build a pedestrian bridge."

Even before returning to city government last year, Todd was working on this project, as president of the Friends of Cedar Lake. And it wasn't the only south-side improvement he's been involved with in recent years. In 2009, Todd helped found the Southside Investment Board, which is aimed at promoting economic growth in the New Bohemia area.

Todd is happy to take a visitor on a tour of the restaurants in NewBo Market and describe every stall in detail, while chatting with the people behind the counters, but he's less interested in talking about his role in developing the market.

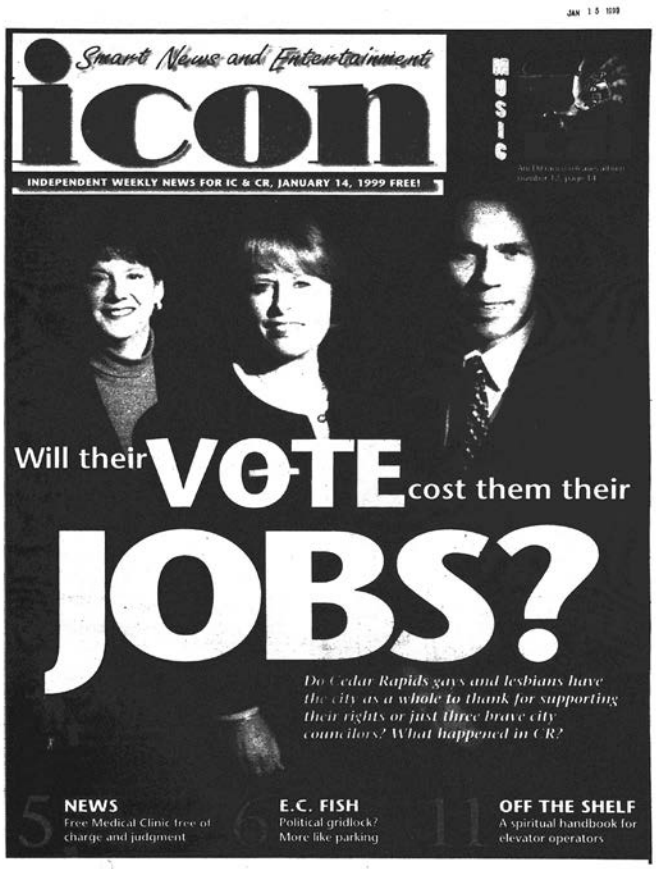
"At my age, I'm not really interested in taking credit for things," Todd said. "I just want to get shit done."

"When I was running in 2017, the guys at EduSkate [Board Shop in the NewBo District] wanted to make T-shirts that said, 'Dale Todd: He gets shit done.' My wife, Sara, vetoed that idea."

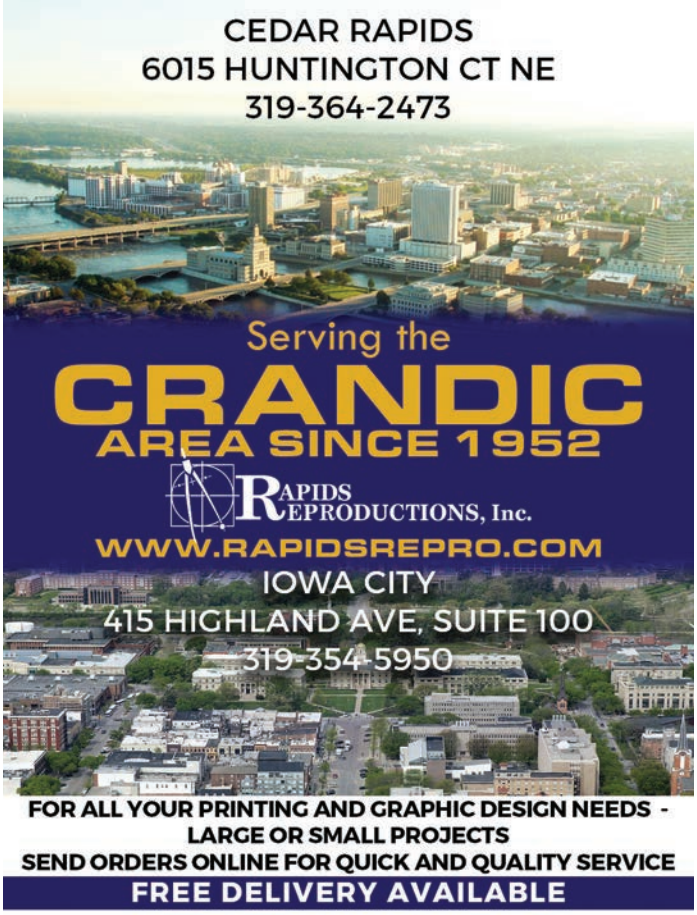
"She's an angel," Todd said about his wife of 25 years. "I don't know why she puts up with me."

Todd ended up going with a more restrained, "Dale Todd gets stuff done," as a campaign theme.

"I already had a track record [from his



'Icon,' an Iowa City alt-weekly whose staff dusted themselves off from an unexpected shuttering in 2001 to form 'Little Village,' featured Todd on this 1999 cover.



time as parks and public buildings commissioner], so people knew what they were getting when they voted for me," Todd said.

During those four years, Todd was responsible for introducing an impressive number of recreational innovations in Cedar Rapids.

"I made providing opportunities for all kids a big part of my campaign [in 1997]," Todd said. The lack of recreation in the city was something Todd became very aware of in the 1990s, during the height of the crack and gang problems in Cedar Rapids.

"I soon realized something—a lot of these kids didn't have shit to do," Todd said. "There basically was, and still is to a degree, two levels of recreation in Cedar Rapids: one for kids who have the access and the means and one for those how don't have either."

"I called it 'recreational apartheid.' I got a lot of pushback for using that term."

"But at the time, the city only had one basketball court, and it was in a shitty little park on the river," Todd said. "Basically, nobody knew it existed."

During Todd's four years in office, 13 public basketball courts were built around the city.

"I'M AT THIS GREAT PLACE IN MY LIFE, WHERE I HAVE A BOSS WHO RESPECTS MY IDEAS AND LETS ME DO MY WORK. AND ALSO I DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT ME."

"Seven miles of trails, 27 new playgrounds, a skate park, an ice arena, a new baseball pad. I closed all the old splash pads and we built new ones," Todd said, quickly running through a list of projects launched while he was in charge of Cedar Rapids' parks. "A 20-field soccer complex, and we built driving ranges at all three of the city's golf courses, so people could learn to play golf."

"That was probably one of the reasons I got booted out. We did too much, too fast."

But Todd said he realizes there's still a lot to be done. And that's why decided to run for the city council, even though he was enjoying his life as a private citizen with Sara and their 19-year-old son Adam, and his work creating and managing low- and mixed-income housing as vice president for development at Hatch Development Group.

"I've been here for 40 years, and I've seen some change, and I've seen some things that haven't changed," Todd said. "I'm at this great place in my life, where I have a boss who respects my ideas and lets me do my work. And also I don't give a shit about what people think about me.

"That's given me sort of this freedom to really mix it up a little bit more than maybe I would have 20 years ago. Simply because with age, you would hope there comes some wisdom, but what you do realize is there are a lot of serious changes that still need to happen. And we don't have time to waste."

Paul Brennan appreciated Dale Todd taking him on a tour of the NewBo District on Feb. 4. Despite the snow storm. And all the ice. And the sub-zero wind chill. Paul Brennan would also like winter to stop wintering.

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Danú

Saturday, March 2, 2019, 7:30 pm

Danú—a longtime Hancher favorite featuring musicians from Counties Waterford, Cork, Dublin, and Donegal—returns just in time to get you ready for the most Irish of holidays. The band offers virtuosic performances of traditional music from the Emerald Isle, capturing the elation and melancholy of a sound cherished far beyond the borders of the musicians' native land. The West High School choir will join the band for selected numbers.

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Lawrence Brownlee and Eric Owens

Craig Terry, Piano

Friday, March 8, 2019, 7:30 pm

Two dazzling singers share one harmonious musical friendship. Tenor Lawrence Brownlee and bass-baritone Eric Owens—two of opera's most acclaimed voices—come together for a recital of arias and spirituals that will highlight their individual talents and combined brilliance. Each has performed on the most prestigious opera stages, and their performance on the Hancher stage will be extraordinary.

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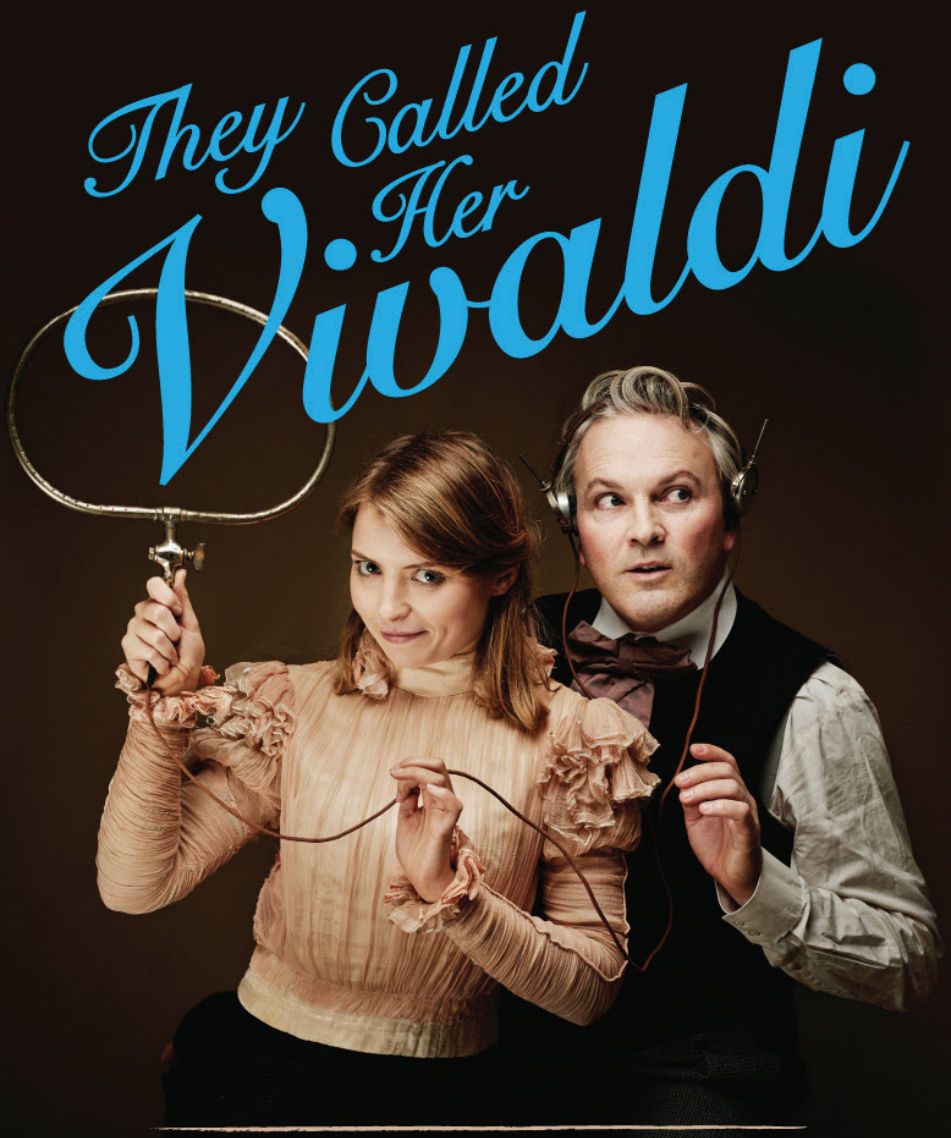

THEATRE LOVETT

They Called Her Vivaldi
Theatre Lovett

Sunday, March 10, 2019
2:00 pm

In this enchanting play performed by Ireland's Theatre Lovett, a sensitive musical prodigy finds herself leaving her quiet sanctuary for the noise of the big city as she tries to recover her magical, musical hat. She meets a collection of colorful characters—each of whom is also missing something important to them—on an adventure that is both hilarious and thrilling. The young people in your life will love the music, the characters, and the encouragement to follow their dreams.

