Hockey Season
What do you mean, the off-season? We’re knee-deep in October and conventional wisdom would say that activity, at least on the greater cultural-community side, should be winding down to a simmer for winter. People shift into work and shopping season. Christmas isn’t even three months away, so we should be seeing decorated trees in department stores by this weekend. There are no more festivals, save for Chili Cook-Off, which may already be over by the time you read this. So what do we do now? Sit at home and watch football? That doesn’t sound bad, actually. We’ve got to find time to wrap all the windows in plastic and put away the golf clubs and take the boats out of the river.

Why, then, is it that, in the dawn of the “dead zone” of civic life, we found ourselves with more content and stories than ever before for this issue? We always have trouble fitting in all the things that are happening in the Tri-States in two weeks, but with the end of our festival season and our big features on those events, we had to cut or cut down more articles than ever. And, yes, we see that as a good thing. I guess it’s time to add 4 pages? People always ask, “What do you write about when all the stuff is over?” Well, clearly you can now see that the idea of a “dead zone” in living in Dubuque is simply nonexistent. There is by no means an end to entertainment and activity in our community, simply a shift.

True, there is a contingent of people out there we won’t see again until the Budweiser flows under the Town Clock, but for most people, it is a time to transfer free time to smaller, possibly more artistic or educational pastimes. Uh, like bowling, poker and Desperate Housewives … or is it Dr. McHottie that’s all the rage this season? I don’t know. I don’t go home very much and certainly not in time for prime time T.V. But, seriously, theater and live music are always alive as ever, when it’s cold and miserable. You can still get a taste of summer through the winter months. Take the kids to the waterpark and ron around in your swimsuit in January. Then go home in your Bermuda shorts in 1 degree weather.

I can tell you, as a guy in a band, that it’s alot easier to book a lot of gigs when it’s cold than when it’s hot. More bars book live music in the winter. No one’s going on picnics in December, not here anyway. Though many will continue to wear bermuda shorts with their North Face fleece well into the holidays. I think it’s an Iowa thing. We, of course, stay to a great degree inside. But clearly we do not stay home, and if you do, I guess the purpose of my ramblings here is to implore you to get out at least often enough to pick up your copy of 365ink so you can continue to discover the slew of entertainment opportunities that will greet you through the cold hard slide that is the rest of the Packers’ season. (Bears fans gloat here.)

I could never ski. I think a guy my size is simply toy ing with inertia and fate with such antics. But a crazy amount of you do. Aside from boating, it’s our community’s other “other-life.” In my tenure on the Five Flags Civic Center Commission, I’ve also come to quickly understand the feverish passion that this town has for hockey. Not just our great team the Thunderbirds, but even moreso for youth hockey. If we could bottle the passion of youth hockey parents, we’d cure cancer and solve the Middle East crisis. Even the old guys get into the act, with adult league hockey. There simply isn’t enough ice time to go around for everyone who wants practice time. It’s one of the key issues we grapple with on the commission. But I’m getting off on a tangent, and by now you’re used to that with me.

The best part about winter for me? It’s hot tub season. But I broke mine. So I guess I’ll have to fill the days with other distractions. But like I said (finally getting back to my point), at least there are still lots of distractions to choose from.

The 365ink crew... faces you already know!
by Tim Brechlin

You close your eyes and listen. The sound of skates scraping across the hardened ice fills the silence. Skate-skate-skate-slash. A sudden cannon shot, as two bodies collide with one another and slam into the boards. The distinctive ping of the puck slamming into the pipes of the net.

Suddenly, you hear the shrill whistle of skates after being cut by three different organizations. The Thunderbirds called him in for a tryout, and though he had never even heard of Dubuque before the call, he made the trip and after the tryout Stadstad realized that “I had to play here.”

The players themselves represent a collection of fine young talent. Coppersmith, in his first season in Dubuque, has been playing hockey since he was six years old and has a deep love for the game. “This really is a great sport,” he says. “And it’s a team sport, which is great. You get to a city and you don’t know the other guys at all, but very quickly you develop a very close bond with everybody. And because a team becomes so close, everyone learns from everyone else. It’s very rewarding and very fun.”

“I grew up in a little town of 250 people up near the Canadian border,” says Stadstad, laughing. “Hockey is just what you do up there.”

Players need a coach to bring a team together, but Coombs is quick to point out that being a coach involves more than wins, losses and ties. “A very big part of my job is taking these kids and teaching them to not just become better hockey players, but better people,” he says. “It’s both fun and difficult, it takes a lot of effort, but I really try to make an impact on their lives.” The Thunderbirds have a long history of turning out successful young

Continued on page 6
R.F.K. Jr. Visits Dubuque
Tickets on sale

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., will be the featured speaker in this year’s Mackin-Mailander Lecture Series on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at Clarke College. Tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for students. Reservations can be made on-line at www.clareke.edu/mackin-mailander, by calling 563-584-8642, or at the Clarke College Whittlow Bookstore.

Kennedy’s books will also be available for sale in Clarke’s bookstore. If you would like an author's signing of the book, please arrive early. Due to the popularity of the event, please be prepared to have your book signed without striking up a lengthy conversation.

Efforts are being made to make these purchases actually affordable (always a wonderful thing). Borders is running the sale to support staff, etc.) are going to be treated like they’re part of the family (20 percent on DVDs, 10 percent discount on almost everything in the store). The sale will be held at the Borders in Kennedy Mall, out on Wacker Drive in Dubuque.

Educator Savings Days
Borders and Waldenbooks are totally showing the love for educators. Educators Savings Days will begin Thursday, October 12, and continues to Tuesday, October 17.

What’s the deal? Educators (and we mean educators — teachers, librarians, principals, home school parents, school support staff, etc.) are going to be treated to giveaways and special events, and the best part is that they get to score a 25 percent discount on almost everything in the store (20 percent on DVDs, 10 percent on video games and electronics). There’s also going to be a special reception on Friday, October 13, from 4 until 8 p.m.

According to a national survey, two-thirds of K-12 educators spend at least $400 out-of-pocket per year to purchase books, puzzles and other school supplies. Borders is running the sale to make these purchases actually affordable (always a wonderful thing).

The sale will be held at the Borders in Kennedy Mall, out on Wacker Drive here in Dubuque.

A-May’s-ing!
Jack-o-Lantern time is going to be coming up soon. Are you ready?

There are quite a few events going down at the May Family Pumpkin Barn in the coming weeks, and if you’re a fan of the outdoors and of pumpkins (and if you hate pumpkins, you hate America), you should make it a point to check them out.

Non-profit benefits during the upcoming weeks include the St. Joseph’s School Sinsinawa Fun Day on Sunday, October 8, and the Dubuque County Right to Life Fun Day on Saturday, October 21 and feature a Scarecrow Corn Maze, Scary Bounce House, face-painting (Mommas, don’t let your babies grow up to be KISS members), the Sky-High Bounce Slide, Hayrides, the Haunted Spook House and the Pumpkin Barn itself.

The May Family Pumpkin Barn is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and it’ll stay that way until October 31. There’s more than just pumpkins out there, too: Home-grown vegetables, apples, cider, fresh-baked pies, fruit jellies, home-baked breads and much more. On the weekends, you can take a hay ride, go for a whirl on the sky-high bounce slide, jump around in the scary bounce house, sit for a face painting and meet Snoopy! The barn and inflatables are available for rental, as well, if you’re looking to schedule your next family reunion or a company picnic.

Contact the May Family Pumpkin Barn at 815-747-6832, or visit the Web site at www.mayfamilypumpkinbarn.com for more information. You can find the barn at 1887 Hwy. 35 North, just a little over a mile north of East Dubuque.

A Warm Fuzzy
Better than the kind you get for finding Wando.

Coats for Kids is entering its 16th year of keeping kids warm through winter. Useable coats / jackets can be dropped off at any Dupaco Community Credit Union location through Oct. 14, and they’ll be dry-cleaned thanks to the fine folks at Courtesy Cleaners. The actual distribution of the coats will take place on October 24 and 25 at St. John’s Lutheran Church, at 12th and White in downtown Dubuque.

Dupaco, Cumulus Broadcasting and Courtesy Cleaners are the sponsors for the drive, which brought in more than 2,700 coats and jackets for kids in the area. For more information, contact marketing vice president Michael J. Weber at 563-557-7600 or mweber@dupaco.com.

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Graham’s
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www.grahamsstyledstore.com
Big Wall, Tiny Brush

Local art students have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity coming up on October 8. Famed nature artist Robert Wyland, known simply as Wyland, will be at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium for the program “Paint the River with Wyland.”

With the aid of talented students from throughout the community, Wyland will craft a huge mural in the Boatyard of the NMRMA.

Wyland, famous for his “Whaling Walls,” large murals of oceanic life (he’s done 91 so far, and aims to have 100 done by 2011), is making his visit as a stop on his “Barging Down the Mississippi” tour, a clean-water environmental awareness program (this is his third year of doing it). He’ll be educating students and adults alike about water quality, river conservation and so on.

If you want to paint with Wyland, you must register prior to the event, so contact Christie at 563-557-9545. Space is available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and the event is free of charge.

For more information on the upcoming event, call the NMRMA at 563-557-9545 or visit its Web site at www.rivermuseum.com.

Thunderbirds Hockey

Continued from page 4.

men, with Thunderbird alums in pre-dentistry programs, law enforcement, veterinary school, the military, and, yes, some are still playing hockey ... and doing it well!

And as much as the players enjoy hitting the ice and playing a game, Thunderbirds games truly represent a wonderful value for some fantastic entertainment. Reserved tickets for individual games run only $7, with a discounted admission of $5 for students and children 12 and under. The general admission bleacher seats are $4. And season tickets are still available! The reasonable ticket prices alongside the convenient location of Five Flags means there’s just no reason not to catch a game. Unless, of course, hockey isn’t your thing ... but that’d be a rarity in this town. Which means you should go and connect with one of the best fanbases in all of sports.

But, really, at the end of the day, we have to ask: What is it about hockey and its immense popularity in Dubuque? What is it that draws the players and the coaches to the game day after day?

Stadstad grins, as if answering the question for both himself and the entire city. “It’s fast-paced, physical and competitive,” he says. “What more could you ask for?”

Sounds like a perfect match.

