

December 10 - 23 2009

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- 19 * SHAME TRAIN with OLD PANTHER
- 25 * MERRY KISS-MAS featuring CRAZY KNIGHTS!!!
- 26 * THE ONE HAT BAND
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Bryce's inkUbator

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

I am Santa Claus. Some people have told me that this year and I didn't really think the title was applicable, short of the jolly, fat part. But I'm not so sure anymore.

As my regular readers know, I inherited the Toys For Tots mantle after the passing of my father, who ran the program previously, in February. For the most part, the greater portion of my job has been logistics. No magic workshop full of busy elves. More like a pile of paperwork and phone numbers to call in order to get what is quite a large machine rolling every year. From driving a truck to pick up some free toys from the Toys For Tots people in Cedar Rapids in March, to meeting a semi carrying 37,000 books from Scholastic on an October weekday afternoon to unloading those 22 pallets by hand, I've about done it all. In case you've never done it, 37,000 books are heavy as hell. (Ed. Tim note: I unloaded it with Bryce. He speaketh truthiness.) We even got a truckload of Dustbusters and beer t-shirts one day. Obviously, we got the wrong truck.

Then there are the boxes that show up at my door at home. The UPS guy can not possibly like me. Especially after the supplemental toys that came from the Foundation were delivered to my home instead of my warehouse. I came home to find about 50 cases of toys on my porch. All I could do was laugh. That was ridiculous.

Our logistics also work in reverse. We get offered truckloads of toys from the Foundation. You have to say yes or no. You can't take just some of them. Sounds like a good problem to have, but in reality, you can only use so many books to serve the thousands of kids in the area. Every kid can't get the exact same thing for Christmas and older kids can't get toddler toys. So, when my local need is more than filled by these loads, I need to get rid of the rest. To another city, they are gold, just like the first 10% of them were to me. With a phone call, I can make their day. And when they are in the same position, they call me to share their wealth. I was able to augment the Toys programs of cities like Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, Cedar Falls, Galena, Davenport, Burlington and more. This is the first sign that I might be Santa. With a little extra work, we kept that semi of books in Iowa instead of losing it to another state.

The next sign of Santa was when we had a warehouse full of the children of Cottingham and Butler volunteers unpacking bulk boxes of Thomas the Train track pieces and train cars, building functional full tracks from the parts, then boxing them up in new plastic bins so kids can get complete train sets for Christmas. Elves! I have little elves! And then this week we had another warehouse full of people helping us unpack cases of toys, organize them by gender and age, and then creating loads of diverse toys to send off to the many agencies we serve in the area. I've got BIG elves too! And one of them brought a big tray of Christmas cookies. Someone left me cookies, just like Santa!

But I think what made me feel most like the big guy was the few calls I got from people who

wanted to be included in the program but who did not get registered in time to be part of the agency lists. Though I don't give out the toys myself, I went a bit out of my way to work with some local groups to take in a few more families. The voicemails and e-mails I get will break your heart. You can't do nothing, even though I'm supposed to. I've even, in a couple very special cases, collected a few toys from my warehouse and delivered them to special case families. That's when you get to see the impact first hand and let me tell you, it feels good. I should also say now that by the time this goes to press, my toy distribution is going to be pretty much done. So it really is too late to call me now. Please don't! I don't want to have to be the bearer of bad news that I can't help you. So I guess those people will be on my naughty list for not signing up earlier.

But first, I want to point out some kids on my "NICE" list. I could not have done this without them. Thank you to Sally Kahle, Kahle's Flooring, and Plaza 20 for the warehouse again. How could I do this without you? To the organizers who run the sub-programs for me in surrounding cities I serve, like Jim Neises in West Dubuque and Edna Hoffman in Grant County. You are Santas, too! To all the businesses who welcomed me to place boxes and money collection buckets. You didn't have to and I do appreciate it. Thanks to those who go above and beyond like Walgreens and Dollar General, who push the program hard and raise literally thousands of toys for us. Steve's Ace Home and Garden not only helped us order toys at cost, but also asked all of their customers to give a dollar to Toys For Tots and are matching that donation themselves. WOW! The LittleFolks Trading Post simply floored me with the money they raised for us in a single month. The same for Instant Replay Bar on Central, whose annual dart tournament meant 50 very high-quality toys and over \$300 in cash for the effort. Go buy a beer from them! The people of Cottingham and Butler, not only for volunteering, but for raising so many toys through their inter-office efforts that I had to go empty the boxes four times. To the people who created events, from dances to basketball tournaments, and Mike Doland who made jewelry to benefit us, thank you. To the media who gave us free press and the Jaycees and other volunteers who gave us their time and muscles to get the heavy lifting done: You made this so much easier. To my wife Christy and my mom, who is the real brains behind me and dad in this effort. Thank God for both of you. And to you, all of you who gave a toy or gave a dollar to the effort. You are the backbone of our success and on behalf of the thousands of kids we serve from Cascade to East Dubuque to Lancaster, Merry Christmas and the very best to you and yours this season!

It's about time for me to retreat to the fireplace (hot tub) with Mrs. Claus and send the red suit to the dry cleaners for the year. But first I promised to go visit dad and give him my report on the program this year. I think he's proud of me. Mom said he would be. I did my best. We gave a happy Christmas to thousands of kids and after a few days rest, we will get ready for next year. Sounds like Santa to me.

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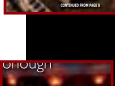










Seasonal Creations
by The Flower Peddler

The 365ink crew... faces you already know!



DECEMBER 10 - 22

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by Tim Brechlin

From the family basement to a beautifully expanded design shop in 12 years.

The world of design has changed a lot over the past few years. It's hard to believe that there was once a world without Photoshop, desktop publishing software or laser printers. (The thought is enough to terrify this magazine designer and editor.) Conversely, those advances in technology have led to some pretty remarkable advances in what can be done with that technology. One such pioneer in the Tri-States has been Digital Designs, nestled comfortably at 3350 Center Grove Drive in Dubuque. Now in its twelfth year of business, the company just recently completed a significant renovation of its building. 365 sat down with owner Ron Shaw to learn his story.

"It all started in my basement, like everyone else," says Shaw, who runs the company with his wife, Sue, with a laugh. "I operated a press for 13 years, and eventually I needed to get out of it. I'd been thinking about working on the cleaner end of things for a long time. Because I had been working the press for so long, I knew about color, I knew about flaws, I knew what worked and didn't, and large-format digital printing was just starting out. So I saw that as my way out. Working until 3:30, staying up until 2 or 3 in the morning doing design work, then being back at the press at 6 ... there were a couple years of that. And then we had kids."

The story of a business with such humble beginnings is one that rings true to us at 365 -- after all, we launched Dubuque365.com on October 7, 2000, from the attic of Bryce and Brad Parks'

old rowhouse on Bluff Street. After a few years of emanating from the basement, the company moved to the Center Grove location, though originally in the 900-square-foot upstairs space, as opposed to its current digs.

"We didn't have much space up there," says Shaw. "After a year, we had an opportunity to purchase the building, and we moved downstairs, taking over the whole basement, where we've been since."



Shaw notes that Digital Designs' roots have always been different from those of a typical sign shop.

"Most shops start with cut-vinyl lettering," he says. "Right from the beginning, we started with digital printing. I also believe we were one of the earliest shops in Dubuque to have a large-format digital printer, and then we went to vinyl. We started with a 36" printer.

Now, we have a 74" large-format printer. Pretty quickly, we were moving into posters, banners, storefront signage, displays at trade shows ... and eventually, got into wrapping cars."

While wrapped cars are easily one of Digital Designs' biggest hallmarks, The company also has its fingers in developing Web sites, and specializing in graphic design.

"We're problem-solvers, essentially," says Shaw. "For example, we've been doing a lot of reproductions of art -- art-

ists don't want to sell their original pieces, so we make reproductions of them, which they can then sell. We're doing commercial window tinting, now, also. We try to be a one-stop shop."

Not only a one-stop shop, Digital Designs is also a closely-knit shop. In addition to Ron and Sue, the staff includes "two others, and a few part-timers."

"It's like a small family, here," says Shaw. "Everyone has to get along, and we do. I think the question that I probably get asked the most is whether or not it's stressful to be working with my wife every day, and it's really not, which is a good thing. She does what she does, and I do what I do. When we go home, sometimes we talk about work, sometimes we don't. We just get along. And it wouldn't work if we didn't get along." In July, the company embarked upon an expansion and renovation of its space in the lower floor of the building on Center Grove Drive.

"It was a 45' by 45' expansion, and 25' by 45' of that was our new garage for working on vehicles," explains Shaw. "We had never had a garage before. We were always taking stuff home, or borrowing garages from friends and business associates who would let us use the

Continued on Page 31.



