365ink MAGAZINE
DECEMBER 17–DECEMBER 29, 2015 ISSUE #254 DUBUQUE365.COM FREE!

STAR WARS
DUBUQUE AWAKENS

IN THIS ISSUE...

Tri-State
NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENTS

Argosy Visits
FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

PHOTO: STEVEN SCHLEUNING

2016 SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE NOW!

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
FEBRUARY 12-20
Book and Lyrics by Joe Di Pietro/ Music by Jimmy Roberts

Lend Me a Tenor
APRIL 1-9
By Ken Ludwig

Carousel
Presented in Partnership with Dubuque's Heartland Ballet
JUNE 17-26
Music by Richard Rodgers/ Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein

La Cage aux Follies
JULY 22-31
Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman/ Book by Harvey Fierstein

Disney's Aladdin Jr.
AUGUST 19-21
Music by Alan Disney's Aladdin Jr. Menken/ Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Time Rice

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WHERE'S WANDO
We've hidden Wando somewhere in this issue of 365ink. Can you find him?

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Bryce's inkUbator

Notes from the Publisher... Fostering ideas, conversations and arguments.

I'm not gonna lie, I as stoked for the new Star Wars as most other people out there. I'm not camping out or anything and I might wait until the second to third show on Thursday night to see it so I don't have to sit in a sardine can of rabid fans, but I'll be there. Mostly because I don't want some asshat telling me the spoilers in advance. And by asshat, I generally mean everyone on Facebook.

You just know that some jerk is going to find it funny to make a post that gives it all away. That kind of person is the one who won't even see it, but they'll search around until they find the spoilers online and then repost of some glaring way that you can unsee. Why? Because some people are just awful people and Facebook has given them the power that the definitely never needed.

So if you're like me, you'll be basically avoiding social media from now until I walk out of my screening of the film. I've already sworn to delete and block and friends who spill the beans online and I will hold to that, even if my mom spills the beans. Sorry mom. But I think she's safe. Maybe Jeff Lenhart would do it just to see if I really would do it, but i think he knows better. #deadtome

So assuming I make it into the darkened theater for the first time without being ambushed by some kind of spoiler terrorist attack, I think I'm in for a treat.

I was only five when the very first Star Wars came out. We didn't see it right away because I was so young, but eventually with all the they hype I suppose the parents broke down and let it happen. I do remember by older brother Brad being crazy about it but not as much as his friend Nic Woodward. Nic was pretty much possessed by Star Wars in the late 70's. He's one of those kids that saw it a gazillion times in the theater and he's the first people I can recall having any Star Wars action figures and stickers.

My first Star Wars toys were Darth Vader and Stormtrooper action figures and my first big toy, for some reason was a toy recreation of the trash compactor from the original movie. I assume the store was all out of Millennium Falcons. I recall it being full of color foam bits.

I realize some people, surely some of you reading this could care less about Star Wars. I don't expect you to understand. Some people are amazed by a fingertip catch in the end zone, some by a beautiful landscape and some by Pavarotti hitting nine high C's in a row. As a kid, when that Star Destroyer passed over your head to introduce you to the Star Wars universe, you night as well have

just signed us all up to join the rebellion right there and then. I'm not the type to cheer out loud or dress up in costume, but when the the open title sequence "A long time ago in a galaxy farm far away" takes over the screen, I will be covered in goosebumps and giddy as a five year old again. As is should be. And by all early non-spoiler accounts of The Force Awakens, J.J, Abrams has made exactly the Star Wars movie that we've all been dying to see since 1983.

A quick shout out to our cover stars of this issue. Aside from Jeff who doesn't even know what a stormtrooper is, the rest are all genuine Star Wars fans. Those are their own costumes, some handmade, and they have been celebrating their love for the movies for years. Paul and Sandy Meyer (the Tusken Raider and Boba Fett respectively, also brought R2-D2 and Yoda. Paul is a master costume maker and has been in 365ink before as both Gene Simmons from Kiss as well as Dr. Who (he's the one who made the Dubuque Tardis which once also graced our cover. You'll meet Dubuque #1 Star Wars fan, Joey Ogelsby, in the cover story later.

And let me give special thanks to the ladies, Nicole Welsh (Slave Leia) and Nicole Meyers (Ambassador Leia) who braved the December air to pose for that cover photo (Especially Nicole Welsh) who was basically wearing a bikini in the mild of winter outside (even if the weather has been pretty great). The sun was setting and it was getting cold fast. Thankfully we had a fleece blanket on hand. What a trooper (non-storm variety). And, of course, the whole image in front of the Grand River Center which was looking nicely Star Destroyeresque (Paul Meyer's idea) was expertly captured by photographer Steven Schleuning. It turned out perfect, y'all! If there's room here I'll pop ion a photo of me with the crew. I'm playing the part of the scruffy-looking nerfhearder. ■

HOTEL JULIEN DUBUQUE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

NOW–DECEMBER 24
HOTEL JULIEN DUBUQUE (200 MAIN ST)

Now in its third year, this holiday series features events for all ages designed to spread seasonal cheer throughout the Dubuque community. The series is designed to give back to the public during this special season while also collecting donations for Toys for Tots.

"So many of the 12 Days of Christmas events are meant to create traditions for people in the community," said Lara LeGrand, Director of Sales and Marketing at Hotel Julien Dubuque.

For additional information, visit **HotelJulienDubuque.com** or call **563-556-4200**. ■

You Relax, We Wrap

Thursday, December 17 @ 4–6 PM

Hotel Julien Dubuque wraps gifts while you enjoy chair massages provided by Potosa Spa! $1 per package/donated to Toys for Tots.

Jazz It Up With Jingle Barry

Thursday, December 17 @ 5:30–7:30 PM

Dubuque's very own Barry Gentry will be singing your favorite holiday tunes in the Riverboat Lounge. Sing along and enjoy complimentary appetizers and fantastic drink specials. There is no charge for this event, but Toys for Tots donations are encouraged.

Ugly Sweater Contest

Friday, December 18 @ 11 AM–9 PM

Dress to impress in your holiday worst. Complimentary desserts to all who sport a holiday-themed sweater during lunch and dinner at Caroline's. Special prizes awarded to the best of the worst!

Festivus Party

Friday, December 18 @ 8–10 PM

Join us as we pay tribute to this classic Seinfeld holiday, complete with an airing of grievances, feats of strength, complimentary appetizers, drinks specials, and prizes!

Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner

Thursday, December 24 @ 4:30 PM

A nod to a simpler time, our dinner in Caroline's Restaurant is the perfect opportunity to get in touch with the true spirit of the holiday and enjoy a delicious meal with family. Reservations recommended. Please call **563-588-5595**.

ROSHEK CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS

NOW–JANUARY 4 @ 9 AM–9 PM
ROSHEK BUILDING (700 LOCUST ST)

While Dubuque no longer has a big downtown department store decorated inside and out for the holidays with those traditional window displays celebrating the coming of the Holiday Season with a sparkly winter wonderland of toys and other gifts, it does have the Roshek Building, which once served that purpose. For those old enough to remember, Roshek's Department Store decked out with lighted trees and other holiday decorations still exist as fond memories of a more innocent time.

In that spirit, Dubuque Initiatives and the Roshek Building Tenants invite everyone to visit the Roshek Building lobby over the holiday season to capture that holiday magic and experience a bit of the rich history and holiday tradition stretching back to the building's cherished past. The lobby is filled with animatronic holiday figures, similar to the store window decor during the heyday of Roshek Department Store. The display is meant to capture the spirit of the nostalgic 1940s and '50s at the Roshek Building.

All are welcome to visit the Roshek Building lobby to experience this Holiday Magic through January 4. ■

ONGOING

Reflections in the Park

Now through January 3 @ 5-10 PM
Louis Murphy Park
Dubuque Hillcrest Family Services' annual lights festival celebrates their 21th anniversary. Visitors will see many new displays as well as "Memory Lane," an opportunity to remember your loved one(s) in a special way at Reflections in the Park.

Regular Admission is $10 per vehicle at the gate; discounted tickets are available for $8 at all DB&T Dubuque/East Dubuque banking centers and all Hillcrest Family Services locations. Santa Claus will visit on Mondays from 5–8 PM during December. For more information, visit **hillcrest-fs.org**.

Winter Farmers Market

Saturdays: November–April @ 9 AM–Noon
Colts Center
Started in 2007, the all-volunteer driven market returns to the Colts Center (1101 Main St in Dubuque), focusing on supporting our regional food system, eating from our food shed year-round and providing annual funding to farmers through our grant program. Great homemade and baked goods, plus mat, cheese, eggs and, yes, vegetables! For more information, visit **wintermarketdbq.com**.

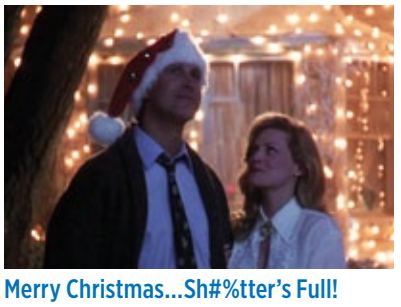
Galena Winter Farmers' Market

Second Wednesday of each month:
Now through April @ 4–6 PM
Galena Center for the Arts (Galena, IL)
Devotees of fresh food and produce, baked delicacies, hand created items, and sweet "somethings" will not have to hibernate this winter. All items sold at the market are created, grown, or made locally. Galena Center for the Arts is located at 219 Summit Street in Galena, IL. Ample parking is available. **GalenaWinterMarket.com**.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Dubuque Food Co-op Happy Holiday Hour

5–7:30 PM @ Dubuque Food Co-op
Join John B. Donovan to sample and hear about Natura Wines. He will be pouring a Cabernet Sauvignon and a Sauvignon Blanc from Chile. These are delightful wines by a winery that is one of the largest organic grape growers in the world. Stop by and have a taste and maybe learn a bit! There will be food vendors as well as this free wine sampling. Open to the public. The Dubuque Food Co-Op is located at 955 Washington Street in Dubuque.



Merry Christmas...Sh#%tter's Full!

9 PM @ Monk's
Let's get festive! We're watching National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation while playing a game. We have drink specials including $1 Hamms, $6 Spiked Egg Nog and Tom and Jerry's. Stop by in your festive gear and get rowdy! Must be 21 or older to attend. Monk's is located at 373 Bluff Street in Dubuque.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

That Mighty Day

7 PM @ First Baptist Church of Dubuque
In the tradition and style of Langston Hughes's Black Nativity, That Mighty Day tells the Nativity story through traditional spirituals, contemporary gospel, rap, spoken word, dramatic dialogue and dance. Performances are December 18 and 19 at 7 PM and December 20 at 3 PM. Tickets are $5. For more information, call **563-583-6289**.

Elf Jingle's Christmas Surprise

7 PM @ Hazel Green Opera House
(Hazel Green, WI)
It's the night before Christmas and things are a bit hectic at the North Pole for Santa's right hand elf, Jingle. There's trouble at Loading Dock No. 12. The kids are waiting for it to snow and, according to Jingle, they're just too greedy. The whole family will enjoy seeing favorite carols come to life in this marionette show by the Fever River Puppeteers. Performance dates are December 12, 13, 18, 19, and 30. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for children ages 12 and younger. Visit **HazelGreenOperahouse.Blogspot.com**.

Divas After Dark Drag Show

9 PM @ The Smokestack
Prepare to be blown away yet again by Dubuque's favorite queens. $5 at the door.

CHRISTMAS ON BROADWAY

DECEMBER 17–19 @ 7:30 PM
DECEMBER 20 @ 2 PM
BELL TOWER THEATER (2728 ASBURY RD)

A Musical Comedy by Rick Lewis. Four star-struck holiday tourists are snowbound in a Broadway theater on Christmas Eve. With nothing but a few trunks of costumes, props and set pieces, they live out their dream-starring on Broadway! At least until the snow subsides...Filled with holiday classics from Broadway composers,this wonderful new show is a potpourri of Christmas magic! Tickets are only $20.

The Bell Tower Theater is a not-for-profit community theater located in Dubuque. For more information, call **563-588-3377** or visit **BellTowerTheater.net** ■

PHOTO: DUBUQUE COUNTY YOUTH BALLET

THE DUBUQUE CITY YOUTH BALLET PRESENTS:

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET

DECEMBER 18–19 @ 7:30 PM
DECEMBER 20 @ 2 PM
GRAND OPERA HOUSE (135 8TH ST)

A highlight of the season in Dubuque for decades, this beautiful production by the Dubuque City Youth Ballet is a "must see" for young and old alike. In Germany, there is a folklore tradition based on the idea that nutcrackers protect your family and bring your home good luck. For this reason, nutcrackers were often given to children at Christmastime. The story for The Nutcracker ballet is based on a story by E.T.A. Hoffman entitled "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King". The original story is much darker than the ballet, featuring a bloody battle between the Nutcracker and the Mouse King's army, and the backstory of how the prince was changed into a nutcracker. Tickets are $20 for adults and $12 for those under 18. Get your tickets today at **TheGrandOperaHouse.com** or call the box office at **563-588-1305**. ■

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

Santa Claus at Collins Community CU

9–11 AM @ Collins Community Credit Union

Santa Claus is coming to Collins Community Credit Union's Dubuque Location (4855 Asbury Rd). Children can take their photo with Santa and will receive a coupon for a free 5×7 photo print from Walgreens located and 2260 John F. Kennedy Road in Dubuque.

Finding Exposure

10 AM–Noon @ Everything Photography

The "Finding Exposure" workshop will cover the basics of using a DSLR in manual mode. This will cover settings such as shutter speed, aperture and ISO. We will cover what these settings actually are, why they matter, and how to use them in photography. Register at **EveryPhotoStore.com** or call **563-845-7207**.

Elf Jingle's Christmas Surprise

11 AM & 2 PM @ Hazel Green Opera House (Hazel Green, WI)

Inspire Café One Year Anniversary

6–8 PM @ Inspire Café

Inspire Café will have music with Dave Minnihan along with FREE Champagne and FREE Candle Ready Cakes cupcakes! Celebrate their anniversary with them at 955 Washington Street in Dubuque.

That Mighty Day

7 PM @ First Baptist Church of Dubuque

Mistletoe Stroll Holiday House Tour

@ Various Locations, Galena, IL

Galena's fine Bed and Breakfasts invite the public to tour our beautiful inns all decked out for the holidays. Purchase tickets for $10 at any of the participating inns. Maps will be provided. Visit **BestOfGalena.com**.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

Dubuque Area Labor Harvest Christmas Dinner

Noon–1:30 PM @ The Masonic Temple

The United Labor Participation Committee holds a dinner for the low-income and elderly residents in our community. Santa Claus will be at the dinner to give gifts to all the children. For additional information, contact Tom Townsend at **563-582-5947**.

2015 Hills & Dales Christmas Celebration

1 PM @ Hills and Dales

Santa, Mrs. Claus and their helpers will be arriving in fire trucks, police vehicles and ambulances; all with lights flashing and sirens blaring. They will be bringing Christmas to 50 Hills and Dales residents. The Dubuque Fire Pipes and Drums group will also be on hand to perform. There will be singing, special presentations, and time to mingle with our special extended 9-1-1 family. Refreshments and cookies will be served. If you would like to attend this heartwarming event, please plan on arriving at Hills and Dales (1011 Davis St.) prior to the 1 PM delivery. Everyone is welcome!

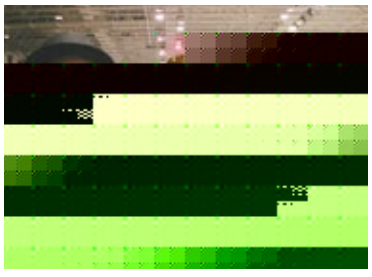
That Mighty Day

3 PM @ First Baptist Church of Dubuque

3rd Annual Free Holiday Movies

4:30 PM @ Mindframe Theaters

Join us for our 3rd annual FREE holiday movies at Mindframe Theaters! A Christmas Story at 4:30 PM and National Lampoons Christmas Vacation at 6:30 PM. Come to one or come to both! Visit **TriStatesNightOut.com/coupons** to download your FREE ticktes. (YOU MUST HAVE A TICKET TO ENTER). Help support Mindframe Theaters for teaming up with us to bring you these free movies. No outside food and beverages.



TOYS FOR TOTS KIDS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

PRESENTED BY THEISEN'S
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 @ NOON–3 PM
FIVE FLAGS ARENA (405 MAIN ST)
FREE ADMISSION

It's the biggest, craziest party of the holiday season ... it's for kids ten and under ... and it's FREE!