The Thunderbirds are currently gearing up for a road trip beginning on October 6 and running through October 9, with the beginning of a homestand on October 14. Cincinnati will be coming to town that Saturday, and tickets are still available online at Ticketmaster or at the Five Flags box office.

Photos of Thunderbirds hockey are taken by Chris Maiers at Memories Photography. You can see and purchase the photos online. Click the Memories Phototography link on www.dubuquethunderbirds.com.
Dubuque County Historical Society and Diamond Jo Casino Announce Major Port if Dubuque Growth Plan

by Mike Ironside with Tim Brechlin

The Port of Dubuque, already transformed by the multi-million dollar Phase I of America’s River Project, is poised to undergo a second major renovation. The Diamond Jo Casino, in tandem with the Dubuque County Historical Society, made a stunning announcement in late September outlining plans for what would be a major expansion at the port for both organizations.

In a press conference co-hosted by Brent Stevens, chief executive officer of Peninsula Gaming LLC, parent company of the Diamond Jo, and Jerry Enzler, executive director of the Historical Society, the partnering organizations presented plans for a new casino and an expanded National Mississippi River Museum campus and facilities.

As part of the cooperative plan, a new $50 million Diamond Jo Casino would be constructed along Bell Street, just north of 3rd Street. Upon completion, the former riverboat casino would be donated to the Historical Society, along with use of the Welcome Center and Portside Building, effectively extending the campus of the River Museum along the Ice Harbor riverfront. In exchange, the Historical Society would sell a tract of land to Peninsula for the casino expansion and parking.

The exchange clears the way for Phase II of the America’s River Project, including the River Museum’s construction of an IMAX-style RiverMax Theater and a second museum complex to be known as the Great Rivers Center. The announced plan marks a change in previous exploratory efforts by the Historical Society to expand the River Museum into the former Adams Company building north of the current museum complex.

The RiverMax Theater, planned for construction to the east of the current museum, would comprise both a 250-seat theater, showcasing both 3-D and 4-D films, and a retail outlet. An estimated $8 million project, the new RiverMax Theater would be the only large-format theater in Dubuque.

The Great Rivers Center (the site of the current Welcome Center and Diamond Jo Portside Building) would feature display galleries, a National Rivers Center, a Rivers Research Center and storefront retail.

In addition to funding by the Diamond Jo, the Historical Society will seek funding for the planned expansion from federal and local grants, private gifts and a $9 million grant from Vision Iowa, a major contributor toward the original America’s River Project. The new 35,000-square-foot Diamond Jo Casino would be similar to Peninsula’s barge-style casino, which opened last April in Northwood, Iowa. The entertainment complex would include over a thousand slot machines, 17 table games, a poker room, a deluxe 36-lane bowling center and three dining establishments: The Kitchen Buffet, the Farmer’s Feast Cafe and an as-yet-unnamed signature restaurant.

The Diamond Jo hopes to begin construction in early 2007, with the casino opening in early 2008. Museum expansion would follow, with a possible completion date in 2010.

The casino construction and museum expansion complement existing Port of Dubuque amenities including the Grand Harbor Resort and Waterpark, the Grand River Center, and the Alliant Amphitheater. Projects currently under construction or renovation include the Old Brewery building complex and the new McGraw-Hill office building. McGraw-Hill broke ground at the Port this summer and expects to move 700 employees into the new facility by the end of June, 2007.

Both Stevens and Enzler pointed to the planned expansions as positive steps in the continuing development of the Port of Dubuque. “The Diamond Jo’s generosity will help the Mississippi River Museum and the surrounding community reach our tremendous potential,” said Enzler. “Our campus will now stretch along banks of the Mississippi, which, of course, is the most desirable location for us.”

For three years, Dubuque365.com followed progress on the development, construction and information about America’s River Phase 1. We’re happy to say that we will be doing the same again with Phase 2. Log onto Dubuque365.com regularly for continually updated information about the planning and implementation of Phase 2, including architectural rendering art, photos of progress and amenities and information about the project, its impact on the community and economy and answers to your questions about, well, everything. Look for the feature link at the top on the page.
Cursedwithwords wants YOU!

Dig it: Five plays, all of them original, conceptualized, written, rehearsed and performed in the span of 24 hours. And you’re invited to be a part of it.

On Friday, November 3, 25 folks of the creative mindset are going to get together in a pow-wow at 10th and Jackson (the same place as Voices from the Warehouse District). A little after 10 p.m., they’ll split into teams: One playwright, one director and three actors. Each of them will stake out their territory in the warehouse, and they’ll be fast on their way towards concocting an original play. They’ll be going nonstop (outside of breaks for naptime and, you know, pit stops), going so far as to devise technical theatrical elements (like lighting) as long as time allows. So, yeah, this is what we in the business call a marathon. Then again, that’ll make it all the more rewarding.

It’s the latest project of Cursedwithwords theatre, an events-based company focused on offering a new perspective and a fresh look at contemporary theatre. The 24-hour Project is aimed at bringing together area actors, playwrights and directors and giving them a unique opportunity to hone their craft and gain experience in a one-of-a-kind environment. Those more experienced can impart their knowledge upon those with less experience with the stage ... and maybe there’ll be a little vice-versa action, too.

The premieres of these plays are going to take place on November 4 beginning at 8 p.m. But, really, that’s not as fun as being a participant...

The Project-within-a-Project cannot happen without one very essential ingredient: you! Seriously. How else do you think five teams of theatre folks are going to get together? You need to contact Cursedwithwords immediately. You can do that by dropping an e-mail to cursed@dubuque365.com.

Playboy of Clarke College

Not to be left out in all the theatre action, Clarke College is rocking the stage scene this month. The Clarke Drama Department is kicking off the 2006-2007 season with The Playboy of the Western World.

It’s an Irish comedy by John Millington Synge. A young man gets in a fight with his dad (been there, done that), and he winds up knocking him a pretty good one and leaves him for dead (haven’t been there, haven’t done that, but it sounds Irish). He winds up heading down to the village pub (always a good option), and the people there cheer him on as a hero. But daddy ain’t dead, and he’s more than a little ticked off, so he comes looking for his dear, beloved son. They hook up, and the battle continues, with a few unforeseen results arising from the calamity.

Performances of The Playboy of the Western World start on Thursday, October 12, and run through Sunday, October 15, in Terence Donaghoe Hall on the Clarke campus. All showtimes are at 8 p.m., with ticket prices at $10 for adults, $7 for seniors and $5 for students. Clarke’s always known for its high-quality theatre, so you should definitely check it out.

We do not, however, recommend that you view the play and go home and pick a fight with your dad. That ain’t cool.
This woman in black ain’t a country singer

Halloween, Hallowe’en, All Hallows Eve ... whatever you call it, this time of the year brings with it three things: Pumpkin pie, unbelievably huge piles of candy bags at Target and Wal-Mart, and ghost stories. (Well, there are really bad horror movies, too, but we’ll just ignore those for the moment.)

The Bell Tower Theater is bringing that last part to Dubuque throughout October with its production of *The Woman in Black*, a ghost play written by Stephen Mallatratt which was in turn adapted from a book by Susan Hill. The show will be directed by Kevin Firnstahl and will feature Vince Williams and Patrick Sterenchuk in the lead roles.

The premise is suitably creepy. A young solicitor named Arthur Kipps (Williams) has been sent to attend the funeral of a woman named Alice Drablow and to clean out her mansion. But when he arrives in town, he discovers the locals to be utterly unwilling to discuss the so-called woman in black, and he soon realizes that there are dark, tragic secrets hidden within the walls of the aging mansion. The play itself unfolds years later as a conversation between Kipps and a skeptical actor (Sterenchuk), as Kipps is desperate to tell his story and perhaps exorcise the demons that he feels have cursed his soul.

*The Woman in Black* will be shown October 13-15, 20-22 and 27-29. Friday and Saturday showtimes will be at 8 p.m., with Sunday performances at 3 p.m. For ticket information, call Fly-By-Night Productions at 563-582-6572, or check with the Bell Tower Theater at 563-588-3377 or the Web site at www.belltowertheater.net.

They’re bringing the scary ... which means now it’s your job for the candy and pumpkin pie.
Get down with your cinematic self.

We know there's a Steven Spielberg hiding inside of you ... or perhaps a Hitchcock ... or a pre-sucktacular George Lucas ... heck, even Ed Wood. It doesn't matter! If you have the urge to put a short film together and unleash your creativity upon the world, here's your chance.

The National Film Challenge is now accepting entries for its 2006 competition. Here's how it works: You register a team at www.filmchallenge.org. It's a $125 fee for registration, which began September 1. There are no restrictions on your team size, but the short film must be no shorter than four minutes and no more than eight minutes in duration.

There is a catch!

The entire creative process, from conceptualizing and writing the film to shooting, editing it and scoring it, must occur between 7 p.m. on Friday, October 20, and Monday, October 23. And just to make things that much more interesting, on Friday teams will be emailed a genre for their film, plus a character, prop and single line of dialogue that absolutely must appear in the film. Now, the POTENTIAL genres are action/adventure, comedy, detective/cop, drama, fantasy, holiday film, horror, mockumentary, musical, Western, road trip, romance, sci-fi, silent and spy ... but you won't know which genres have been selected and which one is yours until the actual challenge begins. So if you're making a spy thriller, and you're given the line, “That is one angry flippin’ iguana,” you've gotta make it happen, or else you'll be beaten with reeds.

The judging panel will determine the top fifteen films from the submitted entries, and those films will be available for both viewing and voting on the Web site. They'll also all be included on the upcoming “Best of the Film Challenge” DVD.

There are two major prizes to be won this year: the Grand Prize Winner and the Audience Award Winner (the latter is selected by the results of the online voting). Both winning films will be exhibited alongside the 48 Hour Film Project City Winners at the upcoming 48 Hour Film Project end-of-the-year event, at a date to be determined. The Grand Prize Winner will win a free trip to the event, too, with a $1,000 credit for all travel expenses.

Grant Wood would grant wood if he could.

Not sure what that title means, but it seemed funny at the time.

Two of Grant Wood's famous works have come home to Dubuque. An exhibition of Wood's art began at the Dubuque Museum of Art on September 24. Two pieces, Appraisal and Victorian Survival, have been sojourning at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art and the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum out in Washington, D.C. The traveling show was focused on Wood's career at his studio in Cedar Rapids (Five Turner Alley), which was his equivalent to the scientist's lab: Both pieces as well as American Gothic were painted at that studio.