Recommended for ages 7+ and adults of all ages. There is a brief use of strobe lighting during the performance.

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Asere! A Fiesta Cubana

Thursday, March 14, 2019, 7:30 pm

Asere means "friendship"—and once you've been to this party, you'll consider these spectacular musicians and dancers friends for life. Weaving the entire tapestry of Cuban music and dance with contemporary thread, the Havana Cuba All-Stars bring energy, joy, and, yes, a spirit of friendship to the stage. Will you be able to stay in your seat when the rhythms fill the room? Friend, we'd be surprised.

TICKETS

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ABT

American Ballet Theatre

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.

American Ballet Theatre, Hancher Auditorium, and Nolte Academy of Dance collaborated to bring a dab of Whipped Cream *to the 2018 University of Iowa Homecoming Parade! (Photo: John Emigh/UI Center for Advancement)*

TICKETS:

ADULT $90 | $80 | $65
COLLEGE STUDENT $81 | $20
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$10 STUDENT TICKETS

Batsheva Dance Company
Venezuela

Friday, April 12, 2019, 7:30 pm

Under the artistic direction of choreographer Ohad Naharin, Israel's Batsheva Dance Company has built a global reputation for excellence. Employing Naharin's movement language—known as "Gaga"—the company stands apart from other modern dance companies, offering a singular and arresting approach to choreography and individual movement. In its first Hancher appearance since 2006, Batsheva will perform *Venezuela*, a "work emblematic of Naharin's curiosity and ongoing search for new challenges" (*Haaretz*).

TICKETS

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Rodina

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Frankie Schneckloth / Little Village

Now is the time of year for comfort food. As I write this, Iowa City schools face their eighth snow day of the year, my driveway is impassable and the bright red boots I bought to infuse winter with a little joy are stained with salt and dirt. I take infinite solace in eating from a bowl that warms my cupped hands—all the better if what's in that bowl is buttery and familiar. How fortuitous, then, that Rodina has graced us with its comforting culinary presence when it has.

Owners Samuel and Phoebe Charles opened Rodina in late January. Though the restaurant has only been open a few short weeks, the execution of food, drinks and service, along with the charming-yet-eclectic décor, make it feel as if Rodina's been around forever. As a rule, it's a good idea to give a restaurant a few months to find its bearings before casting any lasting judgments on the place; however, I knew the first time I ate there that Rodina would weave itself into my social and dining life. It was that delicious, the ideal combination of simple and necessary.

The food is served family-style; the server will recommend a general number of dishes for your party, but I encourage you, if it is within your means, to exceed the server's recommendation and order all that piques your interest. But consider asking for all your dishes to be brought out at the same time: You may finish all your cabbage slaw and wish you still had some by the time the meatballs arrive, because the crunchy cabbage and mustard seeds from the slaw would make magic with the potato puree and paprika-rich sauce that hugs the meatballs. You may also not realize initially that you'll want a last bite of pillowy dumpling to cushion your masterfully roasted chicken. Next time, you'll stash a dumpling aside for yourself, just as you might do on a particularly competitive Thanksgiving.

You might not think you want to try an open-faced sandwich of thinly sliced rare beef heart and horseradish cream, but it turns out that you do; you might even mistake it for tender, succulent steak. You probably also want the freakishly tender pan-seared pork with the addictively succulent herb sauce, and you absolutely, no questions asked, want the mushrooms and grains. In fact, you'll want that again. And again. And when it's snowing and you're stuck in Iowa City, you'll really want it—and you will wait, and eventually, you'll be reunited with its perfect earthy warmth, and it will sustain you once again.

Get a cocktail, too, from their impressive drink menu—perhaps a warm vanilla and honey grog. You deserve it, after all that craving and all that waiting. And, of course, there's dessert: The madeleines, made to order and served hot from the oven, made me finally understand what all Proust's fuss was about.

Rodina crafts Czech- and German-influenced Iowan comfort food with ingredients sourced locally whenever possible. The menu will change with the seasons, and I can only imagine the local ingredients will be more of a highlight once this interminable winter ends. I am bursting, like a tulip in April, with excitement. —*Courtenay Bouvier*

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Sex Education / Esther Perel at SXSW 2018 / Jordan Sellergren / Little Village

Sex & Love

Guilty Pleasure

It's never too late to get a sex education. Even if it's from *Sex Education*.

BY NATALIE BENWAY

"I've been wanking all night. I ate four packets of crumpets, and I think my clit might drop off." —*Aimee (Aimee Lou Wood)*, Sex Education

My new favorite show is *Sex Education* on Netflix. The series follows the insanely adorable and awkward Otis, who teams up with his brilliant, badass classmate Maeve to start a super secret sex therapy clinic. Otis uses knowledge picked up from his mother's sex therapy business to guide his classmates through their sexual insecurities and quandaries.

One of my favorite characters is Aimee. The first episode opens on her naked, riding her boyfriend Adam while asking him if he likes her tits and wants to come on them. Cut to episode six and you'll see a similar scene: Aimee on top of her new boyfriend Steve, asking, "Do you want to come on my face?"

"Not really," he replies. Steve is skeptical whether Aimee really wants him to do this, or if she's simply performing. When Steve asks her what she *actually* enjoys doing sexually, Aimee is dumbfounded. She seeks help from Otis, saying, "I don't know what I want. No one's ever asked me that before." He suggests she try masturbating, which she initially yucks. But what follows is an epically hysterical masturbation montage that shows Aimee taking ownership of her sexuality and pleasure—all over her bedroom.

The simple question Steve poses—"What do you like?"—sends Aimee into a panic. It's not uncommon to be ignorant of one's own sexual preferences or even be unaware of what's available on the menu of erotic possibilities. Many of us are conditioned to focus on fulfilling our partner's wants or some notion of pleasure we picked up from novels, HBO or porn. And even if we know what we'd like, we may be shy about expressing it to our partner(s).

I love that Aimee is willing to ask for help and give the prescription, masturbation, a shot. I found myself wishing I had a show like this when I was a teenager to share the infinite possibilities available to give and receive pleasure.

Sex Education has sparked so many excellent conversations with my friends and family about sexual health, and it has prompted some of my fellow parents of elementary-aged kids to consider the uncomfortable conversations in their future. Several have asked me where they can get more information about how to navigate "the talk(s)" with their kids about sex. (I've started talks with my own son, starting with explaining that touching yourself is fine, so long as it's done out of the public eye.) It's a hell of a responsibility to help shape a budding sexuality, especially when many of us are works in progress ourselves.

I recently reread Emily Nagoski's amazing book, *Come As You Are*, in which she and friend Robin Milhausen (a Canadian sex researcher) discuss the mixed messages our culture and families plant in our beliefs about sex.

I can't tell you how many people I've worked with who tell themselves they are "bad" because they chose to have premarital sex or even masturbate. Raised Catholic, it's a shame I'm familiar with—one many of us

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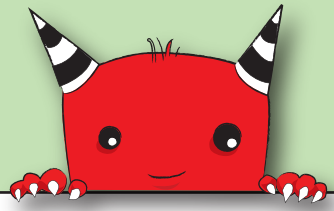

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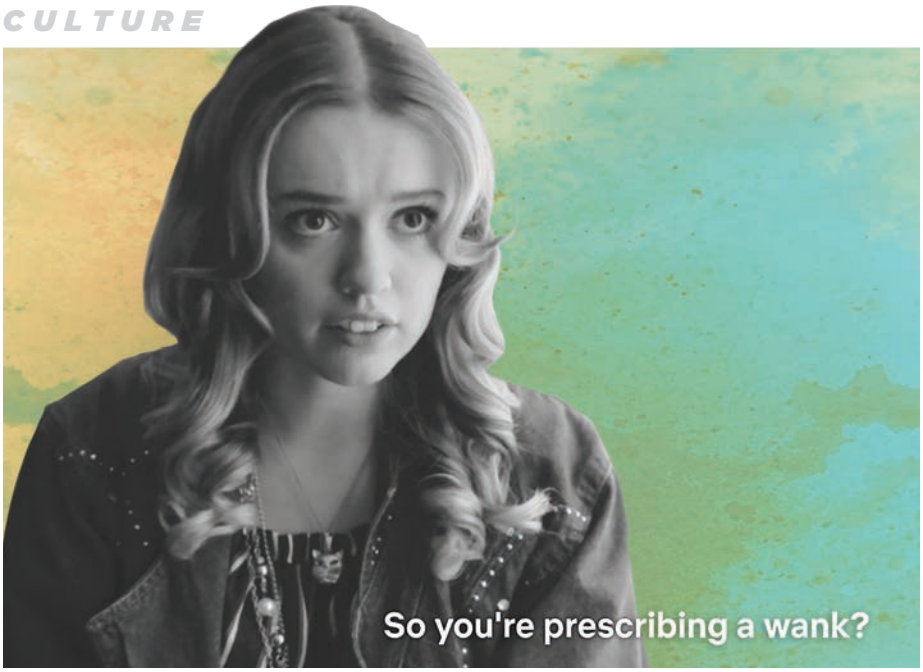

Sex Education / Jordan Sellergren / Little Village

were conditioned to feel as kids, whether or not we put stock in religious doctrine. But learning how to give ourselves pleasure and connect with our bodies from a young age is important in developing a healthy sexual identity.

"We're raising women to be sexually dysfunctional, with all the 'no' messages we're giving them about diseases and shame and fear," Milhausen says. "And then as soon as they're 18, they're supposed to be sexual rockstars, multi-orgasmic and totally uninhibited. It doesn't make any sense. None of the things we do in our society prepares women for that."

Nagoski adds that while our existing sexual context might be harmful or negative, we can unlearn and replace these ideas with healthier patterns that build confidence, satisfaction and joy.

My favorite relationship guru/sex therapist is Esther Perel. Her podcast, *Where Should We Begin?*, invites listeners to sit in on one-time-only sex therapy sessions. With creativity, ease and incredible insight, she facilitates conversations about trauma, sex addiction, infidelity and sexlessness. But she emphasizes that sexual health doesn't only have to focus on sex-related disorders and dangers.

"We need a model of sexual health so we know what we are working towards, not only what we're trying to eradicate," Perel said on the podcast *Speaking of Sex*. "Like in all other health. It's one thing to know what not to eat, it's another thing to know what to eat!"

Perel recommends seeking out a sexual role model, someone with a strong sense of what they like and how to relate to their partner(s). She also recommends challenging our cultural preconceptions of what's considered desirable. After a little guidance (and self-exploration), Aimee found she derived more pleasure from having her boyfriend blow on her ear than ejaculate on her chest.

"WE'RE RAISING WOMEN TO BE SEXUALLY DYSFUNCTIONAL, WITH ALL THE 'NO' MESSAGES WE'RE GIVING THEM ABOUT DISEASES AND SHAME AND FEAR, AND THEN AS SOON AS THEY'RE 18, THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SEXUAL ROCKSTARS, MULTI-ORGASMIC AND TOTALLY UNINHIBITED."

Sexual health should be seen as part of overall health and happiness, she says, and should be nurtured. Perel encourages one to ponder after sex, "Did you learn to experience pleasure or not? Was pleasure celebrated, suspiciously tolerated or simply dismissed?"

Somatic sex educator Charlie Glickman recommends pleasure mapping as a way to collect information on what feels good to your body. His method involves starting solo before testing out your interests with a partner or partners.