DEC 3-20

Bell Tower: The Nun Before Christmas

Bell Tower Theater presents the musical comedy "The Nun Before Christmas" December 3-20. See what happens when the sisters at the St. Francis School put Sr. Mike in charge of their annual Christmas pageant – and all of their elaborate plans fall apart, one by one, with entertaining results. Call 588-3377 for ticket information.

DEC 12-13

Emmaus Bible College Starlight Carols

The Emmaus Bible College Music Dept. will present "Starlight Carols" Saturday and Sunday December 12-13 at 7:30 in the Marble Chapel. The Saturday evening program also features the Irving School All-Star Choir. Admission is free.

DEC 12-13

Dubuque Senior High Madrigal Dinner

Dubuque Senior High School 31st Annual Madrigal Dinner is Saturday and Sunday December 12-13 at the

Masonic Temple, 1155 Locust. Tickets are \$28 and available by calling (563) 552-5500.

DEC 13

Christmas Frame of Mind Variety Show

Don't miss out on the Christmas Frame of Mind Variety Show, a benefit for the Josiah House. The show will be December 13, 4 - 6 p.m. at the Mind-frame Theater. Tickets are available now at the theater and are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door. It's everything Christmas from skits to soloists, and some improv in-between. It is a family show; with proceeds going to homeless families in our community.

DEC 12-20

Dubuque Youth Ballet The Nutcracker

The Dubuque City Youth Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" December 12-20 at The Grand Opera House. Call 588-1305 for showtimes and tickets.

DEC 13

Montessori School Free Concert

Dubuque Montessori School presents a free concert Sunday, December 13, at

3 p.m. in the Carnegie-Stout Public Library. This kids concert for families features Abbey Dvorak, Music Therapist, performing songs that promote singing, movement, and hands-on instrument participation. Donations accepted. For more information call 556-5101.

DEC 14-15

Guys and Dolls Auditions @ Grand

The Grand Opera House will present "Guys and Dolls", Friday, February 26, through Sunday, March 7, 2010. Auditions will be held on Monday and Tuesday, December 14th and 15, from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Grand Opera House on stage. Readings will be provided. Bring 16 measures of prepared music from a Broadway show and music for an accompanist. A cast of approximately 30 members, ages varying from 16 and older will be selected. Rehearsals will start January 4 and run primarily Monday - Thursday nights.

DEC 17

Strange Brew at the Public Library

Carnegie-Stout Public Library in Dubuque will show the movie "Strange Brew" on Thursday, December 17, 2009

at 6 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Auditorium. Admission and snacks are free, and open discussion will be encouraged after the show.

DEC 19

Rod Pierson Big Band Christmas Jazz

Bring the Holiday Season into full swing with The Rod Pierson Big Band, as they headline the Christmas Jazz Extravaganza at the Beckman High School Auditorium on Saturday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m. This event includes performances by the Beckman High School and Maquoketa Valley High School Jazz Bands and Vocal Jazz Ensembles. Tickets are \$10 and available through the Beckman High School Office at 563-875-7188.

DEC 29

Santa Buddies at Dubuque Co. Library

The Dubuque County Library will be hosting a children's holiday event at the Asbury Branch on Tuesday, December 29, at 9:00am. The event will include making a holiday craft and watching the movie "Santa Buddies" (G). Children of all ages are welcome. Popcorn will be provided and children are welcome to bring a snack and a drink with a tight lid.

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BLACKWOOD MEDIA GROUP



By Mike Ironside
Photos by Graeme Pitman

Over the past several years, the Dubuque area has begun to develop a pretty cool live music scene. With multiple venues hosting all kinds of bands, music fans can see everything from beginning singer-songwriters to classic touring acts all in the same week and sometimes on the same night.

At the same time, there has been a revolution in the broader music industry. While acts on major labels still sell millions of units, many bands do just fine working with independent labels or even working without a recording contract altogether, finding fans online and selling them music through various web-based retail models including their own web sites and at their shows.

The rise of social media networks like MySpace, Facebook, and Twitter have

further altered the landscape, with music fans finding and following the progress of their new favorite bands, and at the same time having the ability to share their favorites with friends across a network as part of a new mode of communication. The fact that these changes seemed to have happened fairly gradually and organically does not change the simple fact that what we are witnessing is indeed a revolution.

Meanwhile, a group of young men who have banded together under the banner Blackwood Media Group have been working steadily and quietly behind the scenes right here in Dubuque to provide independent musicians with the newest tools to take advantage of this paradigm shift in the music industry. With wide ranging experience in web and graphic design, flash animation, and audio and video production the Blackwood Media team has

the skill set and understanding of the changing market to create the right tools for indie musicians to succeed.

Being musicians themselves, they have long understood that working musicians do not want to spend a great deal of time building and managing a bunch of web sites. I sat down with executive director and music producer Gregory Tanacea at the Blackwood Media Group's comfortable Fountain Park recording and design studio to find out more about what the team has been up to.

While Blackwood Media Group has inhabited the space for a couple of years, it seems relatively few people know about the company. In addition to Tanacea, Blackwood Media Group includes creative director Aaron Harlow, technical director Justin Phelan,

Continued on Page 8.

365 QUIZ?

Answers on Page 28!

1. What was Iowa's largest recorded snowfall prior to this year? It happened March 4-5, 1959.
A. 12.5 inches B. 14 inches
C. 15.5 inches D. 20.5 inches
2. What year saw Dubuque's record snowfall for a season?
A. 1959
B. 1968
C. 1995
D. 2000
3. What is the coldest temperature ever recorded in Iowa?
A. -32 B. -40
C. -47 D. -61
4. Can it be too cold to snow?
A. Yes
B. No
5. The largest recorded snowflake was
A. 2" in diameter
B. 3" in diameter
C. 6" in diameter
D. 15" in diameter
6. Scientists believe there to be how many basic snowflake shapes?
A. 4 shapes
B. 5 shapes
C. 8 shapes
D. 12 shapes
7. What determines what shape snow crystals take?
A. Temperature
B. Water Density
C. Speed
D. God

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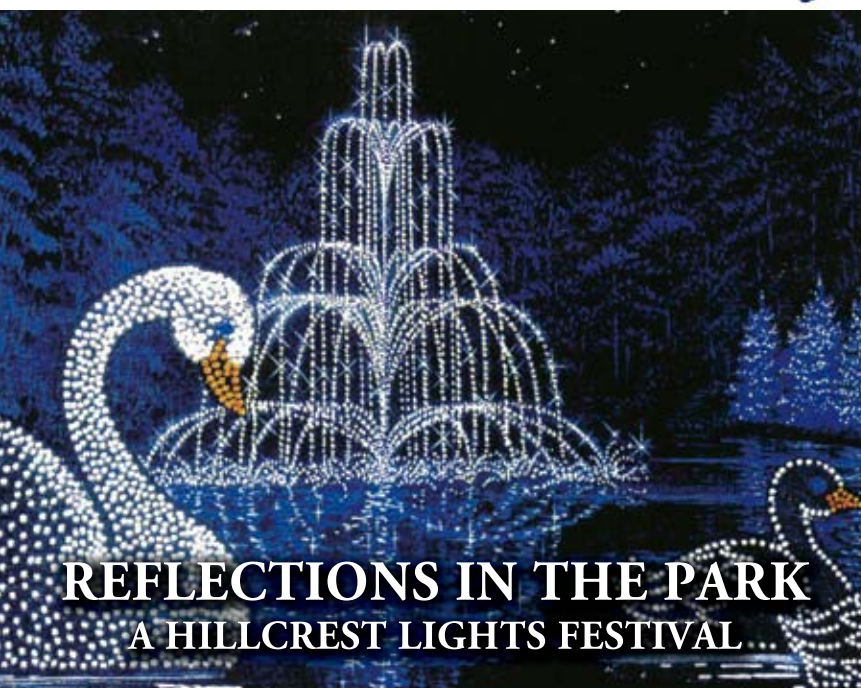
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REFLECTIONS IN THE PARK A HILLCREST LIGHTS FESTIVAL

The hills of Louis Murphy Park will be alive with glitter and glitz as the glow of thousands of Christmas bulbs and animated displays light up the 15th annual Reflections in the Park: A Hillcrest Lights Festival. The festival is open 37 days to the public from now through January 1, nightly from 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

All new displays will be blinking their colors and strutting their charm to an estimated 50,000 visitors.

With 60 big displays, plus a number of other rope lights, stars, and decorations on trees, Reflections draws some pretty significant electricity. The scale of the display is only matched by the hours the numerous volunteers put in year after year to make the project happen. Volunteers begin at the end of October and have work Monday through Friday for three weeks to prepare for the Thanksgiving opening. In past interviews with Hillcrest staff, we've heard estimates of an average of somewhere between a dozen and 16 workers on-site every day, some days as many as 25.