Toys For Tots is super excited to announce the beginning of what they hope becomes a new Dubuque holiday tradition, the Toys For Tots Kids' Christmas, presented by Theisen's Home • Farm • Auto. Taking place on Sunday, December 20, from noon to 3 p.m., the Five Flags Arena will transform into a yuletide display of controlled chaos, as hundreds of Tri-State youngsters converge for the biggest party around. And the best part is, it's totally FREE!

The event is hosted by Marine Corps Toys For Tots of Dubuque, 365ink Magazine and the Dubuque Police Department, as a super fun, safe and festive chance for kids to play together, have a blast and go home with a few goodies along the way.

The three-hour party will have music and dancing with a live DJ that's great with kids. L.T. Amusements is bringing giant inflatable rides including a bounce house and a 32 foot long slide, made possible by Paramount Ambulance, who will also have an Ambulance there for kids to check-out in person. Kids will also climb aboard a real fire truck and see how Dubuque heroes do their jobs when they get to talk with real firemen.

Especially exciting is the Theisen's Plush Christmas SpongeBob Giveaway while Dubuque Police Officers will also be giving out special Disney Princess or Ninja Turtle gifts to the first 1000 kids... over a $25 value for each child!

This year when you get your photo taken with Santa in his sleigh at the party, courtesy of Dubuque Photography, you'll be able to take home a printed copy of the photo with you so you'll never forget the memory ... for FREE. You can even choose to take home a 8x10 for a small fee.

Plus face-painting, kids games and balloon animals, free cookies, popcorn and milk and punch thanks to the generosity of the Diamond Jo Casino, Mindframe Theaters and Fareway Foods and Prairie Farms Dairy. Five Flags will also have their concessions open with other goodies available for purchase (yes mom, there's gourmet coffee for sale).

An extra special-salute goes out to all of the generous sponsors who have come together to make this totally free event possible. In addition to those mentioned above, they include the stations of Radio Dubuque, **ScanDubuque.com**, **TriStatesNightOut.com**, Dubuque Arts Collective, Five Flags, EZSellUSA and, of course, 365ink Magazine!

Put it all together and you've got a kid party to beat all kid parties ... and it's Christmas! This is gonna be a blast! ■

After that early winter scare in November, we've seen a lot of not-so-wintery weather so it's understandable if it seems a bit surprising that not only is Christmas right around the corner but New Year's Eve is following right behind. Well, better get your Christmas shopping list and 2015 to-do list up to date and start on your resolutions 'cause this year is winding down to the end. But before we stick a fork in it, we celebrate its passing. Following are a few options for getting your New Year's Eve on.

An additional note: If your favorite bar or band's party is not listed, our apologies, but no hating. The events listed are those we could assemble from our research or information we received from venues and bands before we went to press. We can't tell our readers about it if we don't know about it! Bands, bars, clubs, restaurants, and other nightspots: Tell us about your events, promotions, and weekend live music (email **info@dubuque365.com**) and we'll tell the world! ■

THURSDAY DECEMBER 31

Johnnie Walker

2 PM @ PromiseLand Winery (Guttenberg, IA)

The one and only Johnnie Walker will be providing the entertainment at PromiseLand Winery, along the Great River Road near Guttenberg from 2 PM. Come out and start your New Year's Eve celebration.

Meghan Davis & Katie Sullivan

2 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Irish Pub & Grill
The Irish Cottage (Galena, IL)

The Irish Cottage along Highway 20 east of Galena invites you to ring in the New Year at Frank O'Dowd's! The party starts at 2 the afternoon with live music throughout the afternoon and evening by Meghan Davis and Katie Sullivan. Meghan Davis is an upcoming guitarist/singer from northwestern Illinois. Her influences include Ed Sheeran, Stevie Nicks, Adam Levine, Jason Mraz, Nora Jones, and Jack Johnson. Katie Sullivan plays soulful, energetic folk/rock tunes. Bluesy guitar riffs and groovin' versions of Irish pub tunes dominate Katie's performances. Her lively renditions of favorite Irish, blues and American folk-rock music get audiences on stage singing and dancing along

The Lads

3 PM @ Crust Italian Kitchen & Bar

Dubuque's favorite Irish band, The Lads celebrate an Irish New Year's Eve at Crust Kitchen and Bar, 299 Main Street, from 3 to 6:30 PM. The Lads will be counting down to the New Year at 6 PM (midnight in Dublin, Ireland), leaving you plenty of time to get home safe or keep the party going.

The Robertos

4 PM @ Skinny Maginny's

Can't make it until midnight? Or maybe you just want to get your New Year's Eve celebration on early? Skinny Maginny's hosts an "Irish" New Year's Eve party with The Robertos from 4 to 7:30 PM along with drink specials and dancing. It will be midnight in Ireland at 6 PM so Skinny's will celebrate with a champagne toast. If you last that long, DJ Double J will be spinning the decks from 9 PM. Sláinte!

Mentalist/Hypnotist Brian Imbus

6 PM @ Best Western Dubuque, Champps Americana

Champps Americana and the Best Western Dubuque team up for a full New Year's Eve package of fun. The evening includes a prime rib and seafood dinner buffet, a performance by Mentalist/Hypnotist Brian Imbus, followed by a complimentary appetizer buffet, a free drink, and a DJ dance party! The New Year's Eve package is $50 per person. Overnight packages are also available. Make reservations by calling **563-557-8000**.

RING IN THE 2016 NEW YEAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 @ 5:30–8 PM
DUBUQUE COMMUNITY YMCA/YWCA (35 NORTH BOOTH ST)

Kick off the New Year with your family at this fun event! The Dubuque Community YMCA/YWCA is bringing back its popular New Year's Eve Family Party Night. This is a great way to spend this exciting holiday with your kids.

Sharon Covey, President & CEO said, "We are very excited to have this event back this year. This event has always been well attended by families looking for a way to celebrate the New Year together. We will have many activities that night and hope you will join us!"

Some of the evening's activities include: an inflatable, shuttles to "Reflections in the Park", swimming with "The Rock", adult & child tricycle races, and much more. At the end of the evening we ask you and your family to join in as we countdown to 2016 (at 8 PM) with a colorful balloon drop.

A family of 4, who are members can attend the event for $10, while a family of 4 who are non-members can attend for $20. Each additional child/adult may attend for $5 each. Any family at-the-door is $20. Registration is now available at either Y location or by phone. ■

THE NEVERLY BROTHERS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 @ 7 PM
OHNWARD FINE ARTS CENTER (1215 E PLATT ST, MAQUOKETA, IA)

Fasten your seatbelts for a guided musical tour through rock n' roll history! The Neverly Brothers play all your favorite hits from 1950s American Rockabilly, Rock n' Roll and Rhythm & Blues pioneers up through the 1964 British Invasion groups in an awe inspiring concert that will have you singing, dancing and thoroughly entertained. Dressed in period-perfect matching suits from each era, and playing show-stopping renditions of all the classics, these rockers have a look and a sound that will make you feel like you are witnessing rock history unfold before your very eyes and ears. And the amazing facts and trivia that you'll hear between songs will give new insight as to how rock n' roll started and evolved during this exciting era. This is truly a one-of-a kind retro rock n' roll MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR! Tickets: $25 in advance or $30 at the door. Call **563-652-9815** or visit **OhnwardFineArtsCenter.com**. ■

THURSDAY DECEMBER 31

Jukebox New Year's Eve
6 PM @ Northside Bar
Northside had a band lined up for their New Year's Eve party because Northside knows how to party. But the band canceled. So instead, Northside is hosting a "Jukebox New Year's Eve" party providing free credits to get your groove on from 6 PM until closing. (Just don't play that one pop song over and over, okay?) Drink specials like $2.00 can beer, $2.50 Aluminum Bottles, and $1.00 select shots, plus a free champagne toast at midnight should keep the party going.

New Year's Eve Dueling Pianos
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar
The Mississippi Moon Bar at the Diamond Jo Casino invites you to "come swing, sway and shout the night away at New Year's Eve Dueling Pianos." Two masters of the keyboards will be playing your requests all night with party favors, a champagne toast and a balloon drop at midnight. General admission tickets are just $10. Visit **diamondjodubuque.com** to reserve tickets or for more info.

QC Slim Band
8 PM @ The Blu Room, Breezer's Pub
Big Al at The Blu Room in Breezer's Pub celebrates New Year's Eve with the QC Slim Band. A great blues band from the Quad Cities, Slim is a great guitar player backed by a very tight band. Breezer's will have drink specials all night and party favors and a champagne toast at midnight.

Easy Street New Years Eve Party
8 PM @ Easy Street
South Main's Easy Street says "thank you" to their customers for 2015 with a New Year's Eve Party with drink specials that start at 8 PM and a free champagne toast and party favors at midnight.

Tony Walker
8 PM @ Trackside Bar & Grill (Peosta, IA)
Trackside Bar & Grill in Peosta will host a New Year's Eve Party with Tony Walker of Taste Like Chicken playing all your favorites in his one-man-band format. Add free appetizers, party favors, and a champagne toast at midnight, and you've got a party!

Derty Rice
8 PM @ Flatted Fifth Blues & BBQ Potter's Mill (Bellevue, IA)
The Flatted 5th Blues & BBQ at Potter's Mill in Bellevue hosts a New Orleans-style New Year's Eve party with zydeco dance band Derty Rice. Dance to the sounds of New Orleans while enjoying Flatted Fifth's extensive list of craft beers or classic New Orleans drinks, such as Hurricanes, Sazeracs or Mint Juleps. But go early, for the barbeque and cajun food. Seriously. Chef Drew Weis has developed some tantalizing food features for the evening: Bourbon Street Ribeye Steak, Cast Iron Blackened Ahi Tuna or Crawfish Pie. Finish off your meal with Pineapple Upside Down Cake or Bourbon Bread Pudding. Then dance it all off and celebrate New Year's Eve with a complimentary champagne toast at midnight. It could get tight in there so reservations are recommended. (Call **563-872-3838**.)

Sunshine
8 PM @ Galena Elks Lodge (Galena, IL)
Rock & Roll veterans Sunshine celebrate New Year's Eve at the Elks Lodge in Galena.

Rockabilly Junction
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co. (Galena, IL)
What better way to celebrate New Year's Eve than with locally crafted brews and some good, ol' fashioned rock & roll? Galena Brewing Co. welcomes Rockabilly Junction, a Wisconsin-based quartet of seasoned musicians that will be providing the soundtrack for dancing. Galena Brew will bring the beer.

The Johnny Rockers
8 PM @ The Grape Escape (Galena, IL)
Miss Kitty and her party crew at The Grape Escape ring in the New Year with The Johnny Rockers, performing their rockabilly-inspired, vintage rock & roll take on everything from Johnny Cash to Social Distortion. The party will feature free cake, door prizes, and a champagne toast and balloon drop at midnight. Reserve a table for free and get a complimentary goody bag by emailing **wine@grapeescapegalena.com**.

Roy Schroedl
8 PM @ Woodlands Lounge, Eagle Ridge (Galena, IL)
Master of the 12-string acoustic guitar, Roy Schroedl provides the entertainment for a more laid-back New Year's celebration at Eagle Ridge Resort's Woodlands Lounge. Diners should arrive early for a four-course, prix fixe menu for two or a prime rib buffet in the adjacent Woodlands Restaurant.

Larry Busch Band New Year's Eve Dance
8 PM @ DBQ County Fairgrounds Ballroom
Looking for an old-fashioned dance party to ring in the New Year? Dance to the big band sounds of the Larry Busch Band from 9 PM to 1 AM under the twinkle lights at the Dubuque County Fairground's Grand Ballroom, 14583 Old Highway Road. The yearend party starts at 8 PM and includes party favors, a champagne toast at midnight, followed by a breakfast buffet. Tickets are $45 per person. A reserve hotel package, which includes two tickets and a room at the MainStay Suites is available for $160. Tickets and hotel package available by calling **563-588-1406**.

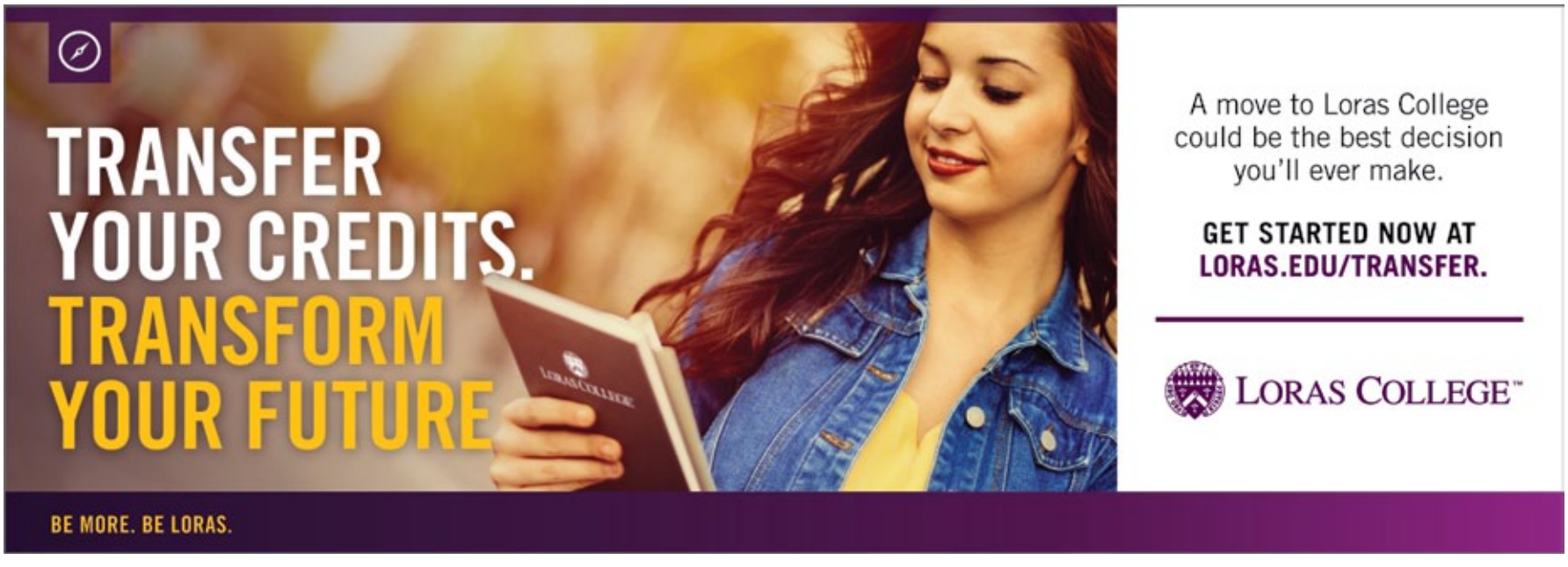
The Wundo Band
8:30 PM @ Palace Ballroom (Farley, IA)
Where else are you going to ring in the New Year watching someone play a saw (musically, that is)? The Wundo Band, the only area band with their own seasoning blend, brings their spicy mix (see what I did there?) to the Palace Ballroom at the Farley Speedway. Ban the bland!

Fever River String Band
8:30 PM @ Anton's Saloon (New Diggings, WI)
The Fever River String Band sends out the old year and rings in the new from 8:30 PM to midnight. The band will play their mix of bluegrass and old timey country around the wood stove to celebrate.

Ethan & Friends
9 PM @ New Diggings General Store (New Diggings, WI)
Lou & Kelli host Ethan (of Blackwater Gin) and friends for a New Year's Eve party in the historic New Diggings General Store. In addition to live music, the party will feature Lou's fireworks at midnight and Kelli's buffet from 1 to 2 AM.

DJ Double J
9 PM @ Skinny Maginny's
Following Skinny's "Irish" New Year's Eve party from late afternoon into the evening, DJ Double J mans the turntables from 9 PM for New Year's Eve dance party worthy of the last hours of 2015.

Steve McIntyre
9 PM @ Riverboat Lounge
The Hotel Julien Dubuque's Riverboat Lounge celebrates an acoustic New Year's Eve party with Steve McIntyre from 9 PM. Join in with a variety of singalong favorites and ring in the New Year, Riverboat Lounge-style.



RETRO REWIND: CARS & GUITARS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 @ 9 AM
FIVE FLAGS ARENA (405 MAIN ST)

Lovers of Vintage Torque Fest, mark your calendars for Saturday, January 19, the date of 2016's Retro Rewind, hosted by Torque Fest promoter John Wells at Dubuque's Five Flags Center. Both a vintage hot rod AND guitar show, Retro Rewind is really for anyone that likes the retro style and "Kustom Kulture" embodied by classic cars and vintage guitars, not to mention pinup girls and antique motorcycles.