It's also a unique opportunity, as visitors can also see a section of the bottom of Appraisal that Wood removed from the painting after a competition in Des Moines. It's on loan from the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, and visitors can see this section of the painting for the first time since roughly 1931. It joins the DMA's already extensive collection of Wood's works.

The DMA is located at 701 Locust St. in downtown Dubuque. For more information, dial them up at 563-557-1851 or check out the Web site at www.dbqart.com.

The Voices, The Voices just won't go away!

There are still a number of awesome events still to come at the Voices from the Warehouse District art exhibition, and if you're at all a fan of local art (and who isn't?), you should make it a point to mosey on down to the warehouse at 10th and Jackson.

On Saturday, October 14, and Sunday, October 15, there'll be a pair of artist talks, in which a Voices artist will discuss exhibited work. On Saturday, you'll be able to listen to the artistic musings of Stephen Maxon, and on Sunday you can catch some insights into the mindset and philosophy of Thomas Jewell-Vitale. Both discussions are at 1:30 p.m., and they are free and open to the public. Which is, you know, cool.

Finally, Art After Hours is putting on the Celebrate the Warehouse District night on Saturday, October 21. For the low, low price of $10, you can check out the Latin musical stylings of ochOsol, featuring 365's very own Mike Ironside on the bass gee-tar.

Don't forget that the warehouse is open on the weekends! The warehouse is open from 5 to 8 p.m. on Fridays, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission is free.
The Black Dahlia
By: Robert P Gelms

A while back I was talking to a friend of mine, and I remarked that I was looking forward to reading James Ellroy’s novel The Black Dahlia before the film came out. He said that, in general, he almost always found the book to be better than the film. We then got into, as the diplomats say, a spirited conversation regarding the artistic merits of film vs. literature.

My thinking is this. A book and a movie are two very different art forms that need to be judged on their own individual merits. One is almost entirely visual and the other mostly verbal. In the case of The Black Dahlia, it might be impossible to film a 325-page book in 120 minutes. So, movies, by necessity, need to leave things out. For obvious reasons, movies gravitate toward the more visual passages in the book even though those passages might not advance the plot or add anything to the characters. Where a novel like The Black Dahlia can use the first-person narrative to stunning effect and you can crawl into the character’s mind because he is telling you what he thinks, a movie has a hard time finding a visual way to represent that aspect of a novel.

Unless you are one of the very few people to have experienced a movie in Smell-O-Vision, movies operate on two of your senses: Hearing and sight. You might only use your eyes to read a book, but it is your brain that creates the smells, sights, sounds, tastes, and feel of a story. So, I think, books can be much more powerful and The Black Dahlia is a fine example of what I’m talking about.

James Ellroy is a great American writer. This book is so real it almost leaps off the page and walks around the room. Told in the first person by Bucky Bleichert, one of the detectives of the L.A. Police Department, you are cast into the middle of one of the most notorious murders in Los Angeles history. This is where the novel gets a little awkward. Ellroy uses a real historical murder around which he builds a fictional story with fictional characters. After you read the book you begin to realize that the book has little to do with the real-life murder of Elizabeth Short and a great deal to do with everyone else in the book. The book revolves around the murder of The Black Dahlia in the sense that the novel is concerned with how everyone in it deals with the murder. They all have some connection, real or perceived, to the act of murder and not necessarily to the person who was murdered.

Ellroy pulls off something completely astounding in The Black Dahlia. He writes a murder mystery novel where the solving of the crime is unnecessary to the satisfactory completion of the novel. It is just as well because the real murder of Elizabeth Short is still considered unsolved and is still an open case. In an interesting sidenote to the real case, I understand that the L.A. police know who the killer was but they have no evidence whatsoever to prove it in a court of law. In any case, the alleged killer is dead, burning to death in his room at an L.A. flophouse not far from where he disposed of Elizabeth Short’s body.

James Ellroy is writing a novel, not history. If you have some familiarity with the real-life murder of the Black Dahlia, then the novel might be a little confusing. Ellroy picks and chooses facts from the real case to push his fictional characters one way or another. In some important ways the murder in the book bears only a superficial resemblance to the real one. I don’t think you can hold Ellroy responsible for that. He wrote this book in 1987. Some of the more spectacular facts disproving long-held truths about the real-life case were not confirmed until after Ellroy published his book.

The film’s take on all this gets quite clumsy. It can’t spend the time to give us the beautifully drawn three-dimensional characters we get in the book. Consequently, what we are left with is a film that has the murder as its centerpiece, which is perfectly fine if you can overlook the fact that you have a murder mystery movie that has at its center a murder that is never solved. This is as opposed to the book, which uses the murder as a starting point to travel through the psyches of its characters. That journey is what the book is all about, and therefore the solving of the crime is not only unnecessary but also part of reason the characters do what they do. As a result, the ending of the book is not at all as unsatisfactory as the ending of the film.

In the end I think you will find the book is a better book than the movie is a movie.
A Private Entertainment Experience

**Themed Member Events**

“Live Music Thursdays”
“Women are Smarter”
“Boys will be Boys”
“Culture Clash”
“Date Night”
“To the Nines”
“Spa Pleasures”
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“The Art of Living”
“Kitchen Apprentice”
“Texas Hold’em Plus”
“Networking Connections”
“Unique Culinary Symposia”

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Weekly Inside Tips Email  
Monthly Event Calendar  
Three Personal Chefs  
Luxury Theater Room  
Access to Luxury Suites  
Private Wine and Spirits Cellar  
Discounts to Personal Spa Services

_By Invitation Only_
by Joe Tower

There is a moment in every artist's growth when he or she must face a certain intangible menace called an "audience." The presence of this absolute calls to mind the old philosophical dilemma, "If art falls in the woods and no one is around, does it make a sound?" Or whatever.

Since the contemporary art community seems so eager to coddle its innocent children, instead of throwing them into the water to see if they swim, as was once customary in days of yore when artists were persecuted and wrung dry of money and self-respect for the passion of their craft, the benign solution for the unpublished, unsigned and unplayed, is the often tiresome, rarely compelling, open mic.

In my personal opinion, an open mic is the byproduct of a lack of artistic accountability, but, when a paper says, "jump," I say, "Where's my drink token?" And, depending on where you're watching an open mic from, Dubuque actually has some legitimate options, so it isn't with a great deal of resignation that I overlook the negative influence I believe this cultural locomotive has on presentable art in order to review them. Everyone needs a soapbox, right?

I've been to a lot open mics as a member of the audience, if open mic audience isn't a total oxymoron. I've watched a butch, militant feminist recite an ode to her own vagina. I've heard a song accompanied by fiddle called "Batteries Are Like Aspirin...For Robots," sung to the tune of "Boys Don't Cry" by The Cure. I've seen a man retell the last twelve hours of Jesus Christ's life. In first person. From the point of view of Jesus Christ. It can go without saying that an open mic will attract the most untalented egomaniacs who are just desperate enough to sacrifice their dignity simply for the indulgence of a hot microphone and a captive crowd. Or, maybe they just want to be heard and seen period. Or, maybe "Trading Spaces" was a repeat that night. Whatever the case, no-talent hacks are not endemic of every open mics every time and I think the following recommended venues can disprove that common misconception.

Local music power lifters The Dert Tones host a music open mic at The Busted Lift every Wednesday night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Aside from the fact that The Busted Lift's own Counterproductions books a great deal of acts from a wide array of genres, earning them the reputation of having the most impeccable and exercised musical palate, and aside from the fact that The Busted Lift has the most genuine and least contrived atmosphere of most bars I've been to, The Dert Tones are a cool band and some of the brave and willing souls that wander up to that infamous Celtic stage can keep your ears tuned while you mingle. The audience is young, enthusiastic and flexible, so, if you're experimenting with trip-hop covers of Willie Nelson tunes, these drunken admirers will be the most receptive to you.

Isabella's at The Ryan House—another townie pub with a unique and colorful aura—hosts, on Tuesday nights, what started as a celebration of the spoken word, but has now been dubbed an "Open Forum," and although music is an integral part of the repertoire of both the event and the bar, recitations of Walt Whitman and John Keats are not uncommon. Nor are excerpts from original prose and verse, which is doubly encouraged. And whether it's held outside in the grotto, all the attendees curled up on down bed pillows, or downstairs in the bar's speakeasy-esque lounge, slide guitar-box and accordion music in the background, it's an intimate and welcoming scene for a reading out of anything from "Tender Is The Night" to "Pennywise Letters."

Two other haunts on the front side of Dubuque's Main and Bluff Streets boast open mic events that could be worth your time as either audience member or participant, one being the quaint, and slightly circa 1960s, Mississippi Mug. It isn't entirely rare for a "jam session" to open up in this modest space any night of the week, and regular musicians are booked up in this modest space any night of the week. The Busted Lift's own participant, one being the quaint, and slightly circa 1960s, Mississippi Mug. It isn't entirely rare for a "jam session" to open up in this modest space any night of the week, and regular musicians are booked up in this modest space any night of the week. The Busted Lift's own participant, one being the quaint, and slightly circa 1960s, Mississippi Mug. It isn't entirely rare for a "jam session" to open up in this modest space any night of the week, and regular musicians are booked up in this modest space any night of the week.

Continued on page 26
Mississippi Mug
by Tim Brechlin

Nestled in the heart of Cable Car Square, at 373 Bluff, is a quiet little place for a little bit of java. The wood floor and recently re-painted walls offer a calm, inviting ambiance. Fresh scents of hazelnut and coffee permeate the air.

Welcome to the Mississippi Mug!

All sorts of characters make their way through the doors of this fine establishment, from regulars and the occasional college students to the legions of tourist traffic that make their way down the amazing shopping space that is lower Bluff Street. Establishments such as the Brew Haus, Outside the Blue Door and Miguels Coffee populate the land, making the Mug a perfect destination for anyone looking for a quick cup of joe...or any number of other concoctions.

A fresh steamed cappuccino, perhaps? A mocha latte? “Anything can be made iced,” owner Valerie Hogan proudly says. For those looking for a little dash of flavor in their drinks, both regular and sugar-free Monin syrups, with natural flavoring and no preservatives, are available. Ghiradelli chocolate sauces also occupy the handcrafted shelves. Fresh baked goodies line the counter.

