

# 365ink

MAGAZINE

Let's Create Action **Dubuque Forward.** SM

***Dubuquers Passionate About Our Future!***

365INK IMPACT AWARDS NOMINATIONS & CEREMONY / DINING AT CALICO BEAN MARKET

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## PATIENT TESTIMONIAL

*Overall, the transition from being a patient myself to having my children receive care has been seamless. The doctors, nurses, and receptionists in both departments have always been incredibly kind and helpful, answering any questions and assisting with appointments.*

★★★★★ (5 out of 5 star review)

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Bryony McCollaugh, DO | Erika O'Donnell, MD | Jodi Kilburg, ARNP

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## SPECIAL THANKS

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## COVER

- 14 Dubuque Forward**  
Dubuque Forward connects diverse voices to create action, drive positive change, and lasting solutions for Dubuque

## FEATURES

- 10 365ink Impact Awards**
- 22 Calico Bean Market**

## SECTIONS

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- 11 Arts**
- 16 Nightlife**
- 22 Columnists**

## WHERE'S MIKE?



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

### 365ink Magazine

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Instagram: @365ink

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All bacon served semi-crispy.





DAVE HASS



## Bryce's inkUbator

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

We said our goodbyes to Dave Hass this afternoon. That's him, dotting the "i" on the cover of this issue. Dave was a retired motorcycle-riding, music loving, Vietnam era Vet who took pictures of people having fun at most of the big live music shows in the community on behalf of *365ink* for the better part of 20 years. Oh, he was there at the little shows too. He was there at 3 to 4 shows a night across the community every weekend. Every Friday and Saturday, Dave would circle the shows he planned to hit that night in *365ink Magazine* and then post a photo of those circled shows to social media.



The guy was prolific. And I gave him crap a lot because he probably took hundreds of photos a weekend and then would eventually post a small fraction of those online, doing mostly video clips in the last year or so. But man, I'll bet his camera SD cards are packed with a million pictures no one has ever seen but Dave. He would tell people to look for their photo on 365's Facebook page and then never get around to actually posting it. That's just Dave. But even 10% of what he chronicled online of Dubuque's live music scene is still 1000% more than most people ever share with others that way.

His shots were not artsy or iconic photography. That's not a knock. They just weren't. That wasn't his goal. Dave's pictures were the snapshots, the stories of the fans having fun, not just the bands on the stage. He didn't hesitate to ask people to pose for a photo with friends. Some photographers are very shy about doing that, or else they think it's not a "pro" move as it's not authentic to pose photos. I think there's nothing more authentic than friends with the arms over each others shoulders smiling and toasting with a cold beer. And not just posing with friends but

also with musicians they love. And in doing that, *365ink* was able to let Dave fulfill wishes of his own, rubbing elbows with some of music's biggest names backstage at venues across the Tri-States, and most of all at the Mississippi Moon Bar at the Diamond Jo Casino, Dave's favorite place to shoot.

But of all the fun, famous, exciting photos Dave has taken in the last 20 years shooting concerts on behalf of *365ink*, I think my

favorite photo of his was his last. It wasn't of a concert. It wasn't of a famous person or even cute girls laughing and toasting the camera with their drinks. It's not even a "good" photo really. It's just a snapped phone camera image across his hospital room of his wife, Kaye, sleeping on a chair next to his bed. All you see is her socks poking out from under a blanket.

I've been there, more than once, recovering from cancer surgeries of my own. I've looked across a dark, quiet, cold hospital room at my wife, under a blanket, not feeling great herself, trying her best to rest in an uncomfortable chair, refusing to leave me and go sleep in a hotel room bed. After all the fun and parties and rock and roll, I knew exactly what Dave was seeing and what he was feeling in his failing heart in his last photo when he posted it to Facebook. The only thing that really matters in the end. I'm glad that unconditional love was there for him to take comfort in.

He was a kind man with a big heart, but a heart that gave its last measure on Jan. 6, 2025 at U of I Hospital in Iowa City. I will very much miss seeing his weekly posts of photos of the circled shows he's about to go in each issue of *365ink*. I'll miss the photos he then took at those shows. And I will very much miss when he's not there at my own band's next show at a place like the Yardarm, with us up there mugging for him to make us look cool on the internet. Ride on, Dave, and don't forget your 365ink Press Pass! ■

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## Indoor Disc Golf Experience

**SINGLES: FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 @ 8 PM**  
**DOUBLES: SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 @ 7 PM**  
**FIVE FLAGS ARENA (405 MAIN ST)**

Get ready for an action-packed two-day event at the Five Flags Arena. On Friday night, singles kicks off the excitement at 8 p.m. with check-in at 6-7:45 p.m. Saturday continues the fun with doubles, starting at 7 p.m. with check-in at 5-6:45 p.m.

This will be a regular Ace Race style event where you get 2 shots for points on each hole. Vendors will be



on site, and you'll have a chance to meet featured guest Emerson Keith. Raffle items such as baskets, a ton of plastic, plus more are available each night. Concessions offer food and drinks including adult beverages.

Register now to secure your spot at [DiscGolfScene.com](http://DiscGolfScene.com). ■



## Ice Fest

**JANUARY 18 AND 19 @ 10 AM-4 PM**  
**NATIONAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM & AQUARIUM (350 E 3<sup>RD</sup> ST)**

Ice Fest is the “coolest” way to start off the year. On Jan. 18 and 19 at 10 a.m.-4 p.m., enjoy winter-themed crafts, activities, and more. Come

dressed for indoor and outdoor activities with fun for the whole family.

Activities throughout the day (weather permitting) include winter carnival-themed games and activities (both indoor and outdoor); a craft corner featuring ice skate, snow globe, mitten designing, and lacing snowmen projects; snowshoeing; an open water rescue demonstration by the Dubuque Fire Department at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; ice harvesting; a hot cocoa bar; fire pits with s'mores kits; snow sculpting courtesy of the River Museum team and Snowbabes; and blacksmith demonstrations.

Ice Fest is included with your general admission or River Museum membership. For tickets and more information, call the River Museum at **563-557-9545** or visit [RiverMuseum.org](http://RiverMuseum.org). ■



## Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration

**WITH DR. JOHN STEWART**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 20 @ 7 AM**  
**Q CASINO + RESORT REFLECTIONS EVENT SPACES (1855 GREYHOUND PARK RD)**

Honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration on Monday, Jan. 20. The event will take place at the Reflections Event Spaces at Q Casino + Resort at 7 a.m. This annual breakfast is hosted by faces&voices

and supported by the City of Dubuque, Dubuque Community Schools, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, and Q Casino + Resort.

This year's theme, “Living As A Called Person: MLK and You and Me,” will be delivered by Dr. John Stewart, author of *Dismantling Racism One On One*. Dr. Stewart, a retired university administrator and communications professor from the University of Dubuque, will explore the ways in which each of us is called to combat racism in our community.

faces&voices is a group of local people who believe that seeing the faces and hearing the voices of each citizen will unite us.

Consider sponsoring a friend or neighbor to attend with you and share in the collective effort to build a more inclusive, compassionate community. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for ages 4-10, and free for children 3 and younger and are available for purchase at [dbqsch.org/MLK](http://dbqsch.org/MLK). For more information, contact Mary Ann Conzett at [rnickconz@aol.com](mailto:rnickconz@aol.com). ■





# SHOWROOM



FREE SHOW

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

**JAKE DODDS**  
HIGH ENERGY  
INDEPENDENT COUNTRY

8PM



FREE SHOW

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

**ROOSTER**  
ALICE IN CHAINS TRIBUTE  
**BLACKHOLE SUN**  
CHRIS CORNELL TRIBUTE

8PM



FREE SHOW

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

**THOSE ABOUT  
TO YACHT**  
YACHT ROCK

8PM



FREE SHOW

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

**FOO FOO DOLLS**  
90S ALT/GRUNGE ROCK

8PM

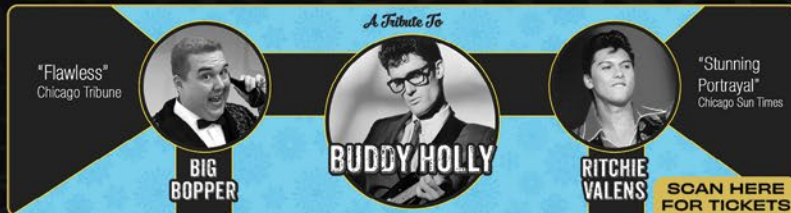


FREE SHOW

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

**WILLIE AND  
THE BUZZHOUNDS**  
POWER BLUES/CLASSIC ROCK

8PM

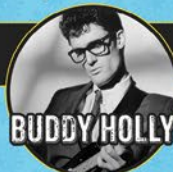


"Flawless"  
Chicago Tribune



**BIG  
BOPPER**

*A Tribute To*



**BUDDY HOLLY**



**RITCHIE  
VALENS**

"Stunning  
Portrayal"  
Chicago Sun Times

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FOR TICKETS



SAT  
FEB  
8

**WINTER DANCE PARTY**  
A TRIBUTE TO BUDDY HOLLY  
5PM & 8PM



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FOR TICKETS



FRI  
MAR  
28

**STEEL PANTHERS**  
FEEL THE STEEL  
15TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR 2025  
8PM

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UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY BERGER LECTURE

# Rev. Gilo Gora Agwa

MONDAY, JANUARY 20 @ 11 AM  
UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE BLADES CHAPEL (2000 UNIVERSITY AVE) AND ONLINE

The 2025 Berger Lecture will be held on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 20. Rev. Gilo Gora Agwa (M.Div.'14) will present and preach on "Proclaiming and Demonstrating God's Care for Those on the Margins." A lunch by reservation will be held after the worship serve at 11:50 a.m. in Blades Chapel. Following the meal, a hybrid closing discussion on the care for immigrants and refugees will occur at 12:30 p.m. in Blades Chapel.

"In a world of conflict, oppression, and war, Rev. Gilo Gora Agwa has provided inspiration in ministering to those who suffer and are most vulnerable," said Rev. Beth McCaw, DMin, dean of the seminary, vice president of the University of Dubuque, and associate professor of ministry. "As a U.D.T.S. student and then as an alumnus, Rev. Agwa's ministry in Ethiopia and among refugee adults and children in the United States has modeled Matthew 25 ministry. We are honored to welcome him back to refresh our connection to the global church and our commitment to God's children at risk."

The Berger Lectures on Preaching were established by alumni and friends of U.D.T.S. in memory of the later professor of preaching, David I. Berger.

For more information and to view the lecture online, visit [facebook.com/DubuqueSeminary](https://facebook.com/DubuqueSeminary). ■

# O'Leary's Lake Ice Jamboree

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25  
KID'S ICE FISHING TOURNEY @ 9 AM-2 PM  
JAMBOREE @ NOON

O'LEARY'S LAKE RECREATION AREA (4380 EAGLE POINT RD, HAZEL GREEN, WI)  
Bring the kids, bring the crew, and wear your mittens! It's the first ever O'Leary's Lake Ice Jamboree on Saturday, Jan. 25 at O'Leary's Lake Recreation Area in Hazel Green, WI.

A kids ice fishing tournament runs 9 a.m.-2 p.m. with jamboree festivities starting at noon featuring all kinds of family fun including games, bingo, 50/50 drawings, food trucks,



tractor-pulled wagon rides, hot cocoa, and, for the big kids... adult beverages! It's a good time in the cold of winter, and it's all happening at O'Leary Lake and Recreational Area, just below Lock and Dam #11 on the Wisconsin side of the river.

This event is a fundraiser for James-town Parks and O'Leary's Lake Recreation Area and hosted by the fine folks at the Eagle Point Fishing Barge. ■

SAT 1/18

## Triple D Winter Endurance Race

8 AM @ 7 HILLS  
BREWING COMPANY AND DURANGO TRAILHEAD  
This winter endurance trail event traverses Dubuque County in the dead of winter by bike or foot. Triple D Biking Races include 70-Mile Triple D Race, 35-Mile Double D Race, 17-Mile Half Double D Fun Ride + Poker Tour while the Triple D Running Races include 50K Ultra Marathon, Full Marathon, Half Marathon, and 5K. [TripleDRace.com](https://TripleDRace.com).



## People's March

10 AM @ STEEPLE SQUARE  
The indoor rally followed by outdoor march includes speakers from various area organizations and local leaders. Speakers will include Former Senator Pam Jochum, Senator Tom Townsend, Karla Krapfl from Table Mound Park, Danny Sprank from Dubuque Pride, Megan Ruiz from the Lantern Center, and Anthony Allen—President of the Dubuque NAACP. "We decided to name our event

'The People's March' because we know that it will take everyone coming together to make positive changes in our community, state, and nation," said Shari Flatt, one of the leaders for Indivisible Dubuque. "We're excited to bring together different people and organizations that share the common values of equality and justice. Our hope is that all attendees will leave equipped to take action." Local info tables at 10 a.m., rally at 10:30 a.m., and march at 11:30 a.m. 101 E 15<sup>th</sup> St.

SUN 1/19



## Stone Cliff Bridal Fair & Open House

NOON-3 PM @ STONE CLIFF WINERY & DUBUQUE STAR BREWERY  
View and explore the historic and beautiful event space at Stone Cliff Winery. Several highly regarded Dubuque area wedding professionals will also be available to consult with as you discuss every ideal element of your special day. 600 Bell St. [StoneCliffWinery.com](https://StoneCliffWinery.com).

WED 1/22



## Wags At The Flags

4-8 PM @ FIVE FLAGS ARENA  
1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 3/5, 3/12, 3/26. The indoor dog park features separate areas for small and large dogs, and 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 Whispurring Hope. \$5/dog. 405 Main St. 563-589-4258. [FiveFlagsCenter.com](https://FiveFlagsCenter.com).

FRI 1/24



## Winter Iowa Games

VARIOUS LOCATIONS  
1/24-1/26. The Winter Iowa Games is held annually late January and early February, mainly in Dubuque, offering over 20 sports and 4,000 athletes. [IowaGames.org](https://IowaGames.org).