Five Flags arena will be jam-packed with some of the best hot rods and customs around along with vintage motorcycles and a variety of booths featuring artwork by Kustom Kulture artists, clothing, stickers, patches and more. Gear heads on the hunt for parts can shop the swap meet and music fans can browse the vinyl LPs, CDs and vintage stereo gear in the music swap area, all the while listening to rockabilly bands like 3 on the Tree, Curio, and New Hiram Kings rocking the Five Flags arena stage.

Guitar players and music fans alike can see some of the most beautiful and collectible guitars in existence on display by both local and national collectors and dealers. Looking for that special guitar or rare vintage amplifier for your own collection? Who knows, you just might find it here. Wondering what that antique six-string that's been in the family for years might be worth? Bring it in for the experts to have a look.

As if that weren't enough, Retro Rewind will feature a charity art auction, a pinup girl contest and model car

display area (not unlike Torque Fest). During the day, gear heads can slip over to Five Flags Theater to catch one of several hot rod, motorcycle, and custom culture documentaries, part of the "Fuel Injected Film Fest."

That evening, Five Flags Theater will be transformed into a concert stage with another performance by the New Hiram Kings, opening for a featured performance by Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys.

Best of all, admission for the whole day is just $10 and gets you into the Retro Rewind hot rod and guitar show (and all the other cool stuff) in Five Flags arena AND the Fuel Injected Film Fest in Five Flags Theater. Tickets for the Big Sandy concert at Five Flags Theater are just $15. Or the full ticket for both the arena show/film festival and evening concert is just $20. Tickets will be available at the Five Flags Box Office or at the gate the day of the event.

Retro Rewind will be hosting a pre-party on Friday, January 8 at The Lift, providing an opportunity to see art that will be in Saturday's auction. See the next issue of 365ink for more details or check out **RetroRewindDubuque.com** or follow Retro Rewind on Facebook. Guitar, vinyl LP or other collectors/dealers interested in getting booth space should contact John Wells via the Retro Rewind Facebook page. ■

THURSDAY DECEMBER 31

The Ruby Blonde Band

9 PM @ The Lift

Ruby Blonde believes in having a great time! Rubyblonde has a busy performance schedule playing locally as well around the Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa area. Featuring Lexi Parr aka Rubyblonde on vocals, Michael Hackett on lead guitar, Randy Peacock on drums, Mark Mihkalakis on bass, and Lauren Parr on violin and backing vocals. The band plays a big mix of classic rock, country, and original music. Come toast the new year at The Lift!

New Year Dance Party w/ DJ Salad Spinner

9 PM @ The Smokestack

One of Dubuque's newest entertainment venues, The Smokestack, on the corner of 7th and White Streets celebrates New Year's Eve with a dance party featuring DJ SaladSpinner spinning vinyl on the turntables and live music from The Smokestack All-Stars. The new Smokestack menu will be available all night! A $5 cover gets you in the door for a great party that includes $2 drink specials and a champagne toast at midnight.

New Odyssey

9 PM @ Mystique Casino

Three guys, thirty instruments. New Odyssey is a talented trio performing a range of classic rock, country, novelty and specialty arrangements that has been described as "mesmerizing." With a unique combination of great music, audience participation, and sheer zaniness, mayhem can ensue at any moment. Mystique Casino hosts New Odyssey for this no cover New Year's Eve show.

Steve Cavanaugh and Randy Droessler

9 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill, Days Inn

Spirits Bar & Grill at the Days Inn just off Highway 20 hosts a no cover New Year's Eve party with live music by Steve Cavanaugh and Randy Droessler from 9 PM to 1 AM with free party favors and a champagne toast at midnight. No worries if you really get into the party spirit and overdo it – you can just get a room at the hotel!

Ron Lubbers

9 PM @ Eagles Club Dubuque

Performing hits from Elvis and Neil Diamond to Alan Jackson and George Strait, Ron Lubbers will keep you entertained all night!

Becky McMahon

9 PM @ Denny's Lux Club

It seems that wherever Becky McMahon goes, a party follows. That will undoubtedly be the case New Year's Eve at Denny's Lux Club where Becky will be hosting karaoke and playing dance tunes to ring in the New Year.

Gypsy Pistols

9 PM @ Jimi B's Bar & Grill (Bernard, IA)

One of Jackson County's best-kept secrets, Jimi B's Bar & Grill at Leisure Lake near Bernard hosts the hard rocking Gypsy Pistols for New Year's Eve.

Michael Breitbach

9 PM @ The Cornerstone (Galena, IL)

The Cornerstone celebrates New Year's Eve with a performance by Michael Breitbach from 9 PM while Lehn satisfies the thirsty from behind the bar. Sounds like a party. As always at The Cornerstone, there is no cover – just good music, good company, and good times.

Broken Strings

9:30 PM @ Dirty Ernie's (Farley, IA)

West of Dubuque, in the "Heart of the Cornbelt" Farley, Iowa is Dirty Ernie's, a smalltown bar with a big heart that knows how to have a good time and that's exactly what will be happening on New Year's Eve. Broken Strings, featuring the talents of Jon Sendt from Taste Like Chicken and Elizabeth Pape from Zero 2 Sixty will be performing a range of hits to make the party.

Six Shots 'til Midnight

11 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern (Hazel Green, WI)

Did you know it is legal for Wisconsin bars to stay open all night on one particular night of the year? Any guesses which night that is? Let us tell you about the Sandy Hook Tavern's New Year's Eve party and maybe you can figure it out. While the bar will be open all evening the real party will get started about 11 PM when hard rock and metal masters Six Shots 'til Midnight hit the stage, performing right through midnight until 3 AM. After that, Ash offers breakfast at 4 AM for just $7 per person, getting you started on 2016. If you live in Grant County, Wisconsin, we suggest you utilize the inexpensive ride service from the Grant County branch of Road Crew (**608-732-7437**). We also suggest you get some rest and re-hydrate on Friday, as the weekend is just getting started.

SNL'S ANA GASTEYER & HER JAZZ QUINTET

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 @ 7:30 PM
UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE HERITAGE CENTER, JOHN AND ALICE BUTLER HALL (2255 BENNETT ST)

When Ana Gasteyer steps up to the mic, she evokes the swagger of an era when a lady ruled a nightclub and an audience knew they were in for good time. The patter is real, the themes adult; the lyrics are timeless, and the music swings like crazy!

From songs like *One Mint Julep* and *Proper Cup of Coffee* to a surprisingly smooth rendition of Carrie Underwood's *Before He Cheats*, Gasteyer's saucy selections tell stories with humor, heartbreak...and just a little splash of soda. Her vibe recalls that of a time when entertainers truly entertained, an era when a broad could bring home the bacon, swing a set of sultry standards and still be a gracious hostess. Ana's heroes are those fun-loving dames who downed a cocktail, donned a dress and fronted a band of dapper gents in sharp suits wielding shiny horns—think Barbara Stanwyck in Ball of Fire as she captures Gary Cooper's heart. And then breaks it.

Eventually, Broadway came calling and Gasteyer spent several years belting out superstar vocals in shows like *Wicked* and *Rocky Horror*. Best known from her six years on *Saturday Night Live*, this concert celebrates the release of her first studio record, *I'm Hip*—a collection of jazz standards with Ana's own twist. Ana delivers superstar vocals, humor, and a performance sure to dazzle audiences, complete with her own 5-piece band. This event is for mature audiences. Learn more at **AnaGasteyerInConcert.com**. Tickets are $25–$32 and available at the Heritage Center Box Office, by phone at **563-585-7469** or online at **DBQ.edu/heritagecenter**. ■

ICEFEST

JANUARY 9–10 AND 16–17 @ 10 AM–5 PM
NATIONAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM & AQUARIUM (350 E 3RD ST)

The Museum & Aquarium will present special winter-related programs daily throughout Ice Fest including historic ice harvesting on the river, winter crafts, snow and ice sculptures, and eagle watching. Feature activities take place each weekend during Ice Fest and will include professional snow and ice sculpting, traditional Native American outdoor winter games, live animal programs, winter safety demonstrations, appearances by the Dubuque Fighting Saints, and more. IPTV Kids Club Day is the 17. Visit **RiverMuseum.com**. ■

CLARKE ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES: THE LORAX

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 @ 6:30 PM
CLARKE UNIVERSITY (1550 CLARKE DRIVE)

Clarke will partner with several area agencies to present the Environmental Film Series during the 2015–16 academic year. Green Dubuque is Clarke's partner for this film. Each film will be followed with a call to action.

Clarke University received a grant funded by the Resource Enhancement and Protection Conservation Education Program (REAP CEP) to present the film series. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources REAP CEP grant will also help Clarke introduce its new Environmental Studies major. REAP is supported by the state of Iowa, providing funding to public and private partners for natural and cultural resources, projects, including water quality, wildlife habitat, soil conservation, parks, trails, historic preservation and more.

The Environmental Film Series is open to the public. For more information, contact the Clarke University Marketing and Communication Office at **563-588-6318** or visit **clarke.edu**. ■

DUBUQUE SPORTS & RECREATION FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 @ 9 AM–3 PM
GRAND RIVER CENTER (500 BELL ST)

The Dubuque Sports & Recreation Festival offers free admission and many activities for attendees of all ages including registration opportunities for spring and summer youth sports leagues and other organizations.

There are over 50 fun activities, exhibitors, and vendors including a bounce house, obstacle course, games, contests, and more. And once again, the Dubuque Community School's Speed Stacks cup stacking competition returns! The festival is held in conjunction with the Dubuque Bald Eagle Watch and gives attendees a full day of fun activities to enjoy.

New for 2016 is the Silent Auction of Sports Memorabilia Items and other donated items as well as the Sports Equipment Swap and recycle of gently used items. DAYBSC (Dubuque Area Youth Baseball & Softball Club) is partnering to collect gently-used sports uniforms, cleats, and equipment to sell and donate to underprivileged youth in Dubuque, the surrounding areas, as well as international organizations serving the poor. They will have a truck inside the exhibit hall of the festival.

For more details on the festival and more information, visit **DBQPony.org** or email **info@DBQPony.org**. ■

NOW SHOWING @ MINDFRAME THEATERS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18–THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

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ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE ROAD CHIP (PG)
Fri–Wed: (11:30 AM), (1:40), (4:00), 6:40, 8:45
Thu: (11:30 AM), (1:40), (4:00)

SISTERS (R)
Fri–Wed: (11:45 AM), (2:15), (4:50), 7:30, 10:00
Thu: (11:45 AM), (2:15), (4:50)

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS (PG-13)
Fri–Wed: (10:30 AM), (1:20), (4:15), 7:10, 10:00
Thu: (10:30 AM), (1:20), (4:15)

IN THE HEART OF THE SEA (PG-13)
Fri–Sun: (12:30), (3:30), 6:55, 9:35
Mon: (12:30), 9:35
Tue & Wed: (12:30), (3:30), 6:55, 9:35
Thu: (12:30), (3:30)

KRAMPUS (PG-13)
Fri–Wed: (12:10), (2:30), (4:50), 7:40, 10:00
Thu: (12:10), (2:30)

THE GOOD DINOSAUR (PG)
Fri–Mon: (11:15 AM), (1:35), (4:00), 6:45, 9:05
Tue: (11:15 AM), (1:35), (4:00), 9:05
Wed: (11:15 AM), (1:35), (4:00), 6:45, 9:05
Thu: (11:15 AM), (1:35), (4:00)

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 3-7 PM
LORAS COLLEGE FIELD HOUSE, 1450 ALTA VISTA ST.
Looking for a NEW CAREER this NEW YEAR?
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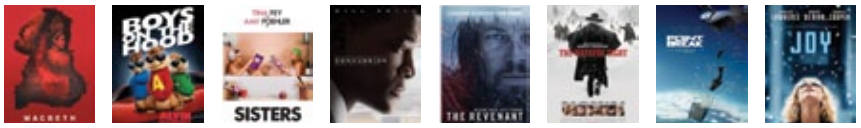

COMING TO THEATERS

Star Wars - The Force Awakens (PG-13)
Friday, December 18
Hey, have you heard there's a new Star Wars movie?

Alvin & the Chipmunks" The Road Chimp (G)
Friday, December 18
Ugh... have you heard there's a new Chipmunks movie?

Sisters (R)
Friday, December 18
SNL alumni Tina Fey and Amy Poehler co-star as a pair of 30-something sisters spend one last rowdy weekend in the home where they grew up.

Concussion (PG-13)
Friday, December 25
Based on the true story of the doctor who discovered CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy) in football players. Stars Will Smith.

The Revenant (R)
Friday, December 25
Inspired by true events, legendary explorer Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio) is brutally attacked by a bear and left for dead by members of his own hunting team. Guided by sheer will and the love of his family, Glass must navigate a vicious winter in a relentless pursuit to live and find redemption.v

The Hateful Eight (R)
Friday, December 25
A new kick-ass western from the mind of Quentin Tarantino starring all the people who star in every Tarantino film. You know it's gonna be odd and awesome... and gruesome.

Point Break (PG-13)
Friday, December 25
Yeah, they remade that movie. There's no way this can be good without Keanu and Swayze!

Joy (PG-13)
Friday, December 25
JOY is the wild story of a family across four generations centered on the girl who becomes the woman who founds a business dynasty and becomes a matriarch in her own right. Stars Jennifer Lawrence, Robert De Niro and Bradley Cooper.

MOVIE BUZZ

As if she doesn't have anywhere more prestigious to be, Cate Blanchett is entering the Marvel Cinematic Universe. *Variety* reports that the Oscar-winning *Lord of the Rings* star will for some reason head back to nerdery with a role in *Thor: Ragnarok*.

Idris Elba is said to be the frontrunner to star opposite Matthew McConaughey in *The Dark Tower*. He will step into the role of gunslinger Roland Deschain in their long, long developing Stephen King adaptation, which already has McConaughey in talks to play antagonist Randall Flagg. Though Deschain has typically been presented as basically looking like Clint Eastwood as The Man with No Name, even purists will have to agree that Elba could bring the role the kind of intense, steely presence it needs.

Doctor Strange star Benedict Cumberbatch has got himself another role as his adventuring group's magic user. He has reportedly signed on to star in *The War Magician*, a World War II thriller being adapted by *Book Of Eli* writer Gary Whitta. The actor would play Jasper Maskelyne, the real-life stage magician of the '30s and '40s who may or may not have been a war hero.

As was previously rumored, Universal is tearing down the white gauze patriarchy with a female mummy. THR is reporting that the studio has started talks with *Kingsman*'s Sofia Boutella for the title role of their modern-day reboot of the *Mummy* franchise. Tom Cruise is already in negotiations to star as the non-mummified lead.

It seems Chris Pratt's supposed succession to Indiana Jones will end with him, too, not being tossed the whip. Speaking to *Screen Daily*, Steven Spielberg has just killed the rumors of re-casting Indy, stating, "There is only going to be one actor playing Indiana Jones and that's Harrison Ford." ■

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↑ Kelsey Hammons "Nose Cage" and Hope Greenwood "Maddie Kins"

CLARKE SOPHOMORE/JUNIOR JURIED ART EXHIBITION

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 23 & JANUARY 4 THROUGH JANUARY 23
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 @ 3–4:30 PM
FREE
@ CLARKE UNIVERSITY QUIGLEY ART GALLERY (1550 CLARKE DR)

The Clarke University Art + Design Department Sophomore/Junior Juried Art Exhibition, featuring 17 students, will be on display until December 23, and again from Monday, Jan. 4, to Saturday, Jan. 23, in the Quigley Art Gallery on Clarke's campus. The students who have art on display are:

Juniors – Erik Brolin, Gilroy, Calif.; Hope Greenwood, Dubuque; Morgan Hazer, Bernard, Iowa; Kylie Murphy, Dubuque; Bridget Quinn, Lake Elmo, Minn.; Lauren Reagan, Dubuque; Emily Joos, Dubuque; Natalie Kalmes, St. Donatus, Iowa; Emmanuel Egwaoje, Matteson, Ill.

Sophomores - Rachel Spurling, Dubuque; Emma Duehr, Dubuque; Kelsey Hammons, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Katie Marter, Oswego, Ill.; Erin Danosky, St. Charles, Ill.; Stephanie Knipper Hopkinton, Iowa; Tia Vergauwen, Marshalltown, Iowa; Sydni Dehahn, Pearl City, Ill.

The Quigley Gallery is open from Noon–5 PM Monday through Friday; 1–5 PM Saturday and Sunday.

