

# 365ink

MAGAZINE



# 'Tis the Season to be Generous

Great Ideas for Charitable (and Deductible) Giving!



TOYS FOR TOTS SIGN UP & EVENTS / 231 COFFEE BAR

THE TRI-STATES' FREE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

# FIVE FLAGS CENTER

THE TRI-STATE AREA'S ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION



WORLD BALLET COMPANY  
**NUTCRACKER**  
DECEMBER 10



**FREE**  
Holiday Movie Night  
Five Flags Theater  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

Movie: ELF Show Time: 6pm THE SALVATION ARMY ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT THE SALVATION ARMY	Movie: Christmas Vacation Show Time: 8:30pm LIVE UNITED United Way ALL DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT THE UNITED WAY
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**Indoor Pickleball**  
Courts Open Now!  
Register Online!



Wednesdays 4-8 PM - Dec 11, Jan 8, 15



**TAYTAY DANCE PARTY**  
FEATURING: THE DJ SWIFTIE  
FIVE FLAGS THEATER, DUBUQUE IOWA  
DECEMBER 14



**HOME FREE**  
ANY KIND OF CHRISTMAS TOUR  
DEC 17 DUBUQUE, IA  
FIVE FLAGS CENTER  
HOMEFREEMUSIC.COM



**RUDOLPH**  
THE RED-NOSED REINDEER  
THE MUSICAL  
The Original Television Classic Comes To Life!  
"Bring your kids...and start a new kind of holiday tradition"  
- Chicago Daily Herald  
Five Flags Center  
December 20 | 7 PM



**WINTER BOUNCE**  
Five Flags Center  
December 28 & 29



THE ORIGINAL HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS  
**2025 WORLD TOUR**  
JANUARY 11



**DRUMLINE**  
Live  
FEBRUARY 19

**FIVE FLAGS CENTER - 405 MAIN STREET, DUBUQUE**  
**BUY TICKETS ONLINE AT FIVEFLAGSCENTER.COM**



## THE INKWELL



**Bryce Parks**  
Publisher & Everything Else  
bryce@dubuque365.com



**Kristina Nesteby**  
Designer, Events & Nightlife  
kristina@dubuque365.com



**Lisa Stevenson**  
Advertising  
lisa@dubuque365.com  
563-580-1691

## CONTRIBUTING WRITERS



**Matt Booth**  
Mattitude  
matt@mattbooth.com



**Sara Carpenter**  
DIY Advice  
sara@stevesace.com



**Danny Fairchild**  
Dining & Horoscopes  
danny@dubuque365.com



**John McAndrew**  
Book Reviews  
books@dubuque365.com



**Angela Ventris**  
Angela's Awesome Advice  
advice@dubuque365.com

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## COVER

**16 'Tis the Season To Be Generous**  
The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque offers charitable (and deductible) ways to give this holiday season—and beyond

## FEATURES

**20 Toys for Tots Sign Up & Events**  
**30 231 Coffee Bar**

## SECTIONS

**6 Events**  
**14 Arts**  
**22 Nightlife**  
**30 Columnists**

## WHERE'S MIKE?



We've hidden Mike somewhere in this issue of 365ink. Can you find him?

### 365ink Magazine

900 Jackson St, LL3-11, Dubuque, IA 52001  
PO Box 1566, Dubuque, IA 52004-1566  
563-588-4365  
info@dubuque365.com  
Dubuque365.com  
Facebook: @dubuque365  
Instagram: @365ink

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All bacon served semi-crispy.

# MISSISSIPPI MOON BAR

## UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT



**CRYSTAL GAYLE**  
A CRYSTAL CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 7



**NO COVER CHARGE**

**ROCK STEADY**  
CLASSIC ROCK  
DECEMBER 13



**HAIRBALL**  
TRIBUTE TO 80'S ROCK LEGENDS  
DECEMBER 14



**TYLER RICHTON  
& THE HIGH  
BANK BOYS**  
COUNTRY  
DECEMBER 20



**NO COVER CHARGE**

**RHINO**  
PLAYING MODERN, 80'S,  
CLASSIC ROCK, AND MORE!  
DECEMBER 21

Visit [DiamondJoDubuque.com](http://DiamondJoDubuque.com) for our complete concert lineup. Join our online community and stay in the know!

@MISSMOONBAR

Must be 21 or older. If you or someone you know needs gambling treatment, call 1-800-BETS OFF. ©2024 Boyd Gaming Corporation\*

**DIAMOND JO**  
CASINO

WINNING IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

Port of Dubuque | [DiamondJoDubuque.com](http://DiamondJoDubuque.com)

**Im On**  
**ARENA**

**SKATE WITH SANTA**  
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14  
 3:30PM-5:00PM

**Bring in a canned good for donation and receive one free skate voucher per family**

**FREE activities in the community room**  
**Skate with Santa & treats for children**  
REGULAR ADMISSION PRICE APPLIES

**Donations benefiting the Dubuque Food Pantry**



WHICH ONE OF THESE COSTS MORE TO SHIP?

A few days ago, I spent \$365 to mail a UPS package, and that reality has been living rent-free in my brain ever since. I had no idea that was a thing. Also... 365... irony?

You see, I had a beautiful piece of stained glass in my Toys for Tots Facebook auction, and it went for a lovely \$450. While we said we're not shipping items larger than an envelope outside of the city, I made an exception because the extremely kind and generous donor who won the auction prize for \$450 actually donated \$1,500. Actually, he gave \$1,530, covering the costs of the credit card fee too. And that, my friends, it worth doing a little extra work to figure out how to get him the glass to Wayzata, MN.

I called UPS Pack and Ship and asked if they could make it happen, and they said yes. So, I carefully transported the 24" x 36" stained glass picture of an eagle flying out of a brilliant sunburst to the store. The very nice girl at the counter looked at box sizes and thought she may not have one big enough for the glass. They thought it might work in the box that I believed was 28" x 36". The shipping cost before the actual cost of the box and insuring it for \$500 was about \$35. Sounds good.

But then they realized that they could not make it work in that box. It would need a couple of inches of padding at the top and bottom to keep it safe, and I agreed. So now they had to look for a larger box. I don't know how big, actually. I just agreed to whatever they had to do to get it in the mail, so to speak. So they re-rang up the sale and now, in a 4" longer box, the price to ship before the costs of the packing materials and \$10 of insurance to cover \$500 of value... \$310! That is not a typo. A box that's four inches longer increased the cost to ship 900%.

After all the materials and insurance, it was \$340. What could I do? I had to ship it. So I said yes. I'm still getting a \$200 tip from the buyer. So I ran my card and

left the building with my tail between my legs. I was so shell shocked, I had to go next door to Crumbl Cookies and buy a 4-pack. While waiting for them to box the cookies up, I managed to muster the cringy Karen-like energy to go back and nicely ask the manger if he could confirm if the price was accurate. I felt like such an annoyance doing that, but I mean... \$340 to send one 8-pound UPS package. And... price confirmed. There is some magical line you cross when packages get bigger where the pricing flips into the upside-down and the world no longer makes rational sense.

I run Toys for Tots and I remember sending entire pallets of toys weighing 500 pounds or more for \$250. A whole pallet. (Update: Today I ordered a semi-electric straddle stacker... a small forklift of sorts, and shipping for that was \$257). This is one rather large box one person can carry. Am I on *Candid Camera* or something? Where's Allen Funt? Twenty-five years dead? Okay, it wasn't him. But I keep going back to it. What in the world?

I could have paid someone \$34 an hour to get in their car and drive, five hours there and five hours back, for the same money. I keep thinking now that I should have. Can the new upside-down world government coming in January put Elon Musk on this issue? Maybe Trump will put Hulk Hogan in charge of whoever oversees private courier companies. I smell a conspiracy. Maybe that guy with the crazy hair who's seen aliens. I feel like I've just seen an alien.

And here you were all bent out of shape about \$4 eggs when this conspiracy was underfoot. Maybe the defence department set the shipping rates and I somehow stumbled on the secret rate that they usually use when they pay \$10,000 for toilets and \$2,000 for hammers. Okay, thanks for letting me rant.

Give me the USPS who will still send a letter to Alaska or Hawaii for two quarters! ■



HOTEL JULIEN

DUBUQUE

# 12 Days of CHRISTMAS



SUNDAY

IT'S A TEAL CHRISTMAS

POTOSA SPA  
ALL DECEMBER

1

MONDAY

CYBER MONDAY

GIFT CARD SALE  
BUY \$100 GET \$25 FREE  
ALL DAY

2

WEDNESDAY

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

HOTEL LOBBY  
6:00 PM-7:30 PM

4

THURSDAY

MISTLETONES® PRESENT SNOWBIZ®

GRANDE BALLROOM  
VISIT MISTLETONES.BIZ FOR TICKETS

5

SUNDAY

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

GRANDE BALLROOM  
8:30 AM-10:30 AM

8

THURSDAY

HOLIDAY PAINT & SIP

6:00 PM-8:00 PM

12

SUNDAY

CAROLINE'S ANGEL TREE

CAROLINE'S RESTAURANT  
12/1/24-12/15/24

15

THURSDAY

HOLIDAY BLOOD DRIVE

HARBOR GALLERY  
12:00 PM-4:30 PM

19

FRIDAY

COCKTAILS FOR A CAUSE

RIVERBOAT LOUNGE  
5:00 PM -8:00 PM

20

TUESDAY

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER

CAROLINE'S RESTAURANT  
5:00 PM -8:00 PM

24

WEDNESDAY

CHRISTMAS DAY BRUNCH

CAROLINE'S RESTAURANT  
9:00 AM-12:00 PM

25

TUESDAY

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

RIVERBOAT LOUNGE

31



For More Details Visit: [HotelJulienDubuque.com/12-Days-Of-Christmas/](http://HotelJulienDubuque.com/12-Days-Of-Christmas/)

200 Main Street Dubuque, IA 52001 | 563.556.4200 | 800.798.7098





The **GRAND** Opera House  
The Dubuque City Youth Ballet presents  
**The Nutcracker**  
December 14 -22, 2024  
Adults \$25 | Under 18 \$17

**GIVE THE GIFT OF AN EXPERIENCE**



2025 Mini Subscriptions currently on-sale through April 6, 2025.

Send a Gift Voucher to the theatre lover on your list and give the gift of an experience all year long!

Purchase Online or through the Box Office



**THEGRANDOPERAHOUSE.COM**  
Box Office: Mon-Fri, Noon-4pm • 563-588-1305 • 135 W 8th St, DBQ, IA



## A Merry Millwork Market

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 @ 4-8 PM**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 9 AM-2 PM**  
**SCHMID INNOVATION CENTER**  
**COURTYARD AND 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET BETWEEN**  
**JACKSON & WASHINGTON STREET**

A Merry Millwork Market is returning for its 8<sup>th</sup> year. Join the Gronen and Wicked River Event Production teams on Friday, Dec. 6 at 4-8 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 7 at 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Schmid Innovation Center Courtyard and on 10<sup>th</sup> Street between Jackson and Washington Streets. This free celebration is open to the public, and children are welcome.

Warm up under the tents and shop the best of local crafts, sips, and bites for your gift-giving needs this holiday season. From local artists to woodworkers, ceramic makers, and treats like baked goods and

hot beverages—there is something for everyone at this year’s market.

Friday night’s opening tradition is a family favorite and includes performances of holiday tunes from the Americana Band with a tree lighting ceremony at 6 p.m. followed by a visit from Santa.

On Saturday, visitors can catch more caroling, choreography from Adam’s Dance Connection, holiday magic tricks by local magic club Ring 93, and a local boutique fashion show at 11 a.m. The Millwork Collective will be coordinating horse and carriage rides. The public can purchase tickets for rides beginning at 10 a.m.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Millwork Collective, a group of nonprofits located in the lower level of the Schmid Innovation Center who work together to operate more efficiently and generate increased impact through co-location and shared services.

For a full schedule and more information, [MerryMillworkMarket.com](http://MerryMillworkMarket.com). ■



**Getting help is the first step to getting better.**

If someone you love has a problem with gambling, they likely feel powerless to control it. 1-800-BETS OFF can help.

It’s a free, confidential, 24/7 resource that can help you and your loved one find an experienced treatment professional.

**Call 1-800-BETS OFF today to get help for them — and you.**

**1-800-BETS OFF**  
Iowa HHS

LIVE AT HERITAGE CENTER  
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

## Christmas at Heritage Center

**GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 @ 7:30 PM**  
**HERITAGE CENTER JOHN AND ALICE**  
**BUTLER HALL (2255 BENNETT ST)**

Christmas at Heritage Center “Glory to the Newborn King” will bring spiritual meaning to your Christmas season on Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. This University of Dubuque tradition will be held at Heritage Center John and Alice Butler Hall.

The Department of Fine and Performing Arts celebrates with you the birth of Christ through a concert presentation featuring the John and Alice Butler Pipe Organ, UD choirs, and



UD Concert Band with live narration. Complimentary holiday refreshments and live music from the UD Jazz Band will immediately follow the concert.

Tickets are \$19-\$24 and can be purchased by calling Heritage Center at **563-585-7469** or visiting [www.DBQ.edu/heritagecenter](http://www.DBQ.edu/heritagecenter). ■

SAT 12/7



**Galena Territory Holiday Market**

8:30 AM-1:30 PM @ GALENA TERRITORY OWNERS' CLUB (GALENA, IL)

Embrace the magic of the holiday season and find an enchanting array of winter decorations, unique gift items, arts and crafts, and delectable baked goods to make your spirits bright. Free. 2000 Territory Dr, Galena, IL. **815-777-2000. TheGalenaTerritory.com.**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Merry Mingle Market**

10 AM @ VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN DYERSVILLE, IA

Whether you're running the 5K or taking it easy on the 1-mile route, the Run Run Rudolph 5K at 10 a.m. is the perfect way to kick off the festivities. Head to Legacy Square for the Merry Mingle Market at noon-4 p.m. Shop from local vendors offering unique gifts, handmade goods, and tasty treats. Plus, Santa will be making a special appearance. Enjoy a complimentary horse-drawn carriage ride and an alpaca petting zoo. The day ends at 6 p.m. with the Lighted Christmas Parade. **dyersvilledowntownmarket.com.**



**Galena Holiday Festival & Holiday Fire in the Sky**

11 AM-7 PM @ GREEN STREET PLAZA (GALENA, IL)

Enjoy magical offerings of craft vendors, food, sweets, and beverages. There will be ice skating under snow, a chance to talk to Santa Claus, kids games and art activities, live music, and pet an Alpaca in the plaza of the Midwest's best holiday town. End the evening at 6:30 p.m. with a magnificent display of fireworks. Suggested Donation: \$5/ family. **815-777-2248. galenaholidayfestival.com.**



**Scuba Santa**

NOON-1 PM @ NATIONAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM & AQUARIUM

12/7-12/8. Santa is making his annual stop at the River Museum and will be diving in the Main Channel Aquarium, located in the William Woodward Mississippi River Center. Grab your family and friends for photos with Scuba Santa. Included with general admission. 350 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St. **563-557-9545. rivermuseum.org.**



**Santa's Workshop and Tree Lighting Ceremony**

1-3 PM @ CARNEGIE-STOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Calling all elves! Here is your chance to make and wrap a few holiday gifts at 1-2 p.m. before the big Christmas tree is lit at 2-3 p.m. at the library. The 18-foot Christmas tree decorated in full Victorian splendor will light up the rotunda. Enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, and holiday music from the Senior High School Madrigal Singers. Free. 360 W 11<sup>th</sup> St. **563-589-4225. carnegiestout.org.**

**Candlelight Shopping**

5-9 PM @ MINERAL POINT, WI

This tradition turns Mineral Point into a holiday destination, open to everyone. Enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride,

sing along with carolers, and try chestnuts roasted over an open fire. Walk through historic streets lined with candle-lit luminarias, and get a head start on holiday shopping as local boutiques, galleries, and shops stay open late. A fireworks display at 7 p.m. adds an extra spark to the evening. **mineralpoint.com.**



**Light Up The Hill Luminary**

5:30-8:30 PM @ KNOB HILL DRIVE

Enter the event on Knob Hill Drive and follow the signs. One hundred homes will be decorated for the holidays with Christmas lights and luminarias. Enjoy the sights from your vehicle or walk through. Free. **563-451-4994.**



# Membership Pays

GreenState is consistently ranked in the **Top 1% Nationally for returning profits with better rates & lower fees.**

That means one of the Top financial institutions in the country, is here in Dubuque.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION	RANK <small>(9,225 U.S. Institutions)</small>
GreenState	51
US Bank	5,318
Chase	6,472
Wells Fargo	7,578

\*Data provided by Callahan and Associates 6/30/24

3405 Stoneman Road near Kennedy Mall

**563-235-2370**



**GreenState**  
CREDIT UNION  
GreenState.org



**HUGE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ARTS & Crafts SHOW**

**\$1 OFF ADM. WITH THIS AD**

**Over 125 Exhibitors**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 14**  
**SUNDAY DECEMBER 15**  
**SAT. 5PM - 9PM & SUN. 10AM - 4PM**

**GRAND RIVER CENTER**  
**500 Bell St., Dubuque, Iowa**  
(Just across from the Diamond Jo Casino)

**ADM: JUST \$6**

**Over 125 Talented Exhibitors Selling**  
Jewelry, Oak Furniture, Candles, Ornaments, Clothing, Yard & Garden Art, Baskets, Quilts, Clocks, Bird Houses, Ceramics, Doll Clothes, Pottery, Soap, Purses, Toys, Art Prints, Pet Products, Greeting Cards, Table Runners & Placemats, Floral Wreaths, Food & Many More Original Products.  
**Callahan Promotions, Inc., 563-357-1986**

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## Home for the Holidays

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 11 AM-4 PM

CANDLELIGHT TOURS: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 6 PM

AFTERNOON TEA: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 @ 1-3 PM

MATHIAS HAM HISTORIC SITE (2241 LINCOLN AVE)

The Mathias Ham Historic Site gets into the holiday spirit with three Home for the Holidays events on Dec. 14 and 15.

On Saturday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m., the Ham House will be decorated in period style, and costumed interpreters will share winter holiday traditions from Dubuque's history. Refreshments and crafts will be available, included as part of admission. Crafts and cookie decorating will be available at 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Learn about some of the ways people decorated their homes for winter in the past and make decorations to take home. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$6 for ages 3-17, and free for members.

That evening at 6 p.m. the candlelight tour allows visitors to take in the house in a different light. The tour focuses on celebration of the winter solstice and how those activities evolved into the winter traditions we know today. Space is limited, and reservations are required. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7.50 for children.

The celebration closes on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 1 p.m. with afternoon tea. The staff



will share a couple short excerpts from their favorite books. Bring your favorite book about winter or come and discover a new favorite. Enjoy an assortment of finger sandwiches, holiday treats, a variety of teas, and hot chocolate with marshmallows. Space is limited, and reservations are required. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children.

For tickets and more information, call the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium at **563-557-9545** or visit **RiverMuseum.org**.