**DUBUQUE AUTO SHOW**  
JAN 31 - FEB 2, 2025  
Fri 10-7 • Sat 11-6 • Sun 11-3  
GRAND RIVER CENTER  
500 BELL STREET | DUBUQUE, IA

Logos: FINNIN Ford KIA, McGrath Chevrolet of Dubuque, ANDERSON-WEBER TOYOTA, Rely on RILEY SUBARU, McGrath Volkswagen | Hyundai, RICHARDSON MOTORS GMC HONDA



# FIVE FLAGS CENTER

THE TRI-STATE AREA'S ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION



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2025

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**JANUARY 17-18**



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PRESENTS  
**BATTLE OF THE BLUFFS**  
Rodeo

THURN

FEBRUARY 14-15, 2025 7 PM  
GATES OPEN: 5:30 PM FRI  
5:00 PM SAT

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 14-15**



**Indoor  
Pickleball**  
Courts Open Now!  
Register Online!



**Wednesdays 4-8 PM - Jan 15, 22, 29, Feb 5**



**DRUMLINE**  
*Live*

**FEBRUARY 19**



DUBUQUE ON ICE  
**BREWFEEST**

**FEBRUARY 22**



**WINTER BOUNCE**

**Five Flags Center  
Feb 28 - Mar 2**



STRAIGHT OUTTA THE  
**MULTIVERSE**  
TOUR

CHRIS

**MARCH 1**



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**FIVE FLAGS CENTER**



THE NORTH AMERICAN TOUR


**FIVE FLAGS CENTER**  
March 27, 7pm

LIONSGATE

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







# TRIVIA


AN OPENING DOORS FUNDRAISER

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 • GRAND RIVER CENTER**

Get Ready for a Galactic Night of Fun! "May the Luck Be With You"  
Gather your brightest minds for an out-of-this-world trivia showdown!  
Compete in 10 rounds of exciting questions across a galaxy of topics for stellar cash prizes and ultimate bragging rights.

DOORS OPEN: 5:30 PM TRIVIA: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

**\$25 PER INDIVIDUAL \$200 FOR A TEAM OF 10**  
Sign up at [openingdoorsdbq.org](http://openingdoorsdbq.org)



**LIVE AT HERITAGE CENTER**

## SEASON OF THE ARTS

**TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA**  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025  
7:30 P.M.



**U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND & SOLDIERS' CHORUS CONCERT**  
SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025 | 7:30 P.M.



*\*This event is free, but a ticket is required.  
Tickets will be released on February 16  
from Farber Box Office, Heritage Center.*

**SPECIAL EVENT!**



**LANCO**  
WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT TOUR 2025  
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025  
8:00 P.M.

FOR TICKETS AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION  
563.585.SHOW  
[WWW.DBQ.EDU/HERITAGECENTER](http://WWW.DBQ.EDU/HERITAGECENTER)



## Winter Arts Snow Sculpting Festival

PROPOSALS DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

SCULPTING FESTIVAL: FEBRUARY 6-9

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 @ NOON-4 PM

WASHINGTON PARK (700 LOCUST ST)

The 2025 Winter Arts Snow Sculpting Festival takes place Feb. 6-9 at Washington Park, with community activities on Sunday, Feb. 9, from noon to 4 p.m. This free, family-friendly event is produced by the Dubuque Museum of Art in partnership with the City's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.

Throughout the festival, teams of professional, amateur, and collegiate sculptors will compete by carving giant snow sculptures from 6-by-6-by-8 feet blocks of solid snow.

The winning team will receive \$1,000, and all teams will have the opportunity to claim the People's Choice Award, which comes with a \$300 cash prize.

The Winter Arts Snow Sculpting Festival is an annual celebration of community creativity, and it coincides with more than the Super Bowl this year. This year's festival theme, "Creative Community," is inspired by the Dubuque Museum of Art's landmark exhibition, *Dubuque by Design: Celebrating 150 Creative Years*. The festival also serves as the exhibition's closing event.

Teams from across Iowa and the Greater Dubuque region are invited to apply to compete. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 31.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare the snow blocks for sculptors. Snow stomp-ing will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 4,



with two shifts available: 8 a.m.-noon or 12:30-4:30 p.m. Volunteers should be prepared for physical labor, including ladder climbing and extended periods in cold weather. Those interested in volunteering can call the Dubuque Museum of Art at **563-557-1851** or email [info@dbqart.org](mailto:info@dbqart.org).

On Sunday, Feb. 9 at noon-4 p.m., head to Washington Park and inside the Dubuque Museum of Art for free, family-friendly activities. The community celebration includes hands-on snow sculpting, food and beverage vendors, and the opportunity for attendees to vote for their favorite sculptures. A community snow sculpting area will be available for anyone to try their hand at snow carving, with preformed blocks of snow and tools provided.

For full event and entry details, visit [cityofdubuque.org/winterarts](http://cityofdubuque.org/winterarts). ■



## St. Mark Ice Golf Classic

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 @ 10 AM

MID-TOWN MARINA

(285 5<sup>TH</sup> ST, EAST DUBUQUE, IL)

Costumed golfers, decorated sleds, and an 18-hole golf course on ice can only mean one thing... St. Mark Ice Golf Classic! This year's event hits the ice

on Saturday, Feb. 8 at 10 a.m. at Mid-Town Marina in East Dubuque, IL.

Teams of four compete over 18 holes on a custom course of snow, ice, and donated Christmas trees created by the St. Mark ICEMen, all in support of St. Mark Youth Enrichment's programs. Awards will be presented for categories like best sled, best-dressed team, and the most creative costume-sled combination.

There will be a 50/50 raffle, plus, non-golfers can bid in the online silent auction with an array of prizes, including staycations, seasonal experiences, and backyard fun items.

No prior ice golfing experience is necessary. Check in at 8 a.m., event at 10 a.m. All proceeds benefit St. Mark Youth Enrichment, supporting local kids through vital programming.

To sign up or for more information, call St. Mark Youth Enrichment at **563-582-6211 x102** or visit [stmarkyouthenrichment.org/icegolf](http://stmarkyouthenrichment.org/icegolf). ■



SAT 1/25



### National Seed Swap Day

2:30-4:30 PM @ CARNEGIE-STOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Visit with local gardening and environmental groups and collect a variety of seed packets while supplies last. This seed swap celebration is in partnership with Nine Square Feet, a nonprofit gardening organization based in Des Moines, IA. Bring your well-packaged and clearly labeled seeds to share or swap. Free. 360 W 11<sup>th</sup> St. **563-589-4225 x2224**. [carnegiestout.org](http://carnegiestout.org).

WED 1/29



### Distinctively Dubuque

5:30-8:30 PM @ GREATER DUBUQUE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
Wed: 1/29-2/26. Distinctively Dubuque is a FREE, five-night interactive course designed to connect newcomers with one another and their new hometown. Led by high-energy presenters with in-depth knowledge of the Greater Dubuque region, each Distinctively Dubuque night takes place at a different venue, covering topics including local government, arts, recreation, volunteerism, and more. Classes meet five consecutive Wednesday evenings and include dinner each night. Spots are limited to 30 participants per session and fill quickly. RSVP required. Free. 900 Jackson St, Suite 109. **563-557-9049**. [bit.ly/dd\\_registration](http://bit.ly/dd_registration).

FRI 1/31



### New Car and Truck Show

10 AM-7 PM @ GRAND RIVER CENTER  
1/31 at 10 AM-7 PM; 2/1 at 11 AM-6 PM; 2/2 at 11 AM-3 PM.  
View the largest selection of new vehicles in the Tri-State area under one roof in a climate-controlled environment. Concession stands will be open during the show for food and beverage. Hosted by Anderson Weber Toyota; Riley Subaru; Richardson Honda, GMC, Cadillac; Finin Ford & Kia; and McGrath Hyundai, VW, and Chevrolet. Free. 500 Bell St. [afinnin@mikefinnin.com](mailto:afinnin@mikefinnin.com).

SUN 2/2

### Souper Bowl

3-4:30 PM OR 5-6:30 PM @ CONVIVIUM URBAN FARMSTEAD  
Select a handmade ceramic bowl created and donated by local artists, and fill that bowl with soup donated by local restaurants. The bowl is then yours to keep! Hear from speakers about poverty and food access issues within our Dubuque community and learn what you can do to help. A variety of cool bowl designs and plenty of soup will be available for both seating times. Proceeds for the event will go to St. Stephen's Foodbank (a branch of River Bend Foodbank) and Convivium Urban Farmstead. \$40. 2811 Jackson St. **563-557-2900**. [Convivium-Dbq.com](http://Convivium-Dbq.com).

WED 2/5

### Mackin-Mailander Lecture Series: Crucial Conversations

6:30 PM @ CLARKE UNIVERSITY JANSEN MUSIC HALL  
With a career spanning guest spots on TV shows

like *Chicago PD* to bringing home the Best Supporting Actor Award for the Iowa Motion Picture Association, Assistant Professor of Communication Chrissy Bartels is a woman with a story to tell! Through engaging stories and shared experiences, Chrissy offers practical tools for tackling life's toughest conversations—whether they're with others or the voice in your own head. 1550 Clarke Dr. [clarke.edu](http://clarke.edu).

THU 2/6



### Dubuque County Business Competition Fundraising Fair

5 PM @ THE INNOVATION LAB  
Listen to pitches from businesses and vote for your favorite concept. The crowd favorite and the top five judges' picks move on to the live pitch event where the top three businesses receive seed funding of \$17,750 total to help fuel business growth. 210 Jones St. [innovationlab.us/dbqbizcomp](http://innovationlab.us/dbqbizcomp).

FRI 2/7

### DEL Oregon Trail Esports League

4, 6, AND 8 PM @ DUBUQUE ESPORTS LEAGUE  
Hitch your wagon and showcase your survival skills on the esport game Oregon Trail. Step back to your nostalgia days and raise some money for DBQ Esports High School and Middle School Leagues. This pioneering event is all about having fun. Dress in your best digs, conjure up your best back story, and blaze the trail. Teams are in four players. \$250/team. 3220 Dodge St. [DBQEsports.org](http://DBQEsports.org).

# Say, "Yes!" to Drinking Less

More than 2 drinks a day  
is considered too much.

When you say "no thanks" to heavy drinking, you reduce your risk of alcohol-related health problems such as heart disease, liver disease, stroke, high blood pressure, and depression.

Ready to cut back  
on drinking?

Go to [YourLifeIowa.org/alcohol](http://YourLifeIowa.org/alcohol)  
to get started.

YOUR  
LIFE  
IOWA  
Iowa HHS





FRI 2/7



### Daddy Daughter Dance

6-8 PM @ DUBUQUE COMMUNITY Y

Join the Dubuque Community Y on the red carpet for a memorable night! This year's theme is Hollywood and includes a meal, desserts, crafts, photo booth, and dancing. Ages 3-12. \$35-\$65. 35 N Booth St. [dubuquey.org/daddydaughter](http://dubuquey.org/daddydaughter).

SAT 2/8



### Dubuque Symphony Youth Orchestra Presents Mozart Requiem

7:30 PM @ FIVE

FLAGS THEATER

Experience the power of Mozart's Requiem performed by the talented young musicians of the Dubuque Symphony Youth Orchestra - a timeless masterpiece brought to life by the next generation of musicians. The ensemble will be joined by members of the Dubuque Chorale and guest vocalists Hannah Von Mulert, Amanda Hauta, Eric Ferring, and Christopher Filipowicz. \$10-\$40. 405 Main St. **563-557-1677**. [DubuqueSymphony.org](http://DubuqueSymphony.org).



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



# 365ink Impact Awards

**Nominations Deadline: Friday, January 31**  
**Ceremony: Tuesday, March 4 @ 7 PM**  
**Diamond Jo Casino Mississippi Moon Bar (301 Bell St)**

The 16<sup>th</sup> 365ink Impact Awards, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and Premier Bank, return on Tuesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. to the Mississippi Moon Bar at the Diamond Jo Casino to recognize those who are making an impact on our community. Doors open at 6 p.m. The event is FREE, and everyone (21 and older) is welcome to attend. There will be hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar with live music accenting the evening's awards.

Picking the winners is always a painful process. Naturally, everyone who gets nominated is worthy of an award, but, alas, we have only 10 original, locally made statues to give out, created for 365ink this year by metal artist Jim Cole.

But before 365ink and supporters make some tough decisions about who deserves a little piece of the spotlight this year, we need to hear about those worthy of recognition for their impact on the Tri-States. That's where you come in. The mission at 365ink is to help connect people to relationships, opportunities, and the best possible living experiences in our community. And the 365ink Impact Awards are designed to honor those who choose to make the effort to impact the community in the spirit of our mission.

Do you know a person, an organization, or a business who did something particularly special in 2024 and deserves a shout-out for their efforts? Maybe it's someone who's been knocking it out of the park year in and year out and deserves a nod just for keeping the bar set high all of these years. Nominate them now for a 2025 365ink Impact Award! It doesn't matter the category. Think art and music. Think community pride and inclusion. Think great spaces and generous spirits. These are the people we want to know about.

Submit your nominations by Jan. 31 at [dubuque365.com/impactawards](http://dubuque365.com/impactawards). You can also email your nominations to [info@dubuque365.com](mailto:info@dubuque365.com).

Please include one descriptive paragraph about why the nominee is worthy. Just giving us a name or a sentence about them won't do the trick. We don't need a book, but we would like some specific details about why they are worthy. And let us note that one great paragraph submitted one time will go a lot farther than stuffing the inbox with 50 nominations for one person that don't tell us anything but their name. So put a little thought into it, please! If they don't get nominated, they can't win, so get on it!

Who wins will not be a secret leading up to the event. After all, we want you to be able to come down and celebrate your friends when they take the stage on Tuesday, March 4. The event moves fast and is a lot of fun, and you will discover amazing things you never knew about your community. So, mark your calendars to join the festivities now. It's a Tuesday night, so you know already that you don't have anything better going on.