Clarke.edu/artsatclarke
563-588-6318

ART SALE & SILENT AUCTION

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE DUBUQUE AREA ARTS COLLECTIVE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 @ 5–9 PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 @ NOON–6 PM
@ DUBUQUE AREA ARTS COLLECTIVE (902 MAIN ST)

Find paintings, drawings, and photography, along with used and new art supplies and frames, art prints, CDs and records, comic books, t-shirts and more, all created by local artists and at great prices! All profits are shared between the artists and DAAC. Your donation will go directly toward our building, exhibits, publications, and program expenses.

The Dubuque Area Arts Collective came into existence two years ago. In that time, we have served over 500 youth, developing, and established artists and have also collaborated with local organizations, taking our programs outside and working with the community at large.

DAArtsCollective.com
salondbq@gmail.com

"CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL"

OTLAG ANNUAL JURIED GROUP EXHIBIT

JANUARY 8, 2016 THROUGH FEBRUARY 29, 2016
RECEPTION: FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2016 @ 7–9 PM
FREE
@ OUTSIDE THE LINES ART GALLERY (409 BLUFF ST)

Artists from around the region submitted a variety of work for consideration. The artists were encouraged to interpret the theme creatively. Create. Gallery owners Stormy Mochal and Connie Twining will jury the submissions and install the show. Local artist, Thomas Metcalf will review the accepted works and choose three winners to receive a share of a $600 cash prize. Winners will be announced during the opening reception. These cash awards are sponsored by Premier Bank.

Dubuque: 563-583-9343
Galena: 815-776-9166
OTALG.com

CSA: COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART

CALL FOR ARTISTS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016

Over the last 20 years, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) has become a popular way for consumers to buy seasonal food directly from local farms. With the same "buy local" spirit in mind, Community Supported Art supports local art, artists and collectors. We are seeking artists, of all disciplines, to a launch our inaugural Community Supported ART (CSA) program.

Local art advocates of multiarts organizations are coming together to bring CSA to Dubuque. In an effort to encourage the growth of the local art scene, CSA aims to promote and motivate artists by connecting them with buyers and local art institutions.

Selected artists will create 25 "shares". For example, a limited edition of a vinyl 7" music record, a run of screenprints, series of small tea cups, letterpress editions of a poem or short story, or even 25 small paintings.

Interested consumers/collectors will purchase a share ("subscription"), for a box of locally produced artwork. There will be a CSA preview event held at the Dubuque Museum of Art in April and a CSA pickup event at the Dubuque Area Arts Collective in August.

DAArtsCollective.com
DubuqueCSArt@gmail.com

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ARTS calendar

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17
Doodle Group
1 PM @ Maquoketa Art Experience (Maquoketa, IA)
Dubuque Food Co-op Happy Holiday Hour
5–7:30 PM @ Dubuque Food Co-op
Jazz It Up With Jingle Barry
5:30–7:30 PM @ Hotel Julien Dubuque
Christmas on Broadway
7:30 PM @ Bell Tower Theater

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18
Art Sale & Silent Auction
5–9 PM @ Dubuque Area Arts Collective
Elf Jingle's Christmas Surprise
7 PM @ Hazel Green Opera House (Hazel Green, WI)
That Mighty Day
7 PM @ First Baptist Church of Dubuque
Christmas on Broadway
7:30 PM @ Bell Tower Theater
The Nutcracker Ballet
7:30 PM @ Grand Opera House

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19
Finding Exposure
10 AM–Noon @ Everything Photography
Elf Jingle's Christmas Surprise
11 AM & 2 PM @ Hazel Green Opera House (Hazel Green, WI)
Art Sale & Silent Auction
Noon–6 PM @ Dubuque Area Arts Collective
Scribblers Chat Group
2 PM @ Maquoketa Art Experience (Maquoketa, IA)
That Mighty Day
7 PM @ First Baptist Church of Dubuque
Christmas on Broadway
7:30 PM @ Bell Tower Theater
The Nutcracker Ballet
7:30 PM @ Grand Opera House
Mistletoe Stroll Holiday House Tour
@ Various Locations, Galena, IL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
Christmas on Broadway
2 PM @ Bell Tower Theater
The Nutcracker Ballet
2 PM @ Grand Opera House
That Mighty Day
3 PM @ First Baptist Church of Dubuque

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21
Y105 Presents The Magic of Michael Carbonaro Live
5 & 7:30 PM @ The Grand Opera House

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22
Baby + Me Tours
9–9:30 AM @ Dubuque Museum of Art
Young at Art
2–2:45 PM @ Dubuque Museum of Art

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Star Trails Workshop
6–9 PM @ Everything Photography

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
Elf Jingle's Christmas Surprise
2 PM @ Hazel Green Opera House (Hazel Green, WI)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
The Neverly Brothers
7 PM @ Ohnward Fine Arts Center (Maquoketa, IA)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016
Baby + Me Tours
9–9:30 AM @ Dubuque Museum of Art

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2016
Dubuque Area Writers Guild Meeting
6 PM @ Monk's
"Creatures Great and Small" Juried Group Exhibit Reception
7–9 PM @ OTLAG Dubuque

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2016
Great River Film Initiative Meeting
10 AM @ Mindframe Theaters
The French Cafe
10–11 AM @ Multicultural Family Center
Paint & Pour
11 AM–2 PM @ Galena Cellars (Galena, IL)
Second Saturday at DUMA
1 PM @ Dubuque Museum of Art
SNL's Ana Gasteyer & Her Jazz Quintet
7:30 PM @ UD Heritage Center

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016
Young at Art
2–2:45 PM @ Dubuque Museum of Art

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016
Scribblers Chat Group
2 PM @ Maquoketa Art Experience (Maquoketa, IA)
Jack & Kitty Family Folk
4–6 PM @ Grand Opera House
Elvis Rock N Roll Remember Tribute Show
7 PM @ Ohnward Fine Arts Center (Maquoketa, IA)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2016
Ole & Lena WIN A CRUISE
2–4 PM @ Grand Opera House

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016
Baby + Me Tours
9–9:30 AM @ Dubuque Museum of Art

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016
Doodle Group
1 PM @ Maquoketa Art Experience (Maquoketa, IA)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2016
Dubuque Area Writers Guild Meeting
6 PM @ Monk's

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016
Clarke Sophomore/Junior Juried Art Exhibition Reception
3–4:30 PM @ Clarke Quigley Art Gallery

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016
Young at Art
2–2:45 PM @ Dubuque Museum of Art

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016
Mr. Marmalade
7 PM @ The Smokestack
Live at Heritage Center: VoicePlay
7:30 PM @ UD Heritage Center

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016
Dinner à la Morte Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre
6 PM @ UD Heritage Center
Mr. Marmalade
7 PM @ The Smokestack
Guys in Ties
7:30 PM @ Bell Tower Theater
CSA: Community Supported Art Submission Deadline

Ongoing ARTS Events

THROUGH DECEMBER 27
Salon-Style
Dubuque Museum of Art
THROUGH DECEMBER 31
Crandall and Nie Exhibit
UD Heritage Center
Millwork Portraits: A Project by Tim Olson.
Gallery C
THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2016
Nativities of the World
Sinsinawa Gallery (Sinsinawa, WI)
THROUGH JANUARY 23, 2016
Sophomore-Junior Art and Design Student Exhibit
Clarke Quigley Art Gallery
THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2016
Dark Slide Skate Art Show
Dubuque Area Arts Collective
THROUGH FEBRUARY 7, 2016
Joan Webster-Vore Mixed Media Installation
Dubuque Museum of Art
THROUGH MARCH 20, 2016
Janet Ruttenberg: Figure in the Landscape and Kathy Ruttenberg: Landscape in the Figure Exhibits
Dubuque Museum of Art
JANUARY 6, 2016–JANUARY 30, 2016
David Mngodo: People and Their Activities
Sinsinawa Gallery (Sinsinawa, WI)
JANUARY 8, 2016–FEBRUARY 28, 2016
Creatures Great and Small
Outside the Lines Art Gallery DBQ
FEBRUARY 19, 2016–JUNE 5, 2016
Wendy Romero Exhibit
Dubuque Museum of Art
APRIL 2, 2016–APRIL 17, 2016
Citywide High School Exhibition
Dubuque Museum of Art
MAY 7, 2016–JULY 31, 2016
Sara Lubinski: River Sojourn
Dubuque Museum of Art
AUGUST 13, 2016–NOVEMBER 6, 2016
Ellen Wagener
Dubuque Museum of Art
OCTOBER 14, 2016–FEBRUARY 5, 2017
Zane York: Drawings
Dubuque Museum of Art

FIND MORE EVENTS:

FOR THE COMPLETE ART EVENTS CALENDAR AND MORE, VISIT dubuque365.com/artscalendar

STAR WARS

DUBUQUE AWAKENS

BY BRYCE PARKS

PHOTO: STEVEN SCHLEUNING

For many people, Thursday night, December 18, marks the biggest event in cinematic history since May 19, 1999, the day the last Star Wars trilogy debuted with The Phantom Menace, sixteen years after Return of the Jedi saw it's day in the sun. But then Jar Jar Binks lumbered on screen and it was as if millions of voices suddenly cried out in terror, and were suddenly silenced.

We have only had to wait a mere decade this time around, since Darth Vader took his first Frankensteinesque steps in 2005's Revenge of the Sith. In the intervening decade, George Lucas has taken a veritable public stoning for his handling of the near-religious tome that is the Star Wars saga. It was so bad that he basically said screw-it, sold off his company to Disney, said "Fine, you do better," dropped the mic and walked off into the sunset … with like a couple billion dollars.

Disney said, "Thank you very much, I think we can do better … quick, someone call J.J. Abrams," and the rest is history. With a slew of Star Wars movies in the pipeline in coming years to (hopefully) satisfy the unquenchable thirst of fanboys and fangirls across the galaxy, the mayhem kicks off this week with the release of a feverishly anticipated Star Wars: The Force Awakens. In fact, by the time you read this, some people in Dubuque will have already seen the movie a dozen times.

Speaking of fanboys and fangirls, how about that sweet cover of the paper? Shot by the lovely and talented Steven Schleuning, the photo features a cast of Dubuque locals who are all in the running as Dubuque's top Star Wars fan. Well, except for Stormtrooper Jeff who doesn't know Star Wars from Star Trek from Star Search. He asked what a Stormtrooper was. So we realize that letting him not only wear that amazing costume but also appear on the cover is somehow sacrilegious. But the others, including the twin Princess Leias Nicole Welsh (slave Leia) and Nicole Meyers (Ambassador Leia), Paul and Sandy Meyer (Tusken Raider and Boba Fett, respectively) could certainly argue their Star Wars dedication.

However, when we put our search out there for public input on Dubuque's biggest Star Wars fan, the feedback was swift and decisive. Everyone said we had to meet Joey Oglesby, who just happens to don his very own Darth Vader garb on the cover of this issue. (Jeff's Stormtrooper also belongs to Joey.) With a new era of Star Wars lore at our doorstep, we thought we'd find out what makes the #1 Dubuque Star Wars fan, a title not claimed by Joey, tick.

Joey Oglesby was seven years old in 1977 when his mother and older brother went to see Star Wars with him at the Grand (now an opera house, but then a movie house) and his world was forever changed.

"Like everyone, that first scene of Star Wars had a huge effect on me, says Joey. "It was instantly real to me. I love today's technology and the CGI, but whatever it was about the miniatures and the special effect from the original film, they were tangible, something you could touch, or so they felt. It was just real. So I ended up seeing it ten times that year. I still have the first ticket stub. I'm such a nerd."

"At first there was no merchandise at all for the movie," he continues. "So we went to some kind of festival in Wisconsin that summer and there was this Chewbacca head statue sitting out. It was not licensed or anything. Someone had just made it. Chewbacca is my favorite. So I bought it. It was like $5, a lot of money back then. It was my first piece and I still have it."

"I started collecting right away. My older brother was 12 and worked at Comic World back when Al Picker owned it." (There must have been lax labor laws in 1977.)

By the time that The Empire Strikes Back came out, Joey was ten years old and every Christmas and birthday in between were 100% about Star Wars. Little has changed since.

"When someone gives me a piece for the collection, I remember," notes Joey, "even if it was thirty years ago I remember who gave it to me and when."

"You're not going to believe this but from the beginning I was pretty, well … not 'disturbed,' but kids would come over and I had everything, the action figures and everything, and they could not bend the arms or set them down into the ships," recalls Joey. "As an 8-year-old I was able to see the value in keeping them in great condition. I did open them at least, but I protected them. I still have them and they grade very high in mint condition."

In contrast, most of this writer's own star wars action figures lost their limbs by sliding down kite string from hundreds of feet in the air. Who knew that the heat build-up the friction would cut right through a plastic armpit?

"In about 2002 I started doing Ebay as I wanted the original 12 figures on the original back cards and that's how I found them," Joey explains. "Later when I needed some money I sold them. I wish now that I hadn't because they are worth so much money now, about $1000 a piece. My father kept all the boxes too. I don't know if he knew at the time to do that, or if I said to keep them, but one way or another I have all the boxes for everything."

Needless to say, the advent of Ebay was a renaissance for him in both buying and selling memorabilia from then on.

"There was a lull in the early '90s and everybody fell off and I stayed with it," notes Joey. "I was 22 in 1992 in the 'dark times' when there were no new movies or anything but I still collected. It was a good time to find stuff."

"There are some things I will never get rid of now, but in recent years I've started letting things go. I'd say about 90%, as much as it means to me, I'd let go for the right price," Joey admits. "A few pieces are of key importance, like a tie to my youth and I'll never give them up. My prize possessions are the higher-end collectibles. There are statues from Sideshow Collectibles and they typically start out at about $350 a piece and some have gone way up in value. I have seven or eight. Gentle Giant studios does 3-D scanned busts about seven inches tall and I have every one of them from the original trilogy, about 70, and they run about $50 a piece."

Of course, the original unlicensed Chewbacca from the 1977 festival would never be for sale.

"Not for $1000 and it's technically not really worth anything as it's just a piece of junk, well, a piece of fan art from a festival," states Joey. But to him, it's the beginning of a lifelong passion.

"I have the entire run of action figures in the many variants and there were many variants, some super hard to find and expensive, such as the vinyl-caped Jawa from the original 12 figures series. It was pulled immediately and replaced with a cloth-caped version (well, duh). There were 92 figures and I have 150 with all the variations, all super mint condition," Joey elaborates.

Yep. He's a geek alright! But a geek with the last laugh.

"The collection was appraised in 2007 for $98,000 and it's at least $150,000 or $200,000 today," Joey estimates.

The popularity of the new films will only make that valuation number for the original film's merchandise skyrocket in the future.

"My initial reason for the collection was as a fund for my kids later on and now I'm like, 'Well my parents never did this for me so what am I saving this for them for?'" he jokes.

Certainly on a head-to-head merchandise competition, Joey is the king. But he was quickly reluctant to say that he's the biggest Star Wars fan in Dubuque.

"I don't know if I'm the biggest fan. I think I might be. But there's always somebody else. And you don't need to spend all your money on memorabilia to be a huge fan," observes Joey. "It's not about that for everyone. At one point I thought I needed to get everything ever made for Star Wars, but within the last 4 years I stopped and just focus on the high end collectibles."

So if you are mad reading this because you are positive that you, not Joey, are the biggest fan ever, he will not argue the point. He's just the biggest fan he can be.

So, of course we had to get into some Star Wars nitty-gritty with Joey. Most notably, we wanted his take on the controversial second trilogy.

PHOTO: STEVEN SCHLEUNING

"I was extremely disappointed in the second trilogy and it's the same argument you'll hear from any of the fanatics," Joey admits. "Bad story, crappy acting and CGI that made it seem less real. It did not feel tangible. It didn't seem like a real place. In the second movie, every trooper was CGI. That's just unbelievable in every sense of the word. You could tell. CGI can be great, Jar Jar was, at first an amazing feat of CGI, but then he was way overused and well … he was the first piece I collected from the Phantom Menace before it came out. I thought he was gonna be huge. I thought he was going to be this new lovable character like the Ewoks. He was not. Kids at there time did like him. George Lucas is still a genius and he knew what he was doing on that end, but they just didn't capture what WE like, the original fans. I think a lot of us are bitter about that. Those movies are still fun to watch but not at all like the original trilogy."

And the special editions of the original trilogy were fine by him, he loved the changes to the original and couldn't care less about the "Greedo shot first" controversy. He just loved that it was now longer and there was more to see.

And what about The Force Awakens?

"I'm super excited about the new one," Joey states. "I've been doing a countdown on Facebook from 50 days out. I think these are going to be pretty good. I think they're going back to the roots of what made people love the originals. Doing away with a lot of CGI and doing animated puppets and things which is very good. Real effects makes things feel real."