After setting aside an hour or so of alone time, the first step in pleasure mapping is to be creative and explore a range of erotic and educational materials (ideally, ethically made and body positive). I recommend OMGyes.com, featuring a wealth of science-backed information on women's sexual pleasure; the CrashPad Series, queer porn with a broad range of gender identities, sexual orientations, sizes, shapes, abilities and more; any edition of Susie Bright's *Best American Erotica Series*; and Jaiya's *Red Hot Touch* handbook, with tips on exploring erotic touch, massage and anal play.

The second step is to understand how sexual arousal changes how we experience different sensations in the body. Glickman recommends getting aroused a bit before starting.

The third step is to try a technique you learn from a movie, erotica or something you are curious about and rate it on a 1-10 scale. One could be "whatevs" and 10 could be "for the love of God, never stop doing that." Practicing with a partner, you can also nonverbally communicate a thumbs up for "yep" or "nope."

The fourth step is receiving feedback. Test techniques out in a consensual, communicative encounter, assess your own feelings and accept your partner's evaluations. It's very important to understand, Glickman says, that "your partner is rating the technique, not your skill as a lover." He recommends reminding each other not to get lost in a shame or ego spiral—it's practice, not personal. Actively involve all participants and remind one another you are collecting "data." He also suggests thanking each other.

Finally, Glickman suggests focusing on the techniques that were rated a six or above. (For more tips, visit www.makesexeasy.com/pleasure-mapping)

Otis demonstrates via his underground sex therapy clinic that initially awkward conversations about sex, love and intimacy can lead to meaningful connections and personal transformations. Giving ourselves permission to experience pleasure, like Aimee did, is not only fun when it's a party of one, but makes it better for everyone involved when we share what we've learned.

Natalie Benway LISW is a psychotherapist in private practice in Coralville. She has a certification in sexuality studies from the University of Iowa and is currently pursuing additional licensure with the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists.

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Left and top right: Pages from Lloyd Dunn's *PhotoStatic,* 1988. Bottom right: Zephyr's original Washington Street location, which moved to the Ped Mall in 2016.

Prairie Pop

Zines Drift Away on a Zephyr

Iowa City's bygone, copy-shop art scene is far from forgotten.

BY KEMBREW MCLEOD

"Sometime during the early 1980s," intermedia artist Lloyd Dunn recalled, "a number of people in many different places suddenly understood that they could afford to become publishers, as photocopy shops began to appear in cities around the world."

In the years before the internet, artists, outsiders and other weirdos connected with each other through a snail-mail social network that flowed with photocopied zines.

These new printing tools, combined with punk rock's do-it-yourself attitude, encouraged Dunn and his collagist collaborators to start *PhotoStatic Magazine* in 1983. Throughout the '80s and '90s, Iowa City's zine underground cultivated everything from the détourned montages contained in *PhotoStatic* to a notorious tribute to academic superstar Judith Butler titled *Judy!* (along with zines that focused on punk, poetry, feminism, comics, politics, sci-fi and several other far-flung topics).

"The fact that we were based in the Midwest, and, like many zine producers, outside of the cultural centers on either coast, [meant that] a certain amount of cultural self-reliance was necessary and desirable," Dunn said.

The local hub of activity was Zephyr Copies, where cartoonist Dan Perkins worked in the 1980s before launching his long-running strip *This Modern World* under the pen name Tom Tomorrow.

Perkins still recalls being star-struck when *Bloom County* creator Berkeley Breathed would bring in his original art to copy before mailing it out to be nationally syndicated. Likewise, the photocopied artist books that Perkins sold at Prairie Lights Bookstore helped inspire Dunn to create *PhotoStatic*, which he started printing at Zephyr (whose downtown Iowa City location permanently closed earlier this month, marking the end of

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Volume 1 of Andrea Lawlor's *Judy!*, a "highly parodic cultural practice" and celebration of queer theory, first published in 1993.

an era).

Judy! mastermind Andrea Lawlor also frequented Zephyr, which was, they said, "the copy shop where mostly I had the hookup."

"There was a general feeling in the air that they were sympathetic to artists and their sensibilities," Dunn added, "so it was 'the' place to go."

In the wee hours of the evening, Perkins honed his craft while operating machines that copied hundreds of college course reading packets.

"I'd be there late," Perkins said, "with a lot of downtime while the machines ran, which gave me time to work on my own zines and the collage-based comics that were the predecessors to what I do today." He would experiment on the job by playing with the degradation that occurred after photocopying the same image multiple times until it looked abstracted and strange.

"When you turn a photocopier into an art-making tool basically you're détourning a business machine into doing something that could be very easily anti-capitalist or anti-business," Dunn said, "or even revolutionary, in the right hands."

By compiling and publishing a variety of work from around the world, *PhotoStatic* became a meeting space for numerous strands of the zine community: xerography artists, queerzine publishers, mail art aficionados, punk designers, Barbara Kruger-inspired meme makers and more. At the height of *PhotoStatic*'s publication run, when its circulation peaked at around 750 per issue, mail arrived from five continents, even communist countries.

The zine network was enabled by resources like *Factsheet 5*, a cheap newsprint magazine that was sort of like a pre-internet search engine. It organized the chaos by offering an exhaustive listing of short descriptions, addresses and purchasing information for zines and other odd ephemera. *Factsheet 5* led me to discover both *PhotoStatic* and (via return mailing address) the existence of Iowa City while living in my home state of Virginia over a quarter century ago.

This was also how I became aware of

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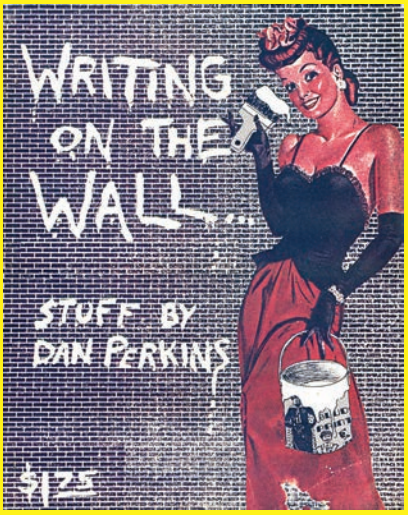

Before there was *This Modern World*, Dan Perkins, a.k.a. Tom Tomorrow, reproduced comics at Zephyr in Iowa City. Bottom: Perkins' first published piece was run in the *Des Moines Register*'s letters section in 1983.

Judy!—"It's not a fanzine; it's a highly parodic cultural practice," read the tagline to the second issue—which deliriously celebrated its namesake, Judith Butler, and queer theory as a whole. This send-up of academic celebrity was first published in spring of 1993 by Lawlor, a writer who was then an undergrad English major at the University of Iowa using the pseudonym Miss Spentyouth.

"I was inspired to make *Judy!* because I hung out mostly with grad students at the time and was interested in the way that we all felt about Judith Butler and Foucault and Barthes and queer theorists in general," they said.

These adventures in queer theory were personally transformative for Lawlor, which influenced their book *Paul Takes the Form of a Mortal Girl*, a critically acclaimed novel that was originally published in 2017 by Iowa City's Rescue Press and will be re-released by Vintage Books this April. Before creating *Judy!*, Lawlor had already been making small artist books and other self-published objects after becoming immersed in zine culture around 1987, via *Factsheet 5* and Larry-bob Roberts' influential zine *Holy Titclamps*.

Blending DIY punk zine aesthetics with the bubbly fizz of a celebrity glossy, *Judy!*'s two-issue run included a reader quiz titled Are You a Theory-Fetishizing Biscuithead? ("discover if you're an illiterate pre-theory peon, or not!"); a chance to win "A Dream Date With Your Fave Theory Superstar"; and a Butler paper doll page ("Give Judy the Phallus!"). Additionally, a "Secrets of the Stars" gossip column breathlessly reported from the 1992 Modern Language Association conference: "The New York Hilton was SIZZLING this December as the famous theorists swarmed the lobby and the cash bars. The homo cash bar was a starfuckers delight. The glitterati were in effect all night long. Eve Sedgwick worked the crowd. Kevin Kopelson breezed in and out, looking very *Details* in a polka-dotted tie."

Lawlor even sprinkled some surreal fan fiction into the textual gumbo: "I dreamed that Kitty MacKinnon and Andrea Dworkin were in a mudwrestling match wearing small shiny bikinis and Judy was the ref. In my dream Judy looked red-hot despite the tacky Foot Locker outfit." The zine stirred up widespread national coverage, and an editor at a large New York publishing house approached Lawlor about developing *Judy!* into some sort of book project.

"I was completely freaked out and didn't write another word until I was 30," they said. "But I do think that my fairly naïve critique of celebrity culture in academia hit a nerve for people."

It also prompted a terse public response from Butler. She referred to *Judy!* as "trash" in a letter to the editor published in *Lingua Franca*, which had profiled the zine and its maker in an article titled "Putting the Camp Back in Campus." Butler argued that it signaled "the eclipse of serious intellectual engagement with theoretical works through a thoroughly hallucinatory speculation on the theorist's sexual practice." (Admittedly, *Judy!* was quite hallucinatory.)

Lawlor is now a teacher, parent and published author who better appreciates how *Judy!* was interpreted by its reluctant subject. "I can understand not wanting that kind of gossipy attention, or at least being ambivalent about it." In fact, Butler was quite kind during their only phone conversation (during which the theorist uttered the phrase "highly parodic cultural practice," appropriated as the tagline for the second and final issue of *Judy!*).

Iowa City's denizens had a wide reach, despite their position within the cultural peripheries. Perkins' late night copy shop experiments evolved into the nationally syndicated comic strip *This Modern World*, Miss Spentyouth's academic satires reverberated far outside the halls of the English Department and *PhotoStatic* even slipped through the Iron Curtain. Zines provided their readers and contributors with a space to meet each other, crack jokes, develop innovative aesthetic forms and create alternative communities—rehearsing the kinds of exchanges that now occur online.

Many zinesters in search of new ways to connect became early internet adopters, something that contributed to the scene's waning momentum around the time *Factsheet 5* ceased production in 1998. All that is solid melts into air, but there was a time when distant social connections regularly left traces on ink-stained fingers.

Kembrew McLeod is practicing his Yoko scream, inspired by this winter's hellish weather.

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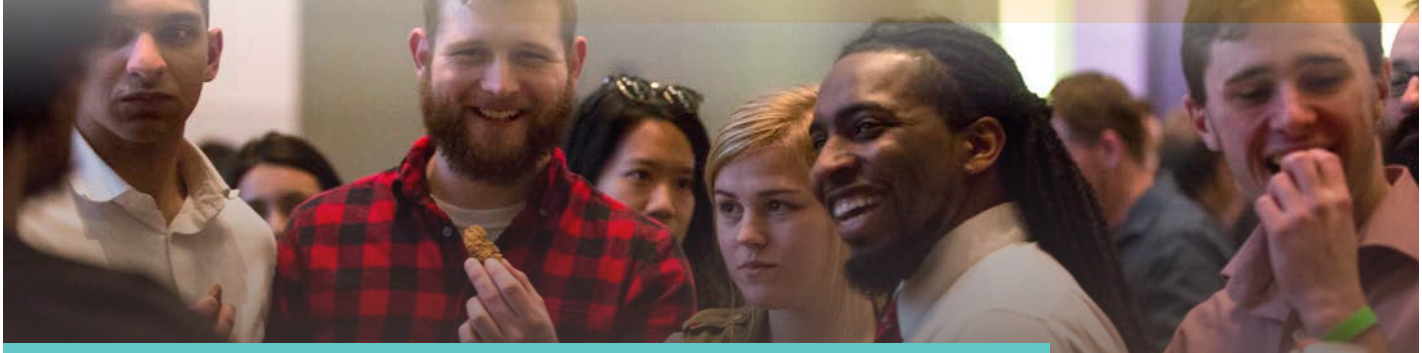

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Adam Knight / David Cooper Photography/ Jordan Sellergren / Little Village

'How I Learned What I Learned,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, opens Friday, Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m., $10-30

Talkback with director Tiffany Johnson after the Feb. 23 performance; talkback with Miriam Gilbert and Aaron Smith (pictured) after the March 9 performance.