## Bell Tower Theater



### Seasonal Allergies

By Katherine DiSavino & Kevin Mead

**December 6 to 22, 2024**

Tickets \$24  
Early Bird Tickets \$12  
on December 6 & 7

**www.belltowertheater.net**

2728 Asbury Road • Dubuque, IA • (563) 588-3377

**SUN 12/8**

### St. Donatus Luxembourg Heritage Society St. Nick Day & Cookie Walk

9 AM @ KALMES  
RESTAURANT UPSTAIRS  
ROOM (ST. DONATUS, IA)  
A variety of cookies will be available for purchase during the cookie walk as well as other treats. 100 Main St, St Donatus, IA.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gingerbread House Fundraiser

10 AM-1 PM @ HAZEL  
GREEN OPERA HOUSE  
(HAZEL GREEN, WI)  
Gingerbread houses will be sold via online and silent auctions. Enjoy demonstrations of gingerbread building techniques, and buy personalized gingerbread children. Visitors can vote for their favorites. All proceeds go to Family Promise of Grant County, a nonprofit which helps and houses area families experiencing

homelessness. Free for spectators. 2130 Main St, Hazel Green, WI. **608-732-7129**. **voight1970@me.com**.

### Souper Sunday Cook-Off

1 PM @ BEER IN THE BARN BREWERY (ST. DONATUS, IA)  
Think you make the best soup? Cook it up and bring for others to vote on or join for free to sample and vote. Voting will be conducted by cash donations to individual soup entries. You can vote on as many or as often as you want! The entry with the most donations at the end of the day will win a \$25 gift card to the barn and bragging rights. While this is meant to be a fun and tasteful event, it is also a fundraiser for local community food programs. Support those in our communities who struggle to meet ends and enjoy the holidays. Free. 101 Main St, St. Donatus, IA. **facebook.com/GehlenBarn**.

### Asbury Park Christmas Tree Lighting

6 PM @ ASBURY PARK (ASBURY, IA)  
Gather and place an ornament on the tree to hang throughout the holiday season. Hot chocolate will be donated by Hy-Vee, and Santa will be in the atrium area behind the library. **cityofasbury.com**.

**WED 12/11**



### Laura Dave Virtual Author Talk Watch Party

1-2 PM @ CARNEGIE-STOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY AND ONLINE  
Attend a live watch party at the library for a virtual talk with *New York Times* best-selling author Laura Dave.



She will talk about her trademark combination of soulful suspense and evocative family drama to make riveting, page-turning novels. She will also discuss her latest book, *The Night We Lost Him*, which focuses on estranged siblings who discover their father has been keeping a fatal secret for more than 50 years. There is also the option to join from home on an internet-enabled computer or mobile device. Free. 360 W 11<sup>th</sup> St. **563-589-4225**. [carnegioustout.org/authoralks](http://carnegioustout.org/authoralks).

### THU 12/12

#### Dubuque Audubon December Program: Ducks Unlimited

6:45-8 PM @ EB LYONS INTERPRETIVE CENTER  
Mike Shannon, senior regional biologist in Iowa for Ducks Unlimited, will provide a brief overview of the continental work Ducks Unlimited is doing and then focus his presentation on wetland work in Iowa. Social time at 6:45 p.m., program at 7 p.m. 8991 Bellevue Heights Rd. [audubondubuque.org](http://audubondubuque.org).

#### Sandy Hook Victim Commemoration

7 PM @ UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF DUBUQUE  
At the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Sandy Hook Victim Commemoration, Joseph Gorton PhD will speak on the topic of what we can do now to prevent gun violence. He is Emeritus Professor of Criminology at the University of North Iowa and State Lead for the Iowa Chapter of Brady United Against Gun Violence. 1699 Iowa St. [facebook.com/DBQCNV](https://facebook.com/DBQCNV).

### FRI 12/13

#### Oh Holy Cross Night

5:30-8 PM @ HOLY CROSS FIRE STATION (HOLY CROSS, IA)  
The night of holiday spirit includes a soup dinner at 5:30 p.m. and hayrides

with Santa and Mrs. Claus at 6 p.m. They'll have hot chocolate, s'mores, and goodie bags for the kids. Prizes awarded to best light display along with a traveling trophy. Proceeds from the bake sale go to future projects and events. 910 Church St, Holy Cross, IA.

#### Holiday Magic on Main

PLATTEVILLE, WI  
Bring the family for some holiday cheer in Platteville. Bright and festive storefronts, entertainment, hot chocolate, smores, chestnuts, and shopping galore. **608-348-4505**. [plattevillemainstreet.com](http://plattevillemainstreet.com).

### SAT 12/14

#### St. John's Episcopal Church Cookie Walk and Christmas Bazaar

8 AM-2 PM @ ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY CENTER PARISH HOUSE  
Find cookies, candies, baklava, breads, and more plus Christmas decor and gift items. Soup lunch available. 1458 Locust St. [StJohnsDBQ.org](http://StJohnsDBQ.org).



#### Make Merry @ Mission Thrift Store 2

11 AM-3 PM @ MISSION THRIFT STORE 2  
Celebrate the season with Cremer's turkey 'n' dressing, hot beverages, and holiday sweets while local artists decorate the storefront. Musicians Lou Oswald, the Caraway-Eby Caroling Quartet, Northeast Iowa School of Music, Pennyroyal, and The DZ Combo perform holiday classics. Shop home décor and furniture items and support the Dubuque Rescue Mission. Receive 10% off with the donation of laundry pods, wool socks, hats, gloves, or bath towels/washcloths. Free. 998 Central Ave. **563-587-8164**. [dubuquerescue.org](http://dubuquerescue.org).

#### Night of the Luminaria & Living Windows

4-9 PM @ MAIN STREET, GALENA, IL  
All of Galena will be glowing with more than 5,000 candlelit luminaries on streets, steps, and sidewalks. Luminaries are typically lit from 5 to 9 p.m. Store windows on Main Street come alive with holiday-inspired animated Living Windows at 4-7 p.m. At 6-7 p.m., a group of carolers from Galena Center for the Arts will create a jubilant atmosphere in the beautiful Grant Park Gazebo. **815-281-0673**. [VisitGalena.org](http://VisitGalena.org).



#### Dubuque Senior 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Madrigal Christmas Dinner

5 PM @ DUBUQUE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
Enjoy games and hors d'oeuvres at a Renaissance Faire. A four-course plated dinner is served while several dozen music students perform Renaissance-period music wearing Middle England period costumes. The meal is served and tables are serviced by Senior High students. A special 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tea with the King and Queen on Dec. 15 offers high tea. Proceeds support Senior High School music programs. 1800 Clarke Dr. \$50. [dubuque.seatyourself.biz](http://dubuque.seatyourself.biz).

### MON 12/16

#### Hot Cocoa Holiday Social

1:30-3:30 PM @ TRUSTWELL LIVING AT EAGLE POINTE PLACE  
Sip on delicious cocoa, enjoy sweet treats, and celebrate the season with music from the Americana Band. RSVP by 12/14. 2700 Matthew John Dr. **563-495-0965**. [trustwellliving.net](http://trustwellliving.net).

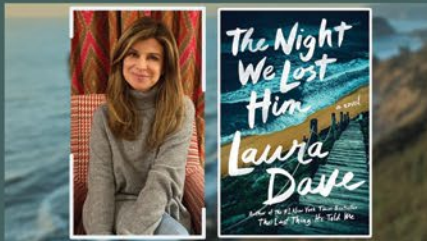
**MCCOY**  
GOLDSMITH & JEWELER

Sparkle  
FOR ALL

GIFTS THAT  
SPARKLE BRIGHT  
STARTING AT  
\$50

Holiday Sale  
Happening Now!

YOUR Holiday DESTINATION SINCE 1973  
261 MAIN ST | DOWNTOWN DUBUQUE



## Virtual Author Talk Watch Party

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11 AT 1 TO 2 P.M.

Attend a live watch party at the library for a virtual talk with *New York Times* bestselling author Laura Dave. This event is free and open to the public. There is also the option to join from home on an internet-enabled computer or mobile device by signing up online at [carnegiestout.org/authortalks](https://carnegiestout.org/authortalks).

During this virtual event, author Laura Dave will talk about her trademark combination of soulful suspense and evocative family drama to make riveting, page-turning novels. She will also discuss her latest book, "The Night We Lost Him," which focuses on estranged siblings who discover their father has been keeping a fatal secret for more than 50 years.

## Free Movie Night: "The Holdovers"

THURSDAY, DEC. 12 AT 6 P.M.

See a free screening of the movie "The Holdovers" (2023) in the third-floor auditorium. This comedy/drama is about a curmudgeonly prep school instructor who remains on campus during winter break to babysit a handful of students with nowhere to go. This film is rated R and the runtime is 2 hours and 13 minutes.



**CARNEGIESTOUT.ORG**

360 W 11<sup>TH</sup> ST, DUBUQUE, IA • 563-589-4225



## 12 Days of Christmas at Hotel Julien Dubuque

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 31

HOTEL JULIEN DUBUQUE (200 MAIN ST)

Get ready to celebrate the holiday season at Hotel Julien Dubuque. This December, you're invited to join the exciting 12 Days of Christmas events, filled with joy, community spirit, and festive cheer.

Celebrate A Teal Christmas with Potosa Spa and support Ovarian Cancer Awareness. For every "teal" service booked in December, \$10 will be donated to Wreaths for a CURE. Guests will also receive a gift bag.

On Sunday, Dec. 8 at 8:30-10:30 a.m., a breakfast buffet includes a visit from Santa. Each child can write a letter to Santa, create a tree ornament, and decorate a Christmas cookie. Tickets are \$21 for adults, \$15 for ages 12 and younger or free with new, unwrapped \$10 toy donation for Toys for Tots.

Let your creativity shine at the Holiday Paint & Sip on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 6-8 p.m. Paint and personalize a wine or stein glass. A \$20 suggested donation supports a local nonprofit. Spaces are limited.

Through Dec. 15, a Christmas Tree will be set up in Caroline's Restaurant with donation requests from local families in need. With a donated gift, you will receive 10% off your entree at Caroline's Restaurant.

The Holiday Blood Drive on Thursday, Dec. 19 at noon-4:30 p.m. is your opportunity to give the greatest gift someone receives this year.

[redcrossblood.org/give](https://redcrossblood.org/give).

Enjoy a special Christmas cocktail prepared by Tony Pfohl and Chad Chandlee in the Riverboat Lounge on Friday, Dec. 20 at 5-8 p.m. A portion of each cocktail will be given to the local nonprofit Hills & Dales.

The Old Fashioned Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 5-8 p.m. and Christmas Day breakfast on Wednesday, Dec. 25 at 9 a.m.-noon in Caroline's Restaurant close out the Christmas celebrations. RSVP recommended.

Get ready for an epic New Year's Eve celebration with Ozzy & Bon JoeB at 6 p.m., followed by dynamic DJ saxophonist Nostalgia Rush.

For reservations or more information, call Hotel Julien Dubuque at **563-588-5563** or visit [HotelJulienDubuque.com](https://HotelJulienDubuque.com). ■

WED 12/18

### Lunch & Learn: Seed Catalogs

NOON-1 PM @ CONVIVIUM URBAN FARMSTEAD

Now that the ground is frozen, the tools are all put away, and the gardens are all put to bed, it's time to cozy up next to the fire with a cup of tea, a giant pile of seed catalogs, and start dreaming of next season. Convivium farm manager AJ will share his seed catalog tips and tricks: What to look for in a seed catalog, how to interpret different catalogs to get the most out of them, the various ways catalogs are organized, and hear all about his personal favorites. Free. 2811 Jackson St. **563-557-2900**. [convivium-dbq.com](https://convivium-dbq.com).



### HandPickd Holiday Workshop

6-8 PM @ HOTEL JULIEN DUBUQUE RIVER ROOM  
Create a holiday centerpiece. Includes container, materials, evergreens, flowers, and pics. RSVP. \$70. 200 Main St. **563-590-6546**. [handpickd4u.com](https://handpickd4u.com).

SAT 12/21

### Holiday Drag Bingo

6-10 PM @ GRAPE ESCAPE (GALENA, IL)  
Celebrate the holiday season with a fabulous drag show and five exciting rounds of bingo. With a chance to

win a \$100 grand prize and a variety of other prizes donated by local businesses, you won't want to miss this event. Ticket purchase guarantees a seat for the after-show and includes a bingo dauber, a goody bag, and the opportunity to support the Riverview Center through the sale of additional game cards. 242 N Main St, Galena, IL. **779-214-0003**. [grapeescapegalena.com](https://grapeescapegalena.com).



**BUT WAIT... THERE'S MORE!**  
VIEW OUR FULL EVENT LIST  
[DUBUQUE365.COM/EVENTS](https://DUBUQUE365.COM/EVENTS)



## Reflections in the Park

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 5 @ 5-10 PM  
LOUIS MURPHY PARK  
(1700 S GRANDVIEW AVE)

The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hillcrest Family Services' Reflections in the Park, presented by Fidelity Bank and Trust, is lighting up the holiday season in Dubuque.

Now through Jan. 5, 2025, Louis Murphy Park will once again be transformed into a spectacular Christmas winter wonderland, featuring a stunning array of intricate and animated light displays. Highlights include the popular Tunnel of Lights, the Faley family-sponsored 30-foot Digital Christmas Tree, Memory Lane, and many new and recurring favorites, all enhanced with LED lighting.

"This event is about more than holiday lights—it's about hope," said Hillcrest Family Services CEO Mike Fidgeon. "People visiting the park help provide crucial behavioral health services to over 7,000 individuals in our community who rely on Hillcrest Family Services."

Tickets are \$12 per vehicle at the gate. Discounted \$10 tickets are available at Tri-State area Fidelity Bank and Trust locations and Hillcrest Family Services. For more information, call Hillcrest Family Services at **563-583-7357**. ■

## Ongoing & Recurring Events

### TUESDAY



#### Early Explorers

10 AM @ NATIONAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM & AQUARIUM

1<sup>ST</sup> TUE

Discover the ABCs through hands-on and active activities including a craft and a game. Ages 2-5 with parent/caregiver. RSVP suggested.

\$10 Non-members; \$8 members; adult free. 350 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St. **563-557-9545 x222**.

[RiverMuseum.org/early-explorers](http://RiverMuseum.org/early-explorers).

### WEDNESDAY

#### She Unites

6:30-7:30 PM

@ THE INNOVATION LAB

3<sup>RD</sup> WED

An evening of socialization and education featuring

rotating speakers talking about everything pertaining to women in a chill environment. Free. 210 Jones St. [SheUnitesIowa.com/events](http://SheUnitesIowa.com/events).

### SATURDAY



#### Dubuque Winter Farmers Market

9 AM-NOON @ KENNEDY MALL IN FORMER RUE21

THROUGH 4/26

NO EVENT 12/28

More than 20 regional food vendors will offer seasonal fresh produce, eggs, humanely raised beef, poultry and pork, cheeses, honey, maple syrup, artisan baked goods, jams and jellies, spice blends, seasonings, whole dried herbs and flavored cooking oils, salsas and hot sauces, body care products, and more. The recycling station accepts clean cardboard egg cartons and glass canning/mason jars. Free. 555 JFK Rd. [wintermarketdbq.com](http://wintermarketdbq.com).

#### Platteville Winter Farmer's Market

9 AM-NOON @ ROUNDTREE GALLERY (PLATTEVILLE, WI)

1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> SAT THROUGH 4/26

Find homegrown and hand-made products from fresh produce and prepared food to stained glass and bath bombs. 120 W Main St, Platteville, WI. **608-218-4374**.

[PlattevilleFarmersMarketWI.com](http://PlattevilleFarmersMarketWI.com).

#### Lollipops & Music for Our Preschoolers

10-10:30 AM @ CARNEGIE-STOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY

2<sup>ND</sup> SAT THROUGH 4/12

Northeast Iowa School of Music introduces children and their families to a variety of musical styles and instruments. Come prepared to sing, play instruments, and dance. Children leave with a greater appreciation of music and a lollipop. All ages. Free. 360 W 11<sup>th</sup> St. **563-690-0151**. [nisom.com](http://nisom.com).

#### SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS

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## Hot Cocoa Holiday Social

With the Americana Band

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1:30pm-3:30pm

RSVP by December 14th to Mackenzie at  
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[mjaeger@trustwellliving.net](mailto:mjaeger@trustwellliving.net)


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# Events at Five Flags Center



The Five Flags Center is located at 405 Main St. in Downtown Dubuque. Fees may apply to ticket purchases. Tickets are available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or at the Five Flags Center Box Office. For more information, call 563-589-4254 or visit [FiveFlagsCenter.com](https://www.FiveFlagsCenter.com).



## DUBUQUE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

### Holiday Concerts

**FAMILY: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 1 PM**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 7:30 PM**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 @ 2 PM**  
**FIVE FLAGS THEATER**

The Dubuque Symphony Orchestra brings the holidays to the Five Flags Theater. The family program on Saturday, Dec. 7 begins at 1 p.m. while the full holiday concerts run on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec 8. at 2 p.m. Expect to hear plenty of holiday favorites, including carols, selections from *The Nutcracker*, film scores, and more.

The DSO's special one-hour family program of kid-friendly holiday music features vocalist Kira Guloien, the Dubuque Chorale Children's Choir and members of the Heartland Ballet. Sing and jingle along to your favorite tunes. Includes photos with Santa post-concert.

For the Saturday evening and Sunday matinee performances, the warm sounds of the holidays fill the hall as the DSO is joined by vocalist Kira Guloien, the Dubuque Chorale and members of the Heartland Ballet.

Saturday evening concert attendance includes entry to post-concert Encore Reception. Enjoy complimentary refreshments and visit with DSO musicians.

Tickets for the family program begin at \$24 for adults and \$14 for children. The rest of the concerts begin at \$19 for adults and \$12 for children. For more information, contact the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra at **563-557-1677** or visit [DubuqueSymphony.org](https://www.DubuqueSymphony.org). ■



## World Ballet Company: Nutcracker

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 @ 7 PM**  
**FIVE FLAGS THEATER**

World Ballet Company presents *Nutcracker* live at the Five Flags Theater on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. It features a multinational cast of 40 professional

ballet dancers gathered to bring the most beloved holiday tradition to life.

Enjoy a family-friendly experience accompanied by Tchaikovsky's timeless score, over 150 radiant hand-crafted costumes, lavish hand-painted sets, and the iconic Lev Ivanov choreography. See the iconic Waltz of Flowers, and the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy, meet Mother Ginger and the Drosselmeyer.

Driven by the belief that ballet is for everyone, performances appeal to newcomers and seasoned ballet goers alike. The company attracts many international artists and comprises renowned professional dancers representing over 10 countries. To date, World Ballet Company has traveled to more than 280 cities, reaching an audience of more than 250,000, many of whom are first-time attendees to a ballet.