We asked if, given the option, he'd rather see the new one with a theater full of 500 screaming rabid fans or all by himself in silence.

"The last round it was a little crazy with people waving light sabers around and cheering for the opening logo. I mean I had chills and I thought, 'this is awesome,' but I'm not gonna cheer for it. The mass of emotion from the room is great, but you also want to say, 'Shut up, I can't hear them.'"

"It boggles me running into someone like Jeff at the photo shoot today who knows nothing about Star Wars at all," Joey ponders. "You have to really try to not know Star Wars. I'm embarrassed to say I've seen Star Wars maybe 1000 times since 1977."

So that probably means that his family has seen it almost as many times.

"My kids grew up with it," Joey notes. "My daughter is 11 and a couple of months ago she said she's tired of hearing about it but she actually likes it. My boy is 12 and a half and he was rooted with it. He was two when Revenge of the Sith came out and I took him. He liked it but, you know, he was too young to understand it. We did the Star Wars Celebration in Indianapolis and he had a great time, but still too young to make an impact. But now he loves it and he can't wait. They're both excited and I'm taking them both on Thursday night."

To live with someone who not only dedicates a lot of time and energy to such a passion, but also money and a huge amount of floor space in the house, takes a special kind of patience and understanding as well.

"As a kid, my mom was like, 'You spend a lot of money on this but you've never done drugs or been in trouble and spent your money differently but as long as you're responsible about it, it's okay with me.' My wife was the same way. As long as you can still pay the bills, she's okay with it."

Some people have boats and motorcycles to drain their funds; he has a Star Wars collection. And boats lose

value the day you leave the store with it. Not Star Wars memorabilia.

Friends weren't necessary jealous of his collection, but as one cousin said, Joey always had all the toys and saw the movie ten times and he never got that. But as Joey explained, other people just got other stuff instead like designer jeans or bikes and whatnot. He just focused my energies on this one thing and held onto it … for almost 40 years. Even as we sit down in his basement, he's wearing a T-shirt with a "Blue Harvest, Horror Beyond Imagination" logo. That alone is a pretty deep geek-style Star Wars joke. It was the working title of Return of the Jedi, used in an effort to keep secret what they were working on. The crew had shirts and hats made that featured the fake movie's logo back in 1983.

And that's not his only shirt. Next to us in the basement was a rack full of Star Wars clothing. And he's got costumes. Not K-Mart costumes. The serious ones that cost around a $1000, and he uses them, like on our cover for example. In fact they've paid for themselves.

"I've been Darth Vader four times now for the Mississippi Moon Bar," Joey notes. "And I instantly made my money back on them just from costume contest's cash prizes on Halloween. So Darth is my go-to for Halloween from now on."

All said, the connection for Joey Oglesby is foremost about rekindling and reconnecting with his youth.

"It's the summer of 1977 all over again … in our Star Wars pajamas with those really cheesy lightsabers they made back then (or else wrapping paper tubes) and having epic light saber battles."

Well, get ready to stretch out with your feelings Joey. You're about to get a serious dose of the force.

The film is sure to break every movie release record there is to break.

"Not only are people going to see it the first day, they're going to see it again the second day and more days after that," says Steve Thompson from Mindframe Theaters.

And with new digital projection, they're no more worries about not having enough prints of the film to fill the demand for theater seats. Studios can send the show to as many screens as they like. Screen space and length of run are a big deal to Disney with the release of Star Wars.

"There are rules of showing any film," explains Thompson. "The studios are flexible and have a few rules that make sense, but Disney with Star Wars this year is being really controlling. We have to be super careful about things like advance screenings. Usually what we do is run a movie once before it opens to the public as a test to make sure everything is working okay and we'll let employees sit in on those now and then. But they put the hammer down and said no employees, nobody at all is allowed to see this movie before 7 p.m. on Thursday night, so we're sticking to that as bad as we'll like to run that test preview."

In addition, Disney has demanded theaters guarantee a 4-week run of the film, where it's usually a 2-week guarantee. But that's not really going to be much of a stretch for Mindframe, or any theater. People will be seeing this one well into the New Year.

Steve Thompson, also an avid Star Wars nut, saw the first one in the 4th grade.

"Everyone in class had already seen it. I begged mom and dad and finally they took us and it changed my life. We came out of the theater playing light sabers. Movies are great and as kids we loved movies, but there was something different about Star Wars. For some reason we came out of that movie knowing that what we were watching was real. Somewhere in a galaxy far, far away, this is really happening."

Without talking to each other and in separate interviews, Joey and Steve each touched on the key element that surely makes the original trilogy resonate to this day: For so many of us, Star Wars is real. And millions of fans, kids once again, can't wait to revisit characters they've loved their whole lives, but not seen in thirty years.

May the force be with us all! ■

OPENING WEEKEND SHOWTIMES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

MINDFRAME THEATERS
Standard: 7 PM, 8 PM, 10 PM

AMC STAR DUBUQUE 14
Standard: 7 PM, 7:15 PM, 7:30 PM, 8 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11:30 PM, Midnight
3D: 7 PM, 7:15 PM, 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:30 PM, 11 PM, 11:15 PM, Midnight

MILLENNIUM CINEMA
Standard: 7 PM
3D: 7 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

MINDFRAME THEATERS
Standard: 10:30 AM, 1:20 PM, 4:15 PM, 7:10 PM, 10 PM

AMC STAR DUBUQUE 14
Standard: 1:30 PM, 3:30 PM, 5 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, Midnight
3D: Noon, 12:30 PM, 1 PM, 4 PM, 4:30 PM, 7 PM, 7:30 PM, 8 PM, 10:30 PM, 11 PM, 11:30 PM

MILLENNIUM CINEMA
Standard: 12:40 PM, 1:30 PM, 3:40 PM, 7:10 PM, 7:50 PM, 8:30 PM
3D: 5 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

MINDFRAME THEATERS
Standard: 10:30 AM, 1:20 PM, 4:15 PM, 7:10 PM, 10 PM

AMC STAR DUBUQUE 14
Standard: 10 AM, 1:30 PM, 3:30 PM, 5 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, Midnight
3D: 9 AM, 9:30 AM, Noon, 12:30 PM, 1 PM, 4 PM, 4:30 PM, 7 PM, 7:30 PM, 8 PM, 10:30 PM, 11 PM, 11:30 PM

MILLENNIUM CINEMA
Standard: 12:40 PM, 1:30 PM, 3:40 PM, 7:10 PM, 7:50 PM, 8:30 PM
3D: 5 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

MINDFRAME THEATERS
Standard: 10:30 AM, 1:20 PM, 4:15 PM, 7:10 PM, 10 PM

AMC STAR DUBUQUE 14
Standard: 10 AM, 1:30 PM, 3:30 PM, 5 PM, 8:30 PM
3D: 9 AM, Noon, 12:30 PM, 1 PM, 4 PM, 4:30 PM, 7 PM, 7:30 PM, 8 PM, 10:30 PM

MILLENNIUM CINEMA
Standard: 12:40 PM, 1:30 PM, 3:40 PM, 7:10 PM, 7:50 PM, 8:30 PM
3D: 5 PM

Budweiser
Think local. Drink local. Listen local.
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TRI-STATE LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17
Tapestry
Dubuque Community Y Fundraiser
5 PM @ Inspire Café

Nate Jenkins
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Dueling Pianos
7 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Calvin Coohey
8 PM @ The Smokestack

Campfire Kings
8 PM @ The Cornerstone

Ugly Christmas Sweater Party
9 PM @ Skinny Maginny's

Dubuque Battle Rap League
Prosmoke & Haze, Skeez, Fantom, J.Dot Mane
9 PM @ The Venue

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18
John Moran
5:30 PM @ Inspire Café

A Pirate Over 50
7 PM @ Stone Cliff

The Wundo Band
7 PM @ DBQ Driving Range

Roy Schroedl
7 PM @ Perfect Pint

Sam Wyatt
7:30 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Hairball
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Ben Dunegan
8 PM @ The Cornerstone

5th Fret
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co.

Lojo Russo
8 PM @ Grape Escape

Denny Garcia
9 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Remada
9 PM @ The Venue

Divas After Dark Drag Show
9 PM @ The Smokestack

Becky McMahonn
9 PM @ Spirits

BlackWater Gin
10 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19
Denny Garcia
Noon @ Big Bill's Sandwich Shop, Galena

Dirty Water Boys
2 PM @ Grape Escape

David Minnihan
Inspire One Year Anniversary
6 PM @ Inspire Café

Ron Lubbers
6:30 PM @ Knights of Columbus Hall

Johnnie Walker
7 PM @ Stone Cliff

The Highway Men: Tribute to Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings & Johnny Cash
7 & 9 PM @ Mystique Casino

Sam Wyatt
7:30 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Club 84: Ugly Sweater Party
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Ugly Christmas Sweater / Holiday Costume Party
8 PM @ Easy Street

Serious Business, feat. Matt Fuller
8 PM @ The Blu Room, Breezer's Pub

Adam Beck
8 PM @ Fife's

Buzz Berries
8 PM @ Knickers

Swingin' Doors
8 PM @ Jumpers

The 38s
8 PM @ DBQ Driving Range

Blues Rock-it
Flatted Fifth Blues & BBQ
8 PM @ Potter's Mill, Bellevue

Scott & Pearl's Medicinal Purpose
8 PM @ Embe Eatery

Ethan Keller
8 PM @ The Cornerstone

Derty Rice
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co.

Aaron Williams & The Hoodoo
8 PM @ Grape Escape

Sunshine
8 PM @ Pecatonica Beer Tap House, Warren

Madhouse
9 PM @ Skinny Maginny's

Vu JaDe
9 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Wheelhouse
9 PM @ The Lift

Abbie Morin
9 PM @ The Smokestack

Boys Night Out
9 PM @ Spirits

Taste Like Chicken
9 PM @ Northside Bar

Four Day Creep
9 PM @ Shenanigans

Brown Bottle Bandits
9 PM @ Dagwood's

Dirty Laundry
9 PM @ Bronco Inn

Ignighter
9 PM @ Jimi B's Bar & Grill

Comedian, Vince Carone
9 PM @ Arthur House Restaurant

Playground of Sound
Toys For Tots
Winter Concert Tour
10 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
Scott's Sunday Sesssion
Noon @ The Smokestack

Open Mic w/ Scott Rische
Noon @ Grape Escape

Open Mic w/ Pearl Breitbach
2:30 PM @ The Cornerstone

Becky McMahon
3 PM @ Stone Cliff

Gladdy & The Tramps
6 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern

Miss Kitty Quiz Show
8 PM @ Grape Escape

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22
7 Bridges Road
7 PM @ 1st & Main

Dan Peart
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Dating Game
9 PM @ Skinny Maginny's

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23
Acoustic Jam w/ Marty Raymon
6:30 PM @ The Cornerstone

Christmas Open Mic w/ Gladdy & Friends
6:30 PM @ The Blu Room, Breezer's Pub

Statue of Liberty
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Ben Ulin
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Open Mic w/ Mississippi Trio
9 PM @ The Lift

Campfire Kings
10 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

CHRISTMAS EVE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
Santa
12 AM @ The Smokestack

CHRISTMAS DAY
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25
Becky McMahon
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Howlin' Daze Sauce Band
8 PM @ The Cornerstone

Scott Rische's Acoustic
Open Mic
8 PM @ Grape Escape

Tell Your Christmas Story
9 PM @ The Smokestack

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26
Denny Garcia
Noon @ Big Bill's Sandwich Shop, Galena

Dirty Water Boys
2 PM @ Grape Escape

Tony Walker
7 PM @ Stone Cliff

Katie Sullivan
7:30 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Jim Wand
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

QC Slim
Flatted Fifth Blues & BBQ
8 PM @ Potter's Mill, Bellevue

Scott Guthrie & Pearl Breitbach
8 PM @ The Cornerstone

Ten Galllon Hat
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co.

Dan Peart
9 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

River Glen
9 PM @ The Lift

Day After Xmas Dance Party
w/ DJ Dweezy
9 PM @ The Smokestack

Marty Koppes
9 PM @ Spirits

Ignighter
9 PM @ Northside Bar

Crystal Leather
10 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27
Scott's Sunday Sesssion
Noon @ The Smokestack

Open Mic w/ Scott Rische
Noon @ Grape Escape

Ron Lubbers
3 PM @ Stone Cliff

Brandon Hage & Friends
3:30 PM @ The Cornerstone

Ron Tegler Jazz Trio
Flatted Fifth Blues & BBQ
5 PM @ Potter's Mill, Bellevue

The Lonely Goats
6 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern

Katie Sullivan
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Miss Kitty Quiz Show
8 PM @ Grape Escape

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28
Katie Sullivan
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Katie Sullivan
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Brown Bottle Bandits
7 PM @ 1st & Main

John Moran
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30
Katie Sullivan
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Acoustic Jam
w/ Garrett Hillary
6:30 PM @ The Cornerstone

Open Mic w/ Gladdy & Friends
6:30 PM @ The Blu Room, Breezer's Pub

Ben Dunegan
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

BT
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Sugar Still
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co.

Silversyde, Septembers Rest
9 PM @ The Venue

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
Johnnie Walker
2 PM @ Promiseland Winery

Meghan Davis & Katie Sullivan
2 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

The Robertos
4 PM @ Skinny McGinny's

New Year's Eve Dueling Pianos
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

QC Slim Band
8 PM @ The Blu Room, Breezer's Pub

Tony Walker
8 PM @ Trackside

Derty Rice
Flatted Fifth Blues & BBQ
8 PM @ Potter's Mill, Bellevue

Sunshine
8 PM @ Galena Elks Lodge

Rockabilly Junction
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co.

The Johnny Rockers
8 PM @ Grape Escape

Roy Schroedl
8 PM @ Woodlands Lounge, Eagle Ridge

The Wundo Band
8:30 PM @ Palace Ballroom, Farley Speedway

Fever River String Band
8:30 PM @ Anton's Saloon

DJ Double J
9 PM @ Skinny Maginny's

Ruby Blonde
9 PM @ The Lift

Steve McIntyre
9 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

New Year Dance Party w/ DJ
Salad Spinner
9 PM @ The Smokestack

New Odyssey
9 PM @ Mystique Casino

Steve Cavanaugh &
Randy Droessler
9 PM @ Spirits

Ron Lubbers
9 PM @ Eagles Club (Dubuque)

Becky McMahon
9 PM @ Denny's Lux Club

Gypsy Pistols
9 PM @ Jimi B's Bar & Grill

Michael Breitbach
9 PM @ The Cornerstone

BlackWater Gin – CANCELED!
9 PM @ New Diggings General Store

Broken Strings
9:30 PM @ Dirty Ernie's

Six Shots 'til Midnight
11 PM @ Sandy Hook Tavern

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1
Terry McCauley
2 PM @ Jimi B's Bar & Grill

John Conover
7:30 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Roy Schroedl
8 PM @ Galena Brewing Co.

Jordan Danielsen
8 PM @ Grape Escape

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
Andy Wilberding
6 PM @ Inspire Café

Club 84: Winter White Party
7 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

John Conover
7:30 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Pub

Framing The Red
8 PM @ Mystique Casino

Zach Harris
Flatted Fifth Blues & BBQ
8 PM @ Potter's Mill, Bellevue

The Lonely Goats
8 PM @ Grape Escape

Derty Blonde
9 PM @ Spirits

Earth Ascending
9 PM @ The Lift

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
Scott's Sunday Sesssion
Noon @ The Smokestack

Open Mic w/ Scott Rische
Noon @ Grape Escape

Open Mic
2:30 PM @ The Cornerstone

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6
Acoustic Jam
6:30 PM @ The Cornerstone

Open Mic w/ Gladdy & Friends
6:30 PM @ The Blu Room, Breezer's Pub

Joe Larson
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

TOYS FOR TOTS WINTER CONCERT TOUR

WITH PLAYGROUND OF SOUND
SPONSORED BY MCGRAW-HILL HIGHER EDUCATION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 @ 9 PM
SANDY HOOK TAVERN (HAZEL GREEN, WI)

How cool is this? For the second great year, during the weeks leading up to Christmas, you can officially rock out in the Tri-States and help the Marine Corps Toys For Tots Program at the same time! And we're not even kidding! There is literally no better way we can think of to support Toys For Tots and drink a beer at the same time.