Volunteers not only set up the light displays, disassemble the park in January, and coordinate all the nightly park volunteers, they also secure all media sponsors and put together the Gala celebration to honor the volunteers and give organizers a "sneak peek" before Reflections opens to the public. That adds up to around 300 volunteers, not to mention the over 130 sponsors contributing to the fundraiser and the 40 media partners promoting the program. Now in its 15th year, Reflections has

witnessed an estimated 5,000 volunteers contributing time in the park, adding up to a staggering 62,000 estimated hours since the first year in 1995.



Reflections in the Park does get a lot of people coming through to see the fantastic light displays. Each year, approximately 10,000 cars pass through the park, with somewhere between 40,000 and 50,000 people viewing the lights. Since the program first began in 1995, more than 650,000 visitors have viewed the brilliant display, raising over one-million dollars for the programs and facilities of Hillcrest Family Services.

Reflections in the Park opens Thanksgiving night at Louis Murphy Park and continues daily from 5 to 10 p.m. through January 1, 2010. Admission is just \$8 per car (pile in, kids!) with proceeds benefiting the programs of Hillcrest Family Services. For more information, call (563) 583-7357 or visit <http://www.hillcrest-fs.org/reflections.html>.

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River Lights



BLACKWOOD MEDIA GROUP

Continued from Page 6.

and (relatively) new guy to the team web programmer Stephen Smith. Photographer Graeme Pitman is sort of an "unofficial" collaborator, sort of Blackwood's "fifth Beatle" when he's not working under his own Pitman Photography banner.

I asked Tanacea how the group got started. "I had a (musician) friend who was starting to get some fairly significant radio play and ended up doing pretty well," he relates. "(He) called me one day and said, 'Hey, do you have any idea how I can manage my fan list better?' I had a couple friends in college that were programmers and we had done a couple web projects together and I said, 'Well let me talk to a few people.' So we started to talk about this idea of how to help bands manage fans and we created this platform web application two years ago called Scriggleit.com."

Scriggleit.com is a pretty handy tool for touring bands. Fans can sign up with their email address at the band's Web site or on a laptop at a band's merch table, avoiding the laborious chore of transcribing someone else's drunken scribbles into a viable contact in their address book. The next time the band connects to the internet, they can upload all the new contacts to the Scriggleit central database, from which they can email fans with news and tour info, even targeting fans geographically.

Because of its ease and functionality, Scriggleit.com became a pretty popular tool for touring bands as well. Tanacea estimates they have over 3,000 bands that use the system, with about a million contacts in the database. Despite its success, Scriggleit is about to be retired. "We're going to replace it with a new, improved system," reports Tanacea. More about that later.

While growing Scriggleit.com, Blackwood continued to do custom web development, programming, and recording, primarily for non-local musicians. The group has worked with some notable independent musicians like women's a cappella vocal group Sweet Honey In The Rock, Christian indie-group Story Side B, and singer-songwriter Andy Zipf. Blackwood has also worked as the main design house for the fourth largest Christian concert promoter in the world.

Along the way, the group established another web site, intothehill.com where they invited recording artists to come to the area to shoot live music video in their Fountain Park studio or in beautiful outdoors locations like the Mines of Spain. While the group did host some local acts like River and The Tributaries, Nate Jenkins, and Eyes Like Aster (the stage name for singer-songwriter Tim Hanten who died in a car accident last year), many of the performers were from outside the area.

Continued on Page 10.

365
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365

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Jim McDonough

Holiday Grande 2009

With the passing of Thanksgiving and the buildup to the year-end holidays now in full swing, that means it's time to start looking ahead to some of the fantastic holiday concerts set to arrive at Five Flags! On Saturday, December 12, Jim McDonough will be presenting Holiday Grande 2009!

Billed as "Iowa's Own Pianist," McDonough will be making Dubuque the fourth of five stops on his Holiday Grande tour. The holiday stage production -- again revamped for 2009 -- includes McDonough, his 15-piece orchestra, a cast of singers and dancers, elaborate sets and costumes and the true spirit of the season.

Returning this year is the music director Allen Koepke, an Iowa music legend whose more than 60 compositions have been published and performed all over the world.

"It's all about the joy and wonderment of Christmas wrapped in a brilliant, compelling two-hour show," Koepke says of Holiday Grande. "The show is fascinating in so many respects -- costumes, lighting, the orchestra, singing, dancing and, of course, Jim's incredible talent as a pianist and singer."

The youngest of four children, Jim McDonough was born in Monticello, Iowa. When he was seven years old, his mother grew too busy to continue taking piano lessons, so McDonough stepped in to fill the spot. And he discovered a talent and love for music that propelled him into a career as a professional musician. But the

road to success wasn't without its detours. In eighth grade, an accident nearly ended his musical career. An upright piano fell and crushed three fingers on his right hand -- and nearly crushed his dreams in the process. He emerged from two hours of surgery with pins in his fingers and tiny fractures across his hand. But throughout more than a year of physical therapy, McDonough kept playing -- with a cast on his right hand -- and concentrated on improving his performance with his left hand.

The tour will deliver the message of Christmas in a sincere, rich and meaningful production perfect for the entire family.

"We've put together the grandest 'Holiday Grande' yet," McDonough says. "It's elegant, it's exciting, it's touching." For the fourth consecutive year, the tour will benefit Camp Courageous, a year-round respite and recreational facility for individuals with disabilities.

McDonough will perform at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. on the day of the concert. Tickets are on sale now, and can be purchased at the Five Flags box office or online at Ticketmaster.com. It'll cost you \$36 for a box seat, \$33 for the main floor and the first five rows of the balcony and \$28 for the back balcony. There really aren't any bad seats in the Five Flags theater, so you can rest assured that no matter where you decide to park, you'll be treated to a relaxing evening of beautiful music!

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BLACK WOOD MEDIA GROUP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Like Scriggleit.com, intothehills.com was a great success, but Tanacea sees Blackwood's momentum moving in another direction. "We want to connect with the community more, connect with the art community in Dubuque," he explains, "We have this beautiful facility so we're actually doing studio shows now and we're interested in creating a community of musicians that support one another and help musicians, specifically touring musicians."

Blackwood's series of in-studio sessions are designed for both musicians and fans to connect in a more intimate way. With space for only about 20 people, the concerts promise a unique live music experience. "It's a great time for people to just sit in a room, un-amplified, and just hear somebody's voice and hear their instruments, and interact with them," Tanacea explained. "(The experience is) totally intimate. You, and the sound in the room, and the musician and their instrument." Most of the concerts will have no cover, instead encouraging fans to toss money into a tip jar or buy a CD from the touring artist. Guests are welcome to bring a bottle of wine (provided they are of age, of course) not unlike the summer concerts at the arboretum.

The first concert in the series, scheduled for Tuesday, January 5, at 7 p.m. will feature Kansas singer-songwriter

Doby Watson. Tanacea expects to host the live in-studio concerts monthly, depending on participating artists' touring schedules.

The in-studio concerts are part of Blackwood's continuing efforts to help independent touring musicians. Based on the success of Scriggleit.com, the group decided to take the model to the next level, creating a web platform that takes advantage of the surge in popularity of social networking sites, while at the same time integrating social networking tools into a single web site personalized to each specific band.

"A lot of bands can't afford some of the services we provide so what we've done is we've created another platform called Bombplates.com," explains Tanacea. "It's kind of a new take on web content management. Bands can get into a Bomplate for as cheap as \$10 and then they pay a nominal monthly hosting fee of \$20 a month."

Bombplates offers musicians a variety of stylish design styles to suit the individual musician or band, some as cheap as \$10 but most in the \$199 to \$299 range. Many can be customized with design upgrades to make the site unique to a particular band. Sites have all the functionality necessary for a band web site – a streaming music player, tour and news sections, pages

Continued on Page 13.

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Tall Enough

As I stood on a stool at work today, I started thinking about Mary Todd Lincoln. She was the same height as me, and I wonder how often she had to drag a stepladder over to retrieve a book from a shelf or grab a can of tomatoes from the pantry.

My height is not something I think about much. Usually I can reach whatever I need, and stepping on something to get there is second nature to me. The only time I notice my height is when I'm talking to someone tall, which sometimes makes me feel like the kid among the grownups.

Like Mary, I once dated a tall man. Jeff was 6'5" to my 5'2", and there were times when we walked hand in hand and I felt like a Brownie going out on Dad-Daughter Date Night. All my boyfriends have been taller than me, although I know that not all good men are. Michael J. Fox, who seems to be a terrific guy, is exactly my height. I'm told by friends who've seen U-2 in concert that Bono's a lot shorter than they expected, and wears platform shoes to compensate.