The 365ink Impact Awards are sponsored by Premier Bank and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque as well as our generous hosts, the Diamond Jo Casino. With their generous support, 365ink is able to honor these people right, with original, local artwork. Impact Awards designs started with artist Gene Tully and have always been handmade by great local artists ever since. We can't wait to share Jim's design for 2025!

Submit your nominations, view the full list of all the past award winners, and find more information at [dubuque365.com/impactawards](http://dubuque365.com/impactawards). We'll see you on Tuesday, March 4 at the Mississippi Moon Bar! ■

## Ongoing & Recurring Events

TUESDAY

### Early Explorers

10 AM @ NATIONAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM & AQUARIUM  
1<sup>ST</sup> TUE & 1<sup>ST</sup> SAT THROUGH 5/6  
Discover the ABCs of the world around us through hands-on and active activities including a craft and game. Ages 2-5 with parent/caregiver. RSVP suggested. Free. 350 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St. **563-557-9545**. [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  
Come together for an evening of socialization and education. Featuring rotating speakers talking about anything and everything pertaining to women in a chill environment. Free. 210 Jones St. [SheUnitesIowa.com/events](http://SheUnitesIowa.com/events).

FRIDAY

### First Fridays

VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN DUBUQUE  
1<sup>ST</sup> FRI  
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. Free. [FirstFridaysDubuque.org](http://FirstFridaysDubuque.org).

SATURDAY

### 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).

### Early Explorers

10 AM @ NATIONAL MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM & AQUARIUM  
1<sup>ST</sup> TUE & 1<sup>ST</sup> SAT THROUGH 5/6

## FARMERS' MARKETS

### Galena Winter Farmer's Market

SAT: 8 AM-NOON  
@ GALENA EAGLES CLUB (GALENA, IL)  
2<sup>ND</sup> SAT THROUGH 3/8 & 4/5  
237 S Main St, Galena, IL. **563-542-0996**. [facebook.com/galenafarmersmarket](http://facebook.com/galenafarmersmarket).

### Dubuque Winter Farmers Market

SAT: 9 AM-NOON @ KENNEDY MALL  
THROUGH 4/26  
555 JFK Rd. [wintermarketdbq.com](http://wintermarketdbq.com).

### Platteville Winter Farmer's Market

SAT: 9 AM-NOON @ ROUNDTREE GALLERY (PLATTEVILLE, WI)  
1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> SAT THROUGH 4/19  
120 W Main St, Platteville, WI. **608-218-4374**. [PlattevilleFarmersMarketWI.com](http://PlattevilleFarmersMarketWI.com).

### SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS

LOOKING FOR A FREE AND EASY WAY TO PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS? SEND YOUR EVENT CALENDAR OUR WAY!  
EMAIL: [EVENTS@DUBUQUE365.COM](mailto:EVENTS@DUBUQUE365.COM)



## Galena LitFest

LESSONS LEARNED WRITING HISTORY  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 @ 5:30 PM  
ONLINE

A NIGHT IN TITA ROSIE'S KITCHEN  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 @ 6 PM

HAWK VALLEY RETREAT (GALENA, IL)  
Since 2015, the Galena Public Library has been offering a variety of presentations, readings, workshops, and conversations with best selling authors throughout January, creating a month-long celebration of reading and writing in all its forms.

Next up on Thursday, Jan. 16 is Lessons Learned Writing History at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. While sharing his journey of writing and publishing Civil War history, Thomas B. Mack, Ph.D will discuss lessons

learned in finding sources, ensuring the work is accurate, and completing a nonfiction historical manuscript.

The January events close on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> with A Night in Tita Rosie's Kitchen with Mia P. Manansala at 6 p.m. at Hawk Valley Retreat. Join best selling mystery author Mia P. Manansala for a curated dinner featuring Filipino recipes from the *Tita Rosie Kitchen Mysteries* book series to learn about her journey as an author and the cultural importance of food in the Filipino diaspora. The conversation will be facilitated by Galena local, Charissa McAuliff. Tickets are \$65, and limited seats remain.

For registration, tickets, and additional details, visit [GalenaLibrary.org](http://GalenaLibrary.org), call the Galena Public Library at **815-777-0200**, or stop by the front desk at the library. ■

JDIFF WINTER FILM SERIES

## What's Next?

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 @ 7 PM  
HOTEL JULIEN DUBUQUE GRANDE  
BALLROOM (200 MAIN ST)

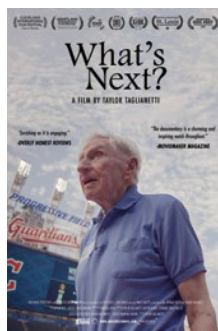
The Julien Dubuque International Film Festival Winter Film Series brings three films to Hotel Julien Dubuque. Once a month, January through March, you are invited to enjoy a select film by free will donation. Doors at 6:30 p.m. and the film begins at 7 p.m.

First up is *What's Next?*, a documentary by Taylor Taglianetti. At 100-years-old, Dr. Howard Tucker has been recognized by the Guinness World Records as the world's oldest practicing doctor. Following a more than seven-decade career, capped off by a stint teaching neurology to medical residents at Cleveland's St. Vincent Charity Medical

Center, Dr. Tucker begins to slow down and grapple with aging for the first time. Told through the eyes of his grandson, the film follows their journey through a changing medical landscape as their relationship deepens and dynamics shift. *What's Next?*, is rated GA and is 77 minutes long.

Additional upcoming films are on Feb. 13 with *Freedom Hair* by Dianne Houston and *Standing Strong: Elizabeth Catlett* by Kevin Kelley.

For more information about the films and the 2025 festival, visit [JulienFilmFest.com](http://JulienFilmFest.com). ■



## Galena CFA Exhibit Opening Reception & Meet Artist K Kriesel

EXHIBIT: FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 @ 5-7 PM  
KRIESEL: SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 @ 1-3 PM  
GALENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
(971 GEAR ST, GALENA, IL)

The Galena Center for the Arts hosts a reception for their art openings on Friday, Jan. 17 at 5-7 p.m. as well as a meet-the-artist event with K Kriesel on Sunday, Jan. 26 at 1-3 p.m.

The Regional Art Gallery will be filled with a diverse array of art from local artists, and innovative street art will fill the special exhibit space. Refreshments will be available and music provided by saxophonist David Resnick. On display through Feb. 21.

K Kriesel (they/them) is a textile artist who integrates natural and spiritual themes into their work. They utilize sewing, embroidery, beading, and 3d printing, and they're currently experimenting with 3 dimensional pieces such as shrines. They have a B.A. in studio art from Alverno College in Milwaukee. K will share their sources of inspiration, creative process, and techniques used as well as answer questions. They will also have additional artwork available for sale.

Both events are free, and donations are appreciated. For more information, visit [GalenaCenterForTheArts.org](http://GalenaCenterForTheArts.org). ■

## The Vagina Monologues Auditions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 @ 2 PM

MONDAY, JANUARY 20 @ 6 PM

GALENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
(971 GEAR ST, GALENA, IL)

*The Vagina Monologues*, written by V (formerly Eve Ensler), has sparked conversations about women's bodies and experiences since 1996, and they continue in Galena, IL this March. Auditions for *The Vagina Monologues* are being held on Saturday, Jan. 18 at 2 p.m. and Monday, Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. at the Galena Center for the Arts.

The monologues are based on hundreds of interviews with real people of various ages, races, and sexualities and explore a variety of topics such as pleasure and desire, sociality shame, and violence against women. With humor and grace, they celebrate women's sexuality in all its complexities.

Director Chelsea Middendorf is looking for a diverse group of women-identifying individuals, with or without acting experience. Auditions will be conducted in a group read-through style. Women as young as 16 are welcome to audition with parent-guardian consent.

For more information, call **815-281-1648** or visit [broadideas.org](http://broadideas.org). ■

**DUBUQUE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

FIVE FLAGS THEATER

FEBRUARY  
15-16

CONCERT  
CO-SPONSOR:

GUEST ARTIST SPONSOR:  
TIM & CONNIE HODGE

Beethoven's 5th:  
Darkness  
to Light

Feel the thrill, drama and power of one of the world's  
greatest symphonic works, performed live with the DSO!

DSO family

Sat. Feb. 15 1pm

Dubuque native Michael Boudewyns and REALLY INVENTIVE STUFF make their DSO debut as part of their 20th Anniversary Peter and the Wolf World Tour! This vaudeville-inspired performance is sure to capture the imagination of all ages!

CONCERT SPONSOR:

Chad & Laura CHANDLEE FAMILY

plus MOVIE MUSIC FROM

the Barbie Movie & Disney's Encanto.

POST-CONCERT ACTIVITIES

and West Music instrument petting zoo

TICKETS: Five Flags Box Office or [DUBUQUESYMPHONY.ORG](http://DUBUQUESYMPHONY.ORG)

Ticketmaster fees added to online purchases, save by buying direct at Five Flags Box Office.



## An Evening of Art

2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR DBQFEST

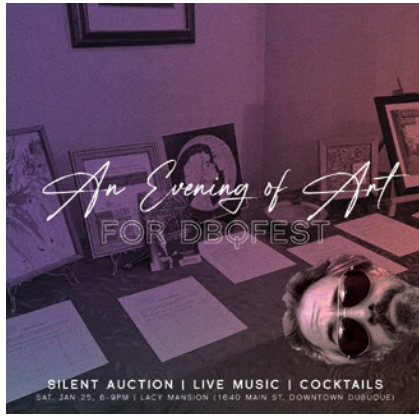
SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 @ 6–9 PM

LACY MANSION (1640 MAIN ST)

DBQFest and the Dubuque County Fine Arts Society invite you to a night of cocktails, art, and community to support DBQFest 2025. An Evening of Art returns to the Lacy Mansion on Saturday, Jan. 25 at 6–9 p.m.

Cocktails and mocktails will be accompanied by light hors d'oeuvres, live music performed by Sophie Coyote, and a silent auction featuring unique artwork generously donated by more than 35 past DBQFest exhibitors including Gail Chavenelle, Mario Gonzalez, Ken Bichell, and more.

All funds raised will help the festival continue its legacy of fostering



community engagement, promoting artistic excellence, and offering an inclusive, family-friendly experience for all.

Suggested donation at the door is \$10. For more information, visit [DBQfest.com](http://DBQfest.com). ■



## As Time Goes By

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 @ 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 @ 2 PM

BELL TOWER THEATER (2728 ASBURY RD)

Get ready for a whirlwind adventure featuring Cathy Goodman and Dave Richter at the Bell Tower Theater with *As Time Goes By* on Saturday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 26 at 2 p.m.

What happens when a funky redhead asks AI to assist in creating a cabaret show? With a passion for grammar, style, manners, and the timeless allure of jazz, this ginger is on a mission to breathe new life into these fading gems. Enjoy an unforgettable fusion of wit, melody, and pure entertainment.

Tickets are \$26. For more information, call Bell Tower Theater at **563-588-3377** or visit [BellTowerTheater.net](http://BellTowerTheater.net). ■

## Color & Contour of Music Competition

DEADLINE: JANUARY 25

The Dubuque Symphony Orchestra is partnering with the Dubuque Museum of Art for this season's Color & Contour of Music competition. Artists are invited to explore the subject of "Darkness Into Light" inspired by Beethoven's 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony.

Submissions must be 2-dimensional only on paper, canvas, or other similar flat surface. Photography and computer-generated art also accepted. One winner and three honorable mentions will be selected for each of the four categories. Entries are due by Jan. 25.

Winning art will receive a Family Membership to the Dubuque Museum of Art, tickets to DSO's Feb. 15 or 16 concert, and their art will be displayed on the cover of that weekend's concert program book!

For full details and more information, visit [DubuqueSymphony.org](http://DubuqueSymphony.org). ■

## First Fridays

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

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

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

5–8 PM @ ANDONIA GIANNAKOUIROS STUDIO (219 W 9<sup>TH</sup> ST)

5–8 PM @ THE STU (1533 CENTRAL AVE)

6–8 PM @ PLANTED. (245 W 1<sup>ST</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. All stops are free.

Widdershins Artisan Gallery's Artist of the Month for February is Bill Potter of William's Whittling and Woodworks in Cedar Rapids, IA. He will be demonstrating his woodworking techniques. Enjoy art from local, regional, and national artists and comfy vintage furniture while listening to classic rock tunes. Winter comfort food will be available. [WiddershinsGallery.com](http://WiddershinsGallery.com).

Outside the Lines Art Gallery features local artist Lena Olson who will demonstrate her watercolor painting techniques. [ShopOTLAG.com](http://ShopOTLAG.com).

Andonia Giannakouros hosts guest artist Candace Eudaley-Loebach for

Galentine's Craft Night (you don't have to be a gal to participate). Basic materials will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. [Giannaka.com](http://Giannaka.com).

The Stu features the work and personal collection of A. Alanda Gregory. [facebook.com/TriPhoenixGroup](https://www.facebook.com/TriPhoenixGroup).

Planted.'s latest exhibit, *Love Takes Many Forms*, features work from regional artists reflecting on their interpretations of love, whether in the context of personal relationships, familial bonds, friendships, self-love, or even the love for the creative process. From bold pieces expressing passion and anger to softer creations that convey warmth and tenderness, each artwork invites viewers to explore the diverse meanings of love. On display through March 4. [PlantedDBQ.com](http://PlantedDBQ.com). ■

# PSYCHIC CHAKRA CENTER

## Herbology, Healing & Wellness

(563)-564-9925

19 Locust St.  
Downtown Dubuque  
*Habla Español!*

## Aboveboard

FEBRUARY 7–8, 13–15, AND 20–21 @ 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY 9, 16, AND 22–23 @ 2 PM

BELL TOWER THEATER (2728 ASBURY RD)

Bell Tower Theater brings a romantic comedy about magic, misunderstanding, and running out of milk to the stage just in time for Valentine's Day. *Aboveboard* by Peter Bloedel and Emily Kimball will be performed on Feb. 7–8, 13–15, and 20–21 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 9, 16, and 22–23 at 2 p.m.