Originally, the Mug served beer and wine, but that changed recently. Hogan let the liquor license expire and is instead re-focusing on expanding the offerings of the bar to cater to an even wider audience...including, hopefully in the future, a liquor license that will allow the bar to cater to an even wider audience. Hogan is instead focusing on quieter acoustic performances, the kind of which the Mug has become known for over the years, featuring such musicians as Melanie Mausser, Andy Wilberding and Maureen Kilgore.

Hogan purchased the Mug in September 2005 from Mary Loney-Bichell, who first opened the coffee shop in June 2003. Since the day the doors were first opened to the public, the shop has always had two focuses: Offering customers a relaxing environment in which they can enjoy a fine beverage and supporting the local arts community.

Much of the regular clientele definitely has an arts flavor to it, with such figures as Gene Tully, Ken Bichell (who owns the building), Connie Twining and Rich Robertson being known to stop in and enjoy a (forgive the pun) mug. But what also defines the Mug is its welcoming nature. A warm smile and a hot beverage greet every visitor.

Stop in and check it out. You won’t be disappointed, not with the quality of service, the beautiful design of the shop nor the delicious offerings. Especially a vanilla cappuccino. Positively delectable.

Area Coffee House Events:
October 13th - Dan Trilk
Miguels Coffee, 8 PM - 10 PM
October 24th - Dan Trilk
Mississippi Mug, 3 PM - 5 PM

The recent chilly September weather might have been a not-so-subtle reminder that August is gone and October is just around the corner. But do not fear, my fair-weather festival friends – summer may be gone but October brings her own delights. The first Saturday of the tenth month is the traditional date for Dubuque’s Cable Car Square to celebrate the crisp air of autumn with a hot bowl of chili and a cold beer. That’s right! Saturday, October 7, marks the date of the Tri-States Largest Chili Cook-Off. Scheduled from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., this will be the 13th year for the annual event. For those who are into the tasting aspect of the event, my advice is to get there early. The public tasting begins at 1 p.m. and there is usually a long line forming by then. It’s probably best to get a beer from the Dubuque Jaycees first, then get in line for the all-important “sampling spoon.” The spoon is just $3 and entitles the person who wields it to taste as many varieties of chili as he or she can bear, or until the chili runs out. If (when) that happens, or if you’re just not into chili (what is wrong with you?), there will be other food vendors serving a variety of other foods.

Of course the Chili Cook-Off is not only a gustatory competition but also used as an excuse to drink beer in October (though it is a pretty good one). Chili Cook-Off is a festival with entertainment and all sorts of family-friendly activities. This year’s program features performances by the Gold Rush Square Dance Club, the Dubuque Rhythm Cloggers, the “outlaw country” music of Waylon, Willie and Johnny performed by the Apple Dumplin’ Gang and up-and-coming band Blackbloom.

Chili Cook-Off is sponsored by the Cable Car Square Association, Diamond Jo Casino and Prudential Financial, with contributing sponsorship by Radio Dubuque, Dubuque Jaycees, and Best Buy of Dubuque. Proceeds from this year’s Cook-Off benefit the Maria House.

Just remember to turn on the fan when you get to the bathroom.
Andrew Bird, Chicago Short Film Brigade

Voices from the Warehouse District
Friday, October 6, 10th & Jackson
by Mike Ironside,
Photo by Adam Berry

Don’t miss one of the neatest things set to hit Voices from the Warehouse District: A performance by violin virtuoso Andrew Bird and a film screening by the Chicago Short Film Brigade, curated by Bird’s girlfriend, Xan Aranda.

The program is part of a four-city Midwest tour by Bird and the Film Brigade to raise funds for the not-for-profit organization. Founded by Aranda, the Chicago Short Film Brigade was organized to present a variety of short films, from local to international, in open and alternative settings. Avoiding the usual academic and festival screening venues, each with their own particular set of pretensions, the Film Brigade aims “to side-step the usual,” offering film fans and casual observers alike the opportunity to see short films in a casual and fun setting.

The screening will feature selections from Russia, Switzerland, Lebanon, and the United States, including films from Chicago and Seattle. Chosen from hundreds of submitted films, the screening will feature work from directors of all ages, from beginners to experienced filmmakers. In addition to the Dubuque Voices show, the Andrew Bird / Chicago Short Film Brigade tour will visit Cedar Rapids, Minneapolis and Madison.

Bird’s performance at the Voices warehouse will mark his first Dubuque show in two years. For those who have not experienced Andrew Bird’s live show, it is truly a remarkable experience. Sampling violin and guitar phrases live and looping them, he creates lush, multi-layered soundscapes over which he sings, whistles and plays glockenspiel. The effect is that of a full band or chamber ensemble performed by a soloist.

Admission for the event will be $15, with beverages provided by Isabella’s and the Busted Lift. Advance tickets are not available, but with 10,000 square feet of warehouse to fill, the show should not sell out, even with Andrew Bird’s rising popularity.

A onetime member of the Squirrel Nut Zippers, Bird has evolved through several solo albums, borrowing influences from the entire history of American music as well as classical, Latin, African and other “world music” to arrive at a unique and personal style. After the success of his 2003 album, Weather Systems, he was picked up by Ani DiFranco’s Righteous Babe record label, which released The Mysterious Production of Eggs. The album has received a groundswell of critical praise, scoring a ranking of number 7 in Paste magazine’s review of 2005 releases.

In addition to the special events, the warehouse exhibit will be open Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. The Voices Warehouse Gallery may also be opened for interested groups by appointment. For more information on Voices or the special events at the warehouse, call the Dubuque Museum of Art at 563-557-1851. For more information on the Chicago Short Film Brigade, visit filmbrigade.com. For more information on Andrew Bird visit andrewbird.net.

HE WEARS BLACK

Performed by a Cash cousin, Scott Keeton (his great-great-great grandmother was Francis Cash ... hey, it counts!), this Oct. 6 concert is sure to be an excellent showcase of the musical genius that was Mr. Cash (as well as the Tennessee Three, June Carter Cash and Carl Perkins).

Keeton has been working in the industry for twenty years, and his pedigree includes a performance at Carnegie Hall with Art Garfunkel. He’s been a guitarist for such acts as Eric Idle (you know, the Monty Python guy), Bo Diddley and Magic Slim.

Between the costumes that the performers will be wearing, the style of their instruments and the sets on the stage, this performance will take you back to the heyday of Johnny Cash.

The concert will be presented by Wolfman Jack’s Entertainment and New Country WJOD, and tickets are on sale at the Five Flags box office, all Ticketmaster locations, through the telephone (319-363-1888) and online at ticketmaster.com. Reserved seats run $25.75 and $28.75.
Thursday, October 5

Ad Club Uncorked! - A Wine Tasting
Social w/ Ralph Kluseman
Park Farm Winery, 5 PM - 8 PM

Open Mic Night at Grape Harbor
Grape Harbor, 8 PM - 11 PM

Denny Garcia
Murph's South End Tap, 9 PM - 1 AM

Isabella's Thursday Blues Jam
Isabella's, Ryan House, 9 PM - 1 AM

Johnnie Walker & Ralph Kluseman
Molly's Pub, 9 PM - 1 AM

Friday, October 6

Andrew Bird @
the Chicago Short Film Brigade
Voices from the Warehouse
Friday, October 6th 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM
1000 Jackson Street

“He Wears Black”- Johnny Cash Tribute
8 PM - 11 PM, Five Flags Center

Rocket Surgeons
The Busted Lift, 9 PM - 1 AM

Leonardo Roldan/Romeo Bautista duo
Los Aztecas, 6 PM - 9 PM

Artie & The Pink Catillacs
Dino’s Backside, 10:30 PM - 2:30 AM

Jodi Splinter & Kevin Beck
3100 Club/Midway Hotel, 8 PM - 12 AM

DeToKs
The Arena, 9 PM - 1:30 AM

Saturday, October 7

Ridge Rangers, Legends, River Ridge
Galena Country Fair, 10 AM - 5 PM

Leonardo Roldan/Romeo Bautista duo
Los Aztecas, 6 PM - 9 PM

Dave Zollo
Isabella’s, 7 PM - 11 PM

Isabella’s, Ryan House, 9 PM - 1 AM

Johnnie Walker & Ralph Kluseman
Molly’s Pub, 9 PM - 1 AM

Sunday, October 8

Apple Dumplins’
Sandy Hook Tavern, 10 PM - 2 AM

Bryan Popp, The Legends,
Galena Country Fair, 10 AM - 5 PM

S&S Acoustics
Kelsie’s Fisherman’s Wharf, 3 PM - 6 PM

James Kinds & the All-Night Riders
Iron Horse Social Club, 3 PM - 7 PM

Betty and the Headlights
New Diggings, 3:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Emperor X
The Busted Lift, 5 PM - 9 PM

Tuesday, October 10

Loose Gravel Duet
Riverwalk Lounge/Grand Harbor,
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Jazz Tuesday with ‘Round Midnight
Isabella’s, 8 PM - 12 AM

Wed., October 11

Gerry Bednob
Bricktown’s Live On Main, 9 PM - 11 PM

Songwriters’ Circle
Isabella’s / Ryan House, 8 PM - 11 PM

The Comedy of Mike Marvell
Arthur House Restaurant, 9 PM

Horsin’ Around Band
Catfish Charlie’s, 10 PM - 1 AM

Open Mic w/ The Dert Tones
The Busted Lift, 9 PM - 1 AM

Thursday, October 12

Open Mic Night
Grape Harbor, 8 PM - 11 AM

Thursday Blues Jam
Isabella’s, Ryan House, 9 PM - 1 AM

Friday, October 13

Jim Wand Adult Hypnotism Show
Bricktown’s Live On Main, 9 PM - 1 AM

The Comedy of Pat Duax
Arthur House Restaurant, 9 PM

Leonardo Roldan/Romeo Bautista duo
Los Aztecas, 6 PM - 9 PM

Euroforquestra (Afro-Cuban)
The Busted Lift, 9 PM - 1 AM

Rosalie Morgan
Grape Escape, Galena, 7:30 PM - 12 AM

Roy Schrodel
Perfect Pint, 8 PM - 11 PM

Mixed Emotions
Dubuque Driving Range, 8 PM - 12 AM

The Rick Tittle Band
3100 Club at the Midway Hotel,
8 PM - 12 AM
Sunday, October 15
Chuck Bregman
Anton's Saloon, New Diggs, 3 PM - 9 PM
James Kinds & the All-Night Riders
New Diggings, 3:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Wed., October 18
Jack Wilhite & Greg Alt
Bricktown's Live On Main, 9 PM - 11 PM
The Wailin' Jensys
UWP Center for Arts, 8 PM - 10 PM
Comedy/Mike Veneman & Todd McCune
3100 Club/Midway Hotel, 8 PM - 10 PM
The Wundo Band
Pizzeria Uno, 9 PM - 12 AM
Open Mic w/ The Dert Tones
The Busted Lift, 9 PM - 1 AM