Women like me are referred to as "petite." I happen to be petite all over, with 5" wrists and a ring size of 3. It can be a pain to have to shop in the children's department

for gloves. I remind myself, though, that I delivered two healthy children the natural way. So there. I'm no pipsqueak.

Still, I've been thinking about Mary Lincoln a lot lately. We spent two days in Springfield on Thanksgiving weekend, arriving just in time to tour the edifice at Oak Ridge Cemetery where Abraham Lincoln was buried after his tragic death. Before the warm November sun went down, we drove over to the neighborhood where he and his family lived, now a National Historic Site. A dozen houses are preserved as they were in the 1800's, including the Lincolns', which is open for tours. So we were able to enter the home where Abe and Mary raised their boys.

The rooms are small, but the ceilings quite high. A steep stairway connects the public rooms downstairs with the private bedrooms overhead. Behind the master bedroom and its surprisingly small bed is a second one, Mary's room, where, as the guide informed us, she could retire alone on nights when he stayed up late reading and strategizing his run for the presidency.

Draped over the bed in that room is one of Mary's dresses, a green silk extravaganza. It made me think

of the ways she was criticized for spending too much money, on fashion and other frivolities. Touring the spectacular Lincoln Museum the next day, it became even clearer how much her every move was scrutinized and judged. A whole room is given over to headless mannequins wearing dresses, each one labeled with its owner, each one a "social rival" of Mrs. Lincoln. Good grief. How could anyone stand up to that?

Yet stand up she did, all sixty-two inches of her. I imagine her holding her own, in political debates and private conversations. Lincoln was, after all, captivated by this woman. She gave birth to four sons, orchestrated setate dinners, and handled the endless other chores that fall to a First Lady to this day.

But the public role interests me much less than the private one. At the museum – which you really should go and see; it's that amazing – one tableau in particular stopped my heart. Having viewed life-size depictions of young Abe in his log cabin, Abe and Mary courting, a heartbreaking slave auction, and legislators (plus a sinister John Wilkes Booth) loitering outside the White House entrance, we came to a very private moment in the lives of the President and his wife. There they were, inside their son Willie's bedroom, stealing a moment from a big party to visit their sick child. Abe stood in the doorway, his son's favorite toy in his hand, a worried look on his face. Mary sat on the bed, her hand brushing the hair off

her son's fevered forehead. From the signs, we learned that he would die two weeks later.

It took a strong woman to bear up under that grief, a grief compounded, no doubt, by the earlier loss of their son Edward, who died when he was almost four. Mary may have been petite, but loss doesn't discriminate according to size; it will fall upon your shoulders no matter how broad or tiny they are. It must have seemed unbearable, and yet she bore it, going on to resume her role as mother to her remaining two sons, another one of whom would die at age 18, and as a wife who would be widowed in the most shocking way possible.

And yet I did not leave Springfield mindful only of Mary's losses. Instead, I thought about the family's early years in that simple, two-story house. There was love under that roof, and certainly romance. When I got home, I wrote a poem that begins, "The stairs were steep, but so was he. / What they don't tell you on these tours / is how I would start upstairs at night, / having blown the candles out, and pause / until he did the same. He on a lower stair, / I two steps above, perfectly / aligned for a kiss, an arousing embrace."

Did they do that? Well, why not? I've done it, and I'm human. And so, I learned on this trip back in time, were they.

Pam Kress-Dunn
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Pirate Radio - A Film by Richard Curtis (Notting Hill, Love Actually, Bridget Jones' Diary)

Carl (Tom Sturridge) arrives on the pirate radio ship, Radio Rock, after being sent to stay with the ship's Captain, his godfather, Quentin (Bill Nighy), to hopefully set his life on a different track after being expelled from school. Here he meets Radio Rock's crew of ramshackle disc jockeys, led by The Count (Philip Seymour Hoffman), a buoyant rock-loving American, along with the suave and bawdy Dave (Nick Frost) and the naive but good hearted Simon (Chris O'Dowd). Also filling the airwaves is self proclaimed New Zealand "nut," Angus (Rhys Darby), the mysterious Midnight Mark (Tom Wisdom) and the even more mysterious, reclusive and downright disillusioned late-night DJ Smooth Bob (Ralph Brown). Serving as the ship's crew are the shy lesbian cook Felicity (Katherine Parkinson) and radio assistants, Harold (Ike Hamilton) and the appropriately nicknamed Thick Kevin (Tom Brooke).

Pirate Radio was enjoyable, but not a good as director Richard Curtis' past few movies, mostly because I thought it was the most unlike the others. I was going in with an expectation and what I wound up seeing in the theater was not at all in line with those expectations. So, maybe a different mindset would have allowed me to enjoy it more. It was passably entertaining enough, but all of the '60s music almost started to drown out the rest of the movie. Carl was also not the most sympathetic character. If the movie focused less on Carl's support system, and instead let great actors like Philip Seymour Hoffman do their thing, I think the movie would have worked better. I didn't connect as emotionally with the characters as I've done before like in Notting Hill or Love Actually. Maybe it just needed Hugh Grant.



ROTTEN TOMATOES

RottenTomatoescollectsthe thoughts of dozens of movie reviewers across the country and averages their scores into a fresh or rotten rating. If a movie gets 60% or higher positive reviews, it is FRESH!
www.rottentomatoes.com



Princess and the Frog (Dec. 11)

When the free-spirited, jazz-loving Prince Naveen of Maldonia (Bruno Campos) comes to town, a deal with a shady voodoo doctor (Keith David) goes bad and the once suave royal is turned into a frog. In a desperate attempt to be human again, a favor in exchange for a fateful kiss on the lips from the beautiful girl, Tiana (Anika Noni Rose), takes an unexpected turn and leads them both on a hilarious adventure through the mystical bayous of Louisiana to the banks of the almighty Mississippi and back in time for Mardi Gras in New Orleans. This film marks Disney's return to hand-drawn animation.



Invictus (December 11)

Invictus is a look at Nelson Mandela after the end of apartheid. The story is about Mandela's release from prison, his election as President of South Africa and his attempts to use the 1995 Rugby World Cup as a vehicle to bring his people together. The South African team wins the tournament, upsetting the favorites New Zealand 15-12 in the final.



Avatar (December 18)

In the distant future, Jake Sully, a paraplegic war veteran, is offered a second chance in the military. He's transported to a planet called Pandora, where the world's armed forces have been put in a fierce battle against the planet's native species (the na'vi) for years, struggling to mine a vital energy source for earth, which rests under the na'vi settlement. Jake takes part in a new war strategy, to form an AVATAR, which is essentially a human disguised as one of the creatures themselves.



Did You Hear About the Morgans (12/18)

Did You Hear About the Morgans? follows a highly successful Manhattan couple, Meryl and Paul Morgan (Sarah Jessica Parker and Hugh Grant), whose almost-perfect lives have only one notable failure - their dissolving marriage. But the turmoil of their romantic lives is nothing compared to what they are about to experience: they witness a murder and become targets of a contract killer.

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Pirate Radio 60% Fresh
Couples Retreat 17% Rotten

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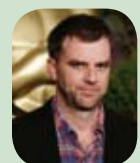
The future of Universal's highly successful Jason Bourne franchise now appears to be in serious doubt. While director Paul Greengrass and star Matt Damon had previously expressed interest in returning for another entry, Greengrass recently bailed after he couldn't agree with Universal on a story and budgetary constraints. Now, Damon says that he will not return to the series unless Greengrass is involved as director.



Bennett Miller (Capote) has signed on to replace Steven Soderbergh as the director of Moneyball, the story of Oakland Athletics general manager Billy Beane and his unorthodox approach to baseball. Soderbergh left the project earlier this summer, five days before filming was to start, after Sony was unhappy with his script rewrites. Brad Pitt will star.



Producer Mace Neufeld, who has helped shepherd all of the Tom Clancy/Jack Ryan films thus far, has confirmed that the upcoming entry in the franchise, starring Chris Pine (Star Trek), will not be based on an existing Clancy book, but rather an original story without Clancy's involvement. Neufeld also aims to reduce the level of action in the movie.



Paul Thomas Anderson is set to direct his next film: A 1950s drama starring Philip Seymour Hoffman as the founder of a new religion. Hoffman plays "the Master," as in "master of ceremonies," a charismatic intellectual who hatches a faith-based organization that begins to catch on in America in 1952. The parallels to Scientology are obvious.