Tickets start at \$42. ■

## Wags at the Flags

**WEDNESDAYS: DECEMBER 11;**  
**JANUARY 8, 15, 22, AND 29; FEBRUARY 5;**  
**MARCH 5, 12, AND 26 @ 4-8 PM**

### FIVE FLAGS ARENA

Wags at the Flags is an indoor dog park held at the Five Flags Arena on select Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. Bring your pup for some fun at the Flags on Dec. 4 11; Jan. 8, 15, 22, and 29; Feb. 5; and March 5, 12, and 26.



The park features separate areas for small and large dogs, along with the Barka Lounge for owners to enjoy food, drinks, and adult refreshments. Each week will have themed events and local vendors. Proceeds benefit the Dubuque Regional Humane Society and Whispsurring Hope.

Entry is \$5/dog; humans are free. ■



## Holiday Movie Night

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 @ 6 PM**  
**FIVE FLAGS THEATER**

Join for a festive evening of holiday fun at the Five Flags Theater on Friday, Dec. 13. Enjoy a free double feature of classic holiday movies for the whole family.

The first movie is the 2003 hit *Elf* at 6 p.m. Buddy (Will Ferrell) was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves. Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy

travels to New York, in full elf uniform, in search of his real father. As it happens, this is Walter Hobbs (James Caan), a cynical businessman. After a DNA test proves this, Walter reluctantly attempts to start a relationship with the childlike Buddy with increasingly chaotic results.

Next up is the 1989 classic *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* at 8:30 p.m. As the holidays approach, Clark Griswold (Chevy Chase) wants to have a perfect family Christmas, so he pesters his wife, Ellen (Beverly D'Angelo), and children, as he tries to make sure everything is in line, including the tree and house decorations. However, things go awry quickly. His hick cousin, Eddie (Randy Quaid), and his family show up unplanned and start living in their camper on the Griswold property. Even worse, Clark's employers renege on the holiday bonus he needs.

Bring your loved ones and enjoy a cozy night of holiday laughter. While the event is free, Five Flags will be collecting donations to benefit United Way and The Salvation Army.

Tickets are free. ■

## Tay Tay Dance Party

**W/ DJ SWIFTIE**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 7:30 PM**  
**FIVE FLAGS THEATER**

DJ Swiftie brings his mix of Taylor Swift hits to the Five Flags Theater on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. This Reputation-themed dance party will immerse Taylor Swift fans in an unforgettable night of music, energy, and excitement.

DJ Swiftie captivates audiences with electrifying mixes that seamlessly blend Taylor's iconic hits. With a unique ability to read the crowd and create unforgettable experiences, DJ Swiftie transforms



every event into a celebration of music and nostalgia. His passion for Taylor's artistry shines through, making each performance a magical journey for fans.

Tickets are \$30 for GA and \$52 for VIP. ■



## Home Free

ANY KIND OF CHRISTMAS TOUR  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 @ 7 PM  
FIVE FLAGS ARENA

Experience the magic of the holidays on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Five Flags Arena with the all-vocal country group Home Free, as they bring an unforgettable evening of incredible harmonies, mixing Christmas classics with Nashville-dipped pop hits and timeless country standards on their "Any Kind of Christmas" tour.

Having captivated audiences worldwide, Home Free has racked up nearly 600,000 album equivalents globally, embarked on major international tours, and amassed over 750 million views and 1.7 million subscribers on YouTube. Taste of Country hails them as "Country music fans' favorite a cappella group."

Their latest albums, *Any Kind Of Christmas* and *Crazy(er) Life*, follow the 2023 album *As Seen On TV* and the chart-topping success of 2022's *So Long Dixie*, which hit No. 1 on the Current Country Albums chart to become the sixth Top 3 album of the group's career.

The group, known for their harmony-laden versions of hits by artists like John Mayer, Blake Shelton, and The Oak Ridge Boys, will bring a heartwarming mix of Christmas classics and country favorites to the stage. Join Home Free for an unforgettable evening filled with Nashville-dipped pop hits, timeless country standards, incredible harmonies, and their trademark quick-witted humor.

Tickets are \$19.50-\$49.50. ■

## Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 @ 7 PM  
FIVE FLAGS ARENA

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> year on tour, bringing the beloved holiday classic to life at the Five Flags Arena on Friday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m.

This enchanting stage production invites families to experience the magic of the longest-running and



highest-rated holiday TV special. Follow Rudolph, Hermey the Elf, Yukon Cornelius, and Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster as they help Santa save Christmas in a heartwarming story filled with iconic songs, dazzling costumes, and nostalgic set designs.

Tickets are \$23-\$48. ■



## Winter Bounce

DECEMBER 28 AND 29  
@ 8 AM-1 PM AND 3-8 PM  
FIVE FLAGS ARENA

In partnership with Tough Entertainment, known for delivering top-tier inflatable

experiences, Winter Bounce will transform Five Flags Arena into a massive playground on Dec. 28 and 29. Two sessions are available each day: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-8 p.m.

Featuring nearly 30 inflatables including bounce houses, obstacle courses, and interactive games. In addition to the inflatables, attendees can enjoy laser tag and mini golf, making this event a complete entertainment experience.

Perfect for kids and young-at-heart adults, this event promises hours of high-energy fun. Don't miss out on this chance to shake off the winter chill and enjoy the ultimate indoor playground.

Tickets are \$11 for ages under 18. Laser tag and mini golf are \$5 for all ages. ■

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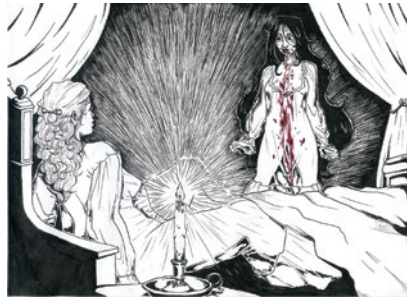
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## First Fridays

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

NOON-7 PM @ STONED ART STUDIO & GALLERY (1800 CENTRAL AVE)

NOON-8 PM @ WIDDERSHINS ARTISAN GALLERY (2204 CENTRAL AVE)

1-6 PM @ FISCHER BUILDING (219 W 9<sup>TH</sup> ST & 915 MAIN ST)

4:30-7:30 PM @ OUTSIDE THE LINES ART GALLERY (1101 MAIN ST)

5:30-8 PM @ THE STU (1533 CENTRAL AVE)

5:30-9:30 PM @ VOICES STUDIOS (1585 CENTRAL AVE)

6-8 PM @ PLANTED. (245 W 1<sup>ST</sup> ST)

7-11 PM @ SMOKESTACK (62 E 7<sup>TH</sup> ST)

First Friday is a free downtown monthly community arts event with open galleries, artists' studios, and live entertainment, fostering community and celebrating arts in Dubuque. For more information, visit [FirstFridaysDubuque.org](http://FirstFridaysDubuque.org).

Stoned Art Studio & Gallery hosts a Holiday Open House while showcasing the art and Driftless Region photography of Henry Matthiessen III and will also be showcasing the splintalism abstract art Allen Eberle of Clinton, IA. Refreshments and jazz music round off the evening. [StonedArtStudio.com](http://StonedArtStudio.com).

Widdershins Artisan Gallery features artworks by local, regional, and national artists including Mark Dierker, John Potter, Debra Sullivan, Tad Banker, Sara Mess, Dan Aldeman, Peggy Jo Brekke, K.A. Kriesel, Katherine Funke, Heather Houzenga, Jay Pauley, Autumn Rose, Bill Potter, Deb Lutz, Robin Griswold-Ott, Moon Yokum, Vicki Copeland, Tim Wear, the late Shirley Dale, Karen Franklin, and Ben Curtis. Enjoy the comfy vintage furniture while listening to classic rock tunes. Refreshments will also be available. [WiddershinsGallery.com](http://WiddershinsGallery.com).

The Fischer Building is hosting a holiday art sale on Dec. 6 and 13 at 1-6 p.m. and Dec. 7 and 14 at 9 a.m.-noon. Explore the gallery spaces featuring Troy Aiken, Aaron Butcher, Abigail Butcher, Andonia Giannakouros, Nacole Meyer, Liz Robertson, and Rich Robertson.

Outside the Lines Art Gallery features Lizbeth Doran who will be demonstrating her beading technique throughout the evening and again the following morning from 10 a.m. to noon. Light refreshments will be offered. This is a relaxed, family-friendly opportunity to visit with the artists of our community and learn a little about how they make their art. [ShopOTLAG.com](http://ShopOTLAG.com).

The Stu exhibits *Art of Love* and is launching WynkWink. Drinks, finger foods, and fun. Come with an open mind and ready to have a good time. Ages 21+. [facebook.com/TriPhoenixGroup](https://www.facebook.com/TriPhoenixGroup).

Voices Studios highlights an evocative combination of two art exhibits showcasing the works of acclaimed artist Tim Olson, complimented with the works of daughter and artist Lena Olson. Experience the unique perspectives of two artists whose journeys are rooted in deep personal reflection, family, and a dedication to their creativity. Refreshments will be served. On display Dec. 6-Jan. 31. [VoicesStudios.org](http://VoicesStudios.org).

Planted. immerses you in vibrant creativity during their annual group exhibition, *Kinship*. The showcase features a diverse array of artwork from talented artists who have previously graced the gallery walls who celebrate their shared passion for creation, free from the constraints of a specific theme. All artworks are priced at under \$200, making it an ideal opportunity for newcomers to start their art collection or find the perfect gift for a loved one. On display Dec. 6-29. [PlantedDBQ.com](http://PlantedDBQ.com).

Just in time for the holidays, the Dubuque Area Arts Collective and Scenic Art Loop showcase a variety of original artwork by more than 20 local and regional artists. Discover original artwork, pottery, decorations, prints, and handmade gifts—all at affordable prices. With all pieces priced \$200 and under, this exhibition furthers the event's mission to make art accessible to all in our community while supporting the artists who live and make work here. On display Dec. 4-27. [DubuqueArts.com](http://DubuqueArts.com). ■

## Seasonal Allergies

DECEMBER 6-7, 12-14, AND 19-20 @ 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 8, 15, 21-22 @ 2 PM

BELL TOWER THEATER (2728 ASBURY RD)

The Bell Tower Theater features the local premiere of *Seasonal Allergies*, a funny, heartwarming comedy about friends, family, and holiday stresses on Dec. 6-22.

What are the holidays without a little chaos? Julia's life is turned upside down when her soon-to-be-divorced brother shows up unexpectedly and stays from Thanksgiving through New Year's.



By Katherine DiSavino and Kevin Mead

Early Bird performances are \$12, and all other performances are \$24. Thursdays are Girls Night Out; all audience members get a free glass of wine. For more information and to purchase tickets, call **563-588-3377** or visit [BellTowerTheater.net](http://BellTowerTheater.net). ■

## The Best Christmas Pageant Ever The Musical

DECEMBER 6-7 @ 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 8 @ 2 PM

GRAND OPERA HOUSE (135 W 8<sup>TH</sup> ST)

Ring in the holidays with the Herdmans at the Grand Opera House.

*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever The Musical* continues on Dec. 6-7 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 2 p.m.

The Herdmans are the worst kids in the history of the world, so when they crash Sunday school and demand parts in the Christmas pageant, the whole town panics. There's not supposed to be biting or cigar-smoking in Bethlehem, and while these kids have never even



heard the Christmas story, they definitely have rewrites! Soon, everyone is calling for reluctant director Grace Bradley to cancel the whole thing. It's up to the Bradleys and the Reverend to help their community see the Christmas story and the Herdman kids through new eyes in this buoyant musical adaptation of the funny and touching holiday classic.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$17 for children under 18. Tickets can be purchased in person at the box office, by calling **563-588-1305**, or at [TheGrandOperaHouse.com](http://TheGrandOperaHouse.com). ■



## Freezing Speed— Ian Brightman

PRE-SHOW RECEPTION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 @ 6:30-8 PM

HERITAGE CENTER BISIGNANO ART GALLERY (2255 BENNETT ST)

The world of motorsport stands still with *Freezing Speed—Ian Brightman*, the newest exhibit at the University of Dubuque's

Bisignano Art Gallery. A free pre-show reception will be held 6:30-8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13, in the art gallery in conjunction with John Denver Christmas. The exhibit is on display now through Dec. 31.

From Old Hickory, TN, Ian Alexander (The) Brightman is passionate about capturing what he describes as "the heartbeat of car culture and the adrenaline-fueled world of motorsport." He has collaborated with renowned drift magazines across North American and European continents, and his work has appeared with global brands such as MotorTrend, Hot Rod, and Formula Drift.

"Through my lens, I strive to capture not just the speed and power of these machines but also the essence of track life and the raw physicality that defines the motorsport universe," Brightman said.

*Freezing Speed—Ian Brightman* is also be available virtually at [dbq.edu/Gallery](http://dbq.edu/Gallery). ■

FLY-BY-NIGHT PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

## Peace on Earth, Good Will to Dogs

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 @ 7 PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 2 AND 7 PM  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 @ 2 PM  
LACY MANSION (1640 MAIN ST)

Travel throughout the first floor of the Lacy Mansion during Fly-By-Night Productions's *Peace on Earth, Good Will to Dogs*. Limited tickets remain for the 7 p.m. performance on Saturday, Dec. 14 while all other shows are sold out.

It's 1906, Christmas in a small New England town. Flame, teenage daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. Nourrice, wants to spend one Christmas "exactly the way she wants to." Her opportunity arrives when dogs, the



new tenants of the formerly deserted house next door, move in. Offering to take care of them for Christmas Day, she thus prepares a Christmas feast for them. What ensues are shenanigans of the jolliest order! This charming Christmas "tail" will delight and leave you with a jingle of cheer.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling **563-599-9486** or visit [FlyByNightDubuque.com](http://FlyByNightDubuque.com). ■

## Callahan Promotions Holiday Arts & Crafts Show

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 @ 5-9 PM  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 @ 10 AM-4 PM  
GRAND RIVER CENTER (500 BELL ST)

One of the area's largest arts and crafts show sets up shop at the Grand River Center on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 5-9 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15 at 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Callahan Promotions' Holiday Arts & Crafts Show.

More than 100 talented exhibitors present and sell thousands of unique



handmade products such as gourd art, bird houses, jewelry, metal art sculptures, pet products, stained glass, quilts, clothing, and many more original products. Exhibitors will also be selling food items such as homemade salsa, fudge, barbeque sauce, jams, and dried soup and food mixes.

Tickets are \$6 and free ages 10 and younger. For more information, call Callahan Promotions at **563-357-1986**. ■

DUBUQUE CITY YOUTH BALLET PRESENTS

## The Nutcracker

DECEMBER 14 AND 20-21 @ 7:30 PM  
DECEMBER 15 AND 21-22 @ 2 PM  
GRAND OPERA HOUSE (135 W 8<sup>TH</sup> ST)

An annual Christmas tradition inspired by Dubuque, *The Nutcracker* returns to the Grand Opera House stage. Presented by the Dubuque City Youth Ballet (DCYB), performances are on Dec. 14 and 20-21 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 15 and 21-22 at 2 p.m.

Whirling snowflakes and waltzing flowers frame this beloved holiday classic. Clara and her enchanted nutcracker battle the dreadful Mouse King in a nightmare that becomes a beautiful dream.

Performed annually for over 20 years, the DCYB production will be a highlight of your family's holiday celebration.



Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$17 for children under 18. Tickets can be purchased in person at the box office, by calling **563-588-1305**, or at [TheGrandOperaHouse.com](http://TheGrandOperaHouse.com). ■

**cherished holiday memories**  
with the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra

**DECEMBER 7-8**  
FIVE FLAGS THEATER

CONCERT AND GUEST ARTIST SPONSOR **MEDICAL ASSOCIATES**

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM **Jack & Mantea Schmid** **CB Cottingham & Butler**

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Call 563-557-1677 for info and to order

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**February 6, 2025**

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**Applications due by January 6.**

Learn more & apply here!

[innovationlab.us/dbqbizcomp](http://innovationlab.us/dbqbizcomp)

# 'Tis the Season To Be Generous

By Nancy Van Milligen, President and CEO,  
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque

From the outside, the new dyslexia tutoring center at Northeast Iowa Community College in downtown Dubuque looks like many of the other rooms on the same floor. However, what happens inside is extraordinary. Children who struggle with reading can come here for one-on-one tutoring and resources that can help them and their caregivers on their literacy journey.

A place like this didn't exist in Dubuque just a year ago. In fact, the services provided here weren't available within a 90-minute driving distance of Dubuque, creating an additional barrier for families already stressed about how to support their children outside of school.

The tutoring center is more than just a resource—it is a testament to the generosity of our community. Everything from the space itself to the office furniture to funding for tutor training is thanks to partnerships between nonprofits, gifts from donors, and volunteer time from individuals.

Our job at the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque is to connect these generous community members with issues that people in our region face, which means we have a front row seat to our community



LEADERS OF THE ORGANIZATION IOWA NICE RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE DURING A CEREMONY IN JUNE

at its best. We see the ways that generosity is making our region a thriving, welcoming place for everyone.

During this season of generosity and gratitude, we are here as a resource for anyone who wants to give back to their community. By convening, learning from and listening to people from all corners of the region, we develop a deep understanding of the issues communities face. Then, we work with charitable-minded people to open funds that support causes they care about or contribute to existing funds that can address these issues. Since we opened our doors in 2003, the funds supported by people in our region have paid out \$75 million to nonprofits, including \$4.8 million so far this year.

What does this mean for you? How can we help you give back?

A good starting place—after you read this issue of *365ink*—is to explore our Giving Center at [dbqfoundation.org/give](https://dbqfoundation.org/give). This is an interactive listing of all the funds we and our eight affiliate foundations host across the seven-county Dubuque region. You can filter by county; search for categories like children, animals, or the arts; and give online with a credit or debit card.

You might also consider a complex gift, such as a gift of stock, land or grain, or a rollover contribution from a retirement account. Virtually any asset can be transformed into community impact, and our expert staff can help you meet your charitable goals. Just call or email us, and we would be happy to meet with you.

We can even help you set up your own fund to support a cause you care about. With your own fund, you can direct grants to organizations that align with your interests and passions, while we handle the day-to-day management of the fund.

But what if you are unsure what cause to support? In that case, the Forever Fund might be a good option. The idea behind the Forever Fund is simple: While we can't predict the future, we can prepare for it. Just as each of us does in our personal lives, we can set aside resources for whatever challenges or opportunities arise, tomorrow or years from now.

Every gift to the Forever Fund is invested, allowing the fund to grow year over year and grant a percentage annually that can benefit our community. The Forever Fund provides flexibility for all Dubuquers to immediately help in a crisis, jumpstart an important project, or meet an unforeseen need in our community.

Giving to the Forever Fund means being part of something bigger than yourself. It means being part of a community of people united by their love for our region whose collective generosity makes a powerful and lasting impact.

Make a gift online to the Forever Fund at [dbqfoundation.org/forever](https://dbqfoundation.org/forever).