A-List

Becoming August Wilson

One of the 20th century's preeminent playwrights is centerstage in Riverside's latest production. **BY DIVIIN HUFF**

When we think about American playwrights, August Wilson's name is often near the top of the list. His plays usually reflect work and life in Pittsburgh through the iconic characters of his Pittsburgh Cycle, such as Troy Maxson in *Fences* and Boy Willie and Bernice in *The Piano Lesson*. With *How I Learned What I Learned*, Wilson's 2002 dramatic memoir, Riverside Theatre has partnered with Pyramid Theatre Company of Des Moines to bring Wilson's own life to the stage.

How I Learned What I Learned is a one-man show, originally performed by Wilson himself, and takes the audience on a tour through his life as a poet and young writer in Pittsburgh, as well as his friendships, experience of racism and more. Wilson offers himself up with a stark vulnerability in the play. Directed by Pyramid's artistic director Tiffany Johnson, the show stars Aaron Smith, a Des Moines actor who has played Wilson roles before, along with other heavy-hitting parts. But this show posed a particular challenge.

Writing character was a strong suit for Wilson. Adam Knight, Riverside's artistic director, had the pleasure of sitting down with the legend, and gain some insight into Wilson the man, who Knight said was warm and inviting.

"I actually spent a few weeks with August in 2002 at the O'Neill Playwrights Conference. I was of course daunted by the idea of him, but as a person he was surprisingly approachable," Knight said. "He and I shared a few beers and talked about blues music. He even burned me some CDs of musicians I should know. He was a great listener—he had an infectious curiosity of others' stories. This play really captures the man that was August—the man that was also the great artist."

Fluent in the universal language of feeling and adept at writing deep, fully realized characters, Wilson connects the black experience to the overall human experience, flaws and all. And the opportunity to connect with characters that are somehow like us or someone we know, those moments of realization within art—that's the stuff of magic.

"Riverside is constantly aiming to expand the stories we tell on our stage. When looking at past seasons, August Wilson's name was curiously absent," Knight said. "This play provided a great entrance to his canon—and also an opportunity to collaborate with Pyramid Theatre Company in Des Moines. I'm a big fan of their work and mission, and am so pleased that this production is forging a bridge between our organizations."

How, then, does that magic come to life on stage? For Johnson, it takes vision, passion and poetry.

"My vision is comprised of how the dialogue speaks to me from the words on the page, and how I visualize it in my head as I absorb it," she said. "August Wilson was first

a poet, so I look for the poetic moments he places in his characters and the aura they carry in the story, and work with the production designers to create the world in which the story can find its life."

When Wilson died of liver cancer in 2005, he left behind a body of work that covers 100 years of African American history and experience. The themes in this show can and do still reflect today's issues, Johnson said.

"That's the profound thing about August. His plays are timeless because more than mirroring issues, he mirrored *feelings* which, although being told through the lenses of black culture, are completely universal based off the feeling. It allows you to tap into the human in a person as opposed to the color of them, however it also shows the complete resiliency in black people and our ability to find pieces of our authentic selves with the absence of the continuity of our authentic culture."

So, who is the man playing August Wilson? Smith answered some questions for *Little Village* via email. Originally from Texas, the actor moved to Cedar Rapids as a child with his family. He joined a band in Des Moines in 1985 and has been there ever since. Smith got into theater pretty early in life, but it wasn't until his role in *Ain't Misbehavin'* at the Des Moines Playhouse that his acting really took off. He lists some of his favorite roles (not an easy question to answer, he said) as Troy Maxson in *Fences*, Coalhouse Walker in *Ragtime* and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in *Mountaintop*.

Why choose to stay in the Midwest and pursue acting? I choose to stay in Iowa because it has been home practically my entire life. Not only for me, but for my wife Jennifer of 24 years, my two youngest daughters Jada and Aja, and my eldest Marques, his wife and my grandchildren. My daughter Sasha works in theater in Chicago, and my oldest daughter Sarah lives in Denver with her husband and her children.

In the spirit of the show *How I Learned What I Learned*, we wonder, would you say it's important to go to school specifically for acting or learn through doing theater and having overall life experience? I don't think that there is a one-size-fits all answer to going to school for acting or learning by experience. I think it depends on the individual. I personally learned more from being on stage than being in class, but both are valuable tools to have.

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Do you feel like the spirit of August Wilson has been with you in this process? I absolutely feel that the presence of August Wilson is with me. His words, his life and experiences have literally taken over my life for the last two months. Practically every waking moment has been spent living/reliving his life in my mind and body. Even when I am doing other everyday tasks, he is not very far away. August Wilson has a lot to say in this play, and every word deserves to be heard!

If people are not familiar with Mr. Wilson's work, there is a lot of reading to be done. How did you get into character for one of the best playwrights of all time? What are a few new discoveries that you have made both about yourself as an artist and about August Wilson during this process? Preparing for this production has been an enormous challenge and I would have to say that I have made [more] discoveries about August Wilson than of myself. The really cool thing though has been the discoveries of the things we have in common. August has the deepest love and respect for his mother. She is responsible for most, if not all of the principles he carries through life. This is the biggest similarity. I was also brought up by my mother, and even though she has been gone for 13 years now, her teaching still guides my way through life.

What do you hope the audience takes away from your performance? There are so many profound and touching moments in *How I Learned What I Learned*. August Wilson packed them all in. Several of them are cloaked in humor, but they are still very powerful. I hope the audience laughs heartily, but also catches the sometimes subtle lessons that are underneath.

One of the main things that I have taken away from this is his brilliant way of pointing out our flaws, weaknesses, strengths and triumphs as a society, black, white and otherwise. How our choices today are our children and grandchildren's history. What we do today shapes the lives of those that come after us. We don't know what we know until we know it!

Diviin Huff is an actress, radio host and clothing store co-manager in Iowa City. She supports local art and local artists, and encourages positive energy. She can be found on Instagram and Twitter @Diviin.

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FEBRUARY 23 8:00 - 10:00 PM — Blake Shaw Trio

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EDITORS' PICKS

CALENDAR

EVENTS AROUND THE CRANDIC FEB. 20–MAR. 5, 2019

Planning an event? Submit event info to calendar@littlevillagemag.com. Include event name, date, time, venue, street address, admission price and a brief description (no all-caps, exclamation points or advertising verbiage, please). To find more events, visit **littlevillagemag.com/calendar.** Please check venue listing in case details have changed.

WED., FEB. 20

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)*

RESCHEDULED FROM JAN. 22
NAMIWalks Rally, *Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free*

PORTLAND, OREGON FOLK ROCK
The Talbott Brothers, *CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., $15-18*

MUSIC AND SPOKEN WORD
The Hook Presents: Black Love, *Makers Loft, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $5*

READING: 'I AM YOURS: A SHARED MEMOIR'
Reema Zaman, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

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

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

WHAT ARE WE DOING? FEB. 20–MAR. 5, 2019

Blue Carpet Bash, Sunday, Feb. 24, 5:30 p.m., FilmScene, Iowa City, Free Why be disappointed by the Oscars ceremony at home when you can whine among friends? FilmScene is continuing its annual Academy Awards tradition by rolling out the blue carpet and screening the host-less 2019 ceremony on every screen at their disposal. Movie-inspired drinks, bottomless popcorn and giveaways are promised. I'm most excited to fill out my own Oscars ballot, and hear who won the Foscars—FilmScene's own best-of-the-year film awards, voted on by locals, which I shall henceforth defer to as the definitive authority on great cinema. Hollywood politics be damned! The bash is free and open to the public, but organizers encourage you to RSVP ahead of time on the FilmScene website to be eligible for prizes. I still haven't decided whether to dress comfy or go full glamorous (there is no dress code); I may try Queen Anne's you-look-like-a-badger smokey-eye look from *The Favourite*.

—Emma McClatchey

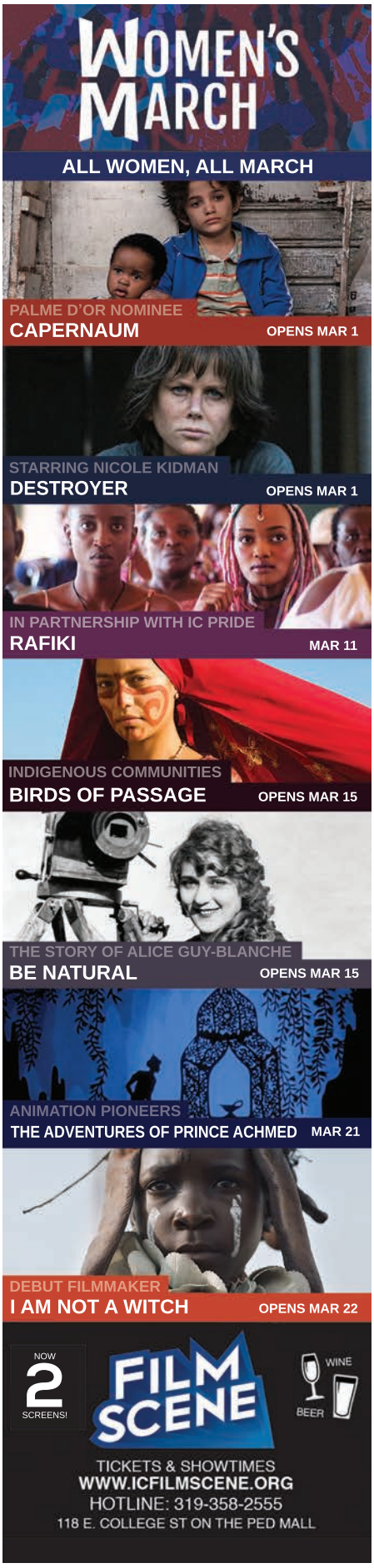
via Dante Powell's Facebook

▲ Floodwater Comedy Festival, Wednesday, Feb. 27–Saturday, Mar. 2, The Mill, Blue Moose, Yacht Club, PS1, High Grounds Cafe and Deadwood, $55 The Floodwater Comedy Festival, now in its fourth year, features shows at a variety of venues around town over the course of a long weekend. Most shows cost just $5 (with headliners ranging from $8-12 in advance, $10-15 at the door), but why would you even bother paying out piecemeal?! The festival pass of $55 is an incredible deal for this line-up, especially for a festival with a knack for catching comedians on the rise. The fest kicks off this year with the first of two nights of live album recording for Dante Powell at The Mill. Powell, a Des Moines-based comedian originally from Louisiana, is working on his debut album and bringing Iowa City along for the ride. Other highlights include the three events at the Deadwood on Saturday, March 2. You can stay all day for the price of one event, starting with the festival's only sketch show at 4 p.m., Chicago-style improv at 5:30 and, at 7 p.m., the Blackout Diaries, a selection of festival comedians telling true drinking stories, followed by questions from the audience. All that and I haven't even mentioned the headliners! Laugh your way out of February and into the promise of March by going all-in for the jam-packed Floodwater Fest.

—Genevieve Trainor

▲ WOMEN'S MARCH: Bijou After Hours: 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer,' FilmScene, Saturday. Mar. 2, Iowa City, 11 p.m., Free-$6.50 There are two kinds of people in this world: those who prefer the *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* WB series and those who enjoy life and like to have a good time. We all know the movie diverted from Joss Whedon's original vision, OK? And we don't care. Because in 1991, when he sold the film to Dolly Parton's production company (you read that right), stars aligned and made a perfect vampire comedy. Literally an all-star cast: *90210*-era Luke Perry, pre-Fox commentator Kristy Swanson, pre-Oscar Hilary Swank, pre-Monica David Arquette, post-Pee Wee Paul Rubens and voice-like-a-silk-scarf-on-the-wind Donald Sutherland. I like to compare *Buffy* the movie to some other greats of my time: *Clueless, Legally Blonde*, you get the idea. Bubbly, witty, colorful, tactile, shopping-centric, highly superficial at times and deeply rewarding in the end. Get on board or get out of my facial!