We are taking Toys for Tots on the road, and your generous cover charge (or donated toy) at each venue helps to support Toys for Tots. It's all made possible thanks to a generous grant from the cool folks at McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

The tour wraps up at the place most fun ends up in the tri-states, at the Sandy Hook Tavern on Saturday, December 19. They've already helped Toys For Tots raise $1000 earlier this Summer and now Ashley Lawrence and crew are at it again with their overdose of generosity, hosting the final Toys For Tots Winter Concert Tour show featuring Playground of Sound.

Madison-based Playground of Sound have not seen a stage together since the group disbanded a year ago. But with a illness to the singer of Stop the Clock, a new band which features some members of Playground, the band decided to get together for a show to cover the date at the Hook which also happens to be the final Toys For Tots fundraiser of the season. Member Brad Reichert (Vocals), Karri Daley (Vocals), Joel Pingitore (Guitar), Frank Queram (Bass) and Joel Brantmeier (Drums) form an exciting, accomplished blues /rock band that have played hundreds of shows both nationally and throughout Wisconsin. They play a mix of inspired original music and familiar songs by influences such as Jimi Hendrix, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Robert Cray etc. They are a truly talented group of musicians who always keep their crowd wanting more late into the night.

Toys For Tots would like to thank McGraw-Hill Higher Education for making the Winter Concert Tour possible as well as Julie Griffin, the first lady of rock and roll in Dubuque, for helping Toys For Tots in organizing this stellar music series! Find the tour events on Facebook and follow along! ■

BUDWEISER LOCAL LIVE MUSIC FEATURES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

John Moran

5:30 PM @ Inspire Café (955 Washington St)
Come out and hear the music of John Moran. Singer/Songwriter, guitarist and harmonica player, John's deep, rich, blues inflected voice is both powerful and passionate.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

The Highway Men: Tribute to Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings and Johnny Cash

7 & 9 PM @ Mystique Casino (1855 Greyhound Park Rd)
Tickets: $15
Perhaps the greatest country music super group in history, the Highwaymen traveled the world performing country music to millions of fans. Your audience will watch in amazement as each song, one hit after another is sung just as if they were seeing the original band perform. This 90 minute country music tribute show is full of upbeat, honky-tonk hits like "Ring of Fire", "Dukes of Hazzard", and "On the Road Again". Relive the glory days when country music was made by Good Men, Country Men, The Highwaymen.

WheelHouse

9 PM @ The Lift (180 Main St, Lower Level)
WheelHouse is an Americana band from Madison, Wisconsin. We write music, play music, and tour the country. We also have our own brand of whiskey appropriately called WheelHouse Whiskey. Wheelhouse plays a deep Americana reminiscent of Old Crow Medicine Show and The Band.

Abbie Morin Live

9 PM @ The Smokestack (62 E 7th St)
Vivacious indie anthems from Abbie Morin and collaborator Thomas Pearo, touring far from their Green Mountain roots. Abbie Morin released the debut album Shadowproof (2015), further driving their momentum within the Burlington, Vermont music scene, the style they call foxy folk and their reputation for spirited, cathartic outpourings have garnered them a loyal following and they're now on their "lifestyle tour" - a sweeping journey across the United States with no certain endpoint.
abbiemorin.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Statue of Liberty

7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge (200 Main St)
After spending the Summer 2011 on the road, Bobby Bradford and Marywood Kate relocated to Colorado where they wrote their second album, The Radiant Life. After its release in October 2012, Statue of Liberty spent the remainder of 2012 and the majority of 2013 touring the four corners of the country. Shortly thereafter the duo relocated to Nashville, TN, where they spent time developing their songwriting skills. Now back in their hometown of Dubuque, IA, Bradford and Kate look forward to completing their third original album, and contributing to the local music community.

BUDWEISER LOCAL LIVE MUSIC FEATURES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

River Glen + Dan DiMonte and the Bad Assettes

9 PM @ The Lift (180 Main St, Lower Level)

River Glen likes to bend genres with his music. In any given tune you might find elements of Folk, Rootsy-Rock, Americana, Pop, Hip-Hop, Blues, and more... Fans often compare River's songwriting to artists like Jackson Browne and John Prine, and his singing to the likes of Brett Dennen. Dan DiMonte is an Iowa City-based multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and composer transplanted from the southwest suburbs of Chicago. His band, The Bad Assettes, is comprised of many familiar faces to the Iowa City and Chicago music scenes. In a single show, DiMonte will sing and play guitar, piano, percussion, and trumpet. DiMonte's compositions have a vast number of influences shining through (Jazz, Rock and Roll, Latin, Reggae/Ska, Folk, Blues, Funk, Gospel, Classical, etc.), so to put a title on such a genre-bending artist's music is difficult.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

Framing The Red

8 PM @ Mystique Casino
(1855 Greyhound Park Rd)
Tickets: FREE

Framing The Red is a Southern Rock N Roll band that is taking the national music scene by storm. The band's first single "A.O." gained mass popularity across the south. After the release of their self-titled E.P., which produced 2 radio singles "A.O" and "Lay Down Beside Me" the band set back and began writing what would become their freshman album Welcome To The Show.

In August of 2012, Framing The Red released their debut album Welcome To The Show producing three radio singles off the freshman album, along with a video release of the third single "Country Band Man". Framing The Red has had the privilege of sharing the stage with such bands as Mötley Crüe, Sevendust, Black Stone Cherry, Cavo, Rains, Alien Ant Farm, Sevendust, Pop Evil, Hurt, Smile Empty Soul, Lynam, 10 Years, and played festivals such as Rocklahoma and Sturgis. Framing The Red embraces Rock N Roll at its finest and is a firm truth that Rock N Roll is not dead.

The Lonely Goats

8 PM @ Grape Escape
(242 N Main St, Galena, IL)

From roadhouse to wine bar to festival stage, The Lonely Goats bring a party to the dance floor. The Goats play a wide variety of songs you might know, sometimes played in completely different styles than you might be used to hearing them, a few originals inspired by the styles they love, and a few songs you might never have heard but definitely should. Rock, blues, zydeco, Latin, funk, reggae, ska, gypsy punk, hillbilly, and surf and are all fair game. The Lonely Goats like to get the audience involved, inviting people on stage to play the washboard (or tambourine) with the band. It's all about having fun and getting people to dance.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Retro Rewind pre party w/ Jane Rose and the Dead End Boys

9 PM @ The Lift (180 Main St, Lower Level)

Jane Rose and The Deadend Boys are an Alt-Country, Rockabilly, Blues band hailing from Nashville, TN. Fronted by the powerhouse vocals of Jane Rose, and backed by the rhythmic stylings of some of Nashville's finest musicians, you'll hear them coming from a state away! The band was founded in 2010 stemming from Jane's life-long love affair with the culture and styles of these genres.

They tour the country extensively and are featured at many hot-rod/car shows year round. Make sure to take notice, this band is a force to be reckoned with!

MISSISSIPPI MOON BAR EVENTS

All shows at the Mississippi Moon Bar are 21+ only and tickets for all performances are available at the Diamond Club inside the Diamond Jo Casino or online at **MoonBarRocks.com**.

HAIRBALL
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 @ 8 PM

Hairball is the world's ultimate 80's rock impersonation act! Vocalist rockstars Bob, Joe Dandy, and Kris Voxx lead the band through mind-blowing and drop-dead accurate homage to some of the biggest acts in the world such as Van Halen, KISS, Motley Crue, Queen, Journey, Prince, Aerosmith, and more!

JIM WAND
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 @ 8 PM

Celebrated hypnotist Jim Wand has worked with personalities like Jay Leno, Conan O'Brien, Chris Rock, Sylvester Stallone and many more. He is the only hypnotic entertainer in the world who has a doctorate in psychology, a feature that brings a unique perspective to his act.

NEW YEAR'S EVE DUELING PIANOS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 @ 8 PM

Come swing, sway and shout the night away at New Year's Eve Dueling Pianos. These keyboard masters are hand-picked and ready to thrill and entertain you. The show includes a balloon drop, party favors, champagne toast at midnight and more!

TIM 'E' SHOW: ELVIS TRIBUTE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 @ 4 AND 7 PM

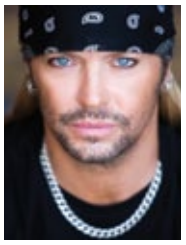
Tim 'E' captures the raw energy and passion of Elvis Presley's performances. Along with his 12-piece band, The Yes Men, Tim has performed for audiences across North America. He is no stranger to the Mississippi Moon Bar stage either—in 2014 and 2015, Tim was crowned the winner of the King of Kings Contest at the Diamond Jo Casino and has been crowned the 2013, 2014, and 2015 Grand Champion at the LaCrosse Wisconsin Elvis Explosion. Tim was also named the King of the World Elvis Tribute Artist World Champion in 2013.

DUBUQUE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: ULTIMATE ROCK HITS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15 @ 8 PM

The concert features chart toppers from the 1970s through the 1990s, including songs from artists like Aerosmith, Van Halen, Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, and more. Members from local bands Menace, Johnny Trash, Joie Wails, Half Fast, The Lonely Goats, and more will join the DSO for a rockin' good time.

CHRIS JANSON
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 @ 8 PM

Singer/songwriter Janson made headlines when his song "Buy Me A Boat" quickly landed at #1 on the iTunes Country chart and #7 on the all-genre chart earlier this year. With undeniable charisma, Janson brings a blue-collar, working-class, boot-stomping, hillbilly swagger to every live performance, earning him opening slots for Florida Georgia Line, Merle Haggard and Hank Williams Jr.



BRET MICHAELS
FRIDAY, MARCH 11 @ 8 PM

Michaels rose to fame as the front man of Poison, one of rock's most iconic and enduring bands. His most recent solo album, "Custom Built," reached #1 on Billboard's Hard Rock list. Michaels has also achieved stunning success in the realm of reality TV with Rock of Love becoming one of the most successful shows in VH1's history.

THE HIGH KINGS
FRIDAY, MARCH 18 @ 8 PM

The High Kings, a multi-platinum Irish folk music quartet, which hails from Ireland, first exploded onto the Irish folk music scene in 2008. The High Kings showcase their incredible versatility and skills as multi-instrumentalists, playing 13 instruments between the four of them.

HERE COME THE MUMMIES
SATURDAY, MARCH 19 @ 8 PM

Here Come the Mummies is an eight-piece funk-rock band of 5000 year-old Egyptian Mummies with a one-track mind. Their "Terrifying Funk from Beyond the Grave" is sure to get you into them (and possibly vice versa). Since their discovery (and without so much as a hot bath) Here Come The Mummies has opened for P-Funk, Al Green, and Cheap Trick; rocked Super Bowl Village 2012; become a regular on The Bob and Tom Show; and made themselves the darlings of sell-out crowds over wide swaths of North America. Some say they were cursed after deflowering a great Pharaoh's daughter. Others claim they are reincarnated Grammy-Winning studio musicians. Regardless, HCTM's mysterious personas, cunning song-craft, and unrelenting live show will bend your brain, and melt your face.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

Dueling Pianos
Thursday, December 17 @ 7 PM

Club 84: Ugly Sweater Party
Saturday, December 19 @ 7 PM

Laughing Moon Comedy: Ben Ulin
Wednesday, December 23 @ 8 PM

Karaoke
Thursday, December 25 @ 7 PM

Laughing Moon Comedy: BT
Wednesday, December 30 @ 8 PM

Club 84: Winter White Party
Saturday, January 2 @ 7 PM

Laughing Moon Comedy: Joe Larson
Wednesday, January 6 @ 8 PM

Donnie Baker
Friday, January 8 @ 8 PM

Laughing Moon Comedy: Greg Morton
Wednesday, January 13 @ 8 PM

Arch Allies
Saturday, January 16 @ 8 PM

American Hitmen
Saturday, January 23 @ 8 PM

Rubber Soul: Beatles Tribute
Saturday, February 13 @ 4 & 7 PM

Winter Dance Party
Saturday, February 20 @ 4 & 7 PM

Laughing Moon Comedy: Jim Florentine
Wednesday, February 24 @ 8 PM

Return to Seattle 2016 Tour
Saturday, March 12 @ 8 PM

Australia's Thunder From Down Under
Friday, March 25 @ 7:30 & 10 PM

ARGOSY'S Food For Thought

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

STORY BY RICH BELMONT
PHOTOS BY VANOSDOL PHOTOGRAPHICS, ROBERT KEELING, RICH BELMONT, AND BRYCE PARKS

Perhaps some of you older readers remember the 1991 movie Fried Green Tomatoes. It starred Kathy Bates, Jessica Tandy, Mary Stuart Masterson and Mary-Louise Parker and was nominated for two academy awards. If you are a foodie you will probably recall fried green tomatoes were a specialty at the Whistle Stop Cafe.

Well, I can tell you fried green tomatoes have been a specialty of the house at Fried Green Tomatoes in Galena, IL for the past 21 years. That's when Fred Bonnet took over the restaurant in the Jo Daviess County Poor Farm and renamed it after the now famous green tomato.

Now people come from all over the country to enjoy Fred's specialty. First, Fred has produce suppliers who hold back tomatoes from fully ripening. Then his cooks lightly bread and sautée the green tomato slices in olive oil, cover with marinara sauce and mozzarella then bake them until the cheese is melted.

Fred purchased the Dowling Building on Main Street in Galena in 2004. After doing extensive renovations he moved his restaurant there from the County Poor House. The building has a very interesting history.

Residents and frequent visitors to Galena know the Dowling House on Diagonal Street is the oldest residence in the city. John Dowling built the limestone, two story house in 1826-1827. He lived upstairs and used the downstairs as a trading post. What is not widely known is that John Dowling also owned the Dowling Building on Main Street. That building was constructed in 1838. It is not known exactly when but sometime after that Mr. Dowling wrote his name on an upstairs wall. It's still there and when you visit your server can show it to you.

Over the years this building has been many things. At one time it was a knife and pistol repair shop and for many years part of the building was a monument store. In 1854 it was a leather store owned by Jesse Root Grant, father of President Ulysses S. Grant. After graduating from the US Military Academy at West Point, U.S. Grant moved to Galena to help in the family store. Frank Owen, a former mayor of Galena, ran a saloon in the upstairs of the building in 1900.

The upstairs was also home to a theater operated by a then famous actor Joseph Jefferson. During the time Jefferson stayed in Galena he staged a play called Our American Cousin. That play would later be shown at the Ford Theater in Washington, DC and was the play President Abraham Lincoln went to see the night he was assassinated.

In more recent years the building was a sports outfitter, antique store and drug store.

Fred has done an excellent job of preserving this rich history. You are invited to walk around and check out the various artifacts. Just inside the front door the butler is at your service. He is the most photographed item in the restaurant! Just to the left of the front door is an antique butcher's cabinet. In the main dining room in between four brick columns hangs a genuine Marie Antoinette crystal chandelier.

The bar is a really cool place. Remember I said this building was once a sports outfitter? So check out the upside down canoe over the bar. There is also quite a story behind the naked lady painting behind the bar. Legend has it this painting was hanging in a speakeasy visited by the Chicago bootlegger Al Capone. There was an argument and in typical mobster fashion it was settled with a little gunfire. A stray bullet went through the leg of the naked lady. The alleged bullet hole is still there!

Fried Green Tomatoes is sort of a combination steakhouse, East Coast Seafood joint, Midwest comfort food place and Italian restaurant. And the specialties from each of these venues are excellent!

The staff are all seasoned veterans of the restaurant business. First among them is Executive Chef Steve Roussel (pronounced Russel). He has been in restaurants since he was 14. He was a cook at The Point and at Bricktown Brewery both in Dubuque. He has been a line cook and Sous Chef at Fried Green Tomatoes for 8 years and was promoted to Executive Chef one year ago. The front of the house is well organized and run efficiently by co-managers Lisa Hatfield and Regina Zalladares.

All dinners are served with salad and bread. The side salad is made from field greens with no iceberg lettuce and is dressed with a raspberry vinaigrette. If you are like me and find this dressing to be a little too sweet you can ask your server for ranch, balsamic or poppy seed.

The bread is a delicious round loaf topped with a generous amount of grated parmesan cheese. It is accompanied by a very tasty olive oil infused with rosemary and peppercorns for dipping.

You are missing out if you don't start your dinner with some of the appetizers. Here is a listing of a few of them just to get you a little excited:

Steak Martini – tenderloin steak tips embedded in mashed potatoes and topped with bacon, blue cheese and sweet port wine glaze.

Mussels – a whole pound of Prince Edward Island farm raised mussels steamed in white wine, garlic, chorizo and roasted tomatoes.

Escargot – farm raised snails baked in garlic and butter. (Fun Fact: the technical term for snail farming is Heliciculture pronounced helly-see-culture).