Regardless of how you decide to give back, remember that every gift makes a difference. Whether you support children's literacy resources, outdoor recreation, brain health services or something else, you are helping build a stronger Dubuque region for everyone who calls it home. ■

## How to Give

Are you inspired to give back to your community? Here are a few ways to make a donation—and an impact.

- Visit [dbqfoundation.org/give](https://dbqfoundation.org/give) to browse hundreds of funds and make a gift online.
- Write a check to Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque (CFGD) with the fund you would like to support on the memo line, and send it to:  
**Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque**  
700 Locust St., Suite 195  
Dubuque, IA 52001
- Contact us at **563-588-2700** or [office@dbqfoundation.org](mailto:office@dbqfoundation.org) to meet with our staff and discuss your giving options.

As a bonus, your gift of \$50 or more to an endowment fund at the Community Foundation is eligible for the Endow Iowa 25% State Tax Credit. Learn more at [dbqfoundation.org/endowiowa](https://dbqfoundation.org/endowiowa). ■



## Dubuque Regional Humane Society

4242 CHAVENELLE RD, DUBUQUE, IA 52002

563-582-6766

DBQHUMANE.ORG

As the holiday season fills our hearts with warmth and giving, it's also a time to reflect on the incredible impact you can make in the lives of animals in need. The Dubuque Regional Humane Society (DRHS), witnesses the transformative power of compassion every day. In 2024 so far, they have provided life-sustaining care for 2,648 animals; helped 1,823 cats, dogs, and critters find new homes; and safely reunited 242 lost pets with their families.

Deeply connected to our community, the DRHS facilitates over 100 events and partnerships annually. In 2024, their dedicated team of volunteers contributed more than 8,000 hours of personal time to support their mission. Programs like low-cost microchip clinics which served 145 pets this year and spay/neuter services with 1,421 surgeries performed are vital to ensuring a brighter future for both pets and people.

These life-changing moments don't happen without the support of the Tri-State community. From medical treatments to outreach programs, every service the DRHS provides stems from others' generosity. Whether it's through donating, volunteering, fostering, or adopting, individuals like you make all the difference.

During the holidays, the DRHS launches special fundraising efforts to bring hope to even more animals. One key initiative is the Season of Pawsibilities annual appeal. A gift to this campaign provides critical funding

to care for abandoned, lost, and surrendered animals. It's more than a donation—it's a second chance. Every contribution helps turn hardship into hope, loneliness into love, and shelter into a forever home.

Another festive opportunity is the Santa Paws Giving Tree. Each ornament on the DRHS lobby tree represents an item or monetary donation needed to support animals in their care. It's a simple, meaningful way to spread holiday cheer while making a tremendous impact. Simply select an ornament and purchase the item or make the donation. Businesses, organizations, and schools can also join in the giving spirit by printing downloadable ornaments from the DRHS website and creating their own tree to host in a lobby, entryway, or community space. Donations will be gratefully collected through the month of December.

This season, your generosity fuels the Dubuque Regional Humane Society's ability to create a kinder, more compassionate community. Whether through the Season of Pawsibilities appeal or the Santa Paws Giving Tree, your support changes lives—one wagging tail, purring kitten, and happy adoption story at a time. As they often say, "Every gift, a life. Every life, a gift."

Visit [dbqhumane.org/give](https://dbqhumane.org/give) to learn more about how you can help bring hope home for the holidays. Together, we can make this season bright for animals in need. ■



## Empowering Communities. Igniting Generosity.

We envision a vibrant and inclusive Dubuque region where everyone can thrive.

Since 2003, we have inspired people to give back to their community, and we turn this generosity into lasting change across our region, increasing access to resources and opportunities that help all people succeed.



Learn more at [dbqfoundation.org](https://dbqfoundation.org)

700 Locust St., Suite 195, Dubuque | 563-588-2700



## Dubuque Salvation Army

1099 IOWA ST, DUBUQUE, IA 52001  
563-556-1573

CENTRALUSA.SALVATIONARMY.ORG/DUBUQUE  
FACEBOOK.COM/SADUBUQUEIA

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

The iconic Salvation Army red kettle campaign began in 1891 by Captain Joseph McFee, a Salvation Army officer who was looking for a way to cover the cost of the community Christmas meal. The tradition continues still today. Many local businesses and service organizations donate their time to ring the bell for the Salvation Army's red kettles, and you can too. Find local ringing opportunities at [RegisterToRing.com](http://RegisterToRing.com) and make a difference this season!

Sharing your donation at Christmas-time helps The Salvation Army care

for homeless and needy families but also helps serve more than 27 million people through a myriad of other services all year long. Depending on the community, these include religious services; disaster response services; social service programs providing food, shelter, clothing, and financial assistance; casework and counseling; youth services with programs for music, athletics, arts, and crafts; camping and family counseling; senior centers; Christmas programs to help families and individuals financially at year-end with toys, meals and other assistance; human and sexual trafficking advocacy; veterans services; and prison services.

Donate online at the above link and follow the activity of the Salvation Army in Dubuque on their Facebook page, also listed above. ■

## Dubuque Food Pantry

1310 WHITE ST, DUBUQUE, IA 52001  
563-583-4440

DBQFOODPANTRY.COM

The Dubuque Food Pantry is serving more community members than ever. Each month during 2024, more than 2,200 individuals were served at the location. They also have almost 300 low-income senior community members who receive a monthly delivery.

Weekly hours for the general public are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 1-3:30 p.m. and Tuesday at 9-11:30 a.m. The pantry is closed on Thursdays, holidays, and weekends. Shoppers are allowed to choose items based on the size of their family. Each household is allowed to return in 39 days if needed. In order to help working families, there is an evening shop every second and fourth Monday of the month at 5-6:30 p.m.

The Dubuque Food Pantry receives donations of groceries and produce items throughout the year as well as monetary donations. A Top 10 list of supplies that are kept in stock at all times includes peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, soup and ramen noodles, cereal, canned vegetables, canned fruit, potato mixes, pasta, pasta sauces, and canned tuna and meat. They also include eggs, milk, meat, paper towel, and toilet

paper in every order, which need to be purchased with monetary donations.

The Dubuque Food Pantry has had many successful partnerships over the years including Scouting America and ECIA Realtors. Their annual appeal letter is sent out each year at Thanksgiving.

People and organizations can donate through the Dubuque Food Pantry's website via PayPal or they can drop off or mail a check to the Dubuque Food Pantry. Many schools, businesses, and organizations do food drives throughout the year. Please call when you will deliver or need the pantry to pick up.

At the end of this school year, the Dubuque Food Pantry will have their third annual Launch into Summer Party on the last day of school. It's a great time for parents and children to get together with food and games. It's also a good time for the Dubuque Food Pantry to remind families that they are here for them.

The Dubuque Food Pantry appreciates all the support from their community supporters. With the continued generosity, they will be able to help those in need of good, nutritious food. ■



## Resources Unite

1900 JOHN F KENNEDY RD, DUBUQUE, IA 52002  
563-231-6280  
RESOURCESUNITE.COM

Resources Unite is a Dubuque-based nonprofit organization that serves as the resource and volunteer center of the Tri-State area. In short, there are two different types of people that walk through the front door each day. The first person is someone looking to volunteer and make an impact in our community. Resources Unite connects that individual, group, or organization to opportunities based on their interests and the needs of the community at any given time. The second person that stops by is the person that needs help. Roughly 20 people stop in each day looking for assistance with housing, utility assistance, food, addiction, abuse, and a variety of other reasons.

Although Resources Unite has a number of programs that help provide people with food, baby supplies, housing, and much more, their primary focus is building meaningful relationships with the people they serve. Resources Unite believes that if they can understand why someone needs help—what got someone into a position needing help—they can possibly help create a path that leads to independence.

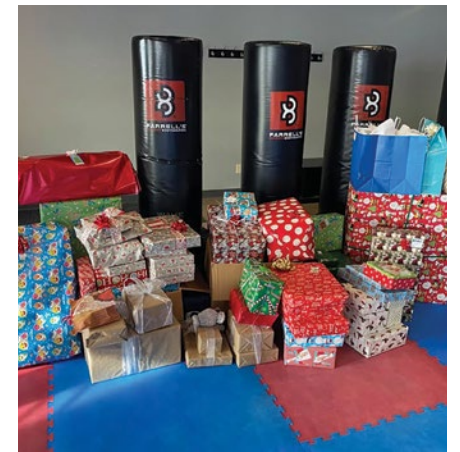
For the past 12 years, Resources Unite has learned that the second week of November marks the beginning of their busiest time of the year, and it doesn't slow down until the new year. The weather begins to change, housing becomes even more difficult, holidays bring up mixed feelings for many, and parents worry

about having something under the Christmas tree for their children.

This is also the time of the year in which the witness absolute remarkable generosity that is unmatched throughout the rest of the year. Resources Unite recently started meeting with families needing help with Christmas, learning of a child's two needs and two wants. They then ask community members to shop for that respective child. For the past five years, Resources Unite has had just over 1,000 children on their Christmas list, which means someone in our community made sure that each child woke up to unwrap that new winter coat, snow boots, maybe some socks and underwear, and their favorite superhero or Barbie doll.

Resources Unite's Christmas program started years ago when the foster care system reached out, sharing that foster care parents often struggle during the holiday season. The system wanted to make sure all 99 foster care children in Dubuque and Jackson Counties at that time had what they needed during the holiday season. Not knowing where to start, Resources Unite went to Facebook and asked people to help. What happened next was inspiring, to say the least. Within three days, all 99 children were sponsored.

To learn how you can get involved and help a child during this holiday season, please email at [josh@resourcesunite.com](mailto:josh@resourcesunite.com) or call **563-231-6280**. ■



## Marine Corps Toys For Tots

DUBUQUE-IA.TOYSFORTOTS.ORG

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation provides toys and a tangible sign of hope to economically disadvantaged children at Christmas. Dubuque Toys for Tots is one of nearly 900 campaigns in America and annually recognized as one of the best run campaigns in the county.

The Dubuque campaign is notable for dedicating 97% of funds raised on the procurement of toys and books. Overhead costs and supplies are donated by generous local corporate benefactors so Toys For Tots can focus its funds directly on serving the kids.

The organization serves more than 5,000 Tri-State youth every Christmas in four counties. But the organization also works year-round to support

educational and community building efforts addressing the same populations that they serve during the holidays. This included donations of nearly \$1 million worth of books to Eastern Iowa schools and libraries since 2020 as well as prizes for library reading programs, community engagement events like National Night Out and the Dubuque Arboretum Spring Party, and more. The success of Dubuque Toys for Tots has allowed the group to expand beyond Christmas to work on supporting kids in the Dubuque area year-round.

All monetary donations to Dubuque Toys For Tots online stays local. You can make a tax-deductible donation online at [dubuque-ia.toysfortots.org](http://dubuque-ia.toysfortots.org). ■





# Toys for Tots Sign Up & Events

Every year since 1946, the Marine Toys for Tots program has brought the hope and joy of the holiday season to millions of children and families across America, and Dubuque is once again proud to be a strong part of that effort. In 2021, Dubuque, IA was recognized as the #1 Toys for Tots Campaign in America from among more than 830 campaigns across the country.

The goal is to fully support the needs of over 5,000 children in Dubuque County, IA; Clayton County, IA; Grant County, WI; and East Dubuque, IL. Keep

an eye out at your favorite local retailers for official Toys for Tots donation bins.

Information about the Marine Toys for Tots charity as well as online donations can be made at [ToysForTots.org](https://ToysForTots.org). All donations stay local, and cash donations are tax deductible. Locally, Toys for Tots serves children and families through the many agencies that serve those families year round including the Multicultural Family Center, the Salvation Army, the Grant County Holiday Project, and more.

If you need assistance with toys this season, visit [DubuqueToys.org](https://DubuqueToys.org). ■

## Distribution Resources

While there are a number of distribution partners that help Toys for Tots reach all of the kids in need in our area, there are two main distributions that are open to the general public in the city of Dubuque. Registration links for both distributions are now available at [DubuqueToys.org](https://DubuqueToys.org) as well as the official Toys for Tots website, <https://dubuque-ia.toysfortots.org>. Families can register for one or the other distribution BUT NOT BOTH!

### The Salvation Army

The Dubuque Salvation Army Distribution will take place Dec. 18-19, at their downtown Dubuque location at 1099 Iowa St.

### Multicultural Family Center

The Marine Corps Toys for Tots Toys Distribution at Multicultural Family Center will take place Nov. 25 through Dec. 18, Monday through Saturday (except Thanksgiving). Registration for that program is open now and will remain open until all time slots are filled. The registration website is available in multiple languages, but you can also contact the Multicultural Family Center at **563-582-3681** for assistance in registering using their computer lab.

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up to assist with distributions at the Multicultural Family Center. There are

two shifts per day where you help families shop for toys. Volunteers cannot receive toy assistance. Register to help at [volunteersignup.org/RJXX4](https://volunteersignup.org/RJXX4).

### Outside the City of Dubuque

Marine Cops Toys for Tots also partners with other Tri-State agencies for more distributions. If you are in one of these areas outside of the city of Dubuque, here are your contact resources to get assistance.

Residents of Asbury, Key West, Sherrill, Durango, and Sageville, IA are welcome to join the distribution program at the Multicultural Center Family Center or through the Salvation Army in Dubuque.

In Western Dubuque County (Peosta, Epworth, Farley, Dyersville, Cascade, Bankston, Bernard, Zwingle, Holy Cross, Rickardsville, Balltown, and New Vienna, IA), letters went out to homes via the schools to inquire about needs for assistance for toys at Christmas. That is the best way to get included in the program. If you didn't get that letter and would still like to be included in the program for 2024, contact Micki Kelchen at **563-543-7031**.

In Grant County, WI, contact the Grant County Holiday Project, PO Box 447, Lancaster, WI 53813 (**608-723-2136**).

In East Dubuque, IL, contact the Boundless Trailer, [theboundlesstrailer.org](https://theboundlesstrailer.org), (**563-581-9666**).

In Clayton County, IA, contact Shepherd of the Hills, 100 W Hill St, St Olaf, IA 52072 (**563-783-2409**). ■



## Teddy Bear Toss

**AT DUBUQUE FIGHTING SAINTS**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 @ 7:05 PM**  
**IMON ARENA (1800 ADMIRAL SHEEHY DR)**

The defending Eastern Conference Champion Dubuque Fighting Saints hockey team returns for another season at ImOn Arena on Schmitt Island. Mark your calendar for the Toys for Tots Teddy Bear Toss with Santa Claus on Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:05 p.m.

The Dubuque Fighting Saints play host to the Waterloo Blackhawks. Bring a new teddy bear or other plush toy to throw onto the ice following the Saints' first goal.

This season's full schedule features 30 home dates highlighted by a season-long celebration of the Fighting Saints' 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary season as a Tier-1 franchise.

Single game tickets start at \$13 and can be purchased at [DubuqueFightingSaints.com](https://DubuqueFightingSaints.com). ■



### 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

## Stuff the Truck for Toys for Tots

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 8 AM-4 PM**  
**THEISEN'S HOME • FARM • AUTO**  
**DUBUQUE (2900 DODGE ST)**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Theisen's Stuff the Truck event to benefit Marine Corps Toys for Tots returns to Dubuque on Saturday, Dec. 7. Radio Dubuque will Supercast live at the Dubuque Theisen's while shoppers take advantage of their

annual toy sale discounts. Santa will be on hand from 10 a.m. to noon to meet with eager youngsters and get a photo and free sugar cookies if you like!

The Marines and/or Marine Corps League members will be there as well, as Toys for Tots looks to match or beat the amazing \$10,000+ in cash and toys they receive from the annual event. Stop by and say "Hi" to Bryce Parks from Toys for Tots and *365ink* and the Theisen's and Radio Dubuque crew manning the collection zone outside the store (no matter the weather) all day long on Saturday. ■



8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

## Toys for Tots Kids' Christmas Party

PRESENTED BY THEISEN'S, COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER DUBUQUE, AND PARAMOUNT AMBULANCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 @ NOON-3 PM FIVE FLAGS ARENA (405 MAIN ST)

The biggest, craziest party of the holiday season is back... it's for kids 10 and under... and it's FREE!

Marine Corps Toys for Tots is excited to announce the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Kids' Christmas Party presented by Theisen's Home • Farm • Auto, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, and Paramount Ambulance, and hosted by the Dubuque Police Department and the Dubuque Fire Department.

Taking place on Sunday, Dec. 15, from noon to 3 p.m., the Five Flags Arena will transform into a yuletide display of controlled chaos, as hundreds (and hundreds) of Tri-State youngsters converge for the biggest party around. And the best part is, it's all totally FREE!

This event will be 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. This is not a charity event. It's for all kids in the Dubuque area, and it just happens to be free.

The three-hour party will have fun holiday music, and giant inflatable rides will return as will the Paramount Ambulance for kids to check out in person. Kids can also climb aboard a real fire truck and see how Dubuque heroes do their jobs when they get to talk with real

firefighters. A real race car will also be there for the little ones to discover.

Especially exciting is the Theisen's free toy giveaway to every child with other surprise goodies giveaways as well. There is plenty for everyone, so there's no need to line up early or wait in a long line when you get there, we promise. You can go have fun and get your gifts later at the event. We won't run out!

Note that this is not part of the annual Toys for Tots toy distribution program. This is a bonus event. So, if you need toy assistance, you can still get that separately through Toys for Tots at [DubuqueToys.org](http://DubuqueToys.org).

This year, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque once again joins Theisen's with the fun, educational giveaways from games to books.

And don't forget the photos! Get your photo taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus and download the pictures for free, courtesy of [DigitalDubuque.com](http://DigitalDubuque.com). This year, Elsa, Anna, and Olaf will return in front of a wintery palace backdrop. And Darth Vader is back again roaming around the arena this time. All photos will be available for free to download online. You can also get your face painted and take home a balloon animal.

Plus, free cookies, popcorn, milk, and punch, thanks to the generosity of *365ink Magazine*, Diamond Jo Casino, Fareway Stores, Prairie Farms Dairy, [DigitalDubuque.com](http://DigitalDubuque.com), Meyer Photography, Five Flags Center, Dollar Tree, the Dubuque Police Department, the Dubuque Fire Department, and Radio Dubuque.

Put it all together, and you've got a kid party to beat all kid parties... and it's Christmas! ■

MATHIAS HAM HISTORIC SITE

## Home for the Holidays

### December 14 & 15

Join our costumed interpreters for special holiday tours, winter-themed crafts, and cookie decorating.

Evening candlelight tours and an afternoon tea are available as well.

[rivermuseum.org/events](http://rivermuseum.org/events)

## Together, We Make This House a Home.

### 87% of our funding comes from you.

At RMHC-EIWI, we do more than provide a place to stay. We offer a supportive, comforting environment where families can focus on what truly matters—helping their child heal. With your support, we can ensure that every family finds warmth, support, and togetherness when they need it most.

**Make a difference today.**

**Ronald McDonald House Charities<sup>®</sup>**  
Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois

Visit [rmhc-eiwi.org](http://rmhc-eiwi.org) to donate or learn more.