When Nick's food starts disappearing from his apartment fridge, he immediately suspects his best friend, Milo, a bumbling magician who lives down the hall. When Milo refuses to confess, Nick installs a camera to catch the culprit in the

act—and finds an unlikely trespasser has been secretly living in his apartment. When the video hits the internet, the surprises multiply.

Early Bird performances on Feb. 7 and 8 are \$13, and all other performances are \$26. 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). ■







LIVE AT HERITAGE CENTER  
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

## Tommy Dorsey Orchestra

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

The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra performs at University of Dubuque Heritage Center John and Alice Butler Hall on Friday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is part of the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Live at Heritage Center Performing Arts Series.

Jeff Bush began his association with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra in January 2000 when he was hired by bandleader and legendary trombonist Buddy Morrow. Bush toured with the Tommy

Dorsey Orchestra and was entrusted to play many of the iconic Tommy Dorsey solos and, on occasion, lead the band in Morrow's absence. Bush has said he is honored to carry on the Dorsey tradition in leading the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra.

Tommy Dorsey, who passed away in 1956, was a successful bandleader from the 1930s. His technical skill on the trombone was unmatched and made him world renowned amongst musicians and the public. He had a string of hit records including "Opus One," "Marie," and "Song of India."

In 1939, Frank Sinatra left the Harry James Orchestra to join Dorsey and made his first public appearance with the band in early 1940. Sinatra credited Dorsey with teaching him breath control, and he stayed with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra until September 1942 when he embarked on his iconic solo career.

A free pre-show reception for *Heroes in Black & White: David Lee Barba* will be held at 6:30–8 p.m. The exhibit will be on display Feb. 3–March 28.

Tickets are \$35–\$45 and can be purchased at the Heritage Center Farber Box Office, by phone at **563-585-7469**, or online at [www.DBQ.edu/heritagecenter](http://www.DBQ.edu/heritagecenter). ■

## Get a Clue with JDIFF

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 @ 5 PM  
HOTEL JULIEN DUBUQUE GRANDE  
BALLROOM (200 MAIN ST)

Prepare yourself for an evening of intrigue and suspense at the Julien Dubuque International Film Festival's Clue-inspired gala. Join at Hotel Julien Dubuque on Saturday, Feb. 8 at 5 p.m. Explore the mysteries as JDIFF takes you on an

thrilling journey into the iconic world of the classic board game and film, Clue.

View exclusive trailers from the 2025 JDIFF Official Selection as well as the special premiere screening of the inaugural JDIFF Film Camp's short film, *What Happened to Brunch?* The evening also includes live and silent auctions, dinner, fun, and mystery. Clue-themed costumes are encouraged but not required.

Tickets are \$135 and are available at [JulienFilmFest.com](http://JulienFilmFest.com). ■

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

PUZZLES ON PAGE 28

GENERAL BOB IS AT BRAZEN OPEN KITCHEN

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## HPV can cause 6 types of cancers

**Getting the HPV vaccine is one of the best ways to prevent these cancers.**

The CDC recommends the HPV vaccine for children as young as 9 and for people up to age 26 if not vaccinated when younger.



Ask your healthcare provider about the HPV vaccine



Source: National Cancer Institute cancer.gov





1



2



## By Bryce Parks

In the last issue of *365ink*, you read about a host of jaw-dropping projects coming soon to Dubuque. In this issue, we're looking at a group that is working on fostering the connective tissue that ties these projects together and makes them part of a community.

Dubuque Forward sees itself as a connector, bringing together diverse individual and organizational perspectives to create action, positive change, and lasting solutions for Dubuque. In short, they want to make Dubuque the most inspiring city of its size, a place people choose to call home and where all people can thrive. And they plan to do this through collaboration that embodies authentic community inclusion and encourages bold, forward thought leadership even to the point of embracing discomfort. Wanna help? Keep reading...

"This really started about three years ago among a group of like-minded individuals who saw an opportunity and a need for greater collaboration," explains Wendy Scardino, director of Dubuque Forward. "Debi and Andy Butler and John and Mary Gronen recognized that with so much happening in this community, there was opportunity to support that activity and increase momentum through greater connectivity. One of the action



**Wendy Scardino,**  
Director of  
Dubuque Forward

steps they took early on was to synthesize numerous master plans put forth by the City and others to find commonalities."

It really sounds like a visioning program with an action component at the end, making sure great ideas come to life.

The initial focus of the organization will be on the Dubuque Downtown "core" where their priorities over the next several years include creating vibrancy, connectivity, and cohesion between downtown neighborhoods. Those beginning neighborhoods of focus will include Upper Main, the Millwork District, Cable Car Square, North Millwork, and Lower Main.

They will attack this bold initiative with what they call Passions Teams—a direct result of the commonalities identified through the master plan synthesis. These are groups made up of residents and local business owners with shared interests, expertise, and hopes for the five identified Passion Teams to shape the future of Dubuque. Those five Passion Team areas are:

- **Culture and Creativity:** Infuse public and private arts and cultural projects across downtown and expand access to creativity including identifying and securing funding for the arts and more
- **Housing:** Create attainable housing options (data-driven based on need—socioeconomic, stage of life) and well as adaptive reuse and new infill into existing neighborhoods
- **Mobility:** Maximizing individual mobility (walking, biking, and transit) and transportation between neighborhoods
- **Entrepreneurial Cultivation:** Making the urban core the Third Place, a social space that's separate from home and work, where people can connect with their community; fun, funky, unique! This includes the recruitment of small businesses including retail, restaurants and entertainment.
- **Recreation Spaces & Natural Areas:** This simple goal is to "green" the

city core, improving access to and opportunities related to the river, natural spaces, and recreation

Dubuque Forward has then developed "lenses" to guide these Passion Teams. That simply means identifying considerations that the passion teams should use to frame ideas for action.

These lenses include Health, JEDAI (justice, equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusivity), Sustainability, Outreach & Learning, and Quality & Lasting Design.

Their first success is already tangible with the opening of a new pocket park in downtown Dubuque in the fall of 2024. Utilizing the vacant site of a downtown gas station on the corner of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Central Avenue, a new pocket park, dedicated to the first responders of Dubuque, was created, working with the Mississippi Driftless Regional Foundation and Molo Companies. The park design, by Mike Stickley of Stickley Morton Architects, focuses on creating an environment highlighting some of our region's natural materials and forms.

"We also helped accelerate the city's recent bike lane project. A few city staffers were really excited about getting the project moving and started working with Dubuque Forward volunteers on what this could look like. Dave Hartig at Bicycle World had some boards up in his space so people could mark what routes they thought would be most usable and why. Having done a lot of that legwork and engagement meant that that process could get started that much faster through the city. These bike lanes on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> put us one step closer to connecting downtown to the Bee Branch and beyond."

The park and bike lanes are just two of many ways in which Dubuque Forward is working to support the vibrancy and connectivity of the downtown core.

This fall, the Passion Teams created a long list of ideas. They then put those ideas on a scale to measure which

would add the most vibrancy and positively impact the identified lenses.

"We hope to be working with Dubuque Main Street on creating an entrepreneur marketplace," notes Wendy. "It was a concept that came up in several of our passion teams including Culture and Creativity and as well as an Entrepreneurial Cultivation. Dubuque Main Street's been talking about it as a way to convert more businesses from Farmers Market to downtown storefronts each year."

Foundry Park, in the Millwork District, is the parking lot across from the Novelty Iron Works Building (home to Backpocket Dubuque, Gary Dolphin's Iron Bar, and Driftless Pizza). The parking lot was always meant to be temporary; however, consultants have been hired by the city to turn it into a green space.

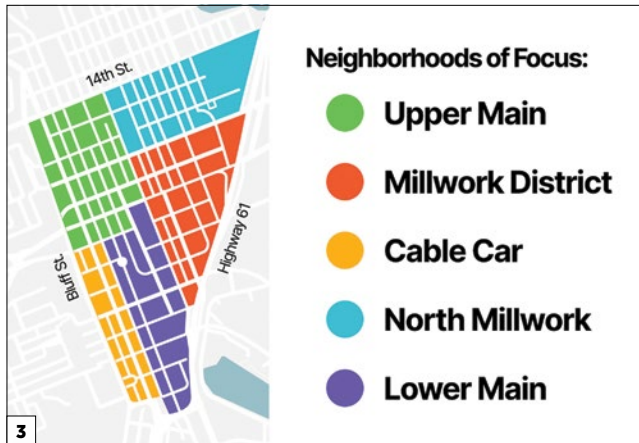
"Foundry Park is a city-led initiative, and we want to make sure we help engage residents and local business owners," explains Wendy. "Our aim is to help the city gather as much input as possible through this process, resulting in a well-utilized green space that adds to the vibrancy of the neighborhood."

And if you liked parking there, note that there is a giant parking ramp 100 feet away.

"There will be a group getting started to discuss wayfinding and signage," she continues. "While at the end of the day the city's heavily involved in wayfinding and signage, we want to start conversations on the subject. Strong wayfinding and signage not only create a sense of place for residents, they help tourists and visitors to a community feel comfortable navigating a space, which supports local business."

As she began to explain the Nature Everywhere project team, we noted that Jared McGovern, director of the new Wanderwood Gardens ([wanderwoodgardens.com](http://wanderwoodgardens.com)) located adjacent to the Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, and tip of the spear in this initiative was—no kidding—working and having a coffee at the table next to us at Wayfarer Coffee in the Millwork District.





1 & 2. THE POCKET PARK ON THE CORNER OF 9TH STREET AND CENTRAL AVE OPENED LAST FALL  
 3. DUBUQUE FORWARD WILL INITIALLY FOCUS ON THE DUBUQUE DOWNTOWN “CORE”

His unbridled enthusiasm led to a 10-minute presentation on the Children and Nature Network. Like Dubuque Forward, I've synthesized it down to a paragraph: The Children and Nature Network is a national initiative of more than 70 communities, a national advocacy and professional development and research organization that came together after Richard Bloom's book *Last Child of the Woods*. It's a technical assistance program for communities across the country to prioritize early childhood nature connection for green spaces. Over the next 12 months, this Dubuque Forward project team will build out an early childhood nature connection strategy that creates a new norm for kids age 0 to 6 to connect with nature daily. The benefits that people glean from having access to the outdoors from brain health, to physical health, to academic performance, to stewardship action and ethics as you become an adult are immeasurable.

And that's just the beginning. But there's not only so much more to do, they also need the people to make it all happen.

This is where you come in!  
 At *365ink*, one thing we love about Dubuque is that our community is one where anyone who sincerely wants to participate can make a ripple and engage change.

Wendy agrees, "It's the Goldilocks of communities in many respects. It's a wonderful size where one person can make a measurable difference!"

Passion teams shape the projects the community will pursue and are excited to "think big" when it comes to opportunities. And they would love your participation and input.

"At the end of the day, you want people to feel included in the process of making their community better," explains Wendy. "When I first moved to this community, one of the first things I did was sign up to be part of Envision 2010. And you could say, I was 'bitten by the bug' at that point. There are a lot of

people in this community who want an opportunity to be part of positive change. They may not know where to start."

"Our passion teams meet quarterly. It's a great opportunity to connect with others who have a similar passion and interest. It might spark an idea. It might spark a business interest. It might even spark a new connection or friendship. From there, we have identified projects that we want to get started. Instead of seeing what we don't have, we look at what assets we do have; the knowledge, talent, connection, expertise to get things done. Having beautified pocket parks throughout the city adds to its walkability. Having bike lanes for commuting to work or connecting to a recreation trail. Those are the things that make a place livable."

And if people want to be more involved than just keeping in the know, they can get involved on a Project Team and help carry a project that they're passionate about forward. Dubuque Forward is recruiting for those Project Teams now. They're identifying co-leads who want to help manage the projects and help lead teams of five to seven diverse voices, backgrounds, and skills to start moving these projects forward. They plan to bring more projects online throughout the year.

For starters, you can keep up with their most recent progress at **DubuqueForward.com**. Here you can, most importantly, sign up to join a Passion Team (or teams) of your choice. You can also see who's already on your team! There is also a calendar tracking the dates and locations of each Passion Team's quarterly meeting.

"Within three years," adds Wendy, "we're going to have an expanded Dubuque Museum of Art downtown. We're going to have a downtown medical school through the University of Dubuque. How can we capitalize on all of that amazing growth and expansion in the next three years? And then what comes next will be fun to explore and discover." ■



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**COWTIPPERS**

## The Cowtippers

**Saturday January 25, 2 PM**

The Cowtippers show is a timeline of Country Music from the '60s through the '90s representing some of the most popular music from the different periods from Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash, through the Merle Haggard and George Jones, onto the '70s "Urban Cowboy" craze, then to the resurgence of Country with George Strait, Brooks & Dunn and more. It's an evening guaranteed to trigger memories!