—Jordan Sellergren LV



TOP PICKS: QUAD CITIES

FEB. 20–MAR. 5, 2019

Vundabar w/ Slow Pulp, Triple Crown Whiskey Bar and Raccoon Motel, Friday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m., $12 This night is the perfect pairing of jangly indie-rock and enchanting, fuzzed-out, dream pop. Both bands have infectious, energetic live shows that will make being a wallflower nearly impossible. If you're in need of a feel-good night out filled with dancing and discovering your new favorite band, this is where you should be. —*Paige Underwood*

A Night of (Self) Love, Theo's Java Club, Rock Island, Friday, Feb. 22, 6 p.m., $5 suggested donation It only sounds dirty. How About H.O.P.E. hosts this night of games and raffles focused on promoting mental health and self-care. Guest speakers and artists share works focused on healthy relationships, acceptance and love. Bring a friend—or a date!—and your guitar if you plan to sign up for the open mic. —*Melanie Hanson*

▲ **Old Shoe w/ Ben Miller Band and Allie Kral, Redstone Room, Saturday, Feb. 23, 9 p.m., $12-15** Knock the winter blues with this night full of Americana roots rock and bluegrass music that will have you dreaming of sweet summer time. Old Shoe, a staple in the midwest jam scene, will be joined by New West recording artist Ben Miller Band and Allie Kral (of Yonder Mountain String Band). —*PU*

Lev Snowe w/ the Golden Fleece, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, Sunday, Feb. 24, 8 p.m., $5-10 sliding scale Any show featuring locals the Golden Fleece is a must-see, and fans of their intoxicating sound will adore

▲ Lev Snowe's dreamy psych-pop. Critics have called his latest EP, *Faded Blue*, "lush," "captivating" and "something special." This is the Canadian's first U.S. tour. There will be dancing. —*MH*

Social Justice Mixer ft. DJ Linkous, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, Thursday, Feb. 28, 5 p.m., $3-5 suggested donation This family-friendly party is for anyone with an interest in social issues, from organizers and advocates to artists and allies. Free-will donations benefit local campaigns—such as those for immigrant rights and voter engagement—headed by Quad Cities Interfaith. Time for networking, socializing and community announcements will precede DJ Linkous' set, which starts at 7 p.m. —*MH*

▲ **Tomfoolery on Tremont #17: Brad Sativa, Renwick Mansion, Davenport, Friday, March 1, 8 p.m., $7-10** Brad Sativa is a talent to watch. From Tennessee, he's in high demand on a national level: headlining festivals, winning roast battles, starring in TV commercials and so on. See him alongside local favorites—including emcee Chris Schlichting—before he blows up. —*MH* LV

EDITORS' PICKS

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

THIS WEEK: 'DAY OF THE DEAD'
Late Shift at the Grindhouse, *Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., $4 (Weekly)*

THU., FEB. 21

The Picture Show: 'Disney's Christopher Robin,' *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)*

FILM SCREENING AND Q&A
African American Museum of Iowa Presents: 'The Talk: Race in America,' *Cedar Rapids Public Library, 5:30 p.m., Free*

DIALOGUE WITH DIRECTOR MIKE GIBISSER
Filmmaker Spotlight: 'World of Facts,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free-$6.50*

PREVIEW OF CEDAR RAPIDS RESTAURANT WEEK (FEB. 22-MARCH 2)
Fork & Knife Feast, *Veterans Memorial Building, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., $50*

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

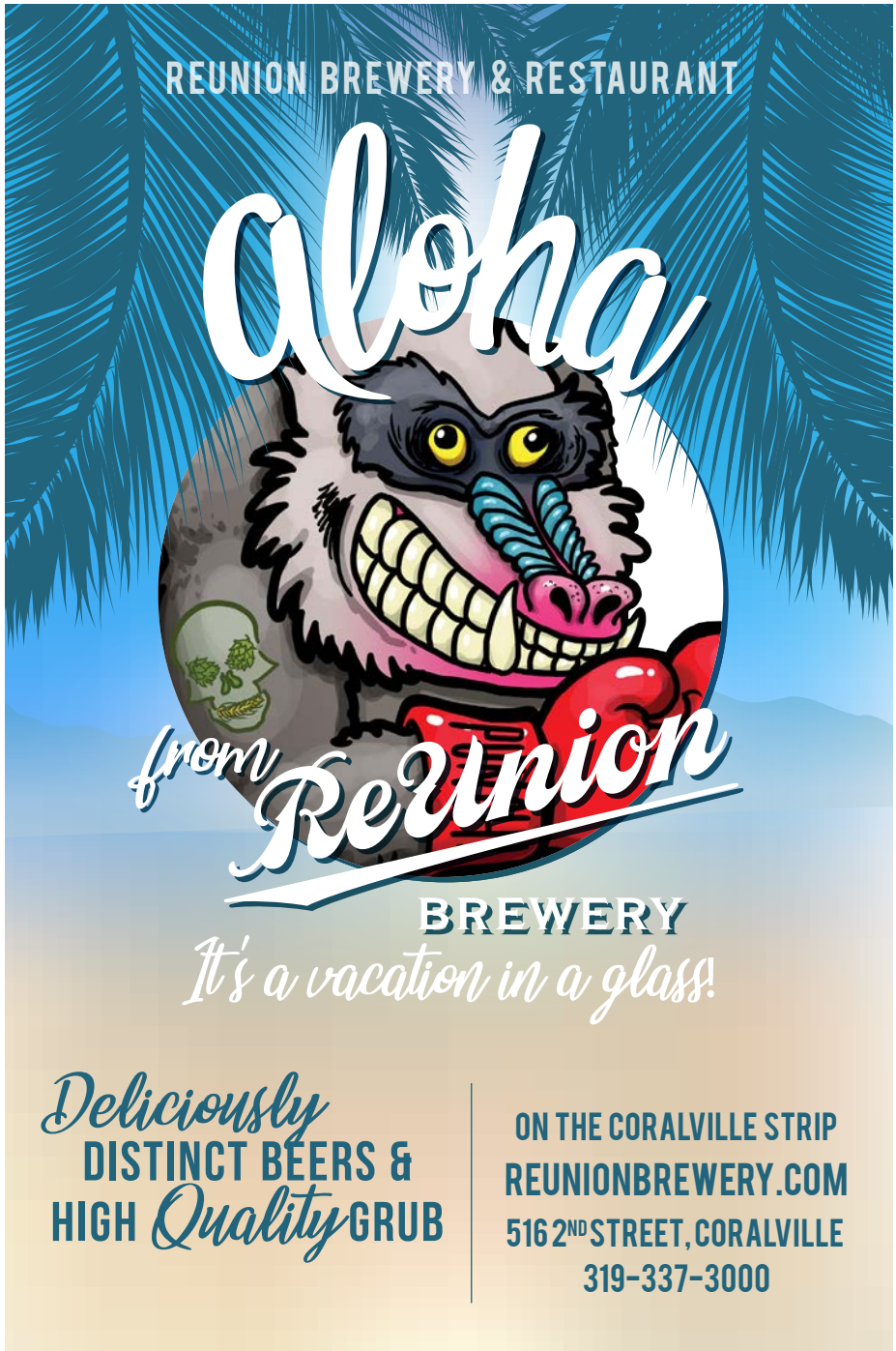
Line Dancing and Lessons, *Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)*

Novel Conversations, *Coralville Community Library, 7 p.m., Free (3rd Thursday)*

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

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

MUSIC FEATURING DAMIEN SNEED
We Shall Overcome—A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., *Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., $10-35*



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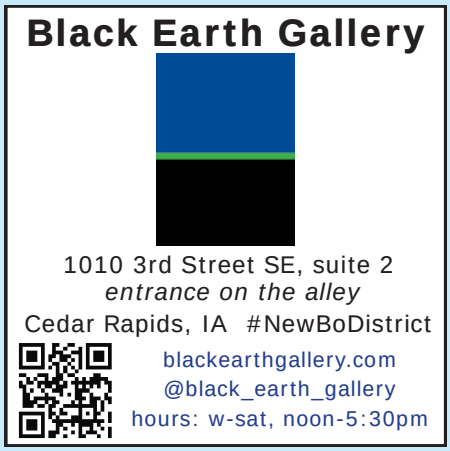


EDITORS' PICKS

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)*

FLYER LEARNING
Operation: 808 - The Secrets of Zando, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $5*

FRI., FEB. 22

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

American Advertising Awards Gala 2019, *Eastbank Venue & Lounge, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., $25-55*

Make & Take Spring Flower Arrangement Workshop, *Willow & Stock, Iowa City, 6 p.m., $65*

Campfire w/ 3 in the A.M., *Gabe's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $8-10*

Kevin Burt, *Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $10-50*

READING: 'BREAK THE BODIES, HAUNT THE BONES'
Micah Dean Hicks, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

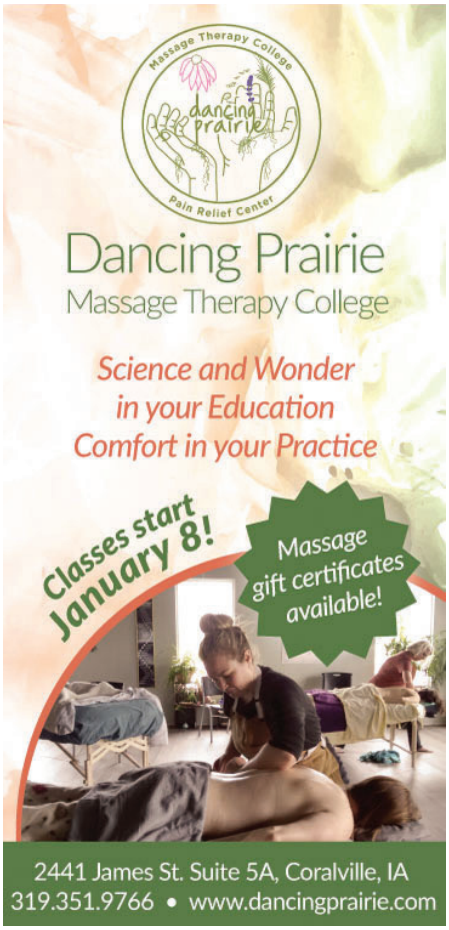
FAC Dance Party, *The Union, Iowa City, 7 p.m. (Weekly)*

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS THROUGH MAR. 3
Iowa City Community Theatre Presents: 'Blood Wedding,' *Johnson County Fairgrounds, 7:30 p.m., $9-17*

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS THROUGH MAR. 10
'How I Learned What I Learned,' *Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., $10-30*

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS THROUGH MAR. 10
'Tiny Beautiful Things,' *Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., $26*

iHearIC: Alexandro Cazares+Sean Miller, Dodge Street Duo and more, *Java House (Washington St), Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free*



TOP PICKS: DES MOINES

FEB. 20–MAR. 5, 2019

Heat Jones

Cold Winds, Gleaner, LOBAS, Skin of Earth, Des Moines Yacht Club, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 9 p.m., Free A couple of years ago, the Des Moines Yacht Club started throwing shows on the little stage in the corner by the door. At first, the shows were mostly confined to Wednesday nights as part of a series unofficially called "Weird Wednesdays." Since then, they've gone on to book shows three to four nights a week, making the Yacht Club one of the most active music venues in the city. But the Weird Wednesdays have pretty much stayed just as loud and packed-full-of-people as they've always been. The Feb. 20 show leans heavy with the likes of Cold Winds, Gleaner, Land of Blood and Sunshine and Skin of Earth.

▲ Bob Bucko Jr., Little Lizard, Greg Wheeler, Heavy Gratitude, Vaudeville Mews, Thursday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m., $5 I once read a criticism of booking shows with bands of varying genres. I think the guy was pissed off because some noise band opened for some over-hyped indie rock band I can't remember the name of anymore. I appreciate the variety, myself, and the Vaudeville Mews has always been good at slapping together the variety shows. This Feb. 28 show has a bit of everything, from the electro-pop of Little Lizard and the garage-rock of Greg Wheeler and the Polygamist Mall Cops to the thick soundscapes of Heavy Gratitude and some of Bob Bucko Jr.'s more experimental material.