## OTHERSIDE LUNCH SPECIALS

### DECEMBER

- 5 Tacos
- 6 Open Face Beef
- 9 Soups and Sandwiches
- 10 Ham & Scalloped Potatoes
- 11 O.S. Chicken
- 12 Panzerotti
- 13 Beef Tips & Noodles
- 16 Soups and Sandwiches
- 17 Corned Beef & Cabbage
- 18 O.S. Chicken
- 19 Lasagna
- 20 Chicken of the Gods or Horseshoe
- 23 Soups and Sandwiches
- 24 CLOSED FOR X-MAS!
- 25 No lunch today
- 26 Patty Mely
- 27 Goulash

68 Sinsinawa Ave, East Dubuque • (815) 747-9049



DUBUQUE & EAST DUBUQUE

## THANKSGIVING MEAL DELIVERY

THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who made this 1st annual event a success!

## 2024 OS 2025

### THE OTHERSIDE IRISH & AMERICAN NEW YEARS EVE



Rick Tittle Band  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 4-8 PM

Irish New Year's @ 6 PM!



PRIME RIB & BREADED CHICKEN DINNER



1215 E. Platt St., Maquoketa, IA  
Box Office Hours: M-F, 9AM - 1PM  
Tickets: 563.652.9815  
Tickets also available online...

[www.ohnwardfineartscenter.com](http://www.ohnwardfineartscenter.com)

# JESSE ARON

Award Winning Tribute To

## ELVIS PRESLEY ROY ORBISON

TUESDAY DEC. 31 7 PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Award Winning World Champion Tribute Artist Jesse Aron will take you on a magical tribute through time with some of the most legendary voices in Rock & Roll History.. Enjoy music from Elvis, Ricky Nelson, Sam Cooke, Dion & The Belmonets, Bobby Darin, Roy Orbison & More. Relive the magic and the music of the founding fathers of Rock & Roll... Hear music from Elvis, Roy Orbison, Sam Cooke, Dion and the Belmonets, Conway Twitty, Frank Sinatra and much more! TIX: \$35 Adv. / \$38 Door





## HOLIDAY GIFT PASSES Available

A Great Holiday Gift Idea!

Easy to use, save money and the NEVER expire!

FOUR PASSES to any of our future productions for just \$90!



## LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

- THU 12/5

SNOWBIZ  
1:30 & 7:30 PM @ Hotel Julien Dubuque

Megan Davis  
7 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Corey Jenny  
7:30 PM @ Grape Escape (Galena, IL)

FRI 12/6

Lexi Healey  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Blues on the River: Jamie Kelley  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery Star Event Room

RJ Fisher  
6 PM @ Millennium Marina (East DBQ, IL)

Ben Dunegan  
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Stone Wolf Trio  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Kurt & Steve  
7 PM @ Galena Eagles Club (Galena, IL)

Christmas at Heritage Center:  
Glory to the Newborn King  
7:30 PM @ Heritage Center

Big Cat Eddie  
8 PM @ First Reserve

iPop  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Hearthfire Duo  
8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Garrett Hillary  
8:30 PM @ Grape Escape (Galena, IL)

Dead Dead Swans,  
Sophie Coyote  
9 PM @ The Lift

SAT 12/7

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra:  
Holiday Family  
1 PM @ Five Flags Theater

Travis Busch  
1 PM @ PJ's Pub (Kieler, WI)

Big Night Out  
2 PM @ Burkey's Bar

Tree Lighting Ceremony: Senior High School Madrigal Singers  
2 PM @ Carnegie-Stout Public Library

Danny Parker Project  
2 PM @ Grape Escape (Galena, IL)

The Mixed Emotions Band  
3 PM @ Sundown Mountain Resort

David Czech  
5 PM @ Galena Cellars Downtown (Galena, IL)

Elizabeth Mary  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Rock Steady  
7 PM @ Knicker's Saloon

First Fridays: Denny, Addy & Friends  
7 PM @ Smokestack

Mississippi Band  
7 PM @ Southend Tap

The Broken Rubber Band  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Rebel Wells  
7 PM @ Galena Brewing Co (Galena, IL)

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra:  
Holiday  
7:30 PM @ Five Flags Theater

River Glen & Band, Bella Moss, Wxllley  
7:30 PM @ The Goose

Christmas Concert:  
Ken Kilian's Swingtet  
7:30 PM @ Galena Bible Church (Galena, IL)

Crystal Gayle  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Wedding Banned  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Tiger Kings  
8 PM @ Asbury Eagles Club (Asbury, IA)

Karaoke w/ Becky McMahon  
8 PM @ R Place (East DBQ, IL)

Hearthfire Duo  
8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Lojo Russo  
8:30 PM @ Grape Escape (Galena, IL)

Box 10, Firewood Revival  
9 PM @ The Lift

SUN 12/8

Simple Company  
1 PM @ Beer in the Barn Brewery (St. Donatus, IA)

Jimmy Welty Band  
1 PM @ O So Good Winery (Dyersville, IA)

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra:  
Holiday  
2 PM @ Five Flags Theater

Ring of Kerry  
2 PM @ Turner Hall (Galena, IL)

Tony Walker  
3 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery



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Andrew Huber  
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Joie Wails  
7:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
(Galena, IL)

**WED 12/11**

Dan & Cindy  
5 PM @ Jubeck New  
World Brewing

Driftless Ramblers Duo  
8 PM @ First Reserve

**THU 12/12**

The Wayback Machine  
Dance Party  
7 PM @ The Goose

Ugly Christmas Sweater Trivia  
Fundraiser for St. Jude's  
7 PM @ The Lift

Joseph John Valenti  
7 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

The Guthries  
7 PM @ Grape Escape  
(Galena, IL)

**FRI 12/13**

Sam Day  
5 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
(Peosta, IA)

MiniMonster  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Joie Wails  
6 PM @ River Ridge Brewing  
(Bellevue, IA)

Home Alone Movie Trivia  
7 PM @ DBQ Co Fairgrounds

Steve & Randy  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Trivia  
7 PM @ Beer in the Barn  
Brewery (St. Donatus, IA)

Karaoke  
7 PM @ Galena Brewing Co  
(Galena, IL)

Trivia  
7 PM @ Galena Eagles Club  
(Galena, IL)

Karaoke w/ Becky McMahon  
7 PM @ The Burg  
(Shullsburg, WI)

Layne Yost's John Denver  
Christmas  
7:30 PM @ Heritage Center

Dark Side of the Yule  
7:30 PM @ Turner Hall  
(Galena, IL)

Ethan "Thick Daddy" Abramson  
8 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Kurt & Steve  
8 PM @ First Reserve

Rock Steady  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Electric Shock & Sins N' Roses  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

James Herr  
8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Tony Walker  
8:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
(Galena, IL)

Youngsta  
9 PM @ The Goose

God Bullies, Acoustic Guillotine,  
Whippets  
9 PM @ The Lift

Liquified Decomposition,  
Tu'mera, If I Could Just Get  
Some Sleep, Origin Gone  
9 PM @ Smokestack

**SAT 12/14**

Make Merry: Lou Oswald, the  
Caraway-Eby Caroling Quartet,  
Northeast Iowa School of Music,  
Pennyroyal, The DZ Combo  
11 AM @ Mission Thrift Store 2

Kristina Marie Castañeda  
1 PM @ PJ's Pub (Kieler, WI)

Danny Parker Project  
2 PM @ Grape Escape  
(Galena, IL)

Joseph John Valenti  
5 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Dubuque Senior Madrigal  
Christmas Dinner  
5 PM @ DBQ Senior High School

Keith Scott  
5 PM @ Galena Cellars  
Downtown (Galena, IL)

Jef Spradley  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

The Resistors  
7 PM @ Southend Tap

Big Night Out  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Sophie Coyote  
7 PM @ Galena Brewing Co  
(Galena, IL)

Tay Tay Dance Party  
w/ DJ Swiftie  
7:30 PM @ Five Flags Theater

Theresa Cook  
8 PM @ First Reserve

Hairball  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Fool House  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Shannon Woulfe  
8 PM @ Asbury Eagles Club  
(Asbury, IA)

Karaoke w/ Becky McMahon  
8 PM @ Locals Bar (Epworth, IA)

James Herr  
8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Alpha Romeos  
8:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
(Galena, IL)

ARP of the Covenant  
9 PM @ The Lift

Merry Christmahanukah  
Drag Show  
10 PM @ Eliza's Lounge  
(Mineral Point, WI)

**SUN 12/15**

Scott Waterhouse  
2 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Logan Wheat  
2 PM @ Beer in the Barn  
Brewery (St. Donatus, IA)

Dubuque Senior Madrigal Tea  
with the King and Queen  
2:30 PM @ DBQ Senior  
High School

Jacque Miller  
3 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Heartland Marimba Orchestra  
Holiday Show  
4 PM @ Steeple SquareZ

Scott Waterhouse  
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Kristina Marie Castañeda &  
Shawn Healy  
7 PM @ Grape Escape  
(Galena, IL)

**MON 12/16**

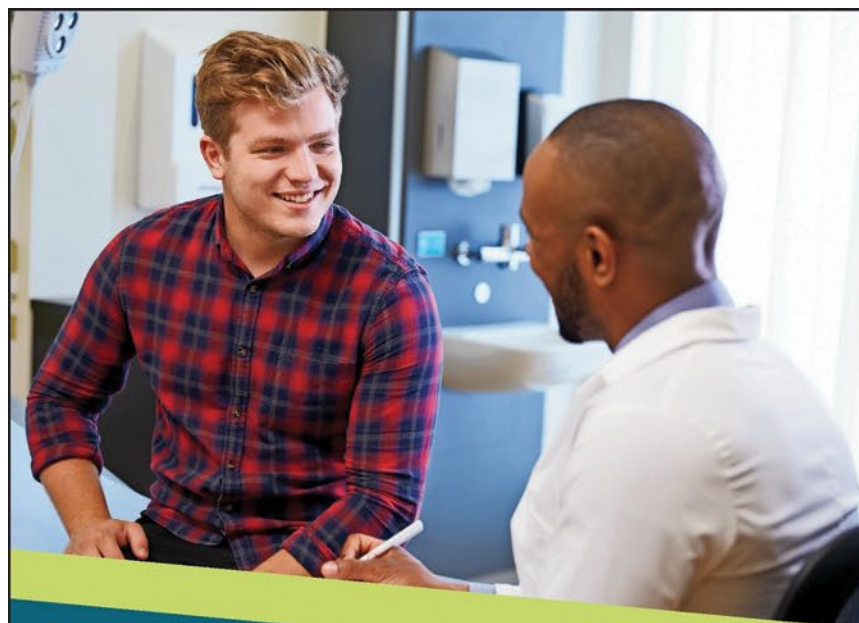
Hot Cocoa Holiday Social:  
Americana Band  
1:30 PM @ Trustwell Living

**TUE 12/17**

Home Free  
7 PM @ Five Flags Arena

**WED 12/18**

Pennyroyal  
5 PM @ Jubeck New  
World Brewing



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**WED 12/18**

Stone Wolfe Duo  
 8 PM @ First Reserve

**THU 12/19**

Gypsy  
 5 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Tallgrass Ensemble:  
 Music from the Movies  
 5:30 PM @ Voices Studios

Steve McIntyre  
 7 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
 Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Shekinah King  
 7:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

**FRI 12/20**

John Gay  
 Noon @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Joie Wails  
 4 PM @ Sundown  
 Mountain Resort

Holiday Sing Along  
 w/ the Jubeck Family Band  
 6 PM @ Jubeck New  
 World Brewing

Three Quarter Buzz  
 6 PM @ Southend Tap

Steve & Randy  
 6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Boys of Lloyd  
 6 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
 (Peosta, IA)

Karaoke  
 6 PM @ Beer in the Barn  
 Brewery (St. Donatus, IA)

The Resistors  
 7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Rock Steady  
 7 PM @ The Hilltop at  
 Menominee (Menominee, IL)

MiniMonster  
 8 PM @ First Reserve

Tyler Richton and The High  
 Bank Boys  
 8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Sushi Roll  
 8 PM @ Q Showroom

Ian Gould  
 8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
 Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Jordan Danielsen  
 8:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

Swampland Jewels  
 9 PM @ The Lift

**SAT 12/21**

Logan Bollant  
 1 PM @ PJ's Pub (Kieler, WI)

Danny Parker Project  
 2 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

The Alumatics  
 5 PM @ Galena Cellars  
 Downtown (Galena, IL)

John Gay  
 5:30 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
 (Peosta, IA)

Secrets  
 6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Rock Steady  
 7 PM @ Southend Tap

Darin & Amber  
 7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

River Moonshine  
 7 PM @ Off Shore Resort  
 (Bellevue, IA)

Cal Coohy  
 8 PM @ First Reserve

Rhino  
 8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Hillbilly Rockstarz  
 8 PM @ Q Showroom

Ian Gould  
 8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
 Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Holiday Sizzle w/ DJ FINN  
 8:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

Dickmas  
 9 PM @ The Lift

Cirque du Buque  
 10 PM @ Smokestack

**SUN 12/22**

Jordan Danielsen  
 3 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Sam Day  
 3 PM @ Textile Brewing Co  
 (Dyersville, IA)

Megan Davis  
 6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
 Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Holiday Drag Bingo  
 6 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

**TUE 12/24**

CnT Karaoke  
 8 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

**THU 12/26**

Marques Morel  
 7 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
 Irish Pub (Galena, IL)

Corey Jenny  
 7:30 PM @ Grape Escape  
 (Galena, IL)

**FRI 12/27**

Jimmy Welty Band  
 1 PM @ Twisted Vines  
 (Potosi, WI)

Joseph John Valenti  
 6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

BJ McAndrew  
 6 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
 (Peosta, IA)

Joie Wails  
 6 PM @ Woodbine Bend  
 (Stockton, IL)

Rodney Carrington  
 7 & 9:30 PM @  
 Mississippi Moon Bar

Barefoot & Sunshine  
 8 PM @ First Reserve

Elizabeth Mary Band  
 8 PM @ Q Showroom

Tiger Kings  
 8 PM @ Southend Tap

Andreas Tranzo  
 8 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
 Irish Pub (Galena, IL)



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# MISSISSIPPI MOON BAR

## Upcoming Entertainment



### Hairball

DECEMBER 14 @ 8 PM

Hairball is more than just a band, and certainly more than a tribute band! The lights, sound, smoke, fire, bombs, and screaming hoards of avid fans create a mind-blowing and drop-dead accurate homage to some of the biggest arena acts in the world. Van Halen, KISS, Motley Crue, Queen, Journey, and Aerosmith are but a few of the acts fans will see brought to life.



### Crystal Gayle

DECEMBER 7 @ 8 PM

Grammy-winning songstress Crystal Gayle is a beloved country music icon whose reign in the music business includes 22 No. 1 country hits, three Academy of Country Music Awards, and four American Music Awards. She received a Grammy for "Best Female Vocal Performance" thanks to her smash hit, "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue."



### Tyler Richton and The High Bank Boys

DECEMBER 20 @ 8 PM

Tyler Richton and The High Bank Boys bring a neo-traditional sound with high energy and real music. With more than 50 years of experience combined, they draw influence from artists like Merle Haggard, Charlie Daniels, and Hank Williams Jr.

### Additional Entertainment

**ROCK STEADY**  
DECEMBER 13 @ 8 PM

**RHINO**  
DECEMBER 21 @ 8 PM

**RODNEY CARRINGTON**  
DECEMBER 27 @ 7 & 9:30 PM

**DUELING PIANOS**  
DECEMBER 31 @ 8 PM

**DUBUQUE SYMPOHNY  
ORCHESTRA ULTIMATE  
ROCK HITS**  
JANUARY 17 & 18 @ 8 PM

**GAELIC STORM**  
MARCH 1 @ 8 PM

**CASEY DONAHEW**  
MARCH 29 @ 8 PM

**DIAMOND JO**   
C A S I N O

Diamond Jo Casino's Mississippi Moon Bar is located at 301 Bell St. in the Port of Dubuque. All shows are 21+. For tickets and more information about the upcoming entertainment, call Diamond Jo Casino at 563-690-4800 or visit [DiamondJoDubuque.com](http://DiamondJoDubuque.com).

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## Ongoing & Recurring Nightlife

### SUNDAY

Disco Brunch w/ DJ SaladSpinner  
9 AM @ Convivium Urban Farmstead  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sun

Open Mic w/ Scott Rische  
1 PM @ Grape Escape (Galena, IL)

Gladdy Ressler, Jamie Jones, Special Guests  
1 PM @ Council Hill Station (Council Hill, IL)

Open Mic & Sketch Group w/ Addison Aronson  
4 PM @ Smokestack  
1<sup>st</sup> Sun

### MONDAY

Taproom Trivia w/ Bob's Trivia  
6:30 PM @ The Corner Taproom (Cascade, IA)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mon

Trivia w/ Bob's Trivia  
6:30 PM @ Textile Brewing Co (Dyersville, IA)  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon

Comedy Under Monk's Open Mic  
8 PM @ Monk's Kaffee Pub

### TUESDAY

Trivia w/ Think & Drink  
7 PM @ Dog House Lounge  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues

Trivia w/ Triviawithbrett  
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge  
No event on 12/31

Analog Listening Room  
7 PM @ Smokestack

Trivia w/ Think & Drink  
7 PM @ Southend Tap  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Tues

Leo-oke: Live Piano Karaoke  
7 PM @ Wicked Dame

Trivia w/ Bob's Trivia  
7:30 PM @ Backpacket DBQ

### WEDNESDAY

Trivia w/ Triviawithbrett  
6 PM @ Hy-Vee Locust

Blues Jam  
w/ The Mighty Mudcats  
6 PM @ Smokestack  
2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Wed

Trivia For Dorks  
7 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Open Mic  
7 PM @ Gary Dolphin's Iron Bar

Speedquizzing Trivia  
w/ GQ Entertainment  
7 PM @ Lina's Lounge

Jazz Night Open Mic  
w/ DZ Combo  
7 PM @ Smokestack  
1<sup>st</sup> Wed

The Mixologist DJ AA  
7 PM @ Southend Tap

Karaoke  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed

Karaoke w/ Becky McMahon  
8:30 PM @ Denny's Lux Club

### THURSDAY

Bingo  
6 PM @ Gary Dolphin's Iron Bar

Trivia w/ Triviawithbrett  
6:30 PM @ Hy-Vee Dodge

Trivia w/ Bob's Trivia  
6:30 PM @ Round Two (Peosta, IA)

Rock Star Bingo  
7 PM @ 7 Hills Brewing Co

Dolph's Vinyl Night w/ Jeff Danna  
7 PM @ Gary Dolphin's Iron Bar

Karaoke w/ Dante Steele Entertainment  
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Music Bingo  
7 PM @ Southend Tap  
Through 12/26

XTREME Bar Bingo  
7 PM @ Galena Eagles Club (Galena, IL)  
Through 12/26

Karaoke w/ GQ Entertainment  
7 PM @ The Market at the Tap (Monticello, IA)

Music Bingo w/ Think & Drink  
8 PM @ Barrel House

Open Mic w/ Chad Olson Jr.  
8 PM @ Smokestack

Karaoke  
9 PM @ Southend Tap

### FRIDAY

Karaoke w/ Denise  
7 PM @ Northside Bar

Trivia Night  
6 PM @ Maquoketa Brewing (Maquoketa, IA)  
1<sup>st</sup> Fri

Open Mic Karaoke  
8:30 PM @ The Big House (Petersburg, IA)

Karaoke w/ Dante Steele Entertainment  
10 PM @ Baraboo's on Main

### SATURDAY

Gladdy Ressler, Jamie Jones, Special Guests  
1 PM @ Council Hill Station (Council Hill, IL)

Karaoke  
7 PM @ Galena Eagles Club (Galena, IL)  
Through 12/28

Open Mic Karaoke  
8:30 PM @ The Big House (Petersburg, IA)

Latin Night w/ DJ Papi  
9 PM @ Smokestack  
Last Sat

Karaoke & Live Music  
w/ Johnny C  
9 PM @ Swiss Inn (East DBQ, IL)  
Last Sat

Karaoke w/ Dante Steele Entertainment  
10 PM @ Baraboo's on Main

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## LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT FEATURES

**FRI 12/6**



**Blues on the River: Jamie Kelley**

6 PM @ STONE CLIFF WINERY  
(600 STAR BREWERY DR)

TICKETS: FREE

Award-winning singer-songwriter Jamie Kelley won “Best Rockabilly Song of 2006” at the JPF Independent Music Awards and the song’s album, *The Sun Also Rises*, was a top finisher for “Best Rockabilly Album of 2006.” In 2021 when the final novel in the *Fifty Shades of Grey* series was released, author E. L. James personally requested a new song from Jamie. “I’m Freed” became the exclusive kick-off song for her public release party. [facebook.com/stonecliffwinery](https://www.facebook.com/stonecliffwinery).