**TIX: \$25(adv) / \$28(door), Students \$15/\$18**

# Budweiser LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

**THU 1/16**

Danny Parker Project  
7 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Cottage (Galena, IL)

Songwriters Showcase:  
Barefoot & Sunshine  
7 PM @ Galena CFA (Galena, IL)

RJ Fisher  
7 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

**FRI 1/17**

Fabulous Fridays:  
St. Luke's Artists  
Noon @ St. Luke's UMC

Galena CFA Exhibit Opening  
Reception: David Resnick  
5 PM @ Galena CFA (Galena, IL)

Shannon Woulfe  
5:30 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
(Peosta, IA)

Three Quarter Buzz  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Bargo  
6:30 PM @ O So Good Winery  
(Dyersville, IA)

Brushfire Bandits Duo  
7 PM @ First Reserve

UD High School Honor Band  
7 PM @ Heritage Center

Jeff Theisen  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

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

Chicago Farmer, Marques Morel  
8 PM @ The Lift

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra:  
Ultimate Rock Hits  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Jake Dodds  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Gypsy  
8 PM @ Asbury Eagles Club  
(Asbury, IA)

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

Frank Martin Busch & the Names  
8 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

**SAT 1/18**

Danny Whitson  
1 PM @ PJ's Pub (Kieler, WI)

Rocktail  
2 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

The Mighty MudCats  
4 PM @ Knicker's Saloon

Jake Bender  
6 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

Shannon Woulfe  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Massey Road  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Jimmy Welty Band  
7 PM @ Chestnut Mountain  
(Galena, IL)

Dan Hess  
7 PM @ The Cellar at Millwork  
(Dyersville, IA)

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

Demsfightinwords, Riff Worm,  
Hashman, The Carpet Surfers  
8 PM @ The Goose

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra:  
Ultimate Rock Hits  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Rooster/BlackHole Sun  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Back Booth Alley  
8 PM @ Sunset Lanes  
(Dickeyville, WI)

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

Frank Martin Busch & the Names  
8 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

Riff Worm  
9 PM @ The Goose

Cirque du Buque Drag Cabaret  
10 PM @ Smokestack

**SUN 1/19**

Tony Walker  
1 PM @ Sundown Mountain

Stef & Daniels  
1 PM @ O So Good Winery  
(Dyersville, IA)

Hangin' Around  
3 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Sea Shanty Sunday  
w/ Andreas Tranzo  
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Cottage (Galena, IL)

Danny Parker Project Trio  
8 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

**WED 1/22**

Tessa  
7 PM @ First Reserve

**THU 1/23**

Marty Raymon  
7 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Cottage (Galena, IL)

Lenny Wayne  
7 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

## OTHERSIDE LUNCH SPECIALS

# JANUARY

- 16 O.S. Turkey Melt
- 17 Corned Beef & Cabbage
- 20 Soup and Sandwiches
- 21 Alfredo / Spaghetti
- 22 O.S. Chicken
- 23 Panzerotti
- 24 BBQ!!!
- 27 Soup and Sandwiches
- 28 Chicken Cordon Bleu / Chicken & Broccoli
- 29 O.S Chicken
- 30 Mexican
- 31 Chicken of the Gods / Horseshoe Sandwich

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MAY 10  
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Sun: 11am-6pm



**FRI 1/24**

Fabulous Fridays:  
Dr. Keisy Peyerl-Xavier  
Noon @ St. Luke's UMC

BJ McAndrew  
5:30 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
(Peosta, IA)

Kurt Stutzke & Steve Sieverding  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Celtic Rovers  
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Cottage (Galena, IL)

Slapdash Bluegrass  
7 PM @ First Reserve

Lexi Healy  
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Driftless Ramblers  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Trivia  
7 PM @ O So Good Winery  
(Dyersville, IA)

Jordan Danielsen  
7 PM @ Off Shore Resort  
(Bellevue, IA)

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

Jimmy Welty Band  
7:30 PM @ Twisted Vines  
(Potosi, WI)

Junk FM  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

For Those About to Yacht  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Corey Jenny  
8 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

Ghost Forest, Space Burial  
9 PM @ The Lift

**SAT 1/25**

Shekinah King  
1 PM @ PJ's Pub (Kieler, WI)

RJ Fisher  
2 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

The Cowtippers  
2 PM @ Ohnward Fine Arts  
Center (Maquoketa, IA)

Stone Rebellion  
5 PM @ Knicker's Saloon

DBQFest An Evening of Art:  
Sophie Coyote  
6 PM @ Lacy Mansion

Elizabeth Mary  
6 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

Celtic Rovers  
6 PM @ Frank O'Dowd's  
Irish Cottage (Galena, IL)

Li Li and the Dirty Bastards  
7 PM @ Burkey's Bar

Jake Beaty  
7 PM @ First Reserve

Tiger Kings  
7 PM @ Gary Dolphin's Iron Bar

Terry McCauley  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Daniel Eric  
7 PM @ Wicked Dame

The World's Most Ridiculous  
Trivia Game Show  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Foo Foo Dolls  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

Tony Walker  
8 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

**SUN 1/26**

Tangle Creek  
1 PM @ O So Good Winery  
(Dyersville, IA)

Naomi Noel Piano Recital  
2 PM @ Clarke University

Gypsy  
3 PM @ Stone Cliff Winery

**TUE 1/28**

UD Faculty Recital  
7:30 PM @ Heritage Center

**WED 1/29**

Paul Little  
7 PM @ First Reserve

**THU 1/30**

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

The Gutheries  
7 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

**FRI 1/31**

Fabulous Fridays:  
Dr. Charles Barland  
Noon @ St. Luke's UMC

Bob & Gus  
5:30 PM @ Darkbird Taphouse  
(Peosta, IA)

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

Yellow Brick Road  
7 PM @ First Reserve

Rock Steady  
7 PM @ Southend Tap

The Mighty MudCats  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Speakeasy Stand Up Comedy  
Night w/ Matt Banwart  
7:30 PM @ Smokestack

Kashmir: The Led Zeppelin  
Tribute Show  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Willie and the BuzzHounds  
8 PM @ Q Showroom

The Bourbon Brothers Band  
8 PM @ Asbury Eagles Club  
(Asbury, IA)

Mark Zalaznik  
8 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

**SAT 2/1**

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

Jimmy Welty Band  
2 PM @ Burkey's Bar

Danny Parker Project  
2 PM @ Miss Kitty's Grape  
Escape (Galena, IL)

Three Quarter Buzz  
5 PM @ Knicker's Saloon

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

The Mighty MudCats  
6 PM @ O So Good Winery  
(Dyersville, IA)

Theresa Rosetta  
7 PM @ Spirits Bar & Grill

Jesse + Aaron  
7 PM @ Wicked Dame

Time Machine  
8 PM @ Mississippi Moon Bar

Enemies of Confusion  
8 PM @ Smokestack



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## Ongoing & Recurring Nightlife

### SUNDAY

Open Mic w/ Scott Rische  
1 PM @ Miss Kitty's 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

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> Tue

Trivia w/ Triviawithbrett  
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

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> Tue

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

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

### WEDNESDAY

Trivia w/ Triviawithbrett  
6 PM @ Hy-Vee Locust

Record Club  
6 PM @ The Goose

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

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

Trivia For Dorks  
7 PM @ Dimensional Brewing Co

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

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

The Mixologist DJ AA  
7 PM @ Southend Tap

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

Karaoke w/ Becky McMahon  
7:30 PM @ Denny's Lux Club

### THURSDAY

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

The Wayback Machine: Rock 'n'  
Soul All-Vinyl Dance Party  
7 PM @ The Goose  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thu

Karaoke w/ Dante Steele Entertainment  
7 PM @ Riverboat Lounge

Songwriters Showcase  
7 PM @ Galena Center for the Arts (Galena, IL)

XTREME Bar Bingo  
7 PM @ Galena Eagles Club (Galena, IL)

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

Silly Goose Thursdays  
Comedy Open Mic  
8 PM @ The Goose  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu

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

Trivia w/ Bob's Trivia  
8 PM @ Steve's Pizza (Platteville, WI)  
*When UW-P is in session*

Karaoke  
9 PM @ Southend Tap

### FRIDAY

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

Karaoke w/ Denise  
7 PM @ Northside Bar

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)

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

Afro Caribbean Night w/ DJ Papi  
9 PM @ The Goose  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat

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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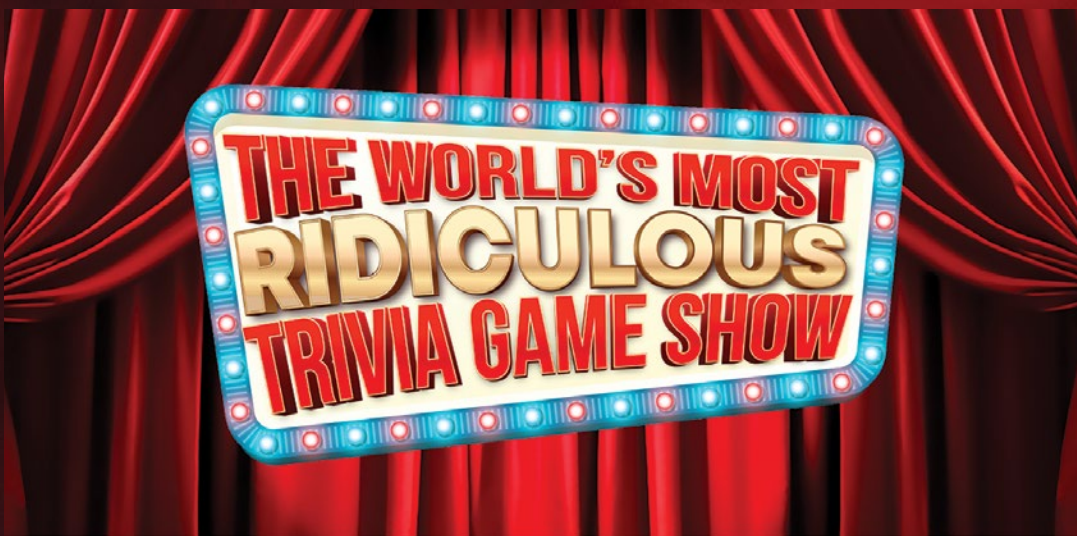
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# MISSISSIPPI MOON BAR<sup>SM</sup>

## Upcoming Entertainment



### The World's Most Ridiculous Trivia Game Show

JANUARY 25 @ 8 PM

Part trivia night, part game show, 100% fun! The World's Most Ridiculous Trivia Game Show is the biggest, wildest, most interactive trivia/game event you have ever seen. Your hilarious wise cracking hosts Brett Walkow and Dan Deibert bring you a ridiculous show you will talk about for years to come!



### Dubuque Symphony Orchestra Ultimate Rock Hits

JANUARY 17 & 18 @ 8 PM

The DSO joins with local rock bands to present an amazing symphonic rock experience featuring chart topping hits from the 1970s to the present.



### Kashmir: The Led Zeppelin Tribute Show

JANUARY 31 @ 8 PM

Kashmir seeks to re-create the experience of a '70s Zeppelin show utilizing authentic vintage stage gear, costumes, and special effects, with great attention to detail in a non-pretentious way.

### Additional Entertainment

#### JUNK FM

JANUARY 24 @ 8 PM

#### TIME MACHINE

FEBRUARY 1 @ 8 PM

#### LIVE BAND KARAOKE

FEBRUARY 7 @ 8 PM

#### VICE BOX

FEBRUARY 8 @ 8 PM

#### DUELING PIANOS

FEBRUARY 14 @ 8 PM

#### BILL GARDELL

FEBRUARY 15 @ 8 PM

#### EMO PHILIPS AND TIM CAVANAGH

FEBRUARY 21 @ 8 PM

#### WALKING MOLLY

FEBRUARY 22 @ 8 PM

#### THE BOY BAND NIGHT

FEBRUARY 28 @ 8 PM

#### GAELIC STORM

MARCH 1 @ 8 PM

#### TEN GALLON HAT

MARCH 7 @ 8 PM

**DIAMOND JO**  
CASINO 

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).





## LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT FEATURES

**THU 1/16**



### Songwriters Showcase: Barefoot & Sunshine

7 PM @ GALENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS (971 GEAR ST, GALENA, IL)

COVER: FREE

Dean Mattoon and Esmé Alexis effortlessly fuse style and voice in a celebration of entrancing vocal harmonies and the rich resonance of melodic electric guitar. Drawing inspiration from a diverse array of artists—including The Wood Brothers, The Band, Tedeschi Trucks, and

Warren Zevon—the duo crafts a distinctive blend of Americana and roots music, with a soulful twist. Songwriter Showcase encourages the creation and sharing of original music by regional singer songwriters. [GalenaCenterForTheArts.org](http://GalenaCenterForTheArts.org).

**FRI 1/17**



### Jake Dodds

8 PM @ Q SHOWROOM (1855 GREYHOUND PARK RD)

COVER: FREE

Indiana native Jake Dodds grew up listening to country music. Watching the Grand Ole Opry and Statler Brothers show Saturday nights on TNN with his

grandparents. Growing up in the 90s it was Garth Brooks TV specials and listening to the likes of Tracy Lawrence, Tim McGraw and Tracy Byrd on the radio. As high school approached it was Brad Paisley and Kenny Chesney that helped a shy kid through days of girls, sports (freshman football) and mowing yards. Forever, a dreamer of being a country music singer, it wasn't till after a growing karaoke obsession in southern Indiana led him to joining a band at 24 in the summer of 2012. Fast-forward 10 years and a lot has changed. Jake has opened shows for 25 national touring artists. Played over 130 + shows 3 years running and playing venues in 17 states across the US. [QCasinoAndResort.com](http://QCasinoAndResort.com).

**FRI 1/24**



### Ghost Forest, Space Burial

9 PM @ THE LIFT (180 MAIN ST, LOWER LEVEL)

COVER: FREE

Ghost Forest is a post-punk band featuring James Kimball (Laughing Hyenas, Mule), Scott "Gub" Conway (Gauge, Even in Blackouts), and Brant

McCrea (Chicago Rot/Streetwisemen). Space Burial is a 3-piece psych-rock band from Dubuque. Pinky, Riff Worm, and Billy Jentz released a new record that you most definitely should check out. Prepare yourself for a night of ROCK! [facebook.com/theliftdubuque](http://facebook.com/theliftdubuque).

**SAT 1/25**



### The Cowtippers

2 PM @ OHNWARD FINE ARTS CENTER (1215 E PLATT ST, MAQUOKETA, IA)

TICKETS: \$25 ADV/\$28 DOOR ADULTS; \$15 ADV/\$18 DOOR STUDENTS

The Cowtippers show is a timeline of country music starting in the '60s through the '90s. They represent some of the most popular music from the different periods, such as the emergence of Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash through the Merle Haggard and George Jones period. They progress to the '70s "Urban Cowboy" craze, then on to the resurgence of country during the late '80s into the '90s with George Strait and Brooks & Dunn. [OhnwardFineArtsCenter.com](http://OhnwardFineArtsCenter.com).