2019 Capital City Pride Gala and Award Ceremony, River Center, Saturday, March 2, 5 p.m., $40-250 Capital City Pride throws the best parties. For this year's gala, they're taking it back to the height of the Moulin Rouge. The gala begins with a cocktail hour at 5 p.m. and continues from there with an award ceremony celebrating the work and accomplishments of many of those in the LGBTQ community. The night will feature performances by St. Louis burlesque group the Boom Boom Room and culminate in a dance party with tunes from DJ GERMANation.

Fat Tuesday Celebration, Noce, Tuesday, March 5, 7 p.m., $25-50 "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." I was reminded of this grim fact every Ash Wednesday growing up as the priest applied an ashen cross to my forehead. I mean, I'm all for making people face the fact of their own mortality at a young age, but it's still lot to wrestle with when you're a third grade kid. Fat Tuesday, on the other hand, always felt like the necessary comic relief to the straight-laced solemnity of Lent. This year, Noce is throwing a celebration to remind us all of the little joys in life like jazz music, king cake gluttony and being hungover on the first day of Lent. Performances by the Pelicans, Max Wellman, and Tina Haase Findlay, with tarot readings by Mia Farrell. LV

—Trey Reis

EDITORS' PICKS

TOKYO EXPERIMENTAL PROGRESSIVE

Kikagaku Moyo w/ Art Feynman, *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $12-15*

KEOKUK SINGER-SONGWRITER

Nalani Proctor w/ Courtney Krause, *Whatcheer, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $7*

The Feralings, *Famous Mockingbird, Marion, 8 p.m., $10*

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

ELECTRONIC

Psymbionic w/ Frequent, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $13-15*

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)*

SAT, FEB. 23

ALSO 2/24 AT 10 A.M. & 2/28 AT 3:30 P.M.

The Picture Show: 'Edward Scissorhands,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-$5*

EVENTS FOR PARENTS, TOO!

United Action for Youth: PrideCon 2019 LGBTQ + Youth Summit, *Tate High School, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: CLAUDIA MCGEHEE

One Book Two Book Children's Literature Festival, *Hotel Vetro, Iowa City, 10 a.m.*

Dietary Approaches to Wellness for MS and Parkinson's Disease Patients & their Loved Ones with Dr. Terry Wahls, *Hills Bank, Coralville, 10 a.m., $15*

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)*

DIALOGUE WITH ANTHROPOLOGY PROFESSOR SHARON DEWITTE

Science on Screen: 'Contagion,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 3 p.m., $8-10*

TOP PICKS: WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS

FEBRUARY 20–MARCH 5, 2019

▲ **Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center, Cedar Falls, Saturday, Feb. 23, 2 p.m., $1-40.75** Ladysmith Black Mambazo, once designated by Nelson Mandela as "South Africa's Cultural Ambassadors to the world," have earned that title multiple times over, from their rise to pop prominence on the heels of Paul Simon's 1986 album *Graceland* to a trip with Mandela to Norway when he accepted his Nobel Peace Prize to Grammy and Drama Desk Award wins. The group, led now by the sons of its founder, Joseph Shabalala (who retired in 2014) released its most recent album, *Songs of Peace and Love for Kids and Parents Around the World*, in 2017.

Spicoli's Star Search Contest Concert, Spicoli's Reverb, Waterloo, Saturday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m., $6 Spicoli's is wrapping up its Star Search Contest with a show featuring full sets from all six finalists. The evening kicks off with Harper and Lee Music and also includes Carli Foxx, Cale and Nate of Illegal Smile, Raldo Schneider and the boys, Taylor Kobberdahl Music and Traci Smith.

Hearts of HOPE Fundraiser, Black's Sky and Tea Room, Waterloo, Sunday, Feb. 24, 6 p.m., Free-$25 Brazilian 2wins are playing this fundraiser for Hospitality House of the Cedar Valley and Daytime Homeless Shelter. It's always a good time to see them, but this cause makes it extra sweet. A silent auction runs 6-7:30 p.m. Kids under 12 get in free!

Christa Reuel Science of Surprise Reception & Gallery Talk, Waterloo Center for the Arts, Friday, March 1, 6 p.m., Free Sponsored by Friends of the Art Center, this reception will feature refreshments and live music. The Science of Surprise exhibit, up through May 6, features large-scale mixed media work and an immersive light installation from Goshen, Indiana's Christa Reuel. The pieces explore order and chaos in nature through the lens of water and reflection.

So I Could Be Macbeth, Hearst Center for the Arts, Cedar Falls, Tuesday, March 5, 7 p.m., Free Produced by Scene D and directed by Orion Risk, this night of songs and monologues is performed by actors who otherwise would never get to take on a certain role, due to age, gender, size, race, etc. As someone whose 38Ds will never read as male and whose dream role is Oberon, I am intrigued and a bit jealous. The event description compellingly invites the audience members to "see wider definitions of what it means to be [insert label here]—and that our current definitions are too small." LV/

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December 2018

Little Village Reader Survey

A **FREE** Community Resource

700+
LOCATIONS

High-traffic areas in the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids metro area, including outside boxes and inside retail businesses, restaurants and hotels.

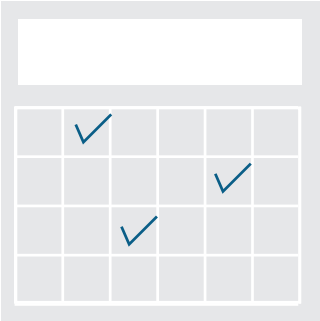
2x
/MONTH

Single issues in July, November and December

TOTAL PLATFORM REACH **400,000** READERS/MONTH

77% Read the print edition

23% Online only



82% Use the Little Village Calendar to find events

LittleVillageMag.com/calendar

POLITICALLY ACTIVE

94% Participate in primary elections

96% Vote in local elections

98% Voted in the 2018 general election

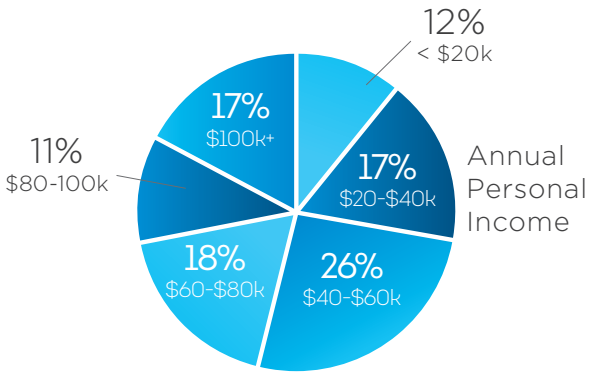
CULTURALLY ENGAGED

MOST POPULAR EVENTS:

#1 LIVE MUSIC
#2 CINEMA
#3 THEATER / PERFORMANCE
#4 ART / EXHIBITION

70% Dine out at least 1x/week

A CONVERSATION ACROSS CLASS LINES...



... AND IDENTITIES

What is your gender identity?

22 unique responses

littlevillagemag.com/subscribe

EDITORS' PICKS

Black Arts Showcase, *African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., $20*

5TH ANNUAL EVENT!
RHCR Theatre Presents: 24 Hour Play Festival & Silent Auction, *Cedar Rapids Public Library, 6 p.m., $15*

Wassail Festival 2019, *Rapid Creek Cidery, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $30*

Orchestra Iowa Presents: The Music of David Bowie, *Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., $18-55*

LilFest Presents: Radoslav Lorkovic, *Uptown Theatre, Mount Vernon, 7:30 p.m., $5-50*

Anthony Worden & the Illiterati w/ the Cult of Lip, Panther Ray, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $8*

Joe and Vicki Price w/ Cedar County Cobras, *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $10-12*

Halfloves w/ Treesreach, *CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., $10-13*

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

Bijou After Hours: 'Velvet Goldmine,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, Free-$6.50*

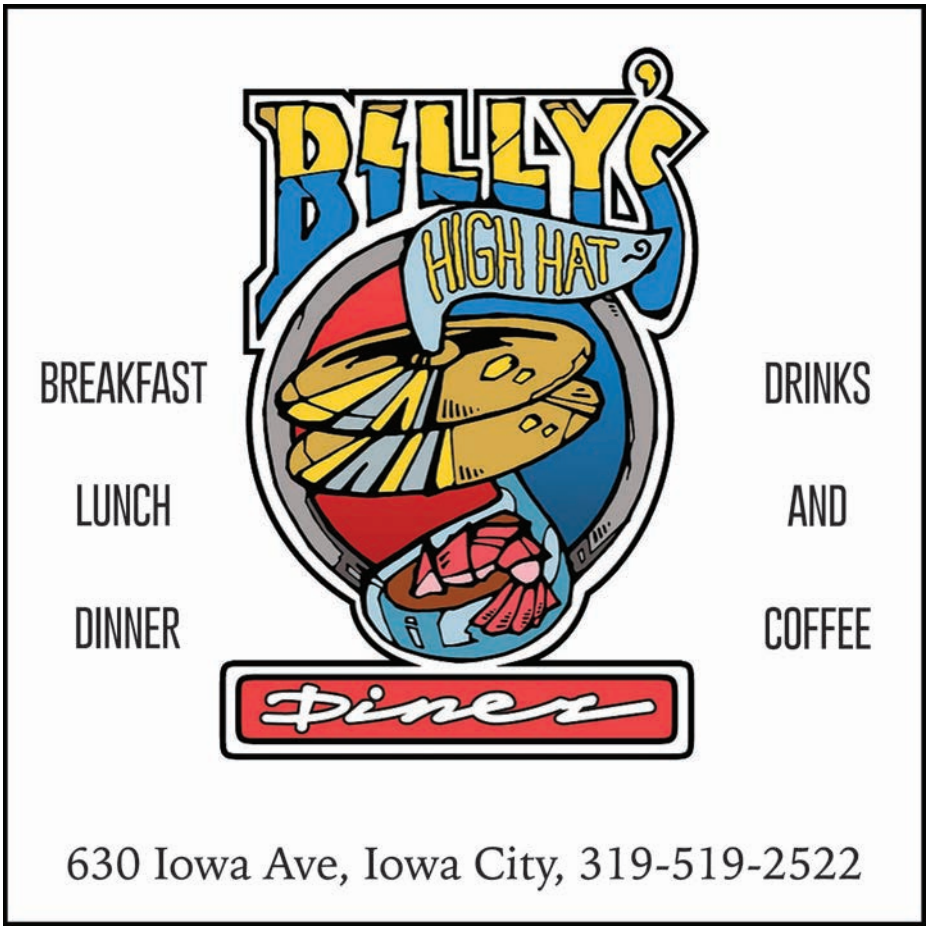
SUN., FEB. 24

FIRST IN A SERIES: EVERY FOURTH SUNDAY THROUGH OCTOBER
Not Without Me!—Interfacing With the Education Process, *African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids, 1:30 p.m., Free*

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

READING: 'THE GENUINE STORIES'
Susan Daniels, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free*

CHAMBER SINGERS OF IOWA CITY
The Other Half: Music by Women Composers, *First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free-$16*



EDITORS' PICKS

OSCAR PARTY

Blue Carpet Bash 2019, *FilmScene, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free (reservations recommended)*

"WEIRD ORCHESTRAL MUSIC" FROM MINNEAPOLIS

INSIDE VOICE w/ Bain-Marie, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $7*

Political Party LIVE! w/ Sen. Kamala Harris, *CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free (reservation required)*

GLOBALLY-TINGED FOLK

Dada Veda, Gabe's, *Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free*

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

MON., FEB. 25

THIS YEAR'S THEME: STONE SOUP

DVIP Lee County Souper Bowl, *First Christian Church, Keokuk, 5:30 p.m., $10*

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. 26

Linn County STEM Festival, *Kirkwood Linn Regional Center, Hiawatha, 4 p.m., Free*