**Kurt & Steve**

7 PM @ GALENA EAGLES CLUB  
(237 S MAIN ST, GALENA, IL)

COVER: FREE

Kurt and Steve have been performing together since 2019. The combination of Kurt Stutzke as lead guitarist, Steve Sieverding on rhythm guitar, and their distinct vocals and harmonies will have you enjoying their blend of '60s, '70s, and '80s country, classic rock, and even some rhythm and blues that you don't hear from other entertainers.

**SAT 12/7**



**River Glen & Band, Bella Moss, Wxlley**

7:30 PM @ THE GOOSE (920 MAIN ST)  
TICKETS: \$15

Come get some nourishing folk-pop/folk-rock as River Glen & His Band deliver their final Dubuque performance of 2024 with Bella Moss and Wxlley. This performance will be a live album recording in partnership with Darren Hushak of Pinnacle Sound. This means that attendees will be asked not to talk downstairs during the performance. Doors at 7 p.m. [facebook.com/RiverGlenMusic](https://www.facebook.com/RiverGlenMusic).

**SUN 12/8**



**Ring of Kerry—Celtic Holiday Concert**

2 PM @ TURNER HALL  
(115 S BENCH ST, GALENA, IL)

TICKETS: FREE

Based in Minnesota, Ring of Kerry melds Celtic and American influences with traditional music, using a variety of Celtic instruments including whistles, flutes, guitar, hammered dulcimer, fiddle, cello, bouzouki, and bodhran. The group will be joined onstage by members of McNulty Irish Dancers. Having recently commemorated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, McNulty School of Irish Dance has become one of the largest Irish Dance Schools in the Midwest, winning international competitions across borders, including Ireland and Montreal. This free Holiday concert carries on the spirit and tradition of the former Galena Festival for the Performing Arts. [galenacenterforthearts.com](https://www.galenacenterforthearts.com).

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FRI 12/6 • 9 PM • FREE DEAD DEAD SWANS, SOPHIE COYOTE

SAT 12/7 • 9 PM • FREE BOX 10, FIREWOOD REVIVAL

THU 12/12 • 7 PM • FREE UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER TRIVIA FUNDRAISER FOR ST. JUDE'S

FRI 12/13 • 9 PM • \$20 GOD BULLIES, ACOUSTIC GUILLOTINE, WHIPPETS

SAT 12/14 • 9 PM • FREE ARP OF THE COVENANT

FRI 12/20 • 9 PM • FREE SWAMPLAND JEWELS

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DAILY • \$2 WHISKEY MIXERS + \$3 HAPPY MEALS (PBR/OLD CROW)  
WED • \$5 CALL LIQUOR  
THU • \$3 DOMESTIC BOTTLES  
FRI & SAT (5-7 PM) • \$2 OFF TAP BEERS  
SUN • \$2 OFF JAMESON + GUINNESS

PUZZLE ANSWERS

PUZZLES ON PAGE 36  
GENERAL BOB IS AT THE GENERAL'S RESTAURANT AT DESOTO HOUSE HOTEL

4	3	8	7	2	9	6	5	1
5	7	2	6	1	8	3	4	9
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FRI 12/13



John Denver Christmas

7:30 PM @ HERITAGE CENTER JOHN AND ALICE BUTLER HALL (2255 BENNETT ST)  
TICKETS: \$20-\$30  
The music of John Denver is timeless and well known. Layne Yost's John Denver Christmas is a faithful tribute that pays homage to the music and the man. Yost, Carol McDowall, and Jon Shimoda capture the simple soul of Denver's music through guitar, fiddle, and upright bass arrangements. Woven within the music are stories that give insight into Denver's life and legacy. Presented by the Dubuque Arts Council. [www.DBQ.edu/heritagecenter](http://www.DBQ.edu/heritagecenter).



Classical Blast

7:30 PM @ TURNER HALL  
(115 S BENCH ST, GALENA, IL)  
TICKETS: \$35 ADULTS; \$10 TEENS; FREE AGES UNDER 13  
Christmas meets classic rock in Classical Blast's "Dark Side of the Yule" holiday show. This outstanding regional touring band from Chicago brings their holiday show to Turner Hall for the eighth year during Galena's Night of the Luminaria weekend. Music by Metallica, Pink Floyd, Simon & Garfunkel, Joni Mitchell, Evanescence, and more, all melded with popular holiday music from medieval to current. Doors at 6:30 p.m. [ClassicalBlast.com](http://ClassicalBlast.com).



God Bullies, Acoustic Guillotine, Whippets

9 PM @ THE LIFT (180 MAIN ST, LOWER LEVEL)  
COVER: \$20  
Back from the dead, God Bullies' road to salvation brings them to The Lift. The

God Bullies have had many lineups over the years, but there's been one common denominator: vocalist Mike Hard. The Detroit-based, noise-rock kings are promoting their latest release, *As Above So Below*. Acoustic Guillotine and Whippets join the evening's lineup. Doors at 8 p.m. [facebook.com/theliftDubuque](https://facebook.com/theliftDubuque).

SUN 12/15

Heartland Marimba Orchestra Holiday Show

4 PM @ STEEPLE SQUARE (101 E 15<sup>TH</sup> ST)  
TICKETS: FREE  
The Heartland Marimba Orchestra is made up of students, amateurs, and professionals. The program includes "A Christmas Overture" by Alex Orfaly, "Chaconne in D Minor" by J.S. Bach / arranged for HMQ by David Harvey, "Yule Flip" by Daniel Levitan, "Ceiling Full of Stars" by Blake Tyson, "Preludes and Fugues Nos. 1-4" by D. Shostakovich/arr. M. Coley, and other holiday selections. [heartlandmarimba.com](http://heartlandmarimba.com).

THU 12/19



Tallgrass Ensemble

5:30 PM @ VOICES STUDIOS  
(1585 CENTRAL AVE)  
TICKETS: \$40  
The critically acclaimed Tallgrass/Juliani Ensemble will perform an array of captivating scores. The superb artistry of these international musicians has gained them broad recognition, including performing in many of the world's most celebrated concert halls. The program includes music from *Knives Out*, *Cinema Paradiso*, *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters*, *Platoon*, *The Royal Tenenbaums*, *The Civil War*, *The Silence of the Lambs*, *Schindler's List*, and *Pulp Fiction*. Cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m., gallery talk with Tim Olson at 6:30 p.m., Tallgrass concert at 7:30 p.m., and post-concert social time to mingle with the musicians at 8:30 p.m. There will be a cash bar and heavy appetizers provided. Seating is limited. [VoicesStudios.org](http://VoicesStudios.org).



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7.19.25  
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12.7.24 - 12.8.24  
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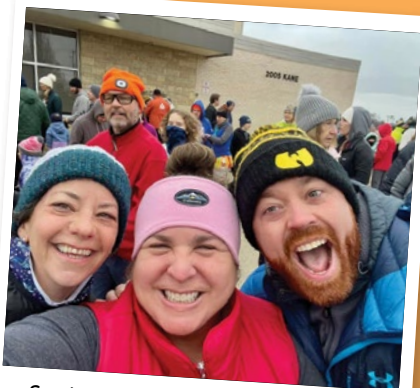
Special Spaces Dubuque gave young Everett, who's battling health issues, an incredible John Deere themed bedroom makeover which included an unforgettable red-carpet visit to John Deere Dubuque Works.



Volunteers prep hundreds of Thanksgiving meals for the free East Dubuque community gathering as well as home delivered meals all across Dubuque and East Dubuque, all from the The Otherside Bar in East Dubuque kitchen, Wow!



Likewise, scores of volunteers prepare free Thanksgiving meals at U.D. for Dubuque's free community dinners as well as delivery to 1200 area seniors at care centers. Just amazing!



Sandy Gonzales is flanked by friends Annie and John Bulfin as they participate in the annual Thanksgiving tradition, the Turkey Trot 5k Race in support of Wahlert Catholic High School.



Joie and Matt Booth mug for the camera along with Santa and Mrs. Claus during a very cold edition of Christmas on the Square, where Santa came down the Fenelon Place Elevator to greet families and take pix. Plus music, food and so much more!



The student production, Comedy of All Errors, had a great run at Dyersville Beckman High School in West Dubuque. Photo by Doug Mackie, who also happens to have written the play!



Yung Gravy brought his blend of trap music with vintage themes and humorous re-imaginings of well known songs to Five Flags arena with a slate of great local hip hop talent supporting. Photo by Brooke Wulfekuhle



Porch Pot design workshops took place simultaneously at JFK and Peosta locations of Steve's Ace Home & Garden and they turned out gorgeous! Follow them on Facebook to see more of their upcoming events.



Here's your chance to feel like a kid again as Q Casino + Resort's all new, all ages arcade and event space, Island Social opened to the public at the end of November. Check it out!



Kathy Kahle, Julie Steffen and Craig the Adventure Cat take a walking tour on opening night of Reflections in the Park at Murphy Park.



It's all fun and games.. and wine, as celebrators gather in Galena, Illinois for the 40th Anniversary of the Galena Cellars Nouveau Wine Festival Parade down Main Street. Photo by Pam Ehrler.

Submit your photo by using

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Blizzard of the Month

**Peppermint Hot Cocoa**

BLIZZARD TREAT

**DQ**

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# 231 Coffee Bar

By Danny Fairchild

Look, friends, I have to level with you. I'm writing this on the Friday after Thanksgiving, having stuffed myself silly with Thanksgiving lasagna. Even though the last thing I want to do is write about food, there's things I had during my trip to 231 Coffee Bar that are poking me in the back of my head, saying, "Aw, who are you kidding, Fairchild? If I were in front of you right now, you'd stuff me in your stupid, fat face, wouldn't you?" Since we ate at 231 on Tuesday, there are some things I can't get out of my head. There were times when even though I was eating and enjoying Thanksgiving dinner, I was THINKING about 231 Coffee Bar. That may sound like sacrilege. That might even sound like being unfaithful. I call it being thankful.

I'm THANKFUL for 231 Coffee Bar.

I'm thankful that the first time I went to 231 Coffee Bar, it was during a day-drinking adventure with a large group of friends. And, I gotta say, 231 is the perfect place to put in your crawl list. People in your group need caffeine? 231! People in your group in need of hydration? 231! People in your group in need of libation? 231! People in your group in need of satiation? 231!

On that first trip, I counted myself in need of caffeine. After all, I'm 45 years old. What the hell am I doing on a bar crawl, anyway? And so I ordered a coffee. Iced hazelnut latte is my go-to when I don't want to think about it. And let me tells ya, I'm a bit of a Goldilocks when it comes to flavored coffee. Too little syrup and I'm just left to ask, "What the hell, friend?" Too much syrup and I'm left to ask, "Did you forget the coffee, friend?" I have a sweet tooth that will probably be my cause of death, but if you don't want to taste coffee, why are you ordering coffee? But whatever. You do you.

231 Coffee Bar hits the target for me. A Baby Bear pour of syrup. Just right. So! For you Mama and Papa Bears who like to order their espresso drinks light or heavy on the syrup, I think 231 Coffee Bar is properly calibrated to serve you what you want.

And don't forget that 231 Coffee Bar is a BAR! They got your classic shots like the Cherry Bomb or the Salted Nut Roll. They've got your big-name beers in bottles with delightful craft beers on tap. They've got at least four different specialty Long Islands. They've got your frou-frou cocktails like an apple pie martini or the PB & J martini. Look folks, what I'm saying is it's a full bar. Anything's possible. And... I guess what I'm also saying is that if you want to put a shot

of another kind in your espresso drink, well... like I said, anything's possible.

Ultimately, though, I'm just saying that 231 Coffee Bar is just a helluva place to drink. Pretty chill atmosphere, too. KIND of hipster, but not DIRECTLY hipster, know what I mean? I don't know you, but I think you'd feel comfortable there.

I'm going to go ahead and talk about the bathrooms now because it's just the natural progression after talking about drinking. All clear on that front, friends. 231 is the place to be AND the place to pee. I'd feel comfortable doing a two-sie in the men's room. How many bars can you soberly say that about?

If slots are your thing, 231 does you happy there, too. Full disclosure: In my bill-paying life, I'm an advertising copywriter for a casino company, so I'm going to avoid any conflict of interest by doing my journalistic duty of telling you that 231 Coffee Bar has slots. This is a dining column anyway, right?

Oh yeah! Dining! I haven't talked about the food yet! Let's do that now.

As 231 Coffee Bar IS a bar, they got your bar food well covered.

Let's talk about their flatbreads, otherwise known as pizza shaped in a rectangle. We got the Carnivore flatbread. The one with all the usual pizza meat suspects. Pretty darn good. At one point I fumbled my slice and I lost all my toppings. Luckily, they landed on my plate, and even MORE luckily, the toppings stayed perfectly together. I just flopped the whole yummy mess back onto the flatbread and got back to business. I like the way 231 Coffee Bar cuts their flatbreads, too. They cut like a zig-zag of slants across the flatbread so that even though it's called flatbread, you still get pie-shaped slices.

As far as bar food goes, 231 Coffee Bar even throws together a garbage basket with... well... everything you want in an appetizer garbage basket. Chicken strips, fries, mini tacos, jalapeño poppers, onion rings, and cheese curds. I don't need to get too descriptive here because you know what a garbage basket is. 231 Coffee Bar's garbage basket is comfortingly familiar. It's almost exactly like the one you're picturing in your head right now. There's no surprises here, just deliciousness.

No, the surprises join the bar crawl in other dishes.

The street tacos! Now... "street taco" is a term that gets applied pretty much any kind of taco you can think of. And that's fine. A street taco is more of a vibe than a template. And when it comes to food,



CARNIVORE FLATBREAD



GARBAGE BASKET



STREET TACOS



THE GODFATHER

there's no such thing as "authentic." No, not even for street tacos. Because unlike the garbage basket, the street tacos at 231 Coffee Bar are almost certainly NOT what you're picturing in your head. But the deviations aren't arbitrary. This is a well-thought-out taco. So glaringly, these street tacos are on flour tortillas, instead of corn. Some of you are probably disqualifying them as street tacos based on that alone. Whatever. It's the right tortilla for the garlic chicken, the pico de gallo, and the garlic parmesan spicy ranch dressing. I know. If the flour tortilla didn't make you question the street cred of these tacos, surely the garlic parmesan spicy ranch dressing definitely has you raising your hand. But like I said, street tacos are a vibe, not a template. And I vibe like Hitachi with these tacos.

The biggest surprise, however, was The Godfather sandwich. You can probably guess a lot of the components just by the name alone, but here they are: Pepperoni, salami, ham, green olive, lettuce, tomato, mayo, mozzarella, and Italian dressing on sourdough bread. And look at the picture over there. It looks so assuming. You wouldn't think all that flavor could possible be in that thing, right? Surprise! It's alllll there, my friends. And when I say "ham," I don't mean something slightly resembling ham cut thin enough to keep you from questioning its veracity. No, this is a thick slice of ham. This is like... holiday-ham leftover ham. It's thick enough you could almost call it a ham steak. Almost. I really should have listed ham because it's the foundation of this sandwich. Delicious. It's the sandwich I was thinking about even while enjoying Thanksgiving dinner. It's what I'm ordering next time I'm there.

Get yourself to 231 Coffee Bar. It's just a cool hang with good food and drinks. ■



**231 Coffee Bar**  
 231 SINSINAWA AVE, EAST DUBUQUE, IL  
 815-554-6194  
 231COFFEEBAR.COM  
**Hours:** Tue–Thu & Sun: 9 AM–10 PM;  
 Fri–Sat: 9 AM–2 AM; Mon: Closed

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[dubcolib.org/calendar](http://dubcolib.org/calendar)



**Dubuque County Library District**

**Euchre**

You're not a Dubuquer if you can't play Euchre! Discover the fun and strategy of this classic Midwestern card game. Join us to learn the rules, tricks, and tactics of Euchre, perfect for players of all skill levels.



**Asbury: Friday, December 6, 4:30 PM**

**Candy Houses**

Come make a candy house! We'll provide graham crackers, icing, and all sorts of candy decorations, and YOU provide the imagination. For all ages.



**Farley: Friday, December 6, 4:30 PM**  
**Asbury: Thursday, December 12, 4:30 PM**  
**Epworth: Tuesday, December 17, 4:30 PM**



**Trivia Night**

It's a Holly Jolly Brain-Teasing Library Trivia Night! Test your knowledge of Holiday trivia and enjoy hot cocoa while competing for prizes!

**Pajama Party**

Let's get cozy! Put on your favorite pajamas, bring a stuffie, and come to the library for winter stories and fun! For children 0-12 and their families.



**Asbury: Thursday, December 5, 5:30 PM**  
**Holy Cross: Monday, December 9, 5:30 PM**  
**Epworth: Tuesday, December 10, 5:30 PM**  
**Peosta: Wednesday, December 11, 5:30 PM**

**Craft Club: Mini Hat Baubles**

Join us for this monthly crafting program. In December we're making mini hat baubles. Designed for adults, teens welcome. RSVP recommended, drop-ins welcome as supplies last.