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The Blind Side
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Twilight: New Moon
(PG13)

11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30

Pirate Radio
(R)

12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 9:45



Old Dogs
(PG)

11:15 1:05 3:00 5:00 7:00 8:55

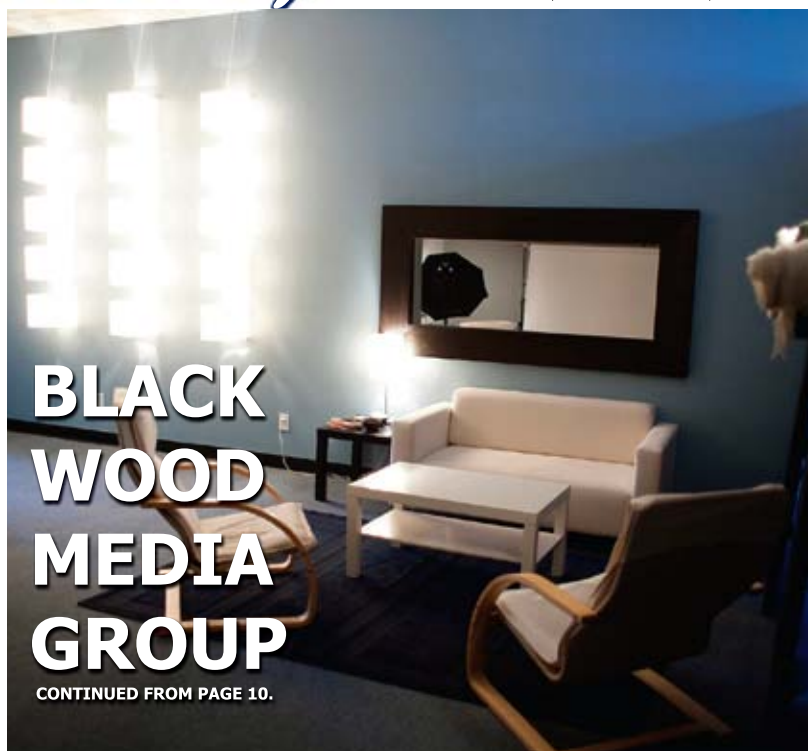
Princess and the Frog
(PG)

11:50 2:15 4:15 6:45 8:45



COMING SOON

An Education, Damned United, Avatar, Sherlock Holmes



BLACKWOOD MEDIA GROUP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.

for bio, blog, merch, and contact, but what takes the model to the next level is the ability for musicians to manage their own content within the site (without being a software engineer) and across multiple social networking sites at the same time. They realized that it was time-consuming for bands to keep up a variety of web and social networking sites with current information and tour schedules, especially when they are out on the road. "That's the goal," Tanacea states, "to minimize the technical confusion so the artist can focus on making music."

"Every time they update their news post on their band, it will send a notification to Twitter or MySpace, or any other social media that will allow a 'widget,'" explains Tanacea. "We're in the process of building a

Facebook integration so hopefully that's coming within the next month or two. So then if the band's on the road and they send a tweet out, it will also update their website so it's bidirectional with Twitter."

Understanding that social networking sites are an essential part of the independent musician's promotional toolkit, Bombplates seems to be an inexpensive and simple solution to content management. Blackwood web programmer Stephen Smith pointed out that if you can handle the basics of a web browser, you can manage a web site and your social networking sites. "It is the new music industry," Tanacea states matter-of-factly. "A band does not need to have a major record deal. They need a good manager, or a good indie label that understands marketing and

branding that can support them, and that the musician needs to tour. If you can tour, you can make it."

Along with Bombplates.com, Blackwood is introducing two new web sites designed to serve the needs of indie musicians, Sndit.com and Musicspazz.com. Sndit.com is the new, updated service that will replace the original email management site Scriggleit.com. Musicspazz.com is sort of an interactive music blog with video and podcasts, offering musicians articles, interviews, and tips on everything from recording to marketing – everything the working musician might need to know to be successful.



"That's really what Musicspazz is all about," relates Tanacea. "Intothehill was focused on the listener, and we have kind of decided that we are really about supporting and developing the artist and helping them to develop themselves. So Musicspazz is really a site for musicians by musicians that are interested in creating a culture of music and things related to music technology."

To learn more about Blackwood Media Group, visit www.blackwoodmg.com. To learn more about Bombplates, visit www.bombplates.com.

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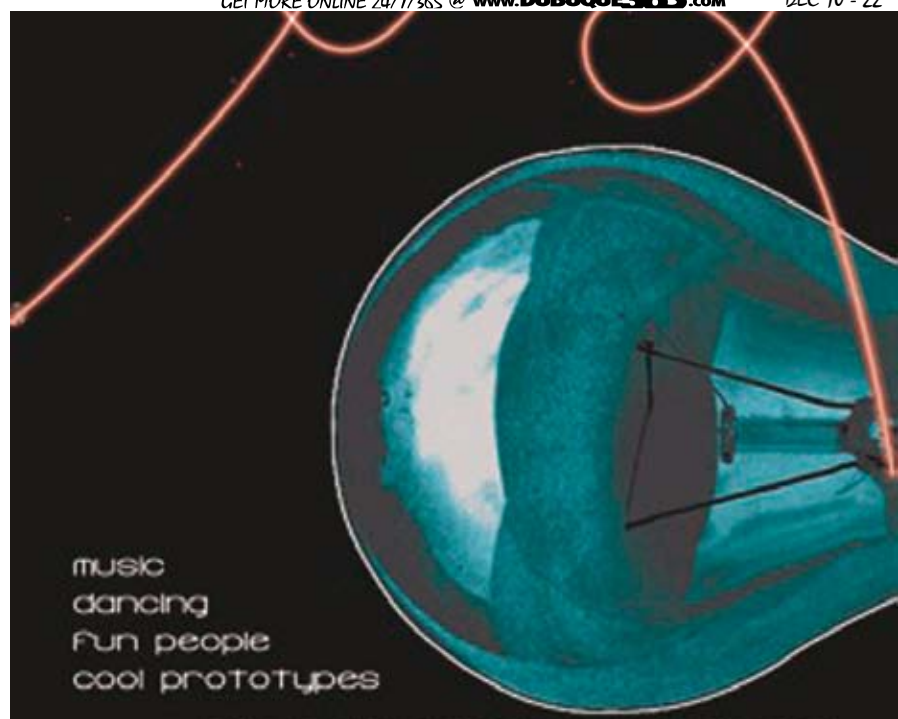
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Just as the ever-expanding darkness of the winter season envelopes our evenings and threatens to encroach on late afternoons, an antidote of light and community convergence arrives in the heart of our downtown. Illumination, the one-night exhibit "exploring light in art" is scheduled for the evening of Saturday, December 12, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Matter Design Store and the Dubuque Art Center both located on the first floor of the Platinum Building at 137 Main Street.

Dubuque Art Center executive director Jordan DeGree invites all artists who design lamps, lighting, and self-illuminated artwork, or even people who "just like to make things" to bring in their work for display, even if its just a rough prototype. "Don't worry if it looks perfect," suggests DeGree in an invitation to the event. "This is a show for exchanging ideas and showing off prototypes of what we are working on." Designers who would like to display

work should deliver their piece to Matter Design Store this Thursday or Friday between 12 and 8 p.m.

Of course the event is open to everyone to share in the warm glow of the gathered community as well as the various illuminated work. A potluck of food and beverages will set the table for the pre-solstice gathering so guests are encouraged to bring a dish and/or drink to share. Maybe even wear something that lights up! Dancing is also a definite possibility. "Last year's show was a big success, despite a roaring blizzard," relates DeGree, "and this year's is guaranteed to be even better!"

As a thank you to those who have supported the Dubuque Art Center over the past year, Matter Design Store will be offering a 15 percent discount on all items during the event, a great way to pick up one-of-a-kind holiday gifts, handmade by area artists and designers. Share the light.

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Now that we finally received some significant snowfall, I think we can agree that winter has officially arrived. No worries, the Mississippi Moon Bar at the Diamond Jo Casino has just the antidote for that cabin fever that is about to set in. Whether dancing at DJ Double J's no cover Spin Fridays or catching a concert by one of the nation's premier entertainers, the Mississippi Moon Bar is the place to escape the winter doldrums.

Bobby Vee **Friday, December 18**

If you had been planning on getting tickets for Bobby Vee at the Mississippi Moon Bar but thought you missed your chance, your window of opportunity just opened a bit wider. Originally scheduled for Sunday, December 6, Bobby Vee's Up North Holiday Show has been rescheduled due to illness for Friday, December 18. Vee will still be performing two shows on the 18th, one at 6:00 p.m. and another at 8:00 p.m. Tickets purchased for the December 6 3:00 p.m. show will be honored at the 6:00 p.m.

show on December 18, while tickets for the 7:00 p.m. show will be honored at the rescheduled 8:00 p.m. show. Got it? Well, if you haven't yet purchased your tickets, not to worry as tickets are still available for both shows.