Thursday, October 19
Kanser, Casethejoint, TK & DJ Deadbeat
The Busted Lift, 9 PM - 1 AM
The Mighty Short Bus - CD Release
The Busted Lift, 10 PM - 1 AM
Firewood Friday!
Busted Lift, 10 PM - 1 AM
Firewood Friday!
Busted Lift, 10 PM - 1 AM

Friday, October 20
The Mighty Short Bus - CD Release
The Busted Lift, 10 PM - 1 AM
Firewood Friday!
The Busted Lift, 10 PM - 1 AM
The Wundo Band
Pizzeria Uno, 9 PM - 12 AM
Open Mic w/ The Dert Tones
The Busted Lift, 9 PM - 1 AM

Saturday, October 21
ochOsol @ Voices Art After Hours
Warehouse District - 10th & Jackson
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
John Michael Talbot
Five Flags Center, 7 PM - 10 PM
Left of Center
Dirty Ernie's, Farley, IA, 9 PM - 1 AM
LiviN' Large
Jumpers, 9 PM - 1 AM
Dan Trilk
Mississippi Mug, 3 PM - 5 PM
Rocket Surgeons
Dagwoods, Cascade, 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM
Big Muddy
The Busted Lift, 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM
Mississippi Man
New Diggings, 9 PM - 1 AM
Zero 2 Sixty
Buddie's, 9 PM - 1 AM
tantrym
Knicker's Saloon, 9 PM - 1 AM
Julien's Buff
Dog House Lounge, 9 PM - 1 AM
DeToKs
The Arena, 11 PM - 3 AM
The Guardian
A Film by Andrew Davis (Under Siege, The Fugitive)

When his fellow crewmates and friends perish while on duty, rescue swimmer Ben Randall (Kevin Costner) must take some time off from active duty. He is assigned to serve as a teacher to the next class of Coast Guard Rescue Swimmers. His unorthodox methods of teaching are often met with resistance but he perseveres, hoping to train a generation of swimmers who put the lives of others ahead of their own. His class is a mix of two-time losers, optimistic kids and a few recruits looking to find a purpose. Cocky high school swimming champion Jake Fischer (Ashton Kutcher, Cedar Rapids) is among his class and is carrying around a rather large chip on his shoulder. His antics, including missing curfew to spend time with a local woman (Emily Thomas as Melissa), exasperate Randall but he sees something in this young man, something special that could make him the best rescue swimmer. Along the journey to making Jake an elite officer, Randall may find the answers he seeks as well and perhaps bring himself a reunion with his estranged wife (Sela Ward).

The trailers for The Guardian have caught the attention of movie-goers for months. The combination of exciting action sequences, really quite extraordinary acting and the emotional storyline embody what we only caught glimpses of in the trailers. Costner and Kutcher put in their best performances. For Costner, The Guardian should go a long way to rejuvenating his career, and it’s one of the few non-sports/Western films he’s starred in that have actually been good. The Guardian is much more along the lines of J.F.K. and The Untouchables, and not so much Waterworld or The Postman. Kutcher surprises in his role. Sure, portraying a cocky young man with a chip on his shoulder is not much of a stretch for our fellow Iowan, but he pulls off some great comedic and dramatic moments. Perhaps our friend Ashton has finally matured. When you view this film, it is hard to not get caught up in the emotion. Whether it is during the action scenes as they desperately try to save as many lives as possible or the personal situations that each of the two heroes have to endure, the filmmakers did a great job setting the scene and creating the connection to them that makes the audience react when good (and bad) things happen to them, a rare occurrence these days, The Guardian lived up to the trailer. Be forewarned, though, to empty your bladder before you go in. With this being the Coast Guard, watching the waves pound against the shore after a JUMBO Pepsi could make the last 30 minutes of this movie pure torture. And trust us when we say you don’t want to miss a minute as the movie draws to a close.

Flyboys
- A Film by Tony Bill (My Bodyguard, Crazy People)

The first World War I aviation film in over 40 years, Flyboys is the story of a world of young American men who cross the Atlantic to join the French Escadrille in the years prior to America officially joining the war effort. These were ordinary men, often looking to escape some turmoil in their personal lives. Blaine Rawlings (James Franco) enlists after the foreclosure of his family’s ranch. Briggs Lowry (Tyler Labine) is enlisted by his rich father, who is ashamed of his son’s lack of initiative and success. Eugene Skinner (Abdul Salis) is looking for a better life and to give something back to France where he has had success as a boxer. As an African-American, he also wants to escape from racial intolerance. Jean Reno leads them as French Captain Thenault while American Reed Cassidy (Martin Henderson) is the ace of the squadron. Learning to fly is only one of the challenges as the Germans continue their advance on Paris as the French, English and Italians struggle to come up with a strategy to stop them. Complicating the situation for Rawlings is the budding love he has for a French woman who has become the guardian for the 3 young children of her brother and his wife.

Flyboys is an adrenaline rush, especially when it comes to the dogfight scenes over France. Some of them even make you a little dizzy as the planes flip and twist through the sky, bullets and bombs flashing across the screen. The reality that not everyone will survive (the war did cost something like 9 million people their lives), the addition of the love story and the humor among some of the flyboys help keep this film real. There are some slow parts and the story seems to jump around a lot at times but these are fairly minor flaws. The crafting of the scenes, the special effects during the aerial maneuvers and the overall look and feel of the film help make up for any shortcomings. The reality of that time in our history is brought home effectively, including the treatment of African-Americans and the relative newness of aviation. Not a must-see, FLYBOYS is a film that begs to be seen on the big screen. Somehow, the dogfights cannot possibly have the same effect on a television screen, no matter how big that screen is. If done well, historical movies like FLYBOYS inspire their audiences to do more research. Get those encyclopedias out or start that Google search now.
Is John Cena gonna have to choke a... nevermind.

WWE RAW is set to bodyslam Dubuque on Saturday, October 28, at 7:30 p.m. For one night only, the Five Flags Center will be home to all the sweaty, testosterone-y grappling action that makes wrestling such a pleasure.

The event will feature a packed card, including a women's title match, a lock-up between former world champions Triple H and Randy Orton and a WWE Title match between John Cena and Edge.

As always, the card is subject to change.

Tickets ($21-31-41) went on sale September 23, and they're still available (but going fast!) at the Five Flags Box Office, all Ticketmaster outlets, online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone at 563-557-8497.

Whether you follow the sport religiously or just want to recapture the magic from when you did follow it religiously (come on now, we all did), this is a rare and excellent opportunity to see what all the excitement is all about in person. They say it's like a NASCAR race. Until you see it in person, you just can't understand the rush. Watch for an upcoming issue of Dubuque365ink with more information on the impending slobberknocker.
Dubuque Main Street Awards
Downtown Development Projects Honored

Dubuque Main Street, the downtown revitalization not-for-profit organization recognized a number of downtown development projects at their Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony on September 27. Now in its 21st year, the annual meeting was attended by the Main Street board of directors, supporters, and investors. This year’s event was held at the Heartland Financial Center, 1301 Central Avenue, one of last year’s award winners.

Most people want to do their part to help our environment, but they don’t know where to start. Choosing ENERGY STAR-qualified lighting for the home is a simple way to save time, energy and money. With lighting accounting for 20 percent of the average home’s electric bill, it is one of the easiest places to save energy.

As we work to maintain secure, safe and affordable energy resources for our citizens, campaigns such as Change-A-Light matter. I am joining with the mayors and governors from across our country to bring attention to the critical importance of using energy wisely at home. We are likewise being joined by retail stores, manufacturers and energy efficient organizations to help our nation become “energy aware” all year long. This is a call to action from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy to encourage each of us to help change the world.

Change 5 lights. If each home would replace its five most frequently used lights or the bulbs in them with ones that have earned the ENERGY STAR rating, each home would save about $60 a year in energy costs, and if done across America, we’d save $6.5 billion in energy costs and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions from more than 8 million cars!

“We profess to love our own offspring above all else, yet above all else, it is they from whom we daily steal.” Carl Safina

The complete list of award recipients is as follows:

Design
- Gin Rickeys – Best Total Rehabilitation Project – Joe Hefel, and Eric Frommelt
- Washington Park – Best Design/Beautification Project – City of Dubuque
- The Gateway Project – Best Public Improvement Project – City of Dubuque

Economic Development
- The Theresa Shelter – Best Adaptive Reuse of a Building – 1111 Bluff Street – Sr. Carol Karwowski
- Walling Enterprises – Best Upper Floor Rehabilitation – Bonnie and Don Walling
- Accessorize Me – Outstanding New Retail Establishment – Jennifer Klaas Walling Enterprises – Best Upper
- Five Flags Initiative (SMG) – Best Business Improvement Success Story – SMG, City of Dubuque

Promotion
- Envision 2010 – Best Promotional Partnership Effort – The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, The Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce
- Holiday Extravaganza – Best Special Event – Northeast Iowa Community College

Organization
- Voices from the Warehouse District – Russ & Ruth Nash Cultural Corridor Award – Dubuque Museum of Art, Tim McNamara, Gene Tully
- Prudential Financial – Volunteers of the Year

A million visitors a year. Are you one of them?
The huge old brick buildings that dotted the landscape like square old hills on the moon are rubble. The dust blows out to the river in gray clouds and the temporary wire fences bend in places where the big earth movers drove too close. At 16th and Maple, church steeples silhouette against the treetop canopy in the distance where once the packing house buildings loomed.

It all began in June, 1891, as The Dubuque Packing Company. During those halcyon years several major meatpackers operated in the city, Rath, Swift and Armour among them. In 1931 Harry Wahler arrived from St. Louis and purchased the company with an $85,000 investment. By the 1960s, The Pack had a workforce of 3,500. In 1978 the company was bought out by Armour and purchased the company with an $85,000 investment. By the 1960s, The Pack had a workforce of 3,500. In 1978 it was the 15th largest private company in America with sales of $796 million.