Bijou Film Forum: 'The Act of Killing,' *Film Scene, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free-$6.50*

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

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY WITH MARY BETH AND JOHN TINKER

Tinker v. Des Moines: Protecting the Voices of our Youth, *Old Capitol Senate Chambers, 7:30 p.m., Free*

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

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BLUES GREATS
Marcia Ball and Sonny Landreth, *Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., $36.50-56.50*

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. 27

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

BOSTON-BASED TRADITIONAL FOLK & BLUEGRASS
Lula Wiles, *CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., $16-19*

Floodwater Comedy Fest: Dante Powell Live Album Recording #1, *The Mill, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $5-7*

READING: AERIALISTS
Mark Mayer, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

FEATURING WORK BY RACHMANINOFF AND PROKOFIEV
Russian National Orchestra, *Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., $10-60*

ELECTRONIC
G Jones, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $20-25*

THIS WEEK: 'TAKE IT OUT IN TRADE'
Late Shift at the Grindhouse, *Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., $4 (Weekly)*

THU., FEB. 28

Novel Conversations, *Coralville Community Library, 7 p.m., Free (3rd Thursday)*

FW: Dante Powell Live Album Recording #2, *The Mill, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., $5-7*

OPENING NIGHT! RUNS THROUGH MAR. 2
Mirrorbox Theatre Presents: 'Bully,' *CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., $15*

FW: Organic, *Homegrown Improv, Public Space One, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $5-7*

SONGWRITER SUPERGROUP WITH SARA WATKINS, SARAH JAROSZ & AOIFE O'DONOVAN
I'm With Her w/ Mipso, *Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $45*

INDIE FOLK FROM AUSTIN
Small Houses w/ Good Morning Midnight, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $7*

Live Jazz, *Clinton Street Social Club, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (1st & 3rd Thursdays)*

CHICAGO HIP HOP
Serengeti w/ Ion, Soultru, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $10*

I.C. Kings present Swipe Right, *Studio 13, Iowa City, 9:30 p.m., $5*

FW: Iowa City Police Log, *The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., $5-7*

FRI., MAR. 1

FW: Cheap Drinks, *Classy Jokes Part 1, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 5 p.m., $5-7*

FW: Panic! at Floodwater!, *Iowa City Yacht Club, 7 p.m., $5-7*

FW: Tide High Improv, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $5-7*

READING: 'LEADING MEN'
Christopher Castellani, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

TIS A SILLY PLACE
'Spamalot,' *Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., $53-73*

FW: Catherine Cohen w/ Henry Koperski, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $12-15*

Plack Blague w/ Sash Bash Weekend, *Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., $7-10*

FW: Late Bits Round 1, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 11 p.m., $5-7*

SAT., MAR. 2

FW: Rising Waters: *A Student Showcase, Iowa City Yacht Club, 12 p.m., $5*

FW: Flood the Yacht, *Iowa City Yacht Club, 2 p.m., $5-7*

FW: Coffee and Comedy, *High Ground Cafe, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free*

READING: 'THE DAKOTA WINTERS'
Tom Barbash, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 4 p.m., Free*

3/27

OBERMANN CONVERSATIONS 2018-19

Local Disabilities Initiatives

WITH

TAMMY NYDEN
Johnson County Children's Coalition, NAMI

MICHAEL HOENIG
UI Center for Disabilities and Development

MARY HELEN KENNERLY
Seen & Heard, Systems Unlimited

SUJIT SINGH
Iowa Public Access TV

ANDREW TUBBS
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4 – 5 pm, Iowa City Public Library
Free & open to all

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EDITORS' PICKS

***FW:* Sketch Time Baby!,** *Deadwood, Iowa City, 4 p.m., $5-7*

***FW:* Cheap Drinks, Classy Jokes Part 2,** *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 5 p.m., $5-7*

***FW:* Chicago Cuties,** *Deadwood, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., $5-7*

***FW:* An Evening with Paul Rust,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., $8-10*

MATT PANEK AND THE SILVER SONICS AND THE AVEY/GROUWS BAND
Linn County Blues Society Mardi Gras Party/Fundraiser for Community Free Health Clinic, *Best Western Plus Longbranch Hotel & Convention Center, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., $15*

***FW:* The Blackout Diaries,** *Deadwood, Iowa City, 7 p.m., $5-7*

GET IN THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPIRIT!
Danú, *Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., $10-45*

THE LUCKY DRAGON COMEDY MAGIC TOUR
Piff the Magic Dragon, *Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $15-50*

Danny Liao

▲ ***FW:* Solomon Georgio,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $12-15*

READER PERKS LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM/PERKS

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EDITORS' PICKS

Dueling Pianos w/ Jeff Mead and Josh Sazon, *Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., $5*

TWIN CITIES ROCK
Porcupine w/ Otros Outros, Commanders, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., $10-12*

FW: ***Late Bits Round 2,*** *The Mill, Iowa City, 11 p.m., $5-7*

WOMEN'S MARCH
Bijou After Hours: 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 11 p.m., Free-$6.50*

SUN., MAR. 3

Pancake Breakfast for the Crisis Center, *Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Iowa City, 7 a.m., $3-7*

Big Grove Buurrrewery Ride, *Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 9 a.m., Free (reservation required)*

MUSIC BY WYLDE NEPT
SaPaDaPaSo Irish Hooley Fundraiser 2019, *Veterans Memorial Building, Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., $2-5*

READING: 'BIM, BAM, BOP ... AND OONA'
Jacqueline Briggs Martin and Larry Day, *Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 2 p.m., Free*

Center for Afrofuturist Studies Presents: Black Women Are the Future, *Iowa City Public Library, 2 p.m., Free*

Iowa City Community Theatre presents

APRIL 5-7, 12-14 & 19-20

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MON., MAR. 4

WOMEN'S MARCH

'The Third Wife,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 p.m., $8-10.50*

Lily & Madeleine w/ Brother Bird, *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $10-12*

The Milk Carton Kids, *Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., $33.50-45*

TUE., MAR. 5

Iowa Public Radio Iowa City Studios Open House, *4:30 p.m., Free*

AREA HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BANDS

Jazz 88.3 KCCK-FM Presents: Corridor Jazz Project Concert, *Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m., $12*

Keys to Keto—Making Ketosis Work with Gina Molby, *New Pioneer Co-op, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., $15-20*

CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS!

Fat Tuesday with the Dandelion Stompers, *The Mill, Iowa City, 6 p.m., $10-12*

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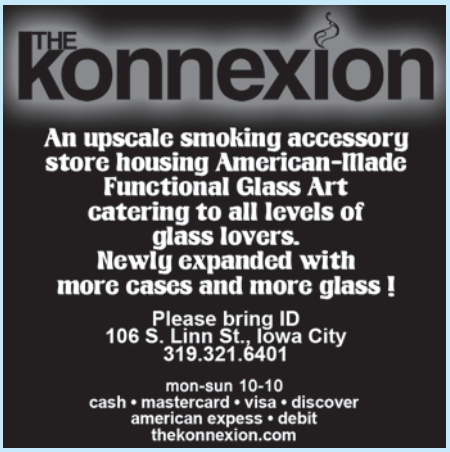

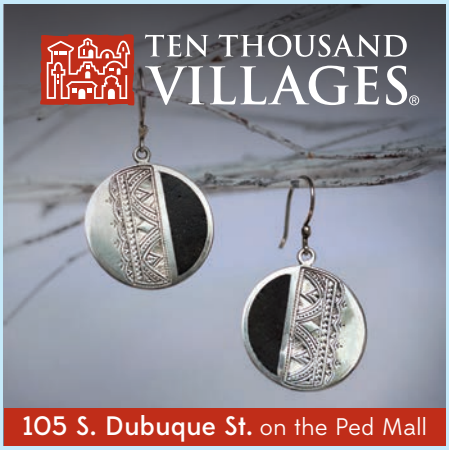

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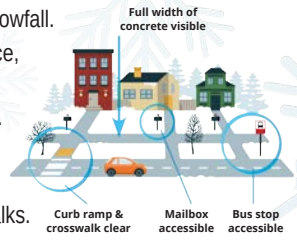
- Sidewalks must be cleared within 24-hours of a 1" or greater snowfall.
- The entire width of the sidewalk must be cleared of snow and ice, down to the concrete.
- Do you rent? Check your lease! This may be your responsibility.
- Remember to clear curb ramps and crosswalks for wheelchairs and strollers.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



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ASTROLOGY BY ROB BREZSNEY

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Cartographers of Old Europe sometimes drew pictures of strange beasts in the uncharted regions of their maps. These were warnings to travelers that such areas might harbor unknown risks, like dangerous animals. One famous map of the Indian Ocean shows an image of a sea monster lurking, as if waiting to prey on sailors traveling through its territory. If I were going to create a map of the frontier you're now headed for, Pisces, I would fill it with mythic beasts of a more benevolent variety, like magic unicorns, good fairies and wise centaurs.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In December 1915, the California city of San Diego was suffering from a drought. City officials hired a professional "moisture accelerator" named Charles Hatfield, who promised to make it rain. Soon Hatfield was shooting explosions of a secret blend of chemicals into the sky from the top of a tower. The results were quick. A deluge began in early January of 1916 and persisted for weeks. Thirty inches of rain fell, causing floods that damaged the local infrastructure. The moral of the story, as far as you're concerned, Aries: When you ask for what you want and need, specify exactly how much you want and need. Don't make an open-ended request that could bring you too much of a good thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Actors Beau Bridges and Jeff Bridges are brothers born to parents who were also actors. When they were growing up, they already had aspirations to follow in their mom's and dad's footsteps. From an early age, they summoned a resourceful approach to attracting an audience. Now and then they would start a pretend fight in a store's parking lot. When a big enough crowd had gathered to observe their shenanigans, they would suddenly break off from their faux struggle, grab their guitars from their truck, and begin playing music. In the coming weeks, I hope you'll be equally ingenious as you brainstorm ways to expand your outreach.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): According to Edward Barnard's book *New York City Trees*, a quarter of the city is shaded by its 5.2 million trees. In other words, one of the most densely populated, frantically active places on the planet has a rich collection of oxygen-generating greenery. There's even a virgin forest at the upper tip of Manhattan, as well as five botanical gardens and the 843-acre Central Park. Let's use all this bounty-amidst-the-bustle as a symbol of what you should strive to foster in the coming weeks: refreshing lushness and grace interspersed throughout your busy, hustling rhythm.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): As a poet myself, I regard good poetry as highly useful. It can nudge us free of our habitual thoughts and provoke us to see the world in ways we've never imagined. On the other hand, it's not useful in the same way that food and water and sleep are. Most people don't get sick if they are deprived of poetry. But I want to bring your attention to a poem that is serving a very practical purpose in addition to its inspirational function. Simon Armitage's poem "In Praise of Air" is on display in an outdoor plaza at Sheffield University. The material it's printed on is designed to literally remove a potent pollutant from the atmosphere. And what does this have to do with you? I suspect that in the coming weeks you will have an extra capacity to generate blessings that are like Armitage's poem: useful in both practical and inspirational ways.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In 1979, psychologist Dorothy Tennov published her book *Love and Limerence: The Experience of Being in Love*. She defined her newly coined word "limerence" as a state of adoration that may generate intense, euphoric and obsessive feelings for another person. Of all the signs in the zodiac, you Leos are most likely to be visited by this disposition throughout 2019. And you'll be especially prone to it in the coming weeks. Will that be a good thing or a disruptive thing? It all depends on how determined you are to regard it as a blessing, have fun with it and enjoy it regardless of whether or not your feelings are reciprocated. I advise you to enjoy the hell out of it!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Based in Switzerland, Nestle is the largest food company in the world. Yet it pays just $200 per year to the state of Michigan for the right to suck up 400 million gallons of groundwater, which it bottles and sells at a profit. I nominate this vignette to be your cautionary tale in the coming weeks. How? 1. Make damn sure you are being fairly compensated for your offerings. 2. Don't allow huge, impersonal forces to exploit your resources. 3. Be tough and discerning, not lax and naïve, as you negotiate deals.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Sixteenth-century Italian artist Daniele da Volterra wasn't very famous for his own painting and sculpture. The work for which we remember him today is the alterations he made to Michelangelo's giant fresco *The Last Judgment*, which spreads across an entire wall in the Sistine Chapel. After Michelangelo died, the Catholic Church hired da Volterra to "fix" the scandalous aspects of the people depicted in the master's work. He painted clothes and leaves over the originals' genitalia and derrieres. In accordance with astrological omens, I propose that we make da Volterra your anti-role model for the coming weeks. *Don't* be like him. *Don't* engage in cover-ups, censorship or camouflage. Instead, specialize in the opposite: revelations, unmaskings and expositions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): What is the quality of your access to life's basic necessities? How well do you fulfill your need for good food and drink, effective exercise, deep sleep, thorough relaxation, mental stimulation, soulful intimacy, a sense of meaningfulness, nourishing beauty and rich feelings? I bring these questions to your attention, Scorpio, because the rest of 2019 will be an excellent time for you to fine-tune and expand your relationships with these fundamental blessings. And now is an excellent time to intensify your efforts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Michael Jackson's 1982 song "Beat It" climbed to number three on the record-sales charts in Australia. On the other hand, "Weird Al" Yankovic's 1984 parody of Jackson's tune, "Eat It," reached number one on the same charts. Let's use this twist as a metaphor for your life in the coming weeks. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you may find that a stand-in, substitute or imitation will be more successful than the original. And that will be auspicious!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The Space Needle in Seattle, Washington is 605 feet high and 138 feet wide: a tall and narrow tower. Near the top is a round restaurant that makes one complete rotation every 47 minutes. Although this part of the structure weighs 125 tons, for many years its motion was propelled by a mere 1.5 horsepower motor. I think you will have a comparable power at your disposal in the coming weeks: an ability to cause major movement with a compact output of energy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In 1941, the Ford automobile company created a "biological car." Among its components were "bioplastics" composed of soybeans, hemp, flax, wood pulp and cotton. It weighed a thousand pounds less than a comparable car made of metal. This breakthrough possibility never fully matured, however. It was overshadowed by newly abundant plastics made from petrochemicals. I suspect that you Aquarians are at a phase with a resemblance to the biological car. Your good idea is promising but unripe. I hope you'll spend the coming weeks devoting practical energy to developing it. (P.S. There's a difference between you and your personal equivalent of the biological car: little competition.) LV