Bobby Vee is well-known of course to those growing up in the 1960s, when he had a string of top pop hits like "Devil or Angel," "Rubber Ball," "More Than I Can Say," "Run To Him," "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes," "Come Back When You Grow Up," and his 1961 release that went to number one, "Take Good Care of My Baby."

Vee's career began as an opportunity that grew out of tragedy. Just fifteen years old in his hometown of Fargo, North Dakota, Vee was an aspiring songwriter and huge fan of Buddy Holly when the rock-n-roll icon died in a plane crash along with Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper February 3, 1959, on a flight from the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa. The trio was en route to their next scheduled

performance in Moorhead, Minnesota, lying east of Fargo just across the state line created by the winding North River.



"The local radio station broadcast a plea for local talent to entertain at the scheduled dance," Vee recounts in the liner notes of a later Buddy Holly tribute album. "About a week before this, I had just organized a vocal and instrumental group of five guys. Our style was modeled after Buddy's approach and we had been rehearsing with Buddy's hits in mind. When we heard the radio plea for talent, we went in and volunteered."

Calling themselves The Shadows, Vee and the band were not only well-received as the emergency stand-ins for the concert, but signed to a record deal later that year, releasing Vee's first single, "Suzie Baby." And the rest, as they say, is history.

David Allan Coe **Friday, January 8**

The outlaw's outlaw, rabble-rousing and platinum selling country music song-

writer David Allan Coe is set to perform at the Mississippi Moon Bar January 8 at 8 p.m. Known as much for his fierce and outspoken individualism as much as his hit-making songwriting, Coe has had a career that stretches back to the 1970s. Of his sixty-three songs on the Billboard Singles Charts over the years, his most popular include "Mona Lisa Lost Her Smile," "The Ride," "Please Come to Boston," "Willie, Waylon and Me," "Jack Daniels If You Please," and of course "You Never Even Call Me By My Name."



Coe has also written a number of hit songs recorded by other artists including Tanya Tucker, George Jones, Willie Nelson, Leon Russell, Charlie Louvin, Del Reeves, Tammy Wynette, The Oakridge Boys, Kid Rock, and Johnny Cash. His song "Take This Job and Shove It" became a million seller for Johnny Pay-

Continued on Page 18.

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Knicker's, 9 PM

ClamHammer/Blonde Tsunami
The Hub, 9 PM

Lonely Goats
Mystique, 9 PM

Mighty Short Bus
Budde's, 9 PM

Harvey Headbanger
Jumpers, 9 PM

The Infidels
180 Main, 9 PM

A Friend Called Fire
The Bank, 9 PM

Sunday, December 13

Lost Apparitions
180 Main, 5 PM

Lonely Goats
Sandy Hook, 8 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 16

Laughing Moon Comedy
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

Thursday, Dec. 17

Dueling Pianos
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

Thursday, Dec. 17

Lonely Goats
Cornerstone, 9 PM

Miles Nielsen
Monk's, 9 PM

Friday, December 18

Mary Mabusth
Stone Cliff, 6 PM

Chuck Bregman
Mystique, 6 PM

Rosalie Morgan
TAIKO, 7 PM

Katie & Brownie
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Boys' Night Out
Red N Deb's, 8 PM

Bobby Vee
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

Rocket Surgeons
Mystique, 8 PM

Massey Road
DBQ Driving Range, 8 PM

Okham's Razor
Cornerstone, 8:30 PM

Marty Koppes
Budde's, 9 PM

Jon Wayne & the Pain
180 Main, 9 PM

Bitten By Gypsies
The Bank, 9 PM

Thursday, Dec. 10

Dueling Pianos
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

Alex Skuby Band
Budde's, 8 PM

BlackBloom
Cornerstone, 8:30 PM

Friday, December 11

Luke Viertel
Stone Cliff, 6 PM

Ken Wheaton
Warehouse Art Gallery, 6 PM

Chuck Bregman
Mystique, 6 PM

Andy Wilberding
L.May, 6:30 PM

Gareth Woods
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Kevin Beck/Johnnie Walker
Spirits, 8 PM

Friday, December 11

Artie / Pink Catillacs
DBQ Drvng Range, 8 PM

Bonkerz Comedy
Mystique, 8 PM

Massey Road
Ace's Place, 8:30 PM

Wundo Band
Red N Deb's, 8:30 PM

John Moran
Cornerstone, 8:30 PM

Laura McDonald
Gobbie's, 9 PM

Stumble Bros.
Dirty Ernie's, 9 PM

Six Nights Alone
The Bank, 9 PM

Lonely Goats
Mystique, 9 PM

98 in the Shade
Murph's, 9:30 PM

Friday, December 11

Triple Play
Sandy Hook, 10 PM

Saturday, Dec. 12

Chuck Bregman
Mystique, 6 PM

Roy Schroedl
Stone Cliff, 6 PM

Rosalie Morgan
TAIKO, 7 PM

Gareth Woods
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Bonkerz Comedy
Mystique, 8 PM

Dean & Gretchen
Cornerstone, 8:30 PM

Menace
Doolittle's, 9 PM

Nothin' but Dylan
Grape Escape, 9 PM

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Friday, Dec. 18

The Mississippi Band
Murph's, 9:30 PM

Saturday, Dec. 19

Chuck Bregman
Mystique, 6 PM

Andy Wilberding
Stone Cliff, 6:30 PM

Tracy Byrd
Mystique, 7 PM

Katie & Brownie
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Saturday, Dec. 19

Rocket Surgeons
Mystique, 8 PM

Rob Martin Jazz
Cornerstone, 8:30 PM

BuzzBerries
Jumpers, 9 PM

Bryan Popp/Corey Jenny
Spirits, 9 PM

Backlash
Courtside, 9 PM

SUNSHINE
Bulldogs, 9 PM

Shame Train
180 Main, 9 PM

BadFish
Budde's, 9 PM

Johnny Trash
Doolittle's, 9 PM

Boys' Night Out
Skyline, 9 PM

Impulse Band
Bammer's, 9 PM

Horsin' Around
Dagwood's, 9 PM

Lonely Goats
Diamond Jo, 9 PM

Laura & the Longhairs
Northside Tap, 9 PM

The Goodyear Pimps
The Bank, 9 PM

Sunday, Dec. 20

98 in the Shade
Sandy Hook, 8 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 23

Laughing Moon Comedy
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

98 in the Shade
Bulldogs, 9 PM

Mississippi Trio
Murph's, 9:30 PM

Thursday, Dec. 24

Dueling Pianos
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

Friday, Dec. 25

Bonkerz Comedy
Mystique, 8 PM

Crazy Knights
180 Main, 9 PM

Saturday, Dec. 26

Rosalie Morgan
TAIKO, 7 PM

Ian Gould
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Andrew Houy
Cornerstone, 8 PM

Bonkerz Comedy
Mystique, 8 PM

Jabberbox
Courtside, 9 PM

Saturday, Dec. 26

Mr. Obvious
Bulldogs, 9 PM

Shock Johnson
Dagwood's, 9 PM

Horsin' Around
Airline Inn, 9 PM

The Tasties
The Bank, 9 PM

Mighty Short Bus
Jumpers, 9 PM

The One Hat Band
180 Main, 9 PM

The Stumble Bros.
Sandy Hook, 10 PM

Sunday, Dec. 27

Ian Gould
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Apple Dumplin's
Sandy Hook, 8 PM

Monday, Dec. 28

Ian Gould
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Tuesday, Dec. 29

Ian Gould
Irish Cottage, 8 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Laughing Moon Comedy
Diamond Jo, 8 PM

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- **Ace's Place**
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- **Bammer's**
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- **Doolittle's Lancaster**
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- **Eichman's Grenada Tap**
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- **Five Flags Civic Center**
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- **Gin Rickeys**
1447 Central Ave, Dubuque • 563-583-0063 • myspace.com/ginrickeys
- **Gobbie's**
219 N Main St, Galena IL • 815-777-0243
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350 Bell Street, Dubuque • 563-690-4000 • grandharborresort.com
- **Grape Escape**
233 S. Main St., Galena, IL • 815.776.WINE
grapeescapegalena.com
- **The Hub**
253 Main St., Dubuque • 563-556-5782
myspace.com/thehubdbq
- **Irish Cottage**
9853 US Hwy 20, Galena, Illinois • 815.776.0707
theirishcottageboutiquehotel.com
- **Jumpers Bar & Grill**
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- **Monk's Coffee Shop**
373 Bluff St, Dubuque • 563.585-0919
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Diamond Jo Music Continued from Page 15.

check and became the basis for the movie of the same name, filmed of course in Dubuque, in which Coe himself played a part. Coe has played at Farm Aid and has toured with other cross-over artists like Neil Young, Kid Rock, and Willie Nelson.