It was a behemoth that processed nine thousand hogs daily at its peak. But it was the 15th largest private company in America with sales of $796 million. It was a behemoth that processed nine thousand hogs daily at its peak. In 1978 it was the 15th largest private company in America with sales of $796 million.

The heaven's colors are changing, eagles will begin to sail. The property is exploring the land for parks and bringing a sense of decency and the ethic of hard work that will last long after their epitaphs.

The men, and later the women, of the packing house built this city as sure as the carpenters and millwrights did. They sent their children to the Catholic schools and funded the hospitals. They financed the colleges, gave tracts of land for parks and brought a sense of decency and the ethic of hard work that will last long after their epitaphs.

The people of The Pack set the future up for winning, for prosperity to come. They were people who raised their heads high and built a name for themselves and their employer and their home. What happens next will stand on the shoulders of those who worked at The Pack.

A sense of family, a circle without end. They're of the last age and they were a part of something primitive and sacred. The dignity of the work was within the people and they passed it along.

The sky is a canvas and the moon are brush. The process is a dance. The earth is a stage and the life is a performance. The audience is watching and the actors are performing. The set is changing and the script is written.

A time for everything under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die.
To place classified ads simply call 563-588-4365.

Business-to-Business Telesales

esalesmanager.com, a division of Greene Training International, is opening a new call center in Dubuque. As publishers of high quality resources for sales managers, we are seeking a few skilled, experienced B-to-B representatives to sell our products to corporations all over the country. At esalesmanager.com, you will find a professional yet comfortable and casual environment. Excellent compensation and great daytime hours! Significantly B-to-B telemarketing/inside sales experience along with a proven ability to consistently and successfully sell is required. If you are looking for a company that truly appreciates and rewards your hard work and productivity, isn't it time for a change? You owe it to yourself to at least check us out. Old friends should be in touch. Contact Henry at henry@esalesmanager.com or call (888) 524-5200.

Fidelity Bank & Trust seeks part-time teller. Telephone skills, money handling, computer skills a must. Apply to Nancy Dinkel, Vice President, 4250 Asbury Rd., Dubuque IA 52002, or dinkel@bankfidelity.com.

Diamond Jo Casino Employment Opportunities

Player Development Manager - Primary responsibilities are overseeing the activities of the Hosts and Player's Club, and designing and implementing promotions. 3+ years of Casino or Hospitality Management experience. Strong marketing, organizational, communication, and computer skills are required. Food Service Supervisor - Candidates should have 1 year or appropriate experience, strong supervisory skills, and good communication skills. This is a full time position, which offers a competitive wage and an excellent benefits package.

Barback to start immediately. This is an on-call position including a competitive salary.

Cage Cashier to start immediately. This part time position includes an competitive salary. Candidates should possess a high school diploma or equivalent, minimum six months experience and good mathematical skills.

Cage Manager to start immediately. This full-time position includes an excellent benefits package. Minimum five years of direct experience required. Strong leadership, organizational, and communication skills a must.

Beverage Manager: The successful candidate will direct and coordinate Casino Beverages and Deli work units. Requirements include but not limited to 3 years supervisory experience and a bachelor's degree. This is a full-time salaried position.

Housekeepers to start immediately. On-call positions are available.

Security Officer to start immediately for our Graveyard Shift. This is an on-call position.

Dishwashers to start immediately. Part-time and on-call positions available.

Bartender to start immediately. This is a part time position.

For the above positions visit Diamond Jo Casino, 3rd Street Ice Harbor, or email human.resources@diamondjo.com

Wanted To Buy

Guns Wanted to Buy. Old, new, antique, rare. One or an entire collection. 563-590-9817

They’re going at it pretty good on television every night, now you can see them go at it face to face. No, there won’t be a ring or gloves, but the candidates for the 1st District Congressional seat in Iowa, Bruce Braley and Mike Whalen, will face off in a debate on Monday, October 9, at Roosevelt Middle School at 7 p.m. Could it be Lincoln - Douglas all over again? Okay, probably not. But it is a great opportunity to hear first hand the candidates stances on issues from their own mouths and not from media campaigns created by national committees. Get the straight facts. Seeing them in person can tell you a lot about their personalities and how well prepared and knowledgeable they are on the issues.

Note: Please do not wear any political or issue-related attire.
Dubuque Jaycees
Candidate Meet and Greet

The Dubuque Jaycees is hosting a Candidate Meet and Greet Evening on October 10 from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Dubuque. All area candidates appearing on the ballot this November are invited to attend and will have an opportunity to make some brief comments at the beginning of the event.

Area voters have expressed frustration in their attempts to find objective, accurate information on candidates for the November election. This unique format will open a direct channel of communication, allowing area Young Professionals and Students to interact with candidates on an individual basis. Through this process, the Dubuque Jaycees are working to provide area voters every opportunity to be informed when going to the polls on Election Day.

This informative event is open to the public and appetizers are provided to those who attend. The County Auditor's office will also be present to assist in registration of new voters.

All media sources are invited and encouraged to attend this community wide event. Candidates for local, state, and national office have confirmed attendance. For further information, contact Marcie Winkelman at mwinkelman@dupaco.com or 563-590-8320.

1% Mattitude Improvement Tip
Cardinal Rule of Management

Successful managers understand the Cardinal Rule of Management. If someone under you succeeds, the success is a result of their hard work and effort. If there is a failure, both of you are responsible. When the new project is a home run, pass on all the credit, praise and glory to others. If the project strikes out, share the blame. That’s the Cardinal Rule of Management.

Improving your life, even just by 1 percent, can make all the difference! Remember, not every tip will work for everyone. What tips do you use to improve your life? Please take an active part of this community. If you have a useful tip, I encourage you to send it to me so others can benefit. Simply send tips to: tips@mattbooth.com.

Does your business or organization need Mattitude? Contact Matt today at 563-590-9693 or e-mail info@mattbooth.com.

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The Designer’s Club

By Gary Olsen

Have you heard about our newest show on DCS-TV Cable Channel 19? It’s called Designer’s Club. Designer’s Club follows the great successes of Kids in the Kitchen, The Garden Organic and Chopper School.

I designed the logo and opening animation for Designer’s Club. I usually do these things while watching football games on the weekends. I’m completely surrounded by my electronic gizmos and I’m in the zone, so to speak. I wanted the show’s opener to have a fast-paced contemporary feel, but I didn’t want it to narrow the topical aspects of the show to any one kind of design. It’s difficult to tell which directions the show will take, but we want to keep our options open, so we could follow an episode on floral design with a show about interior decorating or graphic design. There’s a big world of opportunities out there. There are a lot of endeavors we can define as design careers. They all involve creativity, craftsmanship or production skills, and creativity is precisely what we are trying to promote with this show.

The idea for Designer’s Club and the name for the program belong to Kris Nauman. Kris is a professional designer who is a mom with four school-age children, and she volunteered to get the program off the ground. The concept for the show grew from a chance meeting we had on the set of The Garden Organic. Kris lives across the street from the garden in Barrington Lake that we’d been using for our project, and she had been observing the weekly filming while her new house was being built. She made fast friends with her neighbor and the show’s producer, Megan Dalsing, who then introduced Kris to me. Kris offered to help decorate for the end-of-season wrap party, to which the parents and sponsors were invited. I was completely impressed with her flower arrangements, her enthusiasm and the variety of organic and found objects she incorporated in her designs.

“Have you ever done any TV?” I asked. “Yes,” she replied. “I did a segment that turned into a whole show on a regional television channel.” Needless to say, we hit it off right away, and we had our first show scheduled within a month of that first meeting.

Our primary learning objective in these early episodes is to teach design through easy-to-do projects involving organic and found objects, live and preserved plants and different shaped vessels. It’s sort of like finding design in nature (the original designer). It is our show’s mission to provide hands-on lessons in such disciplines as floral design and home décor, because they provide excellent jumping-off points. We will teach visual strategies to convey an idea and a feeling, and we will apply the lessons of line, shape, composition, texture, contrast, and color to everything we do. This is an excellent beginning for the budding designer. If you know how to decorate a space, you can move in several different directions from there.

Ultimately, we plan on branching out into other design endeavors. I want to impress students with the excitement of pursuing a design career. Virtually every company in the world must depend on the services of a designer for new product development, marketing and communication.

This show is a collaboration among the Dubuque Community Schools and the Dubuque design community, its practitioners and suppliers. This not only includes home decor, floral designers, and interior designers, but also the furniture industry, paint, hardware and do-it-yourself industries. And we don’t want to forget the vast craft market. The topical possibilities for a show like this are endless.

We plan on seasonal shows that will feature holiday decorating, and we will also showcase special occasion and party decorating. We also will tour the businesses and talk with professional designers in all areas of design.

All of this will involve students. We are going to focus our attention on middle school and early high school-age children. This age group’s tastes and design sense are, for the most part, a reflection of their parents, but now they are beginning to see and understand a much larger world. And if you really think about it, being a designer is about being confident in oneself and one’s tastes. At this age, kids need a lot opportunities to build confidence.

They are experimenting with fashion. They are beginning to grasp the concept of visual communication, and they are thinking more abstractly, less literally. They are beginning to develop a personal style. It is at this age they begin developing personal tastes and sensibilities that will carry them on to adulthood. This is also the time they develop a somewhat more sophisticated sense of humor.

Plus, design and creativity are fun and life affirming. It is what distinguishes our species, and it’s what contributes to our quality of life. Design also defines our cultural and historical roots while inspiring us to glimpse into the future.

We are constantly reorganizing our spaces, building better and more exciting products. It is our nature to design and redesign. We are continually engaged in this enterprise that combines line, shape, composition, texture, contrast and color. We are constantly absorbing those things in our environment we find stimulating, and then incorporating them into our own flights of self expression. Design, after all, is the result of an active, imaginative and inventive mind.

Gary Olsen is an award-winning media designer and producer of T.V. shows for the Dubuque Community School District.
Dear Trixie:
I had my first date this year with an attractive graduate student who grabbed my leg in the movie theater and then accused me of being a lesbian because I called the date off and didn't want to go home with him. I waited ten months trying to find a smart, adult male who would treat me with respect. I didn't think he'd be such a jerk. Where did I go wrong?
--Never Dating Again

Dear Never Dating:
Your first mistake was having standards at all. People with standards are always disappointed. The best way to approach dating a new guy is to assume that by the end of the date you'll be in two or three trash bags and left on different freeways off-ramps. Then when all he does is buy dinner and demand sex you'll feel like you had a pretty good time.