## The Lift

180 MAIN ST, DBQ [@THELIFTDUBUQUE](http://THELIFTDUBUQUE)  
(UNDER VINNY VANNUCHI'S)

**FRI 1/17 • 8 PM • \$20**  
CHICAGO FARMER, MARQUES MOREL

**FRI 1/24 • 9 PM • FREE**  
GHOST FOREST (X LAUGHING HYENAS, MULE, JESUS LIZARD), SPACE BURIAL

**SAT 2/8 • 9 PM • \$10**  
RIVER GLEN

**SAT 2/22 • 9 PM • \$20**  
LIGHTNIN LUKE + COLEMAN "IV" HAWKINS

**FRI 3/7 • 9 PM • FREE**  
CAST SPELLS (MBRS OF MAPS AND ATLASES)

**THU 3/20 • 9 PM • FREE**  
LEE BAINS

**DRINK SPECIALS**  
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

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\* Dr. Ted Murray is AACD accredited.



# Picture Yourself in the Tri-States

fueled by...  
**KWIK  
STOP**



100 people joined the Dubuque Area Land and Water Legacy and a panel of experts at NICC in downtown Dubuque for a conversation on conservation of Iowa's fruit tree and forest reservation program.



St. Elias the Prophet, Dubuque's Greek Eastern Orthodox Church, performs The Great Blessing of the Waters alongside the Mississippi River at the Port of Dubuque.



Local favorites, Back Booth Alley, rock a high-energy show in front of a big crowd of fans ready for a good time at the Diamond Jo Casino's Mississippi Moon Bar. Photo by Kodiak Creative.



Theresa mugs for the camera while performing live on a Friday afternoon at Dimensional Brewing Co. on lower Main St. in downtown Dubuque. Photo by Ben Roethig.



The Gaugreau family fights emotions as the Dubuque Fighting Saints retire former Saint and NHL hockey veteran Johnny Goundreau's jersey on Jan 11th. He was tragically lost to a drunk driver along with his brother Matt while biking in New Jersey on Aug. 29. ImOn Arena was sold-out as the Saints won one for Johnny. Photo by Steven Gassman.



Wicked-talented multi-instrumentalist and songwriter Greg Garing performs with friends live at Grape Escape in Galena, IL. Photo by Henry Matthiessen III.



Tribute artist Jesse Aron brings some of America's most iconic performers back to life during a New Year's Eve performance at Ohward Fine Arts Center in Maquoketa, IA.



The Dubuque Jaycees gathered recently for their annual Pass the Gavel Banquet where they give out awards for accomplishments in the past year, award Life Memberships and, of course, swear in the leadership for the coming year of civic involvement by young professionals.



We're still not sure if they're energetic or crazy, but 200+ Dubuquers once again converged on the Mines of Spain on January 1st for the First Day Hike at the nature preserve. Photo by DigitalDubuque.com.



The Dubuque Area Arts Collective joined forces with Olliwood Action Sports to host a Skateboard Deck Art and Music Jam at the Smokestack in downtown Dubuque featuring diverse and stunning original art painted onto skate decks with live music filling the space. Photo by Amy Moline.



Locals celebrate Irish New Year at 6 PM on Dec 31 at Dolph's Bar in the Millwork District. The festivities included traditional Irish Music and food... and the "adults" were home in time to be asleep for the real New Year.

Submit your photo by using

**#my365ink**

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**PIECES**  
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Dairy Queen

REESE'S PIECES, chocolate chip cookie dough, and peanut butter topping

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- House-Made Ranch
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- Wow! Country Gravy

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# the Calico Bean market

Story and Photos by Danny Fairchild

Super Bowl, Super Bowl, Super Bowl! Super Bowl!

I'm writing "Super Bowl" a bunch of times here in print because in my bill-paying life as an advertising copywriter, I'm not allowed to call the Super Bowl the Super Bowl. I have to call it the Big Game or similar. But in this case, writing "Super Bowl" falls under fair use because it's commentary. I CAN'T send you an invite to a "Super Bowl Party" where I charge cover. But I CAN write a column about how to up your chip and veggie dip game at your own Super Bowl party.

And that, my friends, is what you call a Super Bowl segue.

Now... we here in the Tri-States have a long and splendid tradition of dips,

and we friggin' BRING IT when it comes time for the Super Bowl. Crack chicken, cowboy caviar, buffalo chicken dip, bagel dip, and the dozens that aren't coming right off the top of my head right now. We're geniuses when it comes to dips.

But here's the thing: Unless a dip needs to be served hot and therefore requires a slow cooker, why spend much time on it at all? Most people are totally happy to both bake and eat a cake that comes from a boxed mix. I've never baked a cake from scratch, and I hope I never will. Why not put the flavor of your dips in the hands of the geniuses of all of us genius Tri-States dip makers and just add your own sour cream and/or cream cheese?

Folks, if you want to really up your dip game for your Super Bowl party... do NOT sleep on The Calico Bean Market.

Yes, The Calico Bean. That little shop along Bluff Street in Dubuque. Even if you've never shopped there, you've probably heard awesome things about the kinds of things they sell there. Dip mixes, salsas, soup starters, fresh-ground nut butters, BBQ rubs. That kind of thing. And that is all very accurate. You'll find all that stuff there and way more. But that doesn't prepare you for the experience.

First of all, knowing all the different herbs and spices surely wafting through



the air, can you imagine just how amazing it smells as you walk in the door? Yeah? Well, you're wrong! It smells even better than that! Your imagination sucks!

And as for the atmosphere... well... The Calico Bean Market feels like a place where you can get exactly what you need to bake the perfect sourdough or brew a tragic love potion—your typical oven-and-coven shop. I'm kidding, of course. I'm a long-time dungeon master, and I didn't see any legitimate spell components available for purchase. But you will see just a friggin' eclectic gathering of shelving units, all of them full of something delicious. Be careful setting your coffee down in the store. It could blend right in, and you'll never see it again.

Speaking of coffee, there's almost an entire WALL of different roasts and flavors you can take to brew at home. Whole bean AND ground.

And just when you think you've seen the whole store floor, it's almost like you move a jar of salsa and all of a sudden another room of deliciousness appears. Don't get me wrong: It's a small store that FEELS small because there's a lot of flavor packed in there, but you just... keep... discovering stuff. With all the possibilities at The Calico Bean, it was hard to keep my eyes on the Super Bowl party prize.

And look, I'm not saying your family dip recipe isn't awesome. I'm sure it is. I'm just saying that, in general, The Calico Bean Market is way better than you at dips. So why not get some of their mixes, add the ingredients to turn that mix into a dip (so you still feel like you're making it), and put your time and talents to something like chicken wings? And heck, since you're there, you may as well let them help you with the wings. Sauce, seasoning, or rub, they've got your wings literally covered.

Alright, let's get into the food.

They must have seen me coming. Not more than half a minute and I was introduced to the wonder of butterscotch peanut butter. Oh, my gosh. Freshly ground and delicious. But kind of airy. So often, fresh peanut butter is so heavy and greasy. Not the case with The Calico Bean. I'm sure the oil will separate eventually, but as of this writing, my butterscotch peanut butter isn't a puzzle to spread. It's almost fluffy. And for those of you who don't get the obvious implications of butterscotch peanut butter, I have just one word for you: Scotcheroo.

I picked up a jar of salsa to try out, too. That's a Super Bowl thing. Plus we're having tacos for dinner tomorrow. My friends, are you looking for a genuinely thick and chunky—and I mean CHUNKY—salsa? The Calico Bean carries Amish Wedding brand salsa. Yeah, I know how weird that sounds. The Amish people aren't known for their salsa. Not the dance, nor the sauce. But they are known for good food, great produce, and keen canning skills, so there you have it—salsa.

Oh, my. One thing you absolutely HAVE to try with ANY salsa you have... Rose Sisters' Chips tortillas. Instead of bowlable chips, these come as three nine-inch crispy tortillas, wonderfully seasoned. So your kind of break of the chip you want on your way to the salsa. It's a deliciously shareable change to your usual tortilla chips. Maybe your Super Bowl guests aren't ready for that, yet. But keep it in mind for yourself or a homecooked date night.

Alright! Now we're on to the dips!

I was recommended the cucumber dill dip. I was told I'd never tasted anything like it before. I listened but was skeptical. I mean... I'm 45 years old. How can you possibly hope to surprise me with cucumber and dill? That's about as basic as it gets,

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THE CALICO BEAN MARKET SELLS DIPS, SALSAS, BUTTERSCOTCH PEANUT BUTTER, AND MORE

am I right? Right. Oh, but wait!... What's that flavor I'm getting? Is that sweetness? Like honey? Maybe? I don't know because my tongue can't catch up to it. It ducks and weaves. Nope, it's not sweetness. It's an acidity. But not like a pickle brine, even though we're dealing with cucumber and dill. Hell, friends, I don't know. It's delicious and fun and fresh tasting and a mystery. I recommend potato chips for this. Maybe give french onion the night off this year. Oh, hey! You know the perfect use for this dip? You know the jerk who insists on making the spiciest chili they can possibly without being summoned to the Hague for war crimes? Use this stuff to tone down the Capsaicin so you can actually taste it.

Warning about the key lime dip: While it doesn't really look like guacamole, it is (as you can see) green. A partygoer who sees a green dip could reasonably assume that it's at least avocado-based. Make sure this one is properly labeled, or at least put it with the sweet stuff on your Super Bowl spread. Okay, so here's my serendipitous moment with the key lime dip. I just happened to have some store-cut mango spears. I dipped animal crackers, vanilla wafers, chocolate chip cookies, and jaffa cakes in the key lime dip. And while all that was friggin' amazing, the most delicious thing I dipped in it was the healthy option: The mango spears. It didn't even matter that the mango wasn't quite ripe, yet. In fact, that helped with the dipability of the mango. I don't know why I keep forgetting that mango and lime are such a magic combo. I'm a fool, I guess. This dip wants to be turned into a key lime cheesecake with a mango curd on top, dammit!

Buffalo ranch dip. My thought was that I'd get a dip to spice things up (buffalo ranch), a dip to cool things down (cucumber dill), and a sweet dip (key

lime pie). But I underestimated the power of ranch to cool down buffalo flavor. So, while very delicious and something that will really up your buffalo chicken dip, it is not spicy. If you're looking for spicy, you'll need to add more spice.

But really, that's the great thing about almost ALL of The Calico Bean's mixes. If you WANT to doctor them to your liking, it's easy to do.

Super Bowl parties are a lot of work to put on. Make it easier and better with The Calico Bean Market. Or, if you're expected to bring something to someone else's party, The Calico Bean Market is an easy way to dazzle.

Super Bowl, Super Bowl, Super Bowl! ■

### The Calico Bean Market

📍 352 BLUFF ST, DUBUQUE, IA  
 ☎ 563-557-8159  
 🌐 CALICOBEANMARKET.COM  
 🕒 MON-SAT 9 AM-5 PM; SUN: 10 AM-3 PM  
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## National Seed Swap Day Celebration

Saturday, Jan. 25,  
 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public.



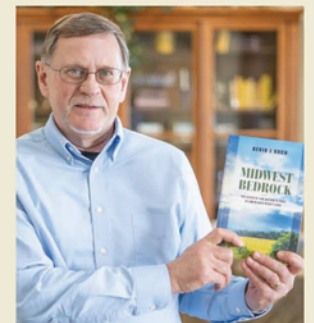
Visit with local gardening and environmental groups at this drop-in style event in the third-floor auditorium. A variety of seed packets suitable for Iowa growing will be available for free while supplies last. Attendees are also welcome to bring in their own seeds to share or swap. Seeds brought to share or swap should be well-packaged and clearly labeled.

## "Midwest Bedrock" Author Event with Kevin Koch

Sunday, Jan. 26, from 1 to 2 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public.

Local author Kevin Koch will read selections from his latest book, "Midwest Bedrock: The Search for Nature's Soul in America's Heartland." Part history, part memoir, and part interview-based research, Koch invites readers to join him on a journey through the beauty of the Midwest to discover



lesser-known landscapes and stories of the past. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

Kevin J. Koch is Professor Emeritus of English at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. He is also the author of "Skiing at Midnight: A Nature Journal from Dubuque County, Iowa" and "The Thin Places: A Celtic Landscape from Ireland to the Driftless."

360 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street | [carnegiestout.org](http://carnegiestout.org)





### Strawberry Banana Performance Inspired Smoothie Bowl

MAKES 2 SERVINGS

**All You Need:**

- 1 banana, peeled and frozen
- 1 scoop Vanilla bean Performance Inspired Performance Whey Protein
- 1 (5.3 oz.) Too Good Zero Sugar Madagascar Vanilla yogurt
- 1/2 cup sliced strawberries
- 2 tbsp. Hy-Vee sliced almonds
- 1 tsp. chia or hemp seeds
- Additional toppings, as desired

**All You Do:**

1. Blend a banana, whey protein powder and yogurt until smooth. Pour into two bowls.
2. Top with sliced strawberries, almonds, and chia seeds. Add additional toppings as desired.

Recipe Source: [hy-vee.com](http://hy-vee.com)

THIS INFORMATION IS NOT INTENDED AS MEDICAL ADVICE. PLEASE CONSULT A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL FOR INDIVIDUAL ADVICE. SCAN THIS QR CODE TO FIND YOUR HY-VEE DIETITIAN.



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# Truth Over Trends

## Weight Loss Myths You Should Leave Behind

By Hy-Vee Nutritionist Megan Dalsing

Shedding weight is tough, even with all the stars aligned—but add in a friend’s tip or internet advice, and it’s a whole new challenge. Obesity is a growing concern in today’s world, linked to serious health risks like high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes. For many, the desire to lower these risks is a strong incentive to work toward a healthier weight. Still, unfortunately, this pursuit is often overshadowed by widespread weight loss myths that can mislead and hinder progress.

Below, we debunk some of the most common weight loss myths and share tips to help you improve your well-being while fostering a healthy relationship with food.