Tickets for David Allan Coe are still available and are just \$10 for general admission and \$25 for reserved seats. Tickets can be purchased at Diamond Jo Casino's Diamond Club or online at www.diamondjo.com.

America Saturday, January 30

A seemingly perfect antidote to the mid-winter blues, the acoustic rock of America will fill the air of the Mississippi Moon Bar with a sound that recalls the shimmering summers of the 1970s and AM radio gold. Scheduled for Saturday, January 30, America will perform a concert presented by the Diamond Jo Casino in partnership with American Trust and Savings Bank.

First coming to popularity in 1972 with their hit song "A Horse with No Name," America helped to define a style of folk-influenced, vocal harmony-rich acoustic

rock throughout the 1970s and into the '80s. A phenomenal success from the beginning, America had three Top Ten hits in '72, "A Horse with No Name," "I Need You," and "Ventura Highway," earning the group the Grammy Award for best new artist that year. With a string of hit songs like "Tin Man," "Lonely People," and "Sister Golden Hair," through the '70s and scoring another major hit with "You Can Do Magic," in 1982, America became a multi-platinum selling recording artist and built a loyal following for whom their sunny harmonies recall the carefree days of youth. America continues to entertain that audience, touring nearly non-stop over a career that is approaching four decades in length.



Tickets for America's concert at the Mississippi Moon Bar are still available at the \$30, \$50 or \$60 level. Tickets can be purchased at Diamond Jo Casino's Diamond Club or on line at www.diamondjo.com.

365



There's no biz like Snowbiz! The Mistletones present their popular Christmas variety show, this year known as Snowbiz: An Even More Cool Yule, at its new venue of the Mississippi Moon Bar at the Diamond Jo Casino for this go-round. With four special performances over three days, Snowbiz is scheduled for Sunday, December 13 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Monday, December 14 at 7 p.m., and Tuesday, December 15 at 7 p.m.

As always, this year's Snowbiz will feature a variety of favorite Christmas songs in a range of musical genres, in "an outstanding array of music that

brings to life the joy of the season." Performed by "The Mistletones," a group of six talented singers backed by a versatile seven-piece orchestra, Snowbiz is just the ticket to "put you in the holiday spirit."

As past years have shown, Snowbiz is a popular, enjoyable revue enjoyed by audiences all across the Tri-State area, so don't miss out on this old-fashioned holiday variety show. It's the perfect way to revel in the magic of the holiday season. Tickets for the variety show can be purchased online at www.diamondjo.com.

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The Infidels

Saturday, December 12

St. Paul based self-described "punk band trying to be a rock band" The Infidels make the trip back to Dubuque to play 180 Main. Formed in 2006 from members Jon Eager and the O'Hern brothers Bryan, Alan, and Brant, The Infidels have released one self-produced EP and one full-length recording, both of which they are happy to give away to further the spread of their music. Compared to Chicago punk band Rise Against, The Infidels incorporate a variety of influences into their aggressive sound. You can hear them at www.myspace.com/theinfidelstc.

Lost Apparitions

Sunday, December 13

Dubuque's own progressive metal trio Lost Apparitions returns to the 180 Main basement for a 5 p.m. all-ages show. Incorporating a wide variety of influences into their experimental sound, Lost Apparitions might go from trippy ambient to thrashing hardcore to something else entirely all in the span of the same song. Railing against the boring, passionless music of the major labels, Lost Apparitions are clearly motivated to do whatever they want to, no matter how weird or scary that might be.

Jon Wayne and The Pain with Jobless

Friday, December 18

Minneapolis-based reggae trio Jon Wayne and The Pain return to 180 Main for a special holiday show. Compared to reggae rock bands like Pepper and 311 The Pain has reportedly been joined onstage on occasion by members of Sublime and Slightly Stoopid. Rocking their own original

material, fans of the above-mentioned bands should check 'em out. Also performing will be acoustic guitar and cello duo Jobless.

Shame Train

Old Panther

Saturday, December 19

Iowa City singer-songwriter Sam Knutson brings his band Shame Train back to 180 Main Saturday, December 19. Though he's played other local shows in between, our records indicate that Sam and the band played a 180 show on the exact same date last year, December 19 (a Friday). I hope it's some kind of secret plot. Speaking of records, buy Shame Train's CDs. I suggest all of them, but okay, start with one or two. Go to the show, buy the CDs, take them home and listen. You'll be singing along by the next time the band comes to town and it won't take until next December.



Merry KISS-mas With Crazy Knights

Friday, December 25

This is so awesome. If enough people knew about this, somebody might organize a protest. What's "this" you ask? Only Dubuque's own KISS tribute band "Crazy Knights" performing ON Christmas night. That's right. Clean up the wrapping paper and ribbons, 'cause the fearsome foursome will be performing as the band that plays such heartwarming holiday fare as "Love Gun" and "Lick It Up" and whose name was alleged to be an acronym for "Knights In Satan's Service" ... perfect for a Baby Jesus Birthday post-party.

One Hat Band

Saturday, December 26

The Breitbach Family reunites to play a special "Boxing Day" One Hat Band show at 180 Main. It makes perfect sense. Everybody's home for the holidays, so why not throw down the hoe-down?

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3.21.10 @ 3 p.m.
@ 8 p.m.

The Blanks (Ted's Band)
4.15.10 @ 7:30 p.m.

The Punch Brothers
3.6.10 @ 7:30 p.m.

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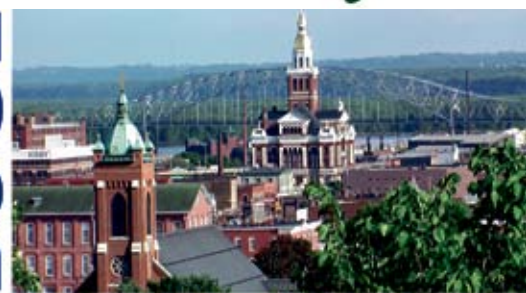
www.uwplatt.edu/arts/cfa

www.tickets.uwplatt.edu

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BUOL



ON DUBUQUE notes from the mayor

"Healthy Youth: Ways to Show Kids We Care"

By Mayor Roy D. Buol

A global organization, The Search Institute, has been working for over 50 years to discover what children and adolescents need to become caring, healthy, and responsible adults. And through our America's Promise: Every Child, Every Promise initiative, we have learned that raising successful kids takes more than a single family or school. The Search Institute concurs – "an engaged community requires many people—educators, faith community leaders, parents, governmental figures, and others—to come together to support our youth."

During this season of thanksgiving and promise, I'd like to share a piece written by Jolene Roehlkepartain for the Search Institute, titled "150 Ways to Show Kids You Care":

1. Notice them.
2. Smile a lot.
3. Acknowledge them.
4. Learn their names.
5. Seek them out.
6. Remember their birthdays.
7. Ask them about themselves.
8. Look in their eyes when you talk to them.
9. Listen to them.
10. Play with them.
11. Read aloud together.
12. Giggle together.
13. Be nice.
14. Say yes a lot.
15. Tell them their feelings are okay.
16. Set boundaries that keep them safe.
17. Be honest.
18. Be yourself.
19. Listen to their stories.
20. Hug them.
21. Forget your worries sometimes and concentrate only on them.
22. Notice when they're acting differently.
23. Present options when they seek your counsel.
24. Play outside together.
25. Surprise them.
26. Stay with them when they're afraid.
27. Invite them over for juice.
28. Suggest better behaviors when they

"act out."

29. Feed them when they are hungry.
30. Delight in their discoveries!
31. Share their excitement.
32. Send them a letter or postcard.
33. Follow them when they lead.
34. Notice when they're absent.
35. Call them to say hello.
36. Hide surprises for them to find.
37. Give them space when they need it.
38. Contribute to their collections.
39. Discuss their dreams and their nightmares.
40. Laugh at their jokes.
41. Be relaxed.
42. Kneel, squat, or sit so you're at their eye level.
43. Answer their questions.
44. Tell them how terrific they are.
45. Create a tradition with them and keep it.
46. Learn what THEY have to teach.
47. Use your ears more than your mouth.
48. Make yourself available.
49. Show up at their concerts, games and events.
50. Find a common interest.
51. Hold hands during a walk.
52. Apologize when you've done something wrong.
53. Listen to their favorite music with them.
54. Keep the promises you make.
55. Wave and smile when you part.
56. Display their artwork in your home.
57. Thank them.
58. Point out what you like about them.
59. Clip magazine pictures or articles that interest them.
60. Give them lots of compliments.
61. Catch them doing something right.
62. Encourage win-win solutions.
63. Give them your undivided attention.
64. Ask for their opinion.
65. Have fun together.
66. Be curious with them.
67. Introduce them to your friends and family.
68. Tell them how much you like being with them.
69. Let them solve most of their own problems.
70. Meet their friends.
71. Meet their parents.
72. Let them tell you how they feel.