Submit albums for review: Little Village, 623 S Dubuque St., IC, IA 52240

85 DECIBEL MONKS

Sliced Beets

tackfu.com

Tack-Fu's story begins here in Iowa City as a dedicated Hawkeye and fan of music. As hip hop began to get more attention in the late '90s, Tack discovered his true passion for the boards and later expanded his love for creating music into a production empire.

Fu, which Tack takes to mean a practice or a way, is the perfect umbrella for the musical genius behind everything Tack touches. Hip hop helped him take life experiences to the next level of expression. Mastering his own sound and performing locally helped him gain recognition from MTV and Nickelodeon. Since 1998, Tack has been cultivating the art of electric sound to successfully transform simple samples into mind-blowing instrumentals.

Tack's production collective, 85 decibel Monks, released *Sliced Beets* late December 2018 on netlabel Dusted Wax Kingdom; it can be streamed at dustedwax.org. Tack is one of the few Americans associated with the site, which is based in Bulgaria. The record gives you everything you need for a complete and authentic cultural experience. The layers of instruments, drums and samples showcase the many connections Tack has made in his years of mastering and traveling the world.

The tape opens with an amazing noise test that only the real hip-hop fans can pass. Opening with drums on top of vinyl scratching sinks you into mixtape heaven. Smooth melodies quilt the ear drum on track three, "Dusted Work," which features famous Canadian producer Mr. Moods and Orlando, Florida's Erik Jackson. Their collaboration of ideas and creativity is a great way to lead listeners into the rest of the mixtape.

This project is short and sweet and gives you a vibe for every mood and setting. Each track is different and allows you to take a different journey. Track 10, "Breeze and 85," is the perfect example of Tack's mission to cultivate his sound. What I liked most is that each track is under the average three minutes for a song. The instrumentals are just long enough to capture your attention, enlighten your life and move on.

—Dr. Dawson

THE TAPE OPENS WITH AN AMAZING NOISE TEST THAT ONLY THE REAL HIP-HOP FANS CAN PASS.

THE FERALINGS

The Feralings

theferalings.com

The Feralings, Famous Mockingbird, Marion, Friday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m., $10

Iowa City folkies the Feralings released their highly anticipated debut EP last October, a collection of six gorgeous tracks that's stylistically scattered but so tightly woven and so cleanly mixed and mastered (I hope we hear a lot more from Ben Schmidt and Rescued Rabbit Studio) that the diversity has the feel of a carefully curated sampler. Its songs range from a decade old to those likely written for the EP, with duties split between banjo player Nicole Upchurch, who wrote four, and upright bassist Patrick Bloom, who penned the other two (mandolin player Benj Upchurch rounds out the core band, with assists here from Stacy Webster, Jakob Breitbach and stalwart David Zollo).

"Maybe Maybelline," one of Bloom's offerings, is exquisite. If I'm being honest, I could write this whole review about that song (although that would do the rest of the record a disservice). The trick of it is a delightful interweaving of lilting instruments in conversation and lyrics that leave a pleasant ache: "Maybelline, Maybelline, my heart's cauterized / From a lifetime of lies, a thousand small things / Let's go for a ride, pretend we're in love / Maybe Maybelline."

When I was little, I used to listen to my aunt and her friends play old folk songs around campfires, and I would dance—back before I decided to hate dancing, back when my body used to flit instead of lumber. I can hear that same movement in the harmonies on this song, and as a singer myself, it's revelatory: I can dance with my voice. (Or, at least, Nicole Upchurch can.) To claim this song is perfect would be a grave abuse of the power of this platform—but it makes me smile and it makes me cry, every time, and that's all I would ever ask of a perfect song.

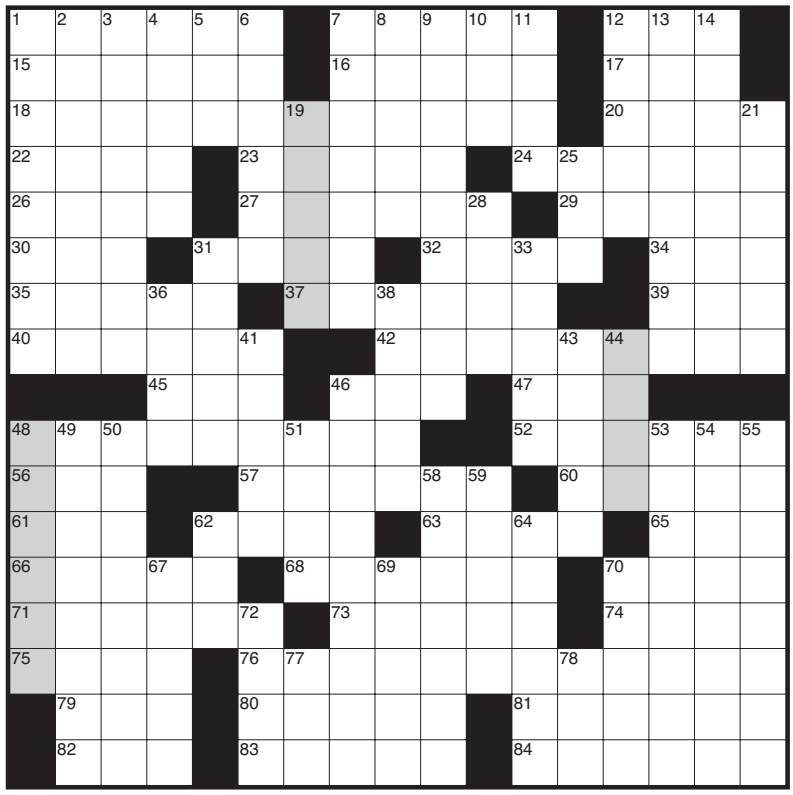
"I Shall Bring You Flowers (Sun God)," Bloom's other songwriting contribution, is tinged with the Laurel Canyon sound that's made its way back into vogue, helped along in that by Nicole Upchurch's ever-versatile vocals. On her own songs, her voice becomes another instrument, with slides like a bow across strings and melodies that sound like she's written a fiddle part. Bloom's harmonies, in contrast, are a study in layering. "Lila" exemplifies both.

All told, this record is lovely. It's a joy to visit with.

—Genevieve Trainor

COLOR ME SURPRISED BY REBECCA FALCON

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.



ACROSS

1. Potato state
7. Assail
12. The Falcons, on a scoreboard
15. What Johnny Cash was not, at Folsom Prison
16. L'___ du Tour
17. With 82-Across, "for now"
18. Gemstone with asterism that gives its name to many a DC villain
20. Boutique owner whose shop is pictured on a Beastie Boys album cover
22. Dreadful, as circumstances
23. Indy driver Bobby
24. Psychoactive plant illegal in some U.S. states
26. Talent go-betweens: Abbr.
27. Attach, as a patch
29. Voltaire or Rousseau, philosophically
30. Lower digit
31. Numerical prefix
32. Accept another tour
34. Tool thrown in some modern gimmicky bars, and it just seems like such a bad idea
35. James who painted "The Scandalized Masks"
37. The Clintons, once
39. Michael Jackson's "Don't Stop ___ You Get Enough"
40. Road trip comedy series co-created by Samantha Bee, with "The"
42. Top-10 Village People single of 1979
45. Utmost degree
46. Get-together: Abbr.
47. Suffix that's also a Spanish letter
48. Spirits, from the Latin
52. Fee for finding Fluffy, for instance
56. Wine cask
57 Acknowledges, in a way
60. Organic chemistry compound
61. Brittany Murphy's character in *Clueless*
62. Not either and not neither
63. Welsh composer Novello
65. Native of Oklahoma
66. Aleve alternative
68. Money maker
70. Have ___ (drink)
71. Wave peaks
73. Choreographer Twyla
74. Yosemite runners
75. Lagerfeld of fashion
76. How this puzzle's shaded surprises come
79. Org. in the documentary *Citizenfour*
80. ___ brûlée
81. Armpit, anatomically
82. See 17-Across
83. Surprisingly great Super Smash Bros. character
84. "In a minute ..."

DOWN

1. Flubbed, in a way, as a check
2. Sophoclean heroine
3. Best at *Jeopardy!*, perhaps
4. Quick game?
5. Many *Futurama* characters: Abbr.
6. Snookums
7. Big name in makeup
8. Hawke of Hollywood
9. Making some alterations, say
10. IRS mo.
11. Golf needs
12. Snow White's tranquilizer
13. Verdi's *La* ___
14. *Le Roi Soleil*
19. Shindig
21. In the recent past
25. Payroll service co.
28. Defunct depilatory
31. *Adam Ruins Everything* network
33. One working in rows
36. Charlie Chaplin's fourth wife
38. Some beers, in marketing
41. Perhaps the closest animal we have to a unicorn
43. Mideast title
44. A man biting a dog, for example
46. Figure encountered by Alice
48. Charge
49. Half a semicircle
50. Realm
51. Telethon giveaway
53. In a keyless way?
54. Small purse of old (familiar to fans of *Sweeney Todd*)
55. Space-saver in some vehicles
58. Liz Lemon portrayer
59. Conspicuous
62. Sandwich with its ingredients in its name
64. One leading a hard-knock life, perhaps
67. Nation of ___
69. Diamond
70. Circumference
72. Punch
77. Ocean State sch.
78. Skeleton head?

LV257 ANSWERS

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