**Asbury: Monday, December 9, 6 PM**  
**Peosta: Tuesday, December 10, 6 PM**  
**Virtual: Saturday, December 14, 11AM**  
 \*RSVP Required  
**Holy Cross: Monday, December 16, 6 PM**

**Chess Club**

Welcome to the timeless game of chess! Join us for engaging lessons where beginners and seasoned players alike can sharpen their skills and learn winning tactics and strategies.



**Gift Wrapping @ the Library**

You bring the gifts, we supply the wrapping paper! Get all of your holiday gift wrapping done



at the Library FOR FREE. Just stop by during one of our free sessions with your gifts, and the library will provide wrapping paper, bows, tape, scissors and gift tags all donated by our Friends group. Sponsored by the Friends of the Dubuque County Library District.

**Early Out Play**

Drop-in between 2:30-4:00 for early out fun! Lego, games, crafts & more for the kids!



**Five Convenient County Library Locations...**

- Asbury 5290 Grand Meadow Dr., 563-582-0008
- Farley Municipal Building, 206 1st St N., 563-744-3475
- Epworth - 110 Bierman Road S.E., 563-876-3388
- Holy Cross - 895 Main Street, 563-870-2082
- Peosta (in NICC) - 8342 NICC Dr., 563-556-5110 ext. 224

**30th Annual** November 28 thru January 5  
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 Louis Murphy Park  
 Dubuque

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**Coming Soon**

**Y2K (R)**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

In 1999, two high school juniors crash a New Years Eve party, only to find themselves fighting for their lives in this dial-up disaster comedy. Directed by SNL Alum Kyle Mooney.



**THE RETURN (R)**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

After 20 years away, Odysseus (Ralph Fiennes) the King returns from the Trojan War, but much has changed in his kingdom. His wife is a prisoner, hounded by suitors who also threaten his son as they vie to be king. Odysseus must rediscover his strength in order to win back all that he has lost.



**WEREWOLVES (R)**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

A supermoon event triggers a latent gene in every human, turning anyone who entered the moonlight into a werewolf for that one night. Chaos ensued, and close to a billion people died. Now, a year later, the supermoon is back.



**KRAVEN THE HUNTER (R)**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**

*Kraven the Hunter* is the action-packed story of how one of Marvel's most iconic villains came to be. Kraven's complex relationship with his ruthless gangster father starts him down a path of vengeance with brutal consequences, motivating him to become not only the greatest hunter in the world, but also one of its most feared.



**THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE WAR OF THE ROHIRRIM (PG-13)**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13**

Set 183 years before the events chronicled in the original trilogy of films, the animated film tells the fate of the House of Helm Hammerhand, the legendary King of Rohan, and a daring last stand in the ancient stronghold of the Hornburg.



**Movie Buzz**

*Slumdog Millionaire*, the Best Picture-winning movie that made \$378.4 million at the box office,



receives an unexpected sequel update 16 years later. According to *Deadline*, the film sequel and TV rights have been acquired by the newly launched production banner Bridge7 who release this statement, "Some stories stay with us long after the credits roll, and *Slumdog Millionaire* is undoubtedly one of them. Its narrative is universal, cutting across cultural and geographical lines and it embodies the kind of stories we love—ones that bridge entertainment with profound human experiences."

Ryan Reynolds writer Matt Lieberman (*Free Guy*, *The Christmas Chronicles*, and *Scoob!*) are reuniting



to adapt the iconic cartoon superhero Mighty Mouse into a feature film. Mighty Mouse, who first debuted in the 1942 short *The Mouse of Tomorrow*, is a pint-sized superhero who was initially a parody of Superman. According to *Variety*, Paramount Animation has tapped Reynold's production company, Maximum Effort, to join the project.

Christopher Nolan's next movie has been making noise by assembling another all-star cast ensemble that includes Charlize Theron, Matt Damon, Tom Holland, Zendaya, Anne Hathaway, Lupita Nyong'o, and Robert Pattinson. And beyond that, details are under wraps.



Now Amazon MGM Studios have announced that Idris Elba is currently in the final stages of negotiations to join the *Masters of the Universe* cast as Duncan, AKA Man at Arms, the character often depicted as the foster father of Teela,



who is set to be played by *Riverdale*'s Camila Mendes. Other previous casting announcements include Nicholas Galitzine as Prince Adam (He-Man) and Alison Brie as Evil-Lyn.



# The Serviceberry

By John McAndrew

Robin Wall Kimmerer, best selling author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*, has a new book. *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World* is a greatly expanded version of Kimmerer's essay published in *Emergence Magazine*, enhanced with illustrations by John Burgoyne. If, by the time you're a quarter of the way through this slim volume, you're not searching out *Amelanchier alnifolia* in garden catalogs, I'll eat my hat. The timing is perfect, arriving at the beginning of the gift-giving season. It shows life as a succession of moments in which we receive gifts with gratitude—and a desire to return the favors.

If you've read *Sweetgrass*, you know how grounded Kimmerer is. A botanist of Native American heritage (of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation), her writing is not academic or complicated. She avoids using hyperbole and fancy flourishes for effect. A teacher, her goal is to be clear and readily understood. Yet, I wrote seven pages of notes and ruminations on this 100-page essay because she's just that thought-provoking.

Kimmerer lives in the same world we do, but it looks very different through her eyes. Immersed as she is in natural systems and a mutually supportive community, she conveys an ease and confidence in a world that is peopled with hoarders and cutthroat competition. She shows us an alternative and speaks to its allure. It's up to us to decide if and when to use it. What is an economy *supposed to do*, anyway? Make billionaires, or meet needs and foster a sense of belonging?

I wondered, as I read, if we could replace our destructive extractive economy with a sustainable gift economy. Kimmerer anticipated this reaction—we sometimes can see only the shortcomings of what's familiar and the strengths of its alternatives—and had a wise response ready:

"The question that's often asked is how do we take gift economies from individual relationships and scale them up? I have to say that I'm not sure that's the right question. Why does everything have to

be expanded? It is the small scale and context that make the flow of gifts meaningful."

That takes the pressure off; we don't have to reinvent the entire economy. Most gift economies are small and local. She invites us to notice how the gift economy already exists within the larger economy and how else we might use it to good effect. For example, her neighbors have a farm, which is their livelihood. But sometimes, when they have a bumper crop, they invite the neighbors over to help themselves.

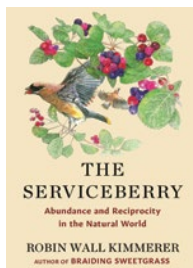
Man, if you want a contrast to the way things are, this is it. If you yearn for a more neighborly and generous, less cynical and reflexively defensive, society—take heart! The seeds of such a world are already among us, sustaining us. We only need to receive and reciprocate on a small scale.

It would be easy to dismiss these beautifully composed observations as pale nostrums up against the hard, harsh realities of the real world dominated by capitalist go-getters. But "the violets in the mountains have broken the rocks," as Tennessee Williams said. Whereas our international economy requires gigantic infrastructure to sustain it, the gift economy will always endure, somewhere, among friends and neighbors. It simply perseveres.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to go give my copy to a friend. And you need to look up serviceberry in your garden catalogs. Yes, they grow here. ■

## JOHN MCANDREW

JOHN MCANDREW IS A LIFELONG BIBLIOPHILE WHO LOVES DISCUSSING BOOKS AND IDEAS, WHETHER YOU AGREE WITH HIM OR NOT. SEND YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED TITLES TO REVIEW TO [BOOKS@DUBUQUE365.COM](mailto:BOOKS@DUBUQUE365.COM).



# HyVee®

## Kids Takeover in the Kitchen Holiday Edition

By Hy-Vee Nutritionist  
Megan Dalsing

The holiday season is the perfect time to create memories with family and friends. It's a time for gathering, sharing laughter, and enjoying special moments together. With so many holidays involving food, much of our time is spent in the kitchen. Whether you're baking cookies, preparing a festive feast, or experimenting with new recipes, involving the kids can create lasting memories!

Letting kids help in the kitchen can teach them valuable skills, healthy habits, and encourage creativity. Many basic skills are involved in the cooking and baking process, such as measuring, stirring and following directions. Kids are also more likely to try new foods if they help prepare them, so this is a great opportunity to develop healthy habits by including nutritious ingredients in your dishes. Whether you're making snacks, a dessert, or a side dish, cooking allows kids to experiment with different flavors, colors, and textures.

Gluten Free Original Chex Party Mix is a classic and versatile holiday recipe. Simple, easy, and allergy-friendly, this recipe is one that kids of all ages can be involved in making. Serve it as an appetizer spread, a Christmas movie night snack, or make it into a craft! After preparing your Chex mix, put it into a glass jar, tie a festive ribbon around it, and give it away as gifts or party favors from the kids!

Another recipe kids of all ages can be involved in is baking cookies. Black and White Peppermint Cookies from Sweet Loren's take holiday treats to a new level while being allergy-friendly! Sweet Loren's refrigerated cookie dough is pre-portioned, plant-based and free of the top 14 allergens, including gluten, dairy, peanuts, and tree nuts. Bake the perfect

cookie in minutes or enjoy raw! Have your kids get creative by decorating the cookies with crushed candy canes, chopped nuts, or mini chocolate chips! They can be served as a Christmas dessert or put the cookies into a festive holiday tin and given as gifts from the kids.

The holiday season can go by in a flash. Don't forget to involve your kids in the kitchen! It is a great opportunity to develop healthier habits and get your little ones comfortable in the kitchen. Save the date to join our KidsFit in the Kitchen with Hy-Vee Dietitians virtual cooking class! These classes are led by Hy-Vee registered dietitians who will teach your child basic kitchen skills with simple, follow along recipes, recommended for children 5-12 years of age. This month's class will be held on Dec. 11 at 4:30 p.m. Can't attend live? All those who register will receive a recording of this month's class! Register today!

Are you looking to improve your health or the health of your family? By scheduling this complimentary session, you will meet your Hy-Vee registered dietitian and learn about the services offered and what package is the perfect fit for you to start your wellness journey. To learn more, visit [hy-vee.com/healthnew/dietitians](http://hy-vee.com/healthnew/dietitians) and schedule a complimentary Discovery Session with your Hy-Vee dietitian. ■

*This content was made possible with the paid support of our sponsors: General Mills Bell Institute of Health & Nutrition and Sweet Loren's.*

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**Spot the Difference**

Can you spot 10 differences in this photo of the Senior Classmen of the 2025 State Champion Wahlert High School football team after their game at the UNI Dome? (P.S. there are actually 11 differences, but one is really hard and might not show up in newsprint). Congrats Golden Eagles! Photo by Kristen Berning.



**Spot the Difference Answers**



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**Upcoming Family Events**

**SAT 12/7**

**7th Annual Photos with Santa**

**9 AM-1 PM @ PARK FARM WINERY (BANKSTON, IA)**  
Bring the family out for photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus and enjoy wood-fired pizza baked in their on-site brick oven along with their locally made wine. Admission gets you two images with Santa from RH Photography. RSVP. \$25. 15159 Thielen Rd, Bankston, IA. **563-239-2013. parkfarmwinery.com.**

**Centrally Rooted Christmas Open House**

**10 AM-2 PM @ CENTRALLY ROOTED**  
Enjoy a Mindful Musicians mini-class, photos, and a singalong with Santa as well as raffles, hot chocolate and delicious holiday baked goods. Explore Centrally Rooted's art and music exploration labs. Free. 2230 Central Ave. **563-500-7641. centrallyrooted.com.**



**Santa Day**

**10 AM-1 PM @ SHAKE RAG ALLEY (MINERAL POINT, WI)**  
Grab a photo with Santa at 10 a.m.-noon. Make gingerbread cottages and holiday crafts at 10 a.m.-1 pm. Take-home kits are available. This beloved community tradition is also a fundraiser supporting the nonprofit arts organization. RSVP recommended. Santa Photos: \$10; Crafts and Cottage: \$5 each. 411 Commerce St. **608-987-3292. ShakeRagAlley.org.**

**SUN 12/8**

**Waffles with Santa**

**7:30 AM-NOON @ CAMPS ALBRECHT ACRES KEHL CENTER (SHERRILL, IA)**  
Visit with Santa and enjoy all you can eat Belgian waffles, meat, apple sauce, juice, milk, and coffee. All proceeds benefit Camp Albrecht Acres. Adults: \$10; Ages 5-12: \$5; Ages 4 and Younger: Free. 14837 Sherrill Rd, Sherrill, IA. **563-588-7959. albrechtacres.org.**

**MON 12/9**



**Hot Cocoa with Santa**

**5-7 PM @ BACKPOCKET DUBUQUE**  
Enjoy a cozy mug of hot cocoa, topped just the way you like it, cookie decorating bar, and tell Santa how good you've been this year. All ages. Free. 333 E 10th St. **facebook.com/backpocketdubuque.**

**FRI 12/13**

**Prescott Elementary Soup Luncheon Annual Fundraiser**

**11 AM-1 PM @ PRESCOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
Enjoy a soup lunch and silent auction. Prescott students will be your table hosts, servers, and provide entertainment from the stage throughout the event. The luncheon is Prescott's largest fundraiser of the year and proceeds will fund school field trips and special events. Soup donated by Q Casino and desserts donated by 2 Sisters Celebration and Bakery. Suggested Donation: \$20. 1151 White St. **563-552-4206. my.cheddarup.com/c/prescottdonation2024.**

**Kids Night Out**

**5:30-8:30 PM @ LORAS COLLEGE GRABER SPORTS CENTER**  
Play sports, games, crafts, bounce house, swimming, and more. Hosted by Loras College Women's Basketball. Boys and Girls pre k-6th grade. \$25. 1600 Cox St. **563-588-7947. lorasgirlsbasketballcamp.com.**

**SAT 12/14**

**Platteville Meet & Greet Santa**

**9-10:30 AM @ PLATTEVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT (PLATTEVILLE, WI)**  
Santa is making a special stop at the Platteville Municipal Airport to spread some festive cheer. Meet the big man himself, enjoy some holiday treats, take pictures with Santa, and see some amazing aircraft up close. 5157 State Rd 80, Platteville, WI. **608-348-8888. platteville.com.**

**Meet the Grinch at Home+FloorShow**

**10 AM-NOON @ HOME+FLOORSHOW**  
Get ready to meet your favorite holiday grump—the Grinch! Snap some fun photos, enjoy hot chocolate, and indulge in delicious cookies while getting into the holiday spirit. Free. 1475 Associates Dr. **563-557-9952. facebook.com/HomeFloorShow.**



**Shenandoah's Country Christmas**

10 AM-NOON @ SHENANDOAH RIDING CENTER (GALENA, IL)  
Enjoy crafts, hot chocolate, and wagon rides. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will hand out gifts and read stories. Lead lines on horses and ponies available for \$20/child. RSVP. \$5 ages 12 and younger; free for adults. 200 N Brodrecht Rd, Galena, IL. **815-777-9550. shenandoahridingcenter.com.**



**Santa at the Farm**

11 AM-1 PM @ BERNING ACRES (EAST DUBUQUE, IL)  
Interact with various friendly animals including Ruby and Vada, two adorable adopted calves. Kids can get their photo taken with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and unleash their creativity with farm-themed coloring books. Enjoy cookies, artisanal cheese made on the farm, hot cocoa, and milk. \$25/family. 16205 Route 5 W, East Dubuque, IL. **563-543-8936. berningacres.com.**



**Singalong Nativity**

11 AM AND 2 PM @ HAZEL GREEN OPERA HOUSE (HAZEL GREEN, WI)  
12/14, 12/21, 12/30 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; 12/15, 12/22 at 2 p.m. Angels will do a flyover from the balcony, wisemen will bring gifts and shepherds will bow down to the Christ Child in the Fever River Puppeteers' Christmas marionette show. Afterwards, the puppeteers will answer questions and bring out some of the puppets for photo ops. \$5. 2130 Main St, Hazel Green, WI. **608-732-7129. hazelgreenoperahouse.blogspot.com.**

**The Best Holiday of All**

2-3 PM @ GALENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS (GALENA, IL)  
12/14-12/15. The Christmas musical is by Lee Adami. Meet Santa in the lobby following the show. \$12; children 12 and younger free with adult. 971 Gear St, Galena IL. **galenacenterforthearts.org.**

**SUN 12/15**

**DBQ Co Fairgrounds Breakfast with Santa**

8 AM-NOON @ DUBUQUE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
Enjoy breakfast with Santa along with children's activities. Meal includes pancakes, sausage, ham, tater tots, eggs, applesauce, OJ, milk, and coffee. RSVP. Adults: \$10; Ages 5-12: \$5; Ages 4 and younger: Free. 14569 Old Highway Rd. **563-588-1406. dbqfair.com.**

**DeSoto House Breakfast with Santa**

8 AM-1 PM @ DESOTO HOUSE HOTEL (GALENA, IL)  
Meet Mr. and Mrs. Claus, Frosty the Snowman, and an elf. Enjoy festive music, a Christmas tree, and breakfast. Santa arrives at 8:30 a.m. RSVP. 230 S Main St, Galena, IL. **815-777-0090. desotohouse.com.**

**THU 12/19**

**Milk and Cookies with Santa**

6-7 PM @ PEOSTA COMMUNITY CENTRE (PEOSTA, IA)  
Share your list with Santa, and enjoy milk and cookies. 7896 Burds Rd #9646, Peosta, IA. **563-556-8755. cityofpeosta.org.**

**SUN 12/22**

**O So Good Winery Breakfast with Santa**

8 AM-NOON @ O SO GOOD WINERY (DYERSVILLE, IA)  
Enjoy breakfast with Santa, and he'll have a little something for each child. RSVP appreciated. 2093 20<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Dyersville, IA. **563-599-1262. osogoodwinery.com.**



**Make Your Freaking Bed**

By Matt Booth

Dear Son,  
You've heard me say it 1,000 times: Make Your Freaking Bed! I know exactly what you're thinking when you hear me say those words because I thought the same thing when I was your age: "I don't have time," "No one's going to see it," "It's not that important," and my personal favorite, "What's the big freaking deal?"

Well, buckle up, because I'm about to tell you why it is a big freaking deal.

**It's More Than Just a Bed**

Here's the truth: Making your bed takes less than a minute. (Yes, I've timed it.) It's not about the pillows or the sheets; it's about what it represents.

Making your bed is a metaphor for life. It's about discipline, ownership, and starting small to build something bigger. Life can feel overwhelming sometimes—schoolwork, sports, play practice, friends, chores. But when everything feels chaotic, making your bed is a way to say, "Hey, I've got this!"

When you make your bed, you've already won your first battle of the day. It's a small win, sure, but it sets the tone for bigger victories.

**Order in Chaos**

Jordan Peterson says, "Start by making your bed." And you know what? He's right. Life is messy, both literally and figuratively. But if you can manage the little things—like making your bed—you're proving to yourself that you can handle the bigger stuff.

It's like a chain reaction: Make your bed. Tidy your room. Stay focused during the day. Chew bubble gum. Kick butt.