Dear Trixie:
I'm thinking seriously about being a surrogate mother for a truly needy couple who are unable to have their own children. I have eight babies and only four are in foster care! I know I am quite fertile and a good person to be able to do this. I want to do something important and I understand a completed delivery pays $15,000. My sister thinks I'm out of my mind. What do you pay for a completed delivery?
--Fertile Myrtle

Dear Jason T:
Wear a brown tie and keep your mouth shut.

Dear Good Pal:
I think a tarantula is a pretty good substitute for a man. My second choice would be a mayonnaise jar full of leeches.

Dear Trixie:
I had my nose pierced way back in 1999. Since then, I've done both my ears, nipples and eyebrows and had my tongue pierced. Not to mention the upper ears and beneath my lower lip. Now, all of a sudden, high school kids are putting holes in themselves and acting like they invented it! What am I supposed to do now?
--Not Into Tattoos

Dear Not Into:
You should be the first person on your block to insert a cranial shunt. I'm thinking stainless steel or possibly platinum. Or what about removing 3 or 4 digits from a hand? You could really impress the chicks with a pierced uvula. Be creative!

ARIES
If you've already invested more in your significant other's home than you own for more than two months straight, then the answer of "should I move in or not?" has pretty much been answered.

TAURUS
Life is feeling a little bland as of late ... perhaps it's time to take inspiration from legendary music producer Bruce Dickinson. Observe things in your life that need more of something. Something ... special. Something unique. For all you know, your laundry, dinner time, your bed, your car, time with your significant other ... they might all need more cowbell.

GEMINI
You put in a lot of time at the office, but you always feel as though you're on the verge of the "A" list, yet never breaking through. Try wandering through the hallways singing Boston's "More than a Feeling." People will hear your lyrics and unconsciously join your melody. Eventually you'll be leading an entire office choir. Rock on, brother.

CANCER
While it's commendable to want to be as proficient with language as humanly possible, it's important to keep in mind that there should be limits. While you may feel proud that you can define the imperative statement, the conjunctive mood and a gerundive, it's highly unlikely that you're going to pick up women reciting lines like that. "Hey, girl ... want to help me with my imperfect subjunctive?"

LEO
Generally speaking, there are three constants in life: Death, taxes and the Chicago Cubs being terrible. However, you can make combinations, and create new constans. For example, because the Chicago Cubs will be terrible until death claims you, it is therefore a constant that you will drink copious amounts of Budweiser products to hasten that process.

VIRGO
There are certain things that you need to take care of when handling them ... babies, for example. You wouldn't drop a baby, right? So why would you drop a laptop? Dropping a laptop is like dropping a baby, which means if you drop a laptop, you hate life and you hate America. You might as well eat a baby (or laptop) while you're at it.
**Stripping**

That got your attention, didn’t it?

Often procrastinated and seemingly unpleasant, this is one task that is best done without your significant other. Of course, I’m talking about the removal or stripping of wallpaper. C’mon, this is a family publication.

Haven’t we tried everything to make the process go smoothly? We’ve bought the special products from the paint store which offer little more than a false sense of assurance. Or we can try our neighbor’s home remedy: fabric softener! (Yes, I really have had Downy dripping down my dining room walls and no it didn’t work.)

What do we know for sure? It will be time-consuming, messy and probably not fun. Frankly, there is no magic wand. This is one task that’s going to take good old fashioned elbow grease to get the job done.

Here are a few “do’s” and “don’t’s” about the wacky world of wallpaper removal.

Do score the surface of the paper with a Paper Tiger which you can find at the hardware store. Since most papers are vinyl-coated, the top layer needs to be scored so the water can absorb into the paper backing.

Water is your friend. Do use hot tap water in a garden sprayer. This is a huge time saver. Just look out for the electrical outlets which are not a friend of water.

Do cover the floors with fabric over plastic tarps. You’ll keep the sticky paste off the flooring and the fabric tarps will absorb the water that will inevitably drip down the wall.

Don’t start scraping the paper off the surface until the water has had a chance to absorb through to the wall. Let the water do the work.

Don’t panic when and if the wallpaper removes part of the plaster or wallboard. This is one of wallpaper’s downsides; it’s bound to do some damage to the walls.

Do think of the positive, as stripping wallpaper can be a great way to release some of your aggressions. And when you wake up in the morning to make coffee, you won’t have a row of geese in blue bows staring at you.

So turn up the music and strip away … spectators optional.

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**Twenty Dirty Hands**

Pottery Studio Tour
October 13-15

The Galena area collective of ceramic artists known as Twenty Dirty Hands invites lovers of all things pottery to their sixth annual studio and kiln tour, scheduled for Friday through Sunday, the weekend of October 13-15. More than twenty hands were dirtied in preparation for the event, which will feature the pottery of over fifty clay artists at six different locations.

One of the more popular locations on the tour is the Menominee Wood Kiln, just off Highway 20 on the way to Galena. A kiln firing hosted by the four wood kiln partners (Ken Bichell, Ron Halen, Doug Reynolds, and Stephanie O’Schaughnessy) will feature the work of several ceramic artists and an opportunity for visitors to throw wood into the kiln which reaches temperatures of over 2,400 degrees Fahrenheit. Other locations on the tour include the studios of Adrien Seagraves and Paul Eschelman in Elizabeth, Illinois, the studio of Bill Farrell and Delores Fortuna north of Galena, and the studios of Kent Henderson and Charles Fach in Galena. For more information, call 815-777-0644.

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**Mic’d Up - Open Mic Sessions in Dubuque**

Continued from page 13

The studio tour is a great excuse for a weekend leaf-viewing drive through the beautiful scenery surrounding the Galena area. Participating studios will feature special exhibits by some of the area’s most notable potters and special events (a few demonstrations, an hors d’oeuvre here, a glass of wine there) through the weekend. For a full listing of events at each location, visit www.twentydirtyhands.com.

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**Peosta Worship Center**

It is the ministry of the Peosta Contemporary Worship Center to reach out beyond denominational lines, drawing closer together all children of God and for each of us, enter into a deeper personal relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the world.

Bottom Floor of Peosta Community Centre
7896 Burd’s Road
Peosta, IA 52068
563.583.3706
Pastor David Minihan
Sunday Service 10 AM
An Open Letter to Bob Seger.

Dear Mr. Seger,

First off, congratulations on your new album. I have been waiting a long time to hear from you and let's just say it was worth the wait. Well done.

My name is Nick Klenske and, like you, I'm a Midwesterner too. I've actually known you all my life. I first met you through the speakers of my family's wood-paneled station wagon. We were driving uneventfully to visit my grandparents when Dad suddenly cranked up the volume and began keeping your old-time rhythm on the vinyl steering wheel. It was love at first listen.

Even in high school, when all the cool kids were listening to gangsta rap and music by bands with names like Butthole Surfers and Tool, I remained committed to you. While others were sipping gin and juice, I was out working on my night moves in the back of my '92 Chevy.

In college my friend Scott and I founded a fan club, the "Frick'n Seegs Club." We got together on Wednesday nights, drank beer, and discussed the metacognitive theories behind your lyric "C'est la Vie." We were on a mission to bring you to the University of Iowa for a concert. Imagine our disappointment when we discovered you were no longer touring, nor making music for that matter. "He's retired," we were told. This news may have wrecked our hearts, but we didn't lose faith. After all, you are the "Frick'n Seegs."

I cannot even describe my excitement when I heard rumor of a new album in the works. When the wait was finally over and I was listening to Face the Promise for the first time, I got to thinking, which brings me to the point of my letter. The point being, I want to personally invite you to come play in my hometown, Dubuque. You and Dubuque are destined to accompany each other. For starters, you would take Dubuque's concert scene to the next level. Granted, Loverboy had its share of hits, but not nearly enough to legitimately fill a greatest hits album (let alone two). Then there is Styx, who have not been the same since Cartman sailed away with the lead vocals gig. Although these bands sell out shows for a reason, neither are of the same caliber as you. You are like Bob Dylan, who once graced this town with his rock and roll legacy, only you are a Hall of Famer and still putting out hits. Your music is timeless and solid, just like a rock.

When planning your tour, you probably won't even notice little old Dubuque. You'll probably check Iowa off your to-do list with a stop at Des Moines' flashy Wells Fargo Arena. But I think you should think twice about Dubuque. You see, in Des Moines you'll be confined to playing in a sterile venue alongside an impersonal interstate. In Dubuque, on the other hand, you will play to an intimate crowd at our Five Flags Theater located down on Main Street.

We here in Dubuque are like you in that we are both phoenixes experiencing a rebirth. We're both turning the page in our respective stories. We can celebrate together. Dubuque will celebrate its revitalized downtown, influx of new residents and opportunities, its riverside tourism and increase in overall diversity. You can celebrate your new album and the resurrection of your rock 'n' roll soul. What better place to celebrate than here, together, in the heart of the great American Midwest? In your latest single you sing that you'll be around if we wait for you. Well, we're waiting for you Mr. Seger. "Why," you ask? Because you're the Frick'n Seegs, man. Frick'n Seegs.

Sincerely,

Nick Klenske

If you write him, he may come. Find out how at http://nickklenske.blogspot.com.
M-Studios
Pro-level Recording Studio
Grand Opens in Galena Oct. 22
by Mike Ironside

Area songwriters, musicians and recording artists now have a new, top-of-the-line facility in which to record their next masterpiece with the opening of M-Studios in Galena. A collaboration between studio owner Bill Grundhoefer and recording engineer, musician and songwriter Andy Steil, M-Studios will offer professional recording services in a cutting-edge digital environment. Located at 233 Diagonal Street (just off Main Street) in Galena, the studio will “officially” open for business with an October 22 Grand Opening.

In anticipation of the opening, we sat down with Steil who describes his role in the operation as studio manager and “Vice-Decider,” meaning he worked with studio owner Grundhoefer (Decider? President of Decisions?) on everything from studio layout and acoustic management to choosing recording equipment. Grundhoefer, he reports, also served as the “aesthetics guy,” designing the look of the space.