1. **XYZ diet works:** Fad diets work for many people, but not for long. These diets are rarely sustainable for the long haul, plus many have food rules that cost you the joy of eating. Consider asking yourself, “Can you do this diet long term?”—as in forever. If the answer is no, move on. The tried-and-true way of losing weight and keeping it off is not a diet. It’s a form of healthy habits: eating a balanced diet, exercising regularly, and adequate sleep.
2. **Exercise outweighs eating habits:** You cannot outrun a bad diet. Yes, movement is crucial. However, it’s time to reconsider if you’re solely counting on the gym to shed the weight. Exercise helps create a calorie deficit, but many fall into the trap of “rewarding” their efforts with extra calories, undoing their hard work. A helpful guideline to remember is the 80/20 rule: 80% nutrition and 20% movement.
3. **Cut carbs to lose:** Whoever vilified this food group needs to be held accountable. Carbohydrates are important. They’re the main energy source for both the brain and the body. The key isn’t cutting them out entirely but understanding portion sizes. Too much of a good thing for any food item can backfire. Therefore, it’s good to remember that while high-protein diets are often hailed as the best for weight loss due to their role in keeping you full and supporting muscle, they work best when paired with smart, portion-controlled

4. **Greatly reducing calories will get you your results:** First, your body requires a certain number of calories to maintain basic body functions. Eating well below our daily requirement can hinder weight loss by slowing metabolism, and making it harder to reach your long-term goals. Not to mention, restricting calories can lead to an inadequate intake of essential nutrients, impacting overall health and energy levels. A moderate calorie deficit is essential to lose weight, however, that’s where a registered dietitian can provide an appropriate calorie level for your individual needs and goals.
5. **Eating at night can make you gain:** If you’re hoping for praise and approval for the “no eating after 7 p.m.” rule, you might be looking in the wrong place. It’s not the timing that causes weight gain; it’s the choices and the portions of these that can set you back. Take a moment to check in with yourself: Is your nighttime snacking driven by genuine hunger or simply out of habit? If it’s the latter, you may need to shut down the kitchen and crawl into bed.

If you’re looking for personalized advice on nutrition trends or wondering how to kick-start your health and wellness journey in 2025, our team of Hy-Vee registered dietitians is here to help. Contact our Discovery Call Center at [nutritionservices@hy-vee.com](mailto:nutritionservices@hy-vee.com) or call **515-695-3121** to schedule your complimentary Discovery Session today. ■

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# Martyr!

By John McAndrew

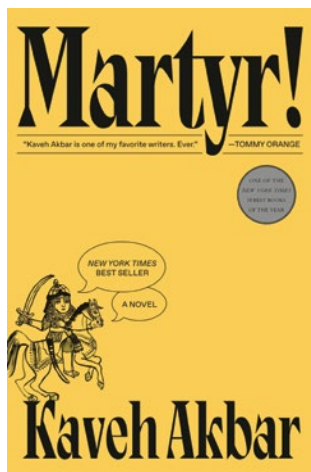
If you had to get approval to write your first novel, Kaveh Akbar would have had no worries. He's published books of poetry, won the Pushcart Prize twice, edited *The Penguin Book of Spiritual Verse* (a treasure trove), and is the director of the English and Creative Writing Program at the University of Iowa. Also, he taught writing and the Poetry of the Divine at Purdue. The panel would likely stamp his application, "We thought you'd never ask." His first novel, *Martyr!*, now out in paperback, is a *New York Times* best seller and National Book Award nominee.

Cyrus Shams is a sad, searching young man. His mother died shortly after his birth, when the US Navy shot her plane out of the sky (based on a true incident). His father died while Cyrus was a sophomore (in an Indiana college that isn't called Purdue). His uncle was the Angel of Death. Cyrus works training internists at a hospital by playing a dying patient or bereaved relative. He's an addict and alcoholic.

In the absence of that inner coding that blesses some people with a sense of direction, Cyrus looks for a sign from God. If Mary Oliver had asked him, "What will you do with your one wild and precious life," he'd have scoffed, "You tell me!" When his AA sponsor (Gabriel Bardo; Akbar's name game is solid) asks if he wants to be a martyr, Cyrus says yes—but not *that* kind of martyr. Not the kind that murders innocents and thinks that gives him glory. But, "Can you imagine having that kind of faith?... I'm not that certain of anything. I'm not that certain of gravity."

And so he proposes to research and write about martyrs, who were so sure of themselves that they gave their lives for a cause: Hussain, Joan of Arc, Tank Man, Bobby Sands, and others. This reminds his friend, Sad James, of something he saw online: A dying artist will sit in a museum in Brooklyn and talk with whomever comes in, in a performance piece she calls DEATH-SPEAK. Cyrus's roommate, Zee, suggests that they go, given Cyrus's quest.

"The unexamined life is not worth living," a philosopher said. Some examine



life out of sheer, desperate need. No career, no close family, no inner fog lights illuminating the way toward whatever you're *supposed* to be doing. And death running through your life like veins in marble. "Why am I even here?"

*Martyr!* is a wise, relatable story of an Iranian American everyman navigating a world selling mirages of certainty and five-year plans. It's about noticing epiphanies that lack angelic horn sections, that don't deliver a book of instructions. Sometimes, all we common folk get is a friend showing us a post on social media and saying, "You can keep being the sad sober guy in Indiana who talks about being a writer, or you can go be one." No burning bush. But that doesn't mean there are no surprises.

Akbar walks us through a life's quest without being maudlin or pedantic. Along the way, he gives us a tantalizing mystery, luminous passages about Iranian mirror art and the Ten Commandments, and a cornucopia of material for reflection and discussion. Life and the gods aren't constrained by our expectations. (See his *Penguin Book of Spiritual Verse* for clues.) In fact, they sometimes seem to take them as a challenge. Marvelous debut. ■

**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).



For all library events that require pre-registration, please visit: [dubcolib.org/calendar](http://dubcolib.org/calendar)



## Dubuque County Library District



### Early Out Play

Drop-in between 2:30-3:30 for early out fun! Lego, games, crafts & more!  
Epworth: Weds, January 15, 22 & 29



### Kids Craft Club: Snow Globes

Join us for a monthly craft project for kids! In January we're making snow globes.  
Asbury: Thursday, January 16, 4:30 PM  
Epworth: Tuesday, January 21, 4:30 PM  
Holy Cross: Monday, January 27, 5:30 PM  
Peosta: Wednesday, January 29, 3 PM  
Farley: Thursday, January 30, 4:30 PM



### All About Birds

Join Dubuque County Conservation to learn All About Birds! Meet real-life bird experts, feel real bird feathers and look at pellets under microscopes! For All Ages.  
Asbury: Thursday, January 23, 4:30 PM

### Nature Squad

Nature Squad: Bringing the fun of the outdoors inside with hands-on nature themed activities that will spark kids' love for the natural world and encourage them



to explore nature. Join us to make Pine Discovery Bottles.  
Peosta: Wednesday, January 22, 3 PM  
Epworth: Tuesday, January 28, 4:30 PM



### Craft Club: Giant Paper Snowflakes

Join us for this monthly crafting program. In January we're making giant paper snowflakes. Designed for adults, teens welcome. RSVP recommended, drop-ins welcome as supplies last.  
Holy Cross: Monday, January 27, 5:30 PM



### Tea Tasting

Discover the secrets to the perfect cup of tea with Grace Deane, owner of Byzanteaum Tea Shop! In this engaging two-hour program, savor the rich flavors of green, black, and herbal teas while mastering the art of brewing like a pro. Bring your curiosity—and your taste buds—for a tea experience you won't forget! Sponsored by The Friends of the Dubuque County Library District. RSVP Required.  
Asbury: Wednesday, January 29, 5:30 PM

### Five Convenient County Library Locations...

- Asbury 5290 Grand Meadow Dr., 563-582-0008
- Farley Municipal Building, 206 1st St N., 563-744-3475
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**Coming Soon**

**WOLFMAN (R)**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17**

From Blumhouse, as a family approaches an inherited farmhouse in the dead of night, they're attacked by an unseen animal and, in a desperate escape, barricade themselves inside the home as the creature prowls the perimeter. As the night stretches on, however, Blake begins to behave strangely, transforming into something unrecognizable, and Charlotte will be forced to decide whether the terror within their house is more lethal than the danger without.



**MAYA**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22**

**@ 5:30-7 PM**

**PHOENIX THEATRES**

Artists for Change created this film to show how traffickers use social media and how young people become vulnerable by these techniques. The film's producer and actors will share some of the "red flags" which will help parents, teachers, and youth in avoiding becoming victims of human trafficking. A 20-minute clip can be viewed prior to the showing. *Maya* was shown during the 2024 Julien Dubuque Film festival. The Tri-State Coalition Against Human Trafficking is now sponsoring this free showing of the film during Human Trafficking Awareness Month.



**HumanTraffickingIowaWIL.com.**

**FLIGHT RISK (R)**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24**

In this high-stakes suspense thriller, Mark Wahlberg plays a pilot transporting an air marshal accompanying a fugitive to trial. As they cross the Alaskan wilderness, tensions soar and trust is tested, as not everyone on board is who they seem. Directed by Mel Gibson.



**PRESENCE (R)**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24**

A family moves into a suburban house and becomes convinced they're not alone. The slow-burning spectral thriller reaffirms that director Steven Soderbergh plays with form as deftly as he flits between genres.



**Movie Buzz**

Speaking on *The Joe Rogan Experience*, Mel Gibson offered details about *The Passion of the*



*Christ 2*, revealing the "very ambitious" narrative he's crafted alongside his brother, Donal Gibson, and co-writer Randall Wallace. The movie follows "the fall of the angels to the death of the last apostle," depicting events that happen in Sheol (Hell). He also confirmed plans to start filming in 2026. The title of the movie will be *The Resurrection of the Christ*, and Jim Caviezel will not be coming back due to the necessity of having to de-age him using CGI.

The budget for Christopher Nolan's adaptation of Homer's Greek epic *The Odyssey* has been



revealed, and its massive at \$250 million. Matt Damon, Tom Holland, Zendaya, Anne Hathaway, Lupita Nyong'o, Robert Pattinson, and Charlize Theron are all cast in the film. The studio is reportedly confident in spending the large amount of money for it and their other 2026 titles due to Nolan's *Oppenheimer* success. *The Odyssey* is a sea-faring epic full of mythological creatures and an ancient Greek setting, that would also necessitate a large budget to capture its grandiose set pieces.

*Den of Thieves 2*: *Pantera* creator Christian Gudegast has confirmed plans for three more



sequels in the Gerard Butler franchise, teasing the franchise's future movies. Despite *Den of Thieves 2*'s lukewarm reviews, the movie managed to rake in \$20.5 million against a \$40 million budget in its opening weekend, opening at No. 1 domestically. The film continues the story of Sheriff Nick O'Brien (Butler) on a massive diamond heist. While its story continues where the first left off, it also hints at a potential future continuation. *Den of Thieves 3* has already been written, while the fourth and fifth installments have been planned out.





# Failure is an Option

## (and That's a Good Thing!)

By Matt Booth

Failing sucks. Let's just get that out of the way. Failing feels like stepping on a LEGO in the dark—painful, unexpected, and enough to make you question your life choices. It's embarrassing, disappointing, and sometimes leaves a worse taste in your mouth than sipping expired eggnog.

From the time we're kids, we're told to avoid failure at all costs. Get good grades, win the game, nail the presentation—because fewer failures supposedly mean more success. But let me tell you, that's some grade-A Bull Crap. Fear of failure stops many people from even trying—and that's where the real damage happens. You don't want to be 80 years old, sipping your Jumble Coffee, and thinking, "I should've gone for it." That kind of regret lingers longer than the smell of fried fish after a Friday night fish fry.

Failure gets a bad rap, but it's time to set the record straight. Failure isn't just inevitable—it's essential. Sure, it hurts, but it's also how we grow. You don't learn to ride a bike without a few crashes, and you don't succeed in life without some setbacks.

Take Thomas Edison, for example. He failed over 1,000 times before finally inventing the light bulb. That's the kind of persistence that makes the Chicago Bears' search for a franchise quarterback look like a casual hobby.

Here's a stat for you: 90% of start-ups fail within their first year. Does that stop entrepreneurs? Nope. Dubuque itself wouldn't be the thriving city it is today without setbacks. Remember when the Millwork District was a collection of crumbling warehouses? Now it's a vibrant hub of art, food, and community—a shining example of how failure can lead to reinvention.

- If failure were an Olympic sport, I'd be a gold medalist. Let me give you a quick tour of my Hall of Fail:
- I almost flunked 5<sup>th</sup> grade. My teacher only passed me because she couldn't handle another year of me in her class.
- I failed spectacularly for three years in high school wrestling. The mat might as well have been my permanent home.
- Calculus in college? Let's just say I "calculated" my way to an F.

I failed at playing guitar—so if you want to hear real talent, listen to my wife, Joie Wails. She's the rock star in the family.

And that's just a few highlights. I've failed in business, relationships, and even at using my God-given gifts. But failure has taught me something. Failure hasn't stopped me; it's made me stronger.

Do you know there's a National Quitters Day? It's the second Friday of January, the day most people abandon their New Year's resolutions. Two weeks into the year, millions of dreams get tossed aside like last year's Christmas tree. Why? Because people fear failure more than they value progress.

But here's the thing: Failure isn't a reason to quit—it's a reason to adapt, rethink, and keep going.

Failure isn't the enemy. Giving up is. The next time failure starts breathing down your neck, don't quit. Use it. Learn from it. Let it push you to try harder, dream bigger, and take another swing.

Failure is like Midwest weather—it's unpredictable and sometimes brutal, but it's also what keeps life interesting. You'll never know how strong you are until you face it head-on. So the next time failure comes knocking, don't slam the door. Let it in, learn from it, and use it as fuel for your next big move.