Beef Carpaccio – (kahr-paht-choh in Italian) raw beef tenderloin sliced thin and placed on a dish with lemon, olive oil and capers. Since the meat is served raw it must be extremely fresh. All of the beef is hand-cut daily.

Some of the Comfort Food Entrées include:

Tuscan Mac N Cheese – Italian sausage, roasted peppers and tortelloni pasta tossed with smoked Gouda and gorgonzola. (Fun Fact: tortelloni is simply a larger size of tortellini pasta. In Italian any word ending in "ini" means small and "oni" means large).

Lobster Ravioli – Squid Ink Striped Lobster Ravioli. The black stripes on the ravioli are squid ink which adds a slight salty or briny flavor

Spaghetti and Meatballs – the spaghetti is tossed in a made-from-scratch marinara. The meatballs come from Fontanini: a Chicago company started in 1960 famous for all sorts of Italian foods especially sausages and meatballs.

Our Famous Lasagna – cheese, ground beef and mild Italian sausage stuffed between lasagna noodles and hand rolled.

Mile-High Meatloaf – combination beef and pork caramelized with ketchup and brown sugar, then covered with a bourbon sauce.

The Seafood Entrées are so good. If you close your eyes you might think you are in a sea shanty next to the ocean. Some of the standouts are:

Pesto Salmon – salmon encrusted with macadamia nut basil pesto accompanied by asparagus.

Fresh Sea Scallops – East Coast scallops seared and served over sweet pea and pancetta risotto.

Cedar Planked Walleye – the walleye is delicious and it so mild! You don't even know you are eating fish. It tastes so good because it's finished with brown butter and candied pecans.

The steaks are high quality restaurant choice grade. They are all served to your desired temperature. The grilled Bone-In Ribeye is over a pound and is very popular. So is the huge full 20 ounce Jack Daniels Porterhouse. The Filet Mignon & Shrimp is outstanding. The shrimp are sautéed and are served with a Riesling-garlic butter.

Now we come to my favorite part of the menu – the Italian section! The chickens are free-range and your menu choices are:

Chicken Piccata – a breast sautéed with capers, lemon, white wine accompanied by delicious roasted potatoes.

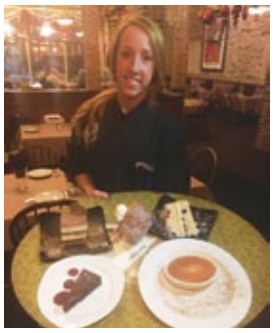
Chicken Marsala – a breast sautéed in a Marsala wine sauce with mushrooms and onions over garlic mashed potatoes.

Now here is very good news if you love veal as much as I do. This restaurant is one of very few in this area offering veal.

The current menu includes Veal Parmesan. A splendid veal cutlet topped with mozzarella and served over tortelloni pasta.

Now I will let you in on a little secret: Chef Roussel is only too happy to make off-menu dishes for you. So you can order Veal Piccata or Veal Marsala if you are so inclined. Likewise the chicken can be ordered as a Chicken Parmesan as well!

After an excellent dinner a scrumptious dessert is called for. On a recent visit my tasting team was presented with a sensational dessert tray by our knowledgeable, friendly and talented server Amanda Saeger.



The tray included Lemon with Mixed Berry Cake, Vanilla Bean Crème Brulée, French Silk Ice Cream and Tiramisu. (Here's another Fun Fact: Tiramisu is Italian for "pick me up" or "cheer me up". When you have this coffee flavored ladyfinger dessert you just can't help feeling really good!)

Fried Green Tomatoes is a first rate restaurant for oenophiles, too. The wine list is extensive and award winning. I noted some exceptional wines on the list like Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio, Querceto Chianti Classico and a Renato Ratti Barolo. Fred introduced me to Francis Ford Coppola's Vendetta. It's a smooth cabernet and malbec blend and it is now one of my new favorites.

You will have a great time at Fried Green Tomatoes in Galena. Almost everybody does: that's why it has been a Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence Hall of Fame winner for the last 5 years; the recipient of Open Table Diner's Choice Award for several years and the holder of a Wine Spectator's Award of Excellence for all the years 2003 through 2015 so far.

Fried Green Tomatoes has three large dining rooms and several small private rooms for parties. It is not unusual to have as many as 5 private parties going on at once. And it is still possible to book your holiday party. The restaurant will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas and will be open New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Please review the full holiday schedule at **FriedGreen.com**.

And when you go don't forget to try the Fried Green Tomatoes!

Do you have a favorite restaurant you would like to see reviewed? Please send your requests, suggestions and comments to Argosy at **argomark@mchsi.com**. ■

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

213 N. Main Street, Galena, IL 61036
815-777-3938 • FriedGreen.com
Hours: Sun: 4:30 PM–Close; Mon: Closed; Tue–Fri: 4:30 PM–Close; Sat: Lunch: 12 PM–3 PM; Dinner: 3 PM–Close
Dining Style: Casual
Noise Level: Comfortable
Recommendations: Fried Green Tomatoes, Steak Martini, Beef Carpaccio, Lasagna, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Sea Scallops, Cedar Planked Walleye, Filet Mignon & Shrimp, Bone-In Ribeye, Chicken Piccata, Veal Parmesan, Chicken Marsala
Liquor Service: Full Bar, Award Winning Wine List
Prices: $17.00–$35.00
Pay Options: Cash, Check, Debit, All Major Credit Cards
Accessibility: Front Door & Restrooms
Kids Policy: Adult Restaurant. No menu & no high chairs or boosters
Reservations: Recommended
Catering: Yes – on and off premises
Take Out: Yes • **Delivery:** Yes
Parking: On Street

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Donna Bauerly Book Discussion

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 @ 2–3 PM
FIRST FLOOR PROGRAMMING ROOM

Join Donna Bauerly, Professor Emeritus at Loras College where she will discuss her new biography of local professor and poet Raymond Roseliep.

Raymond Roseliep: Man of Art Who Loves the Rose, ten years in the making, is the definitive biography of Father Raymond Roseliep: priest, educator, poet, private man. Donna Bauerly's painstaking study considers the many elements that combined to form Roseliep's complicated life and art. Surely the most detailed and exhaustive treatment of the life and works of any English-language haiku poet.

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SELF-IMPROVEMENT

BY MATT BOOTH

You are either living or dying a little more each day. If you're learning, you're living.

Most people associate learning with formal education at school, college, university etc. We are all told, from an early age, that we should "get a good education". Generally speaking, it is true that a formal education and the resulting qualifications are important. However, "schooling" is only one type of learning. There are many other opportunities to further your knowledge and develop the skills you need throughout life. Knowledge can be acquired and developed anywhere at just about any time. Lifelong self-improvement is about creating and maintaining a positive attitude to continual learning.

The cornerstone of success is lifelong self-improvement. Continual improvement gives you the edge mentally, physically, and emotionally. It's the learning of new skills, new concepts, and new experiences that keeps you evolving. How you improve is not as important as having the mindset to improve. Sometimes improving will be easy and other times it will be hard.

There are many areas in your life that you can improve upon. Maybe you want to be a better friend, spouse, parent, and business person. How about improving your health, education, finances, emotional, and spiritual self? You can read a book, meditate, change your diet, take a class, go to church, volunteer, get your degree, or attend training. You can be better, do better, increase your awareness, learn something new, or even create radical change if you wish.

You cannot control the world around you; you can only control yourself. Lifelong self-improvement instills creativity, initiative and responsiveness enabling you to adapt to the world by enhancing your skills. Engaging in lifelong improvement enables you to embrace change rather than endure it. When you improve yourself, you feel better; you are more willing to take risks and accept challenges.

Remember, self-improvement does not stop when you leave the classroom. There are opportunities to improve all around you. Invest in your future by ongoing self-improvement. It is the very heart of life. If you're learning, you're living. ■

MATTITUDE QUOTE

"Your attitude is demonstrated in your words and your actions." —Matt Booth

Matt Booth, the attitude expert, is an engaging speaker. He demonstrates and delivers a common sense approach to a positive attitude. To find out how Matt can help you or your organization, connect with him today at **mattbooth.com**.

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GIFTING HEALTH

BY HY-VEE NUTRITIONISTS MEGAN HORSTMAN (ASBURY), AMY CORDINGLEY (LOCUST), AND TRICIA RAU (DODGE)

Do you have a friend, family member, hostess or favorite person that you want to treat this holiday season? Finding a gift that is personal, thoughtful and healthy may seem to present some challenges, but that is where your friendly Hy-Vee dietitians can help. We've put together some ideas of how you can give "Gifts of Health" to assist you in treating those you care about with a gift of health and happiness.

When giving a gift this year, try the dietitian pick of the month for December, LaCroix sparkling water LaCroix sparkling water can easily be a part of any beverage-themed gift basket or a great addition to any hostess gift. LaCroix is a healthier option to include in holiday cocktails and mocktails this season because it is a zero-calorie beverage, with no added sugar or artificial ingredients. This holiday season, try these great "Gifts of Health" ideas from your Hy-Vee dietitian. ■

The information is not intended as medical advice. Please consult a medical professional for individual advice.

HOLIDAY FAUX MARTINI

LaCroix gift basket featuring Holiday Faux Martini. Include in the gift basket two cans of peach-pear LaCroix sparkling water, a small bottle of orange juice, agave nectar, fresh rosemary spring and a set of martini glasses. For added holiday cheer, include mini bottles of tequila.

Makes 1 serving

All you need:

- 3 oz peach-pear LaCroix sparkling water
- 1 oz orange juice
- ½ oz agave nectar
- Rosemary sprigs, for garnish
- 1½ oz tequila, optional

All you do:

1. Combine sparkling water, orange juice and agave nectar and serve in a martini glass. Garnish with rosemary sprigs.
2. To turn this mocktail into a cocktail, add tequila.

Per Serving: 150 calories, 0g fat, 0g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 0mg cholesterol, 0mg sodium, 14g carbohydrate, 0g fiber, 13g sugar, 0g protein.

Recipe and Image Source: lacroixwater.com

LACROIX RUDOLPH MOCKTAIL

Safe and healthy travels with LaCroix Rudolph Mocktail and Iced Gingersnap Trail Mix. A little travel is often required during the holiday season to visit family and friends. Send safe travel wishes with a gift basket that promotes hydration and happy snacking while on the road.

Makes 1 serving

All you need:

- Juice from ½ lime
- 1 oz cranberry juice
- 2 oz coconut LaCroix sparkling water
- 2 oz lime LaCroix sparkling water
- Ice, for serving

All you do:

1. Combine lime juice, cranberry juice, coconut sparkling water and lime sparkling water with ice.

Per Serving: 20 calories, 0g fat, 0g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 0mg cholesterol, 0mg sodium, 6g carbohydrate, 0g fiber, 3g sugar, 0g protein.

Recipe and Image Source: lacroixwater.com

LACROIX MIMOSA MOCKTAIL

The gift of health continues with added vitamin C from clementine's to add garnish to LaCroix's Mimosa Mocktail. Include in a gift basket 4–6 clementines, 1 grapefruit and 2–4 cans of grapefruit LaCroix Sparkling water. You can even include the champagne glasses to top off the perfect gift for any host.

Makes 1 - 6 oz serving

All you need:

- 2 oz fresh squeezed orange juice
- 1 oz fresh squeezed grapefruit juice
- 4 oz LaCroix sparkling water
- Orange wedge, for garnish

All you do:

1. Combine orange juice, grapefruit juice and sparkling water and serve in a champagne flute. Serve with orange to garnish.

Per Serving: 35 calories, 0g fat, 0g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 0mg cholesterol, 0mg sodium, 9g carbohydrate, 0g fiber, 5g sugar, 1g protein.

Recipe and Image Source: lacroixwater.com

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

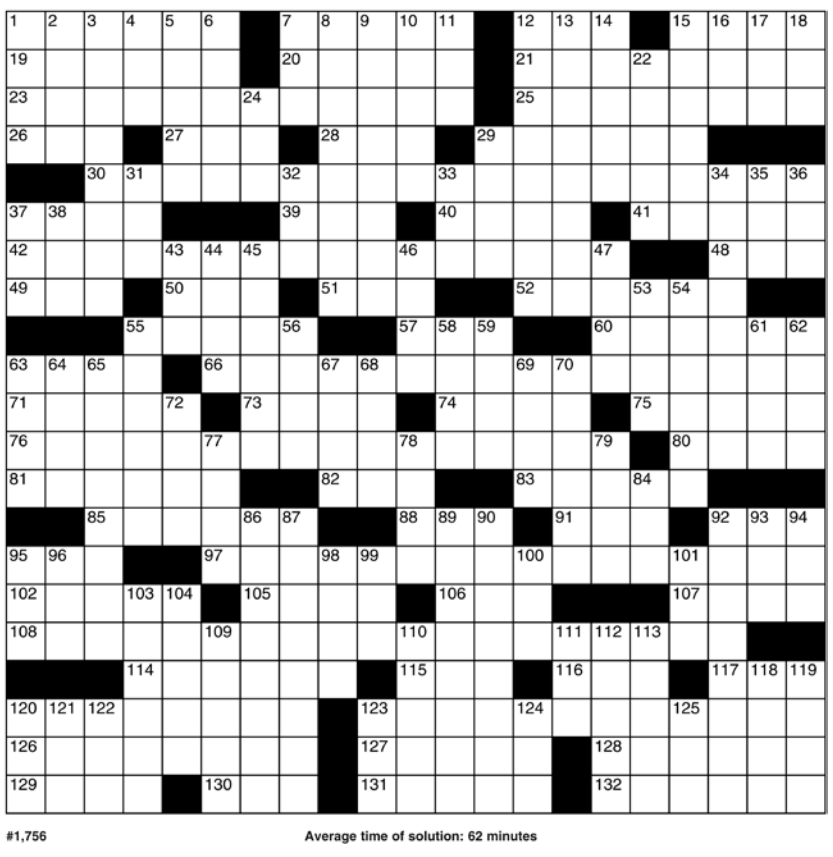
SOUNDS LIKE A SEASONAL SONG

ACROSS

1 Plans
7 Form of trapshooting
12 2001-09 U.S. pres.
15 BLT condiment
19 Creature on a slide
20 1923 Nobel-winning poet
21 Jump to clear
23 Start of a riddle
25 Making changes to
26 Preceder of tee
27 Pack animal
28 Pro-bono TV ad
29 Slanting
30 Riddle, part 2
37 "Now it's clear"
39 Big coffee container
40 Look lewdly
41 Gets dirty
42 Riddle, part 3
48 Rollaway bed
49 Turndowns
50 "O Sole —"
51 "— -hoo!"
52 Fit for consumption
55 "Thwack!"
57 On the — (escaping)
60 Juneau locale
63 Bullfight bull
66 Riddle, part 4
71 Quite heavy
73 "The rest — to you"
74 Cole Porter's "Well, Did You —?"
75 Mobile, e.g.
76 Riddle, part 5
80 Princely school
81 At peace
82 "Gloria in Excelsis —"
83 Cleans up copy
85 Tabriz residents
88 To the rear
91 Masters peg
92 Awful
95 Eggs
97 Riddle, part 6
102 Actress Palmer or Soprano Lehmann
105 Send out
106 "Alley —!"
107 Look lewdly
108 End of the riddle
114 Mojave, e.g.
115 IRS datum
116 Sculling need
117 Lofty poem
120 Sellers with cellars
123 Riddle's answer
126 Meet at a point
127 Inundate
128 Use mouthwash audibly
129 Really regrets
130 Ballpark amt.
131 Plants of the lily family
132 Prize greatly

DOWN

1 Postpaid enc.
2 Ratite birds
3 #1-ranked tournament entrant
4 Summer mo.
5 Ship sinker
6 Outdated
7 Wd. of like meaning
8 Frat house beer bash
9 Depletes little by little
10 Hawke of "Hamlet"
11 Philosopher Lao- —
12 Fake peeper
13 Having good manners
14 Ulan —, Mongolia
15 Rita of "West Side Story"
16 Lead-in to fauna
17 Longing
18 Pt. of NOW
22 Diarist Samuel
24 Neighbor of Leb.
29 Realm
31 Neighbor of Kan.
32 Mon.-Wed. linkup
33 Architectural wing
34 Cry after a three-pointer
35 "Hold On Tight" rock gp.
36 Q-U linkup
37 Knighted actor Holm
38 — -cone
43 Thurman of the screen
44 Kelly of morning TV
45 Teasing knuckle rub
46 Silent film vamp Negri
47 Gorilla observer Fossey
53 Radar signal
54 Flogs
55 Suitable for a Seder table
56 "What — thinking?"
58 Work without — (act riskily)
59 Ovid's 1,506
61 Cousin of lotto
62 Yemeni port
63 T-bars, e.g.
64 Tony relative
65 Court do-overs
67 Newsman Roger
68 Duel sword
69 Clock part
70 "It was forced on me"
72 Sicilian peak
77 Egg sources
78 Wyle of "ER"
79 In — of
84 — Aviv-Yafo
86 Potential ship sinkers
87 Writer W. — Maugham
89 Trudge
90 Like four-person basketball
92 "I say!"
93 WWW giant
94 As yet unpaid
95 Dated
96 Compete
98 "Sounder" director Martin
99 Ending for ordinals
100 PC "brain"
101 DeLuise or DiMaggio
103 Many flat-screens
104 Cara of "Fame"
109 French river
110 "It's — bet"
111 Body digit
112 Sponge
113 Killer whales
118 Mete
119 K-6: Abbr.
120 TiVo precursor
121 Debt memo
122 Vane dir.
123 Punting figs.
124 — and outs
125 Technique



#1,756 Average time of solution: 62 minutes

Crossword answers on page 39

13 STOLEN GIRLS

BY BOB GELMS

13 Stolen Girls by Gil Reavill is the second book in the Layla (her Mom was an Eric Clapton fan) Remington series. This series, along with the Jules Landau series by Marc Krulewitch, have become my two favorites in the private investigator/cop category.