The resulting facility combines the newest and best digital recording and editing equipment with very warm and comfortable studio and control room spaces. M-Studios is also the realization of a longtime dream of Grundhoefer, to build a truly high-quality studio that would be accessible to the local music community. “The reason he did this was to bring something to the community that will improve the state of the arts,” explains Steil.

With a focus on flexibility and serving the needs of the music community, Steil describes the studio’s intent is “to be able to record whatever walks in the door.”

Not only an audio recording studio, M-Studios will offer standard TV-quality video production and editing and classes on both basic recording and video production techniques. Having conducted loads of research to find the best recording and video gear, M-Studios will also offer pro audio equipment sales and service.

The main studio room is big enough to accommodate live musical performances by full bands or choral groups with audio and video recordings being made at the same time. A large video projection screen will allow the studio to be utilized for film screenings, business conferences and multimedia presentations. The studio boasts a new, nearly seven-foot Young Chang grand piano.

In an effort to keep the majority of the first floor square footage for the main studio room, Grundhoefer and Steil located the control room on the second floor. Typically, studio and control rooms are located adjacent to each other on the same floor. Performers and recording engineers maintain visual contact through a large window separating the spaces and communicate through microphones and headphones or speakers. With the two rooms on different levels, the communication issue was solved through a system of cameras and video monitors.

The solution proved to have other benefits. Besides seeing the recording engineer’s smiling face, the video display can be used to show graphic representations of recorded waveforms, allowing the musician or vocalist to better anticipate sections of music for overdubbing new tracks or “punching-in” to fix small mistakes. The studio room also has a dedicated headphone mixer so each performer can create his own headphone playback mix for overdubbing tracks.

Of course, one of the main things that separates a pro-level studio from a home studio — or any room with a mic in it, for that matter — is the acoustic treatments to make the room soundproof from outside sounds. Likewise, the control room needs to be as sonically “neutral” as possible so that what an engineer hears from the monitor speakers on playback is what is actually recorded, not sound affected by the coloration of room reflections. Already an experienced recording engineer with over 15 years of recording experience, Steil studied online at what he called “Google School” for a year and a half, reading articles and studying studio design to learn how to build a professional studio from the ground up (or at least the walls out).

While the studio room is double-walled to eliminate incoming noise, size constraints prevented a similar treatment in the control room. Though they were able to create a space as sonically neutral as possible, it did not completely eliminate the possibility of outside sound intruding on the process. “One day Dave (Christensen) was downstairs recording,” relates Steil. “And we heard a huge Harley go by upstairs, but it didn’t show up on the recorded track.”

To further eliminate sonic anomalies in the control room, M-Studios uses the cutting-edge technology of the JBL 4300 series reference monitor speaker system. Each speaker in the THX certified...
surround sound system has its own onboard computer. When networked together, the system employs Room Mode Correction technology to re-calibrate the EQ of the speaker output to compensate for any irregularity in the frequency response of the room. By generating a series of test tones that are picked up by a special reference microphone, the software analyzes the specific frequency response of the space and automatically adjusts the EQ of speaker output to produce perfectly even sound.

In addition to the JBL monitors, M-Studios employs a range of professional recording gear and software, including five computers (primarily iMacs) running Pro Tools HD3, five video screens, and a stack of high-end pre-amps. Final Cut Pro is used for video editing.

All in all, it adds up to the kind of gear you might find in a high-end studio in a major metropolitan area that happens to be located right here in the Tri-States. Thanks to Bill Grundhoefer and his dream to open a quality studio accessible to the community, some local recording artists might realize some dreams of their own.

Studio Manager/Vice-Decider Andy Steil at the mixing board.
Ready, Set, Go!

Positioning your small community for success.

Often, being in a smaller community can present a better opportunity for individual growth, simply because of the increased emphasis on communication and networking that naturally occurs in smaller areas. It stands to reason, therefore, that with a great deal of individual growth, a community itself can benefit and enjoy even greater success.

Alliant Energy Economic Development and the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission believe in small communities, and a one-day workshop, “Ready, Set, Go! Positioning your small community for success,” will be a great educational opportunity for Platteville.

The workshop, scheduled for 8:45 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, October 17, promises to be a unique and interactive event, aimed at giving community and business leaders the tools and the action steps that are necessary to help steer and shape a thriving, growing community. (And Platteville is definitely thriving and growing... so it’s time to step up!)

The guest speaker at the workshop will be David Beurle of Innovative Leadership Australia, an organization committed to bringing skills and tools to folks who make rural communities their home. He’s won several national and international awards, and with his belief that the future of a community is always in the hands of its people, his message should hit square on the mark with Platteville.

Sessions will run throughout the day, with a morning welcoming from Platteville City Council president Ed White and Alliant customer operations VP Barb Siehr. Topics will include the discussion of challenges and trends for small communities, the attributes of successful communities and scenario planning for the future, exploring what currently affects the community and what might affect it in the coming days.

“Ready, Set, Go!” will be held at the Governor Dodge Convention Center, which is just off Business 151 in Platteville. (300 Business 151, to be precise.) Registration for the event is $25 per person, with lunch included, but a $5 per person discount is available if two or more people register as a community team by October 11. After October 11, registration is $35 per person and will only be accepted at the door. Checks can be mailed to Alliant Energy at 200 First St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401, Attn: Peggy Bibby. You can also make things easy and register online at www.midwestsites.com/stellent2/groups/public/documents/pub/mws_002777.hcsp. For more information, contact Julie Ruehle at 319-786-4559.

Rock-N-Roll Hoochie Koo

A View Slightly Off Kilter

George Krueger fondly looks back at the past festival season... and shoots from the hip.

Now that fall is here, I harken back to the visits to the fairs... like the Wisconsin State Fair. We used to go there when I was a kid with my Mom (I remember getting sick from the rides in the parking lot... ah, memories of childhood escapes!) and the fair seemed so huge and kind of scary. Now, it seems like there is so much to eat that several people must have eaten themselves to death during the week. There was actually a rumor of someone exploding at the cream puff stand, but it turned out to be only a rumor. I did notice that they had a lot of people on clean-up duty. We did the roasted corn. Awesome! Big sweet ears of sweet corn on a stick. And of course, a brat.

“Ready, Set, Go!” will be held at the Governor Dodge Convention Center, which is just off Business 151 in Platteville. (300 Business 151, to be precise.) Registration for the event is $25 per person, with lunch included, but a $5 per person discount is available if two or more people register as a community team by October 11. After October 11, registration is $35 per person and will only be accepted at the door. Checks can be mailed to Alliant Energy at 200 First St. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401, Attn: Peggy Bibby. You can also make things easy and register online at www.midwestsites.com/stellent2/groups/public/documents/pub/mws_002777.hcsp. For more information, contact Julie Ruehle at 319-786-4559.
Tin cans and string not included

We have a number of institutions in Dubuque that have withstood the tests of time: Places like Graham’s Style Store for Men, recently celebrating its 70th anniversary, or the still-standing Star Brewery building, waiting to be rejuvenated for a new generation. Not one to be left out, those crazy cats over at the Voice of the Tri-States, AM 1370 KDTH (Radio Dubuque), are joining the fun with their 65th birthday celebration. And they’re undertaking the celebration in a pretty unique fashion … old-fashioned, to be precise.

On May 4, 1941, KDTH first signed on the air, and now, it’s time to party … like it’s 1941. On Thursday, October 12, KDTH is setting up shop over at the Depot at the Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, and they’re camping there all day, from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. “So what,” you ask? I’ll tell you so what: They’re going as old-school as it gets, recreating what radio was like way back yonder in 1941, when KDTH first went on the air.

During that 12-hour period, everything you hear on KDTH will be broadcast totally, absolutely live (aside from the CBS hourly news, which you know, comes from somewhere else). Here’s the breakdown:

- The Early Morning Show with Michael Kaye, featuring a 10-piece live orchestra directed by Radio Dubuque legend Paul Hemmer.
- The Quiz Kids program, featuring students from the four middle schools around Dubuque, hosted by Tom Hamilton, host of the “Good Neighbor Show.” They’ll be competing in, well, a quiz show, with the as-yet-unknown grand prize to be donated to the winner’s school.
- Cursedwithwords, including 365’s Ralph Kluseman, will be staging a 15-minute mystery, soap opera and comedy show, complete with sound effects and live music. Do you remember that episode of Frasier where they try to stage an old-fashioned radio drama? Think of it that way, with a whole lot more success and a whole lot more Dubuqueness.
- Music from such luminaries as pianist Chuck Bregman, The Upper Main Street Jazz Band, Catch III and Denny Garcia, with performances from a variety of Tri-State school bands, orchestras and choirs. (So there’s going to be a lot of good music, you see.)
- James “Buddy” Clark will be bringing Red Skelton back from the dead (well, not really, but you get the idea), recreating several of his classic comedy routines. (We’re hoping for Cauliflower McPugg and Willie Lump-Lump.)
- Poetry readings by station manager Tom Parsley.
- A recreation of the Bob Gribbens classic organ program, Rainbow of Musical Moods.

KDTH is also going to recreate “The Original Amateur Hour,” which is set to be hosted by Tom Mack (no relation to original host Ted Mack). True to tradition, they’ll determine winners based on the Applause Meter, so make sure that

Best of all, this all-day celebration of radio’s golden days is totally free and open to the public. All you have to do is mosey on down to the Depot down at the Museum, grab a seat and let the sound waves of the airwaves take you back to a day when we never had to worry about playlisted radio music. AM radio and LPs all the way, baby.

Questions on page 6

1. The Thunderbirds have smashed league attendance records in every year of their existence.
2. The Thunderbirds are members of the CSHL.
3. KGRR, KAT-FM and WVRE.
4. The Saints took the Gold Cup championship in 2003.
5. America’s River Phase 1 cost $188 Million.
6. The Battle Creek Michigan baseball team was a Yankees franchise.
7. Our previous congressman was Republican Tom Tauke.
8. 92.9 KAT-FM was rock station D93. That was before digital radio tuners!
9. Dubuque’s Latitude and Longitude is 42°31 sec. n. lat. / 90°40 sec. w. long. Whoopie!
10. The city of Dubuque was incorporated in 1833, the year John Deere built its first plow.

65 Years!
Nothing Goes Better With Football Than An Ice Cold Budweiser, Bud Light or Budweiser Select!