Failure is always an option—but quitting isn't. ■

**MATT BOOTH**

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## PUZZLE PAGE

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

### Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

©Conceptis Puzzles

06010072550

### WHERE'S GENERAL BOB?

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



### PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

#### WITH APOLOGIES TO THE 4 SEASONS

#### ACROSS

- 1 Devastation
- 6 Electricity bits
- 11 Name of five Norse royals
- 15 Time stretch
- 19 "Are you calling me —?"
- 20 In plain sight
- 21 Leaning Tower site
- 22 700-mile African river
- 23 Very successful, in old slang
- 24 Skater Sonja
- 25 Not consuming cooked food
- 27 H.G. Wells novel
- 30 Acclimates gently
- 31 Flight safety org.
- 32 Novel events
- 35 Israeli prime minister before Naftali Bennett
- 41 Somewhat, informally
- 45 Metal deposit
- 46 Isuzu pickup truck
- 47 Designer Claiborne
- 48 Toyota Camry competitor
- 53 Smart-alecky
- 55 Low-cost carrier of Malaysia
- 56 Eggs, to Ovid
- 57 Slalom gear
- 59 Ear-piercing
- 60 Exam for a future atty.
- 63 Concept
- 66 Erstwhile anesthetics
- 70 Actor Ziering
- 71 Morning diner options
- 74 No longer active: Abbr.
- 75 Aziz of "Master of None"
- 77 Owl's sound
- 78 Bluish green
- 79 Forming viscid threads
- 80 Wise men
- 82 Swab
- 84 Change the decor of
- 86 Singer Hayes
- 89 Grand Canyon site
- 94 "One Mic" rapper
- 95 Explorer Hernando de —
- 96 Tristan's title
- 97 Kids around
- 98 Cheese-wrapped, breaded outlet
- 105 Gibson of 1950s tennis
- 106 Soul carmaker
- 107 Helps out
- 112 What I am doing when spelling out six long answers in this puzzle?
- 118 Frontman for Twisted Sister

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
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							112					113	114				115	116	117		
118	119											120					121				
122												123							124	125	
126																			127	128	129

- 120 Of the sun
- 121 Link together
- 122 "Jane —"
- 123 Kin of "me neither"
- 124 Oktoberfest dance
- 125 Solitary type
- 126 "I've — had!"
- 127 Grab (onto)
- 128 VIP roster
- 129 Big pitchers
- 26 No, in Essen
- 28 Be supine
- 29 Actor Butler
- 33 The one here
- 34 Kolber of ESPN
- 36 Actor Pesci
- 37 Skill
- 38 Office note
- 39 Envoy's bldg.
- 40 Frat letters
- 41 Gorsuch replaced him
- 42 Neighbor of an Indianan
- 43 Shows again
- 44 Tube spot
- 49 Well driller
- 50 Cut with light
- 51 Plane flier
- 52 Sonny boys
- 53 In — (as found)
- 54 Hearth refuse
- 58 Part of AKC
- 61 Relief sound
- 62 Boxing win, in brief
- 64 And others: Abbr.
- 65 Singer Grant
- 67 Chips away
- 68 Do again
- 69 Tablet tapping tool
- 71 Bric-a —
- 72 Anxiety over not taking part, for short
- 73 Old West's Wyatt
- 76 Drs.' gp.
- 79 Uncreative learning style
- 81 Venerated one
- 83 El —, Texas
- 85 Uppercase letter
- 86 Early Andean
- 87 Funny Mort
- 88 So to speak
- 90 Non-Rx
- 91 Show no signs of hope
- 92 Noisy clamor
- 93 Space ball
- 95 Viking pirate chief
- 99 Opted for
- 100 "Bill" penner Jerome
- 101 Crater's edge
- 102 Facial spot?
- 103 Rodent of research
- 104 That, in Peru
- 108 "Tell me about it!"
- 109 "Fear Street" writer R.L. —
- 110 One carrying something
- 111 Litigants
- 113 Venerated one
- 114 Roman tyrant
- 115 Sheep's coat
- 116 "That is — ask"
- 117 Tibetan bovines
- 118 Girl coming out in society
- 119 Iris locale

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# WE'VE GOT THE TRUCK FOR YOU!





WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH HER?

# Terminal Nostalgia

By Pam Kress-Dunn

A few weeks ago, my husband had a reading of his play *Cleaning Out the Attic* performed, and it evoked more emotions than I expected.

In the course of the play, four grown children of deceased alcoholics do their best to come to terms with the uproar of their childhood. I was lucky. Although my parents probably qualified as alcoholics, the daily whiskies they downed never led to rage or abuse. When I sampled their gin, it only made me sick as a dog, so I never became a drinker.

The emotions I was feeling came not from the plot—though it was moving and funny and beautifully done—but the onstage props. I contributed some things for the son and daughters to confront in the attic—stuffed animals, a dressmaker’s dummy, a long, lacy wedding gown, all from my distant past.

Bob wanted the dummy onstage as a place where the deceased mom hid letters from the daughter who disappeared, fleeing her explosive household. The audience was startled when she pulled them from inside the dummy. I felt something else.

When the other two daughters picked up the stuffed animals—among them my round, red-nosed creature—and threw them into a box marked “DONATE,” they both laughed with glee. I wanted to rescue them.

As for the wedding gown? Stuffed into a cardboard box, it belonged to Jane,

the second-oldest girl who had married and divorced. She seemed a bit upset, wondering why this Gunne Sax confection had been saved. I had my own concerns.

Aside from the play and its profound message, I was feeling other things—feeling all the feels, as my daughter likes to say—because these were my things, my past, my nostalgia. If there were a support group for people with too much nostalgia, I would be there. “Hello, my name is Pam, and I’m nostalgic. It’s been zero days since I had my last sentimental cringe.”

The dummy—what a terrible name for a lovely apparatus shaped as a woman’s adjustable body—was Mom’s. Ella Sue, as she called her, stood mutely in her sewing room, ready to serve. Mom fitted her with dresses made for me and my sister, and others for herself and her friends. They knew that no matter how poorly a store-bought garment fit, Iona could fix it. Today I can hardly thread a needle on her old sewing machine, and even if I could, I’ve forgotten how it works. I made the curtains for every house I lived in until I no longer could.

Mom, too, had to give it up, but in her case, it was Alzheimer’s that stole her skills away. I wish I could forget the moment she told me, matter-of-factly, that her sewing days were done. I knew better than to argue, or plead for just one more alteration. I found a great seamstress in Dubuque for whom I’m grateful, but it’s not the same as going to Mom. Now Ella Sue stands in my guestroom wearing my second wedding dress, a stunning copper ballgown with only good memories.

The stuffed animals in the play that came from our house were Piggy and Hippo, which my son’s twins used to play with; Fuzzy Four

Feet, an apelike weirdo from the childhood of Bob’s kids; and also the round Eskimo orb my mom made. He was one of five Gonks Mom crafted from a Simplicity pattern, given as presents from Santa sometime in the 1960s. (My sister Bonnie and I made room in our heads for two opposing beliefs: Mom sewed our toys, and Santa delivered them. Not once did we question that logic.)

As for the lace wedding dress, I bought it in 1977 to wed my high school sweetheart. The marriage lasted eight years and was tragically violent, but I kept the dress.

The only reason my Tiny Tears doll wasn’t on that stage was her condition—arms fallen off, and most of her toes, too. She should go, but she’s got the sweetest face. Feed her water and she cries!

Why all of this nostalgia? Why hang on to these things? I vaguely recall an old saying about a thing having as much tenderness as God grants it, but my question was always, how do we know how much this god loves a thing? Surely any first-class deity feels tenderness for everything under the sun.

My sister was a world-class hoarder, but I don’t think it was nostalgia that made her collect more boxes of plastic wrap than I could count. Her social worker suggested taking pictures of things before consigning them to the dumpster, which is why I found photos of beat-up pots and pans

in her albums. For me, this would only make things worse—a lasting reminder of the dolls I loved, the dresses Mom sewed, that I had coldly abandoned.

In the play, Jane is not happy to see her wedding dress. She laments, “That might as well be from the Bronze Age,” writing off the garment the way she had to write off her marriage. But me? I feel one way about my lamentable marriage and another way about the pretty dress. If anything, I feel sorry for it. Hanging in the store, it seemed so promising. Then I came along, tried it on, and wore it just once, for my oh-so-hopeful wedding.

I’ve warned my grown children about what they will inherit. Not just the house, the car, the furniture, but the stuff, all the objects I could not bid adieu. I may never be able to throw my Tiny Tears away. They may have to stage her funeral. I can only hope the nostalgia gene stops with me. ■

PAM KRESS-DUNN

PAM BELIEVES THAT IF SHE DOESN’T WRITE ABOUT IT, IT DIDN’T HAPPEN. YOU CAN READ ALL 300+ OF HER PAST COLUMNS, PLUS OTHER RANDOM POSTS, ON HER BLOG AT [SIEGEOFWORDS.COM](http://SIEGEOFWORDS.COM).





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**Angela's**  
Awesome Advice

**DEAR ANGELA,**

I work from home a lot and attend a lot of virtual meetings that really don't pertain to me but my boss says are "required." Today I had one titled "Prep for post quarterly report summary" which I didn't understand then and still don't. I turned my camera and mic off as soon as I logged on. I wasn't taking it seriously

because no one wants my input, and having an opinion is way above my pay grade anyway. I managed to follow along with the discussion for a few minutes until I heard someone say, "Lets circle back on that next quarter to ensure we maintain synergy." When I hear that I know it's time to tune out and get some real work done. I answered a few emails and then my stomach gurgled. My morning coffee was taking immediate action in my guts. I leaned to the side and let a real long wet one loose. Suddenly the presenter stopped mid sentence. Turns out we had been automatically muted before I joined the meeting. Which meant that I turned ON my camera and mic. That cool feature that picks up sound and shows which participant is making noise worked really well, and my dumb face popped up on screen outing me as the farter! I made things worse by WAVING. I didn't know what else to do so I just exited the meeting and put my status as Do Not Disturb. How do I repair my image with this group?!?!? —Tooting on Toledo

**DEAR TOOTING,**

Wow you sent me a real stinker, didn't you? Don't worry. Channel Sheryl

Sandburg and LEAN IN, or off to the side in your case. This is your chance to be a visionary, a true change agent in your company. I've heard that letting 'er rip is really acceptable in some other countries (I'm not fact checking and you shouldn't either). Proclaim yourself as a cosmopolitan trend setter who is taking up Flatulence for Health™, a radical new way of life that promotes a balanced intestine chakra and gut alignment. In fact, you should get HR involved and encourage them to promote Fartin' February. Those HR people love anything that makes it sound like they are encouraging healthy behavior while also ensuring you never get up from your desk. You can even have a Gas Tracker Challenge to see who can break wind the most in meetings. Folks track their progress either by number of farts or rates of smelliness (for those silent-but-deadly stink bombs). The winner of each category will get a prize.

**DEAR ANGELA,**

I've been hearing a lot about how China could steal state secrets through social media and messages. I guess I'm confused about what Iowa even has to hide? Should I be worried? —Paranoid on Pinard

**DEAR PARANOID,**

You should be paranoid, but not about state secrets. I mean, Kevin Costner already let it slip that it's *not* heaven. We should all be worried about the dirtiest secrets of all: those in the secret group chat or the text chain with your bestie. Don't forget the conversation between all your siblings *about* your parents. Or the one between your parents about your other sibling. Consider the fallout from one cyber attack if instead of selling your social security number, they sold all your awful, most petty messages. And posted them online. I'm pretty sure this would cause total societal collapse. Your safest bet is to stop texting and messaging, and just send the gossip off to me via snail mail. I promise I'll never publish the really juicy stuff.

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


By Danny Fairchild, Friend to the Cosmos


- 


**ARIES**  
(APR 19–MAY 13)  
While you're glad to finally have a break in the drama, it's almost not worth having to sit through all the commercials.
- 


**TAURUS**  
(MAY 14–JUNE 19)  
Unfortunately, for the next few weeks, it will seem that you just can't say the right thing. Good thing you're pretty.
- 

**GEMINI**  
(JUNE 20–JULY 20)  
Now is the time to step out of your comfort zone. Take classes, attend meetings, do volunteer work, or whatever else the judge orders you to do.
- 

**CANCER**  
(JULY 21–AUG 9)  
Take some time over the next few weeks to review your finances. And I mean REALLY look. You'll find that the evidence shows that you have been defrauding yourself of millions of dollars over several years.
- 


**LEO**  
(AUG 10–SEP 15)  
Now is now is not the time to do something bold. Italics or underlined will be sufficient, thank you.
- 


**VIRGO**  
(SEP 16–OCT 30)  
In the next few weeks, you may have to finally face your demons. But wait! That can't be! Only one other person knows the spell to conjure those demons and they would never betray you. Unless...
- 


**LIBRA**  
(OCT 31–NOV 22)  
It'll be another exciting year in the life of a world-class jewel thief. Wait. Stupid autocorrect. That should read "joule thief" because you just rob people of all their energy. And the year won't actually be "exciting," but that won't stop you from droning on about it until we all want to die.
- 


**SCORPIO**  
(NOV 23–NOV 29)  
Now's the time to take a look at your past career goals to see if


they make sense to your present self. Fair warning to your past self: They're still not hiring for Power Rangers.

 **OPHIUCHUS**  
(NOV 30–DEC 17)  
For the next two weeks, you'll definitely feel more grounded. This should come as no surprise since Mom made it clear in no uncertain terms that "grounded for two weeks" is exactly what you are, and that you should just be happy it's not for even longer.

 **SAGITTARIUS**  
(DEC 18–JAN 8)  
You'll do well to remember that teamwork makes the dream-work. And if you're lucky, you can then sell DreamWorks to NBCUniversal for almost \$4 billion and never have to see your team again.

 **CAPRICORN**  
(JAN 9–FEB 15)  
Go! Go! Go! No matter what's in front of you, nothing can stop you! Especially that jerk who's supposed to be your friend and break up any fights you try to start. Luckily, nothing will stop the ambulance from getting you to the hospital, either.

 **AQUARIUS**  
(FEB 16–MAR 11)  
You'll find the serenity to accept the things you cannot change. But if you can change that outfit you're wearing, do it. You look ridiculous in that thing.

 **PISCES**  
(MAR 12–APR 18)  
While it will be difficult to say the things you're trying to say, at least you me say and do but not like this, like that. No, like this. You know what I mean?

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