Layla Remington is a real pistol. Newly minted as a cop in the LACSP (that's the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Police) she takes situations into her hands that should go through channels but she knows where that would lead: to foot dragging, time wasting, and, more than likely, her being taken off the case. Well, that is exactly what happens in *13 Stolen Girls*. A rather large earthquake hits Malibu, right in the middle of her bailiwick. The quake uncovers a big 80-gallon drum that, from the looks of it, has been buried a long time.

You guessed it. Inside is a body and Layla realizes from some of the items in the barrel it's the body of a Hollywood starlet who had disappeared ten years previously. This sets off a firestorm at headquarters. The two hotshot detectives that handled the original case insert themselves into Layla's investigation and eventually take over. Walter Rack and Paul Roone, aka "Rack & Ruin," bumble around and try to put the case in the solved category by hooking it to their original investigation that read the evidence all wrong and pinned the disappearance (i.e., would have been a murder but they didn't have a body) on the wrong guy.

Layla notices some close similarities to recent Hollywood ingenue disappearances. She feels there might be some connection between the two. Then, her self-started investigation reveals other vanished starlets and the race is on with her job at risk and then her life. It leads her to the very dark side of Hollywood, the squalid sex clubs downtown and the S&M/Dominance and Submission lair of a rich powerful Hollywood producer.

Rack & Ruin and Layla are headed in two different directions with their exploration of the evidence. Rack & Ruin's investigation is leading somewhere, probably nowhere with their incredibly flawed powers of deduction but Layla is, as we expect, right on the money and she's headed to a show down with some exceptionally powerful and supremely depraved characters including the killer who defines what it means to be a sociopath.

Mr. Reavill has written the book in a most unusual way. With many other police procedural books, the reader is kept from knowing anything about the killer's modus operandi or any pertinent info about what happens till the very end. Another tack that writers take is to tell you everything about the killer so the book is driven by the investigation, the reader knows everything and we see how the crime is solved in an interesting way. Mr. Reavill, however, keeps the reader informed one or two steps ahead of Layla. We can and sometimes do figure things out before her; sometimes she bares some of her logical powers and we find out what is going on in her head. It makes for an exciting and quick read.

This book is very different from the first book in the series, *13 Hollywood Apes*, whose tone is much darker and a little frightening. Layla comes in contact with some of the most twisted people you can imagine. There isn't very much levity in the book except that provided by Rack & Ruin. *13 Stolen Girls* isn't the story of one Hollywood starlet who made one spectacular movie that made her a household name. It's the story of 13 young women who were assaulted, brutalized and murdered. The repetition of the crime means that these evil people have been operating for a long time without being caught.

There are twists and turns galore. They all make sense in the world of the book. It's fascinating and creepy at the same time and I just loved it. I am eagerly awaiting Layla's next book and I am looking forward to the times I get to count to 13. ■

THIS ELF IS STAYING PUT

BY PAM KRESS-DUNN

It happened three weeks before Christmas. My husband and I dashed into Bed, Bath, and Infinity to find a _____[details deleted to ensure my 30-something daughter is ecstatically surprised by the gift we bought there] and were confronted by one of those pre-holiday displays that makes you go—Huh?

It was the Elf on the Shelf, and boy, was he ready for his 2015 month of mania. Perhaps this is old news to you, but this guy now has a complete, and I mean no-fashion-left-behind, wardrobe. He's got t-shirts, he's got jean jackets, he's got a fuzzy robe, he's got—a tutu? Okay, that's cool; one of my favorite little boys prefers pink to blue and carries a princess backpack. But no, my mistake. The Elf is not showing off his LGBTQ enlightenment; there is, apparently, also a Ms. Elf on the Shelf. She probably has a name. Excuse me if I don't look it up.

While I'm sure this style extravaganza has brought joy to all the lucky children made suddenly aware that an Elf on the Shelf dressed only in his jaunty red felt is as good as naked, my heart goes out to their parents. Not only does this inanimate creature have to move from place to place every single night in December, sparking a cut-throat Pinterest competition where those less-creative moms and dads can either find ideas or bow their heads in shame for not, say, filling the sink with glitter for the Elf to lounge in come December 24th. Now he has to be dressed for the red carpet. I mean, did you see that black puffer jacket? How about the knee-high boots?

Here's the thing. When I was a kid, we had an elf that looked almost exactly like today's Elf on the Whatever. His eyelashes were slightly less thick and wavy than today's model, but other than that, they could be twins. In fact, I still have that elf. I have brought him out every winter, along with the reindeer pillow whose nose lights up if you push his tummy and the stuffed Santa I assembled myself from a pre-printed pattern. All three of them just sit there. On the sofa. Propped against the tree. They are decorations, for Pete's sake. What's next, redecorating the tree every night after they go to bed?

My family did not even celebrate that holiday where kids put their shoes out and find them filled with candy in the morning. St. Nicholas Day? Perhaps my finicky folks blanched at the thought of nestling edibles inside footwear. They had enough to worry about with collecting candy and trinkets for the stockings which, I would like to point out, my mother hand-crafted with felt and sequins and a lot of thought. My sister's said "BONNIE;" mine, "PAMELA." No one ever called me that, which made the stocking more special. My whole name was on that thing, for the ages.

My parents were so smart, they didn't even wrap Santa's presents. Instead, my sister and I woke up Christmas morning, not daring to go down the hallway until we knew everyone was ready. We liked surprises, and confronting an entire living room with all of our gifts right there, undisguised by gift wrap or bags, was enough to take our breath away. Bonnie's loot was always on the right, mine on the left. We took our time gazing at each item in turn, awestruck by Santa's brilliance in supplying not only just what we'd wanted but several things we hadn't even known we would love so much. (Items never seen on TV.)

The fact that mom sewed a passel of toys and stuffed animals for us never fazed us a bit. There were frogs that folded; little dogs with long tails that served as bookmarks; and, a definite high point in the early 60's, a family of Gonks including Eskimo Gonk. Grandma Gonk, and Beatnik Gonk. These were from Santa, even though we knew darned well our mother made those toys . Her sewing room was off-limits late in the year, but it took me a long time to figure out that must have been not only where she played Santa's helper, but also stashed my new bike and my sister's hair dryer.

We wanted to believe, so we did. We did not need some elf doll gallivanting all over the house to spark our sense of wonder. We didn't even have Advent calendars. And so it never occurred to me, or my first husband (who put together Daniel's trike and Allison's Barbie Dream House—sorry, honey; it's time you knew), to do anything more than the main event. This whole elf thing is a shock. I was too busy baking cookies, cooking fudge, sewing presents (for a while, anyway, trying to emulate my mother), encrusting the tree with lights and ornaments, and reading the books that only came out of boxes once a year.

So if anybody is looking for permission to Just Say No, consider yourself excused. I am hoping my son and his wife, the parents of my perfect twin granddaughters, will lighten the load today's parents are putting on themselves. For me, it began when my kids reached grade school, cutting back to only five kinds of cookies, and signing the presents from Santa just "S" rather than imaginary North Pole script. No traveling elf in tuxedo or bow tie.

The best doll clothes I ever had were made by hand by my Aunt Dorothy, owner of a doll hospital in Ohio. I put them on my one and only Barbie myself. I talked for her. I moved her around. And you know what? For my friends and me, that was holiday magic enough. ■

—pam2617@yahoo.com

DEAR VIXEN

ADVICE ON LOVE FROM THE DIVORCED YENTA

DEAR VIXEN,

I need help. There is a new sex store that opened in my small town that I want to visit. I am afraid that someone will see me either entering or exiting the store and start gossiping about me. I work for a very public position and If one of the parents got word of me as a proprietor or visitor of the store, I fear I might loose my job. I am not even sure I would find anything in the store to buy, I am just curious about what is in the store. Can you help me either disguising myself or getting over the fear of getting found out?

—Mrs. Love (Roxanne)

DEAR ROXANNE,

Let's cut to the chase, you're annonymous so out with it, you want to visit a sex shop. You're bored, lonely or straight up horny. You would like to keep your animosity. I'm familiar with the store you are referring, being a frequent flier myself. For your convenience, it is located across the street from a toy-novelty shop, the one with baby Jesus figurines in the window. Go there first, buy a mask, may I recommend the horse head. Proceed with confidence across the street and with a Billy the Kid swagger, slip it on and shop to your hearts, or rather libidos content. As this is an advice column, may I suggest you ditch the bag where you keep the empty booze bottles and don't forget to leave the red light on.

—Vixen

DEAR VIXEN,

I am having trouble meeting woman. My roommate is gay and it seems like he's got a new boyfriend every week. I can't get a date for the life of me. I am afraid to ask him for any advice because of our differences and I don't have many friends. I have trolled the usual and uncommon places to meet girls but seems like I have the worse luck. I am getting desperate, please help.

—Pathetic on Pennsylvania Ave.

DEAR PATHETIC,

Stop taking your room mates inventory, he's probably using craigslist for his goodies, must be good to be gay. Now, for yourself. Get to a gym or buy some clothes that match, I'm not talking , Garanimals. It's not that hard to meet new people when you A) look presentable B) don't drool. Now the secret sauce? Smile and be yourself, however if you suffer from multiple personality disorder, I'd recommend seeking Siamese Twins or Triplets on **circusex.com**.

—Vixen

DEAR VIXEN,

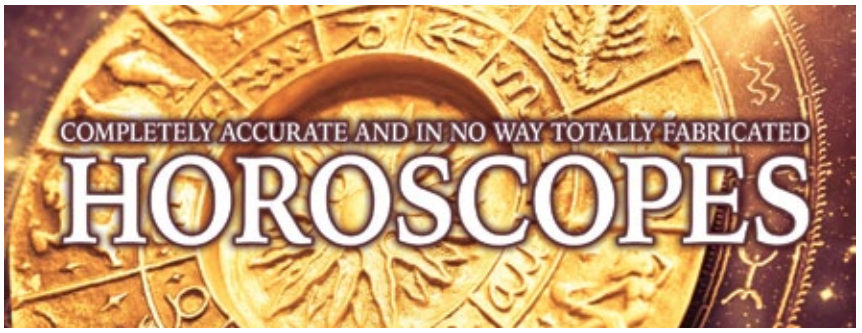
How do you know when you are ready to settle down? I am 35 years old and have been dating a bunch of women for a long time. Recently I've been seeing 3 girls and 1 of them told me to stop seeing the other two. I wonder how she found out that I had other girls I was seeing? I think this one might be the one because she caught me in my lie about the other two. What do you think?

—Rhomberg Ave. ManWhore

DEAR MANWHORE,

Well jump a pig and kick a cow, sounds like you found one. Thing is, she must be dumber then a box of rocks to be dating you

—Vixen



Aries
(March 21–April 19)
On the 1st day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a sterling bill of health for Donald Trump!

Taurus
(April 20–May 20)
On the 2nd day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a hoverboard. It blew up.

Gemini
(May 21–June 20)
On the 3rd day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: that new Fifty Shades of Grey book that I very specifically did not ask for!

Cancer
(June 21–July 22)
On the 4th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a tutorial on which Instagram filters worked best with my complexion. Apparently, I'm a "Crema".

Leo
(July 23–August 22)
On the 5th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: FIVE GOLD- oh wait, they're chocolates.

Virgo
(August 23–September 22)
On the 6th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a LinkedIn endorsement of my dazzling custodial services!

Libra
(September 23–October 22)
On the 7th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a cologne that smells like rancid water!

Scorpio
(October 23–November 21)
On the 8th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: Girl Scout cookies that have been in the freezer for over 7 months!

Sagittarius
(November 22–December 21)
On the 9th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a gift certificate for dental work. (Is this a hint?)

Capricorn
(December 22–January 19)
On the 10th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a package of cassette tapes from Columbia House that had been sitting in the dead letter office for 18 years!

Aquarius
(January 20–February 18)
On the 11th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a copy of "The Feminine Mystique" that I got for her mom 8 years ago. (Thanks, I think?)

Pisces
(February 19–March 20)
On the 12th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: the chance to take a 35-minute nap. Best present ever! Merry Christmas!

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			6		7			
8								3
	6		4		1		8	
2		8				5		9
3		1				8		6
	7		1		2		5	
5								4
			7		8			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 12/20

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

4	2	3	6	8	7	1	9	5
8	1	7	2	9	5	6	4	3
9	6	5	4	3	1	2	8	7
2	4	8	3	1	6	5	7	9
7	5	6	8	2	9	4	3	1
3	9	1	5	7	4	8	2	6
6	7	9	1	4	2	3	5	8
5	8	2	9	6	3	7	1	4
1	3	4	7	5	8	9	6	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 12/20

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S	E	T	S	U	P	■	S	K	E	E	T	■	G	W	B	■	M	A	Y	O
A	M	O	E	B	A	■	Y	E	A	T	S	■	L	E	A	P	O	V	E	R
S	U	P	P	O	S	I	N	G	T	H	E	■	A	L	T	E	R	I	N	G
E	S	S	■	A	S	S	■	P	S	A	■	A	S	L	O	P	E	■	■	■
■	■	E	N	T	E	R	T	A	I	N	E	R	S	B	R	Y	N	N	E	R
I	S	E	E	■	■	■	U	R	N	■	L	E	E	R	■	S	O	I	L	S
A	N	D	B	U	R	N	E	T	T	P	L	A	Y	E	D	■	■	C	O	T
N	O	S	■	M	I	O	■	Y	O	O	■	■	E	D	I	B	L	E	■	■
■	■	■	K	A	P	O	W	■	■	L	A	M	■	■	■	A	L	A	S	K	A
T	O	R	O	■	A	G	A	M	E	A	N	D	F	I	N	I	S	H	E	D
O	B	E	S	E	■	I	S	U	P	■	E	V	A	H	■	P	H	O	N	E
W	I	T	H	T	H	E	I	D	E	N	T	I	C	A	L	■	E	T	O	N
S	E	R	E	N	E	■	■	D	E	O	■	■	E	D	I	T	S	■	■	■
■	■	I	R	A	N	I	S	■	■	A	F	T	■	T	E	E	■	B	A	D
O	V	A	■	■	S	C	O	R	E	H	O	W	C	O	U	L	D	Y	O	U
L	I	L	L	I	■	E	M	I	T	■	O	O	P	■	■	■	O	G	L	E
D	E	S	C	R	I	B	E	T	H	A	T	O	U	T	C	O	M	E	■	■
■	■	■	D	E	S	E	R	T	■	S	S	N	■	O	A	R	■	O	D	E
V	I	N	T	N	E	R	S	■	Y	U	L	T	I	E	D	C	A	R	O	L
C	O	N	V	E	R	G	E	■	D	R	O	W	N	■	G	A	R	G	L	E
R	U	E	S	■	E	S	T	■	S	E	G	O	S	■	E	S	T	E	E	M

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- RumChata 750ml gift set **$19.99**

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- Menage a Trois Red Blend 750ml Sale **$7.99....$5.66*** *after $28 MIR rebate on (12) bottle mix and match purchase*
- 19 Crimes Red Blend or Cabernet Sauvignon 750ml **$7.99**
- Sterling Vintner's Collection Chardonnay or Meritage 750ml Sale **$5.99.... 99¢*** *after $15 MIR on (3) bottle mix/match purchase*
- Bricco Riella Moscato D'Asti 750ml **$8.99**
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