Before you know it, you're like butter because you're on a roll, and it all started when you fluffed a pillow and tugged on a blanket.

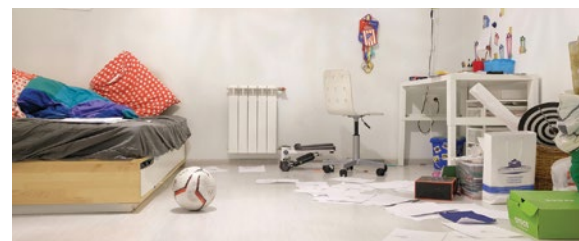
**Success Isn't in Grand Gestures**

Son, you're going to face many times when life feels hard and unfair. In those moments, remember: Success doesn't come from big, dramatic efforts. It comes from small, consistent basic actions. Making your bed is a reminder that no matter how big the problem, you can always start with something small and manageable.

If you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, just look around. Does your room look like a crap? Start there. Clean your space. Make your bed. It's a simple way to create order in chaos and get a fresh perspective.

**A Bed Is Your Life's Launchpad**

Think of your bed as the foundation for everything else. If it's messy, the rest of your room looks



messy. And if your room is messy, your mind feels messy. But when your bed is made, it sends a message to your brain: "Hey, we're in control today!"

Even Admiral William McRaven, a Navy SEAL and total badass, swears by it: "If you want to change the world, start by making your bed."

**But Also... Trust Your Dad**

Let's be real. Making your bed isn't going to win you a Nobel Prize. But you know what it will do? It'll keep me from yelling at you to "Make Your Freaking Bed!" And let's face it, that's a win for the whole family.

**Love, Always**

Son, I hope by now you know this isn't about your bed. It's about building basic habits, creating structure, and reminding yourself that you're capable of great things—even if they start small.

So tomorrow morning, when the alarm goes off and you're tempted to roll over and ignore the mess, do yourself a favor: Make Your Freaking Bed. Start your day right, and know that I'm cheering you on every step of the way.

Love, Dad ■

**MATT BOOTH**

MATT WORKS WITH COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATIONS WHO WANT TO CHECK ATTITUDES, FIGURE IT OUT, AND TAKE ACTION. TO INQUIRE ABOUT MATT'S BUY LOCAL PROGRAM AND LEARN MORE ABOUT MATT'S SPEAKING OR COACHING, SUBSCRIBE TO HIS YOUTUBE CHANNEL @MATTBOOTHSPKAKER OR EMAIL **MATT@MATTBOOTH.COM.**



"TOO MANY PEOPLE DON'T TRUST THEIR OWN JUDGMENT. THEY MISS OPPORTUNITIES BECAUSE THEY SECOND-GUESS THEMSELVES INSTEAD OF ACTING. STOP DOUBTING YOUR GUT—TRUST IT AND MOVE FORWARD!" —MATT BOOTH

"MATT POSSESSES THE DISTINCT ABILITY TO LEVERAGE HUMOR AS HE ILLUSTRATES A POINT THROUGH STORIES, WHICH CREATES LASTING IMPRESSIONS FOR THE ATTENDEES. THE ACTION STEPS MATT PROVIDES CAN BE IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY AND USED FOREVER. —AL SHERMAN, STRATEGIC ACCOUNT MANAGER, MERCK ANIMAL HEALTH

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## PUZZLE PAGE

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 28

### PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

#### SHORT MONTHS

- ACROSS
- 1 Gentle
  - 5 Not active
  - 9 Hockey great Gordie
  - 13 Certain utility meter reader
  - 19 "Pronto!"
  - 20 Back end
  - 21 Notion
  - 22 Hun leader
  - 23 "Klute" actress
  - 25 Line of air fresheners requiring an outlet
  - 27 Element #10
  - 28 See 38-Down
  - 29 Texting format, for short
  - 30 Land in eau
  - 32 Strong-arms
  - 36 Lobbying org.
  - 37 Singer Ross
  - 39 "Let's Get It On" singer

- 41 Certain fruit stone
- 43 "— fair in love and war"
- 44 Stood to lose
- 46 Idyllic places
- 47 City official on "Family Guy"
- 50 Part of UCLA
- 52 Make tidy
- 56 Noted Deco master
- 57 Notion
- 60 Go in haste
- 61 Fogged up, as a sauna
- 65 School for associate's degrees
- 68 Caribbean resort
- 69 "Let it stand"
- 71 Goes after in court
- 72 Intended (to)
- 73 Bartending tool with holes
- 76 1841-45 first family
- 77 Primo pitcher
- 78 Cape Cod resort village
- 79 Dried up
- 81 Heptathlete Jackie Joyner—
- 84 Railroad depot: Abbr.
- 85 Portend a good outcome
- 90 Dog's reward
- 93 Scored a major victory
- 95 Mine, in France
- 96 Brownish-toned picture
- 100 Stuff squirted by a cephalopod
- 103 Slow to react
- 104 NFL notable Manning
- 105 Some private planes
- 106 "Is that so!"
- 107 Univ. senior's test
- 108 Weapons depot
- 110 Tiger's sound, to tots
- 112 Halifax native
- 115 Poolside seat
- 120 Large moon of Uranus
- 121 "I'm buying"
- 122 Region
- 123 Rebuke from Caesar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
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23			24					25			26								
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107						108				109					110	111			
112			113	114							115	116	117					118	119
120								121				122						123	
124																			127

- 124 Lie comfily close
- 125 Belgian river
- 126 Frat guys
- 127 Span represented by the first three letters of 12 answers in this puzzle

- DOWN
- 1 — Mahal
  - 2 "Hugo" title role player Butterfield
  - 3 Polite
  - 4 Sword variety
  - 5 Patch variety
  - 6 Animal lair
  - 7 Young fellow
  - 8 Time of note
  - 9 Old LP players
  - 10 Polish river
  - 11 Program running in a browser
  - 12 Topic of an otologist's instructions
  - 13 Intent stare
  - 14 Munched on
  - 15 Fuel additive brand
  - 16 Country singer Ronnie
  - 17 School reunion-goers
  - 18 Pestors
  - 24 Central points
  - 26 "Champion" of Spain
  - 28 Overly docile
  - 30 Muslim prayer leader

- 31 See 70-Down
- 33 Heron variety
- 34 Elevate
- 35 Sac in anatomy
- 37 "Finished!"
- 38 With 28-Across, church meeting cry
- 40 Abbr. on a brandy bottle
- 41 Dreamy guys
- 42 Italian for "hundred"
- 45 SpaceX head Musk
- 48 Chart anew
- 49 Ironic, as wit
- 51 Rub to clean
- 53 Main topic
- 54 "The — Sanction" (1975 film)
- 55 Must have
- 57 Halve with an ax, say
- 58 Prior to, to a bard
- 59 Mac rivals
- 61 "Wheel of Fortune" host Pat
- 62 Halting of hostilities
- 63 Leonhard of pure mathematics
- 64 Prez Lincoln
- 65 Denim pants
- 66 Cake tier
- 67 "— Abner"
- 69 Hog's pen
- 70 With 31-Down, liltng song syllables

- 74 Ovine animal
- 75 El — (ocean current)
- 76 —TV ("Tacoma FD" channel)
- 79 Armani offerings
- 80 Incite
- 82 Incite
- 83 Part of QED
- 85 Basic lessons
- 86 Once lived
- 87 Move to a new country
- 88 Individual
- 89 Similar to
- 91 "Billy, Don't Be —"
- 92 "Anna Karenina" novelist
- 94 Yule tune
- 96 Join the team
- 97 Get dressed
- 98 Irritates
- 99 Promotional connections
- 101 Ski jackets
- 102 Quadrennial games org.
- 105 Seat weaver
- 108 Clearasil target
- 109 Moniker
- 111 Curds and —
- 113 Craft
- 114 Pine —
- 115 Small dollop
- 116 Make a gaffe
- 117 Co. top dog
- 118 Give — shot
- 119 Classic Karel Capek play

© 2024 by King Features Syndicate

### Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

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### WHERE'S GENERAL BOB?

General Bob is out and about. Do you know where he's at?



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**DIY ADVICE**  
 FROM A MOM WHO KNOWS HOW  
 BY SARA CARPENTER



# Interior Painting in December

## Tips and Considerations

When it comes to interior painting, the colder months can present both challenges and benefits. December, in particular, can be a tricky time for painting projects due to the lower temperatures and reduced daylight. However, with the right approach, you can successfully complete your interior painting and enjoy a refreshed living space for the holidays or the new year.

### 1. Consider Temperature and Humidity

One of the biggest concerns with painting in December is the temperature and humidity in your home. Most paints have a recommended temperature range for optimal drying and curing, typically between 50°F and 85°F (10°C–29°C). However, Clark and Kensington paint can be applied in temperatures as low as 35°F. This means it is designed to handle colder conditions compared to some other paint brands.

- **Ensure Adequate Heating:** Keep your home comfortably heated (at least 60°F or 15°C) while painting. You may need to temporarily turn up the heat to maintain ideal conditions for paint to set properly.
- **Humidity:** Winter air can be dry, which can help with drying, but if you're using a humidifier to maintain indoor moisture levels, be cautious. Too much humidity can cause paint to take longer to dry or lead to an uneven finish.

### 2. Maximize Daylight Hours

While December days are shorter, you can still make the most of available natural light by starting your painting project early in the day. Adequate lighting is crucial for ensuring that the paint job looks even and you're able to spot imperfections or missed spots.

- **Use Adequate Artificial Lighting:** In the absence of natural light, make sure you have plenty of high-quality, bright lighting to illuminate the work area. Milwaukee and Ego brands at Steve's Ace offer a great selection of work lights. Just make sure to avoid harsh fluorescent lighting that could affect your perception of the color.

### 3. Ventilation is Key

Proper ventilation is essential when painting indoors to avoid the buildup of fumes. Many paints, especially oil-based and certain water-based formulations, release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as they dry. This can be a concern if you're painting in a tightly sealed home during the winter.

- **Open Windows Slightly:** Even if it's cold outside, open windows a little to allow fresh air to circulate. Use fans to help exhaust air out of the room.
- **Use Low-VOC or No-VOC Paints:** Consider using low- or no-VOC paints, like Benjamin Moore or Clark + Kensington, which have fewer fumes and are safer for indoor use, especially in the colder months when ventilation might be more challenging.

### 4. Prepare Surfaces Carefully

Cold weather can affect the way paint adheres to surfaces. To ensure a smooth and durable finish, it's important to properly prepare the surfaces you're painting.

- **Clean Surfaces:** Dust, dirt, and grease can prevent paint from bonding properly. Clean walls thoroughly with soap and water before painting.
- **Fix Imperfections:** Repair any cracks, holes, or other surface imperfections with spackle or filler, then sand them smooth once dry.

### 5. Plan for Drying Time

One of the main challenges with painting in December is the drying time, which can be slower due to the cold indoor temperatures. Some paints, especially thicker formulations, may take longer to dry than they would in warmer conditions.

- **Allow Extra Drying Time:** Be patient and allow more time between coats to ensure the paint dries thoroughly before applying the next layer. Consider using a space heater (at a safe distance) to gently increase room temperature if you need to speed up the drying process.
- **Avoid Excessive Humidity:** While dry air can help, excessively low humidity may cause the paint to dry too quickly, which can affect the finish.

### 6. Use the Right Paint for the Season

Paint formulations can vary in their ability to perform in colder conditions. Look for paints that are labeled as suitable for use in cooler environments if you're working with a non-heated space.

- **Choose Quick-Drying or Low-Temperature Paints:** Many paint brands now offer products specifically designed for low temperatures or fast drying. These paints tend to have better adhesion and can handle cooler environments better.

Here's the bottom line... While interior painting in December can be more challenging due to weather conditions, it's entirely possible to achieve beautiful results with proper planning. Pay attention to temperature, ventilation, and drying times, and choose the right products for the season.

Call your local paint experts at Steve's Ace Home & Garden and set up a free paint consultation today! Visit [Acehardware.com](http://Acehardware.com). ■

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**DEAR ANGELA,**

My sister hasn't talked to me in 25 years. For all this time we've had to split holidays arranged through our mother to, in her words, "make sure there is no way I see her face". I'd like to try and make this the year we reconcile. I feel like it's perhaps a little over dramatic to hold a grudge this long over a silly little

thing like sleeping with her husband on her wedding night. It didn't even mean anything to either him or I, and they weren't married yet! And seriously, they've been divorced for 7 years so at this point I think I've proved that he wasn't the guy for her. Any thoughts on the approach I should take to begin what I think will be a great rekindling of our once really positive relationship?  
—Simple Mistake on McClain

**DEAR MISTAKE,**

You'll need to be strategic with this plan. I mean, will you even recognize her when you see her? First, make sure you know what she looks like so you know who to approach when you do see her. I recommend finding out where she likes to shop and follow her around in a disguise (she may or may not recognize you). Next plan: an over-the-top holiday gathering at your house. Invite the whole family, even those cousins that you all talk about as soon as they leave. Get a chef, commission an ice sculpture, and don't be stingy on the seafood tower. Next, you'll need to pressure your mom and dad into a little bit of subterfuge. Surely you have SOMETHING to guilt them with? Perhaps a childhood lacking

love or something? Once you've ensured their participation, make them ask her along to a friend's Christmas party. Surely they have SOMETHING on her that they can use to make her go. Guilt about not spending much time with them perhaps? Once she walks into your home, pop out of the coat closet holding the seafood tower and exclaim, "Got ya! Now you have to talk to me!" You'll spend the next few hours talking and snacking on shrimp with cocktail sauce!

**DEAR ANGELA,**

I work for a super well known corporation that sells stuff. I've been a good employee, managing the financials like a boss, that is to say, *managing* them, if you get my drift. And by that I mean I've been *adjusting* those books so it looks like we've had some really great quarters. The first time I did it I thought for sure my boss would be mad and would call me out right away. Nope he smiled and told me good job and I got a big fat bonus. But now, now that the press has found out about a small \$145 million in "errors" all of a sudden I get canned and my boss is acting as if he doesn't even know me! It's all "some employee" and not "Buckaroo" which

is what he used to call me when he was happy with my work. I feel like I was just making sure my company was shown in the best light, am I wrong?  
—Worker Bee on Whitetop

**DEAR WORKER BEE,**

And they say employees aren't loyal to companies any more! I can see why not if your company isn't even willing to help you when you make a little oopsies like that! I guess that's just the way it is these days. I think it's time to practice those interview questions and update your resume, maybe change your name—legally, not just on the resume. If your former employer doesn't appreciate your very special set of skills I'm sure there are others who will be totally happy to have your experience with "crunching the numbers. Good luck on the job hunt!

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**World AIDS Day is December 1**  
You help us keep moving forward when you **talk, test, treat.**



**talk**

Talk with your partner **before** having sex.  
Talk about **when** you were last tested and suggest getting tested together.  
Talk to your healthcare provider about your sex life. Ask them about HIV and STI testing: including what tests you need and how often.

**test**

**Get tested!** It's the only way to **know for sure** if you have an HIV or another STI.  
Many STIs **don't cause any symptoms**, so you could have one and **not know**.  
*If you're not comfortable asking your regular provider for an HIV or STI test, find a clinic that provides confidential testing that is free or low cost.*

**treat**

All STIs, including HIV, are treatable. If you test positive for an STI, work with your healthcare provider to get the right treatment.  
If you test positive for HIV, your provider or testing location will help connect you to treatment & resources!  
Ask about partner services to get your partner tested and treated. Avoid having sex until you and your sex partner both complete treatment.

**| STOP HIV IOWA**

# BECAUSE SPACE SAYS SO... COMPLETELY NOT FAKE Horoscopes

By Danny Fairchild, Friend to the Cosmos



**ARIES**

(APR 19–MAY 13)

You probably don't want to hear that your clothing is poorly made, but... a frayed sew.



**TAURUS**

(MAY 14–JUNE 19)

With all the criminal charges brought against your children, you'll find yourself longing for a place where the hair is clear.



**GEMINI**

(JUNE 20–JULY 20)

You never thought you'd buy a boat from a tax auction, but get ready to sail the seize.



**CANCER**

(JULY 21–AUG 9)

Lots of people have a taste for colors, but your tongue has such a refined palette you literally have a taste for colors.



**LEO**

(AUG 10–SEP 15)

Borrowing money from your aunt might not have been a good idea, after all. Just because you're both Beethoven fans doesn't mean she won't do what's necessary to get what's owed to Joy.



**VIRGO**

(SEP 16–OCT 30)

Donating a new censer to the church will seem like a good idea. Unfortunately, it will be deemed too mature for all audiences.



**LIBRA**

(OCT 31–NOV 22)

Try as you might to tell which way the wind is blowing, it will all be in vane.



**SCORPIO**

(NOV 23–NOV 29)

Plenty of people have regretted a horrible gravy they've made at one time or another. But no one will roux the day quite as much as you.



**OPHIUCHUS**

(NOV 30–DEC 17)

You might love how your car keeps dieseling long after you turn off the ignition, but beware of worshipping false idols.



**SAGITTARIUS**

(DEC 18–JAN 8)

You know you should call the authorities about the jewel thief; but for some mysterious reason, you just don't have the energy anymore.



**CAPRICORN**

(JAN 9–FEB 15)

Remember: The so-called "romantic" gesture of interrupting a wedding to profess your love for the bride or groom is nothing but a violation of other people's rites.



**AQUARIUS**

(FEB 16–MAR 11)

Most people will think you're too obsessed with proving that sharks can cry, but you'll still keep chasing that great white wail.



**PISCES**

(MAR 12–APR 18)

While it will seem quite progressive that you're into strong female leads, you'll really just be addicted to heroine.

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### DUELING PIANOS

at mississippi moon bar

## DUELING PIANOS AT MISSISSIPPI MOON BAR

Purchase your tickets at [DiamondJoDubuque.BoydGaming.com](http://DiamondJoDubuque.BoydGaming.com).

Visit [DiamondJoDubuque.com](http://DiamondJoDubuque.com) for our complete concert lineup. Join our online community and stay in the know!



Must be 21 or older. If you or someone you know needs gambling treatment, call 1-800-BETS OFF. ©2024 Boyd Gaming Corporation\*



WINNING IS JUST THE BEGINNING.  
Port of Dubuque | [DiamondJoDubuque.com](http://DiamondJoDubuque.com)

# Q

CASINO + RESORT

Celebrating

New Year's Eve

# 2024

TJ THE DJ IN ISLAND SOCIAL

PARTY FAVORS, PHOTOBOOTH,  
BALLOON DROP IN THE Q SHOWROOM,  
CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT!



SCAN FOR TICKETS

# Q

SHOWROOM

Standing room only. Must be 21. Visit us at: [qcasinoandresort.com](http://qcasinoandresort.com)

## SURF + TURF

4oz Beef Tenderloin Filet with Shrimp Skewer,  
Herb Buttered Potatoes, Grilled Asparagus,  
Grilled Focaccia Bread, Crème Brulee

4pm-12am



**ISLAND SOCIAL**  
KITCHEN + BAR