Continued on Page 30.

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Bubblz Karaoke, Bammer's, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Wednesdays

WJOD Wild West Wed - (Country Dancing), Fairgrounds, 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Karaoke - C-Sharp, A&B Tap, 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Karaoke - Becky McMahon, Denny's Lux Club, 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

Karaoke - Rainbow Lounge, Canfield Hotel, 7:30 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Karaoke - Dave Lorenz, Player's Sports Bar, 9 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Karaoke/DJ - Good Times, Bootlegger's, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Thursdays

Live Music - Robbie Bahr & Laura McDonald, Gobbies, Galena, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Y-105 Party Zone - Dbq Co. Fairgrounds, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Open Mic Showcase, Silver Dollar Cantina, 9 p.m.

Karaoke - Rainbow Lounge, Canfield Hotel, 7:30 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Karaoke - Becky McMahon, Ground Round, 9 p.m. - midnight

Karaoke - Flyin' Hawaiian, Shannon's Bar, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Karaoke - Soundwave, Bulldog Billiards, 9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Karaoke - Dave Lorenz, Player's Sports Bar, 9 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

DJ Music - DJ Brian Imbus, Jumpers, 8:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Fridays

Karaoke - C-Sharp, A&B Tap, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Karaoke - Rainbow Lounge, Canfield Hotel, 7:30 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Karaoke - Flyin' Hawaiian, Sublime, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Karaoke - Dave Lorenz, Player's Sports Bar, 9 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Karaoke - Becky McMahon, Jumpers, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. (Every Other Friday)

Karaoke - Brian Leib's Essential Entertainment, Aragon Tap, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Karaoke - Sue B's, The Other Side, 11 p.m. - 3 a.m.

DJ Music - Main Event DJ, Gin Riqueys, 8:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

DJ Music - Sound Ideas DJ, Timmerman's Supper Club, 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.

DJ Music - DJ Brian Imbus, Jumpers, 8:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Saturdays

Live Comedy - Arthur House Restaurant, Platteville, 9 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Karaoke - Rainbow Lounge, Canfield Hotel, 7:30 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Karaoke - C-Sharp, A&B Tap, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Karaoke - Flyin' Hawaiian, George & Dales, (East Dub.) 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Karaoke - Dave Lorenz, Player's Sports Bar, 9 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Karaoke/DJ - Good Times, The Other Side, 11 p.m. - 3 a.m.

Karaoke - Starburst Karaoke, w/Dave Winders, Instant Replay, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

DJ Music - Main Event DJ, Gin Riqueys, 8:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

DJ Music - Sound Ideas DJ, Timmerman's Supper Club, 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.

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Wells Fargo, Des Moines • January 15

The BoDeans

Barrymore Theatre, Madison • December 27

Tim McGraw

Wells Fargo, Des Moines • February 13

Big Head Todd & the Monsters

House of Blues, Chicago • December 31

Gary Allan

Wisconsin Dells • February 20

Lady Gaga

Chicago Theatre, Chicago • January 8-10

Mark Knopfler

Chicago Theatre, Chicago • April 23

Bob's Book Reviews

The I v s b e M n

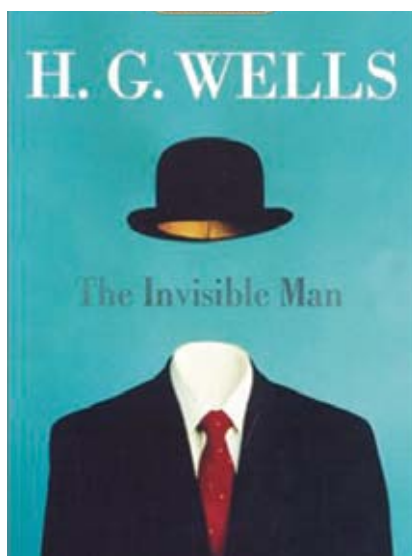
by Bob Gelms

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EDITION

The end of Jules Verne's career and the beginning of H. G. Wells' overlapped. Together they are credited with the invention of the Science Fiction genre which, in Verne's case was referred to as "adventures." Wells work was the first to be described as writing "science romances," soon to be called science fiction. They both are credited with dealing with what have become major themes of the science fiction genre.



leap of scientific progress, the ability to make yourself invisible, on the character of Griffin. It has been a very long time between re-reading it recently and the first time I read it as a young boy. It strikes me now as a much more interesting book than just the adventure I had, imagining I was invisible and what I would have done with that kind of power as a 10 year old boy. I now "get" how over the top Wells was being in some parts and the satire I now recognize was utterly undetectable as a ten year old. The ideas that scientific power can corrupt, turn into raging paranoia, driving a wedge between friends as it did between Griffin and Dr Kemp, and ending in insanity has become endlessly familiar to the modern audience but not so in 1897. This was the age of discovery and large segments of the population were very wary of scientific progress. The Invisible Man frightened as much as it dazzled its readers



Wells tried to base all of his books in sound scientific principles and it is amazing how close he came most of the time. The technique Griffin uses to make the neighbor's cat and himself invisible is, more or less, scientifically sound. He figured that if he could make his body refract light in the same way as air then the light beams would not bend around his body, they would travel straight

through thereby rendering him invisible. Believe it or not, this is actually being developed as by our Defense Department. Wells, however, hit a couple of speed bumps. He has Griffin theorize that part of the reason his technique works is because he himself is an albino. As most anatomists nowadays will tell you, if your eyes are rendered invisible than you would be blind and Wells fudges this by saying the only visible image of the invisible man is the vague ghostly image of two opaque eyes hanging in the air. The whole albino thing is not applicable at all.

I think perhaps I've learned a lesson in all of this. I re read The Invisible Man because I was bored with the three books I

borrowed from the library and I thought I'd revisit one of my boyhood favorites. This can be a dangerous thing to do. In a resale shop, not too long ago, I discovered a copy of one of the adventures of Tom Swift, a series I read with great interest as a boy, and it was quite obvious about 10 pages in that that is where it should have stayed. Not so, however, with The Invisible Man. This was a wonderful surprise for me because I remember enjoying the book very much as a youth and even more so as an adult. Most of Wells, Verne and Kenneth Robeson's Doc Savage novels are in a box in the basement. The hunt is on!

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It is interesting to note that all of their major works were completed between 100 and 150 years ago and most of them have survived very well in the sense that they only seem slightly dated. In the period from 1894 to 1897 H. G. Wells wrote The Time Machine, War of the Worlds, The Island of Dr Moreau, and The Invisible Man. In the Island of Dr Moreau and The Invisible Man Wells introduced one of the great themes of science fiction, science gone horrible wrong. The only major example of this type preceding Wells was Mary Shelley's Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus. There is one huge difference between the two and that is that the Monster in Frankenstein was dead, assembled from spare parts and then re-animated. Griffin, in the Invisible Man, was the result of his own experimentation on himself. Wells explores the nature of that giant



Reframe

*"There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so."
Hamlet, Shakespeare*

No experience in life is positive or negative until you decide it is positive or negative. You use your frame of reference to decide the meaning of an experience. The meaning comes not from the behavior itself but from your frame. Since you create your own meaning, you have the ability to recreate that meaning to one which serves to improve your life.

Reframing can turn a negative experience into a positive. Children's stories are full of illustrations designed to show children how to reframe a negative into a positive. For example, the other reindeer made fun of

Rudolph's bright, red nose; but that funny nose made Rudolph the hero on a dark, snowy night.

Learning to reframe is essential because there will always be times in life when you are tired, exhausted or experiencing pain and suffering. Instead of saying, "I'll never get through this," reframe it and say... "I will get through this." Practice reframing until it becomes an integral part of your thinking. Reframe problems as opportunities, a weakness as a strength and an impossibility as something that is possible. Reframing is a very useful tool.

With some effort, you can put a positive spin on almost any experience. You set the frame and determine whether an experience is positive or negative. So when life hands you lemons, reframe it and make lemonade. Then go find the person that life handed vodka.

1% Mattitude Improvement Tip

Rapid Charge Your Battery

Is it a coincidence that the battery on your cell phone is always dead when you need it the most? Do you know that you can rapid charge your battery for 20-30 minutes and get it charged up to 70-80%? A short amount of time charging can get your battery powered up. People are like cell phone batteries. We are often out of power when it matters most. What we don't realize is that a short amount of time recharging gets us charged up again. So when you feel as though your battery is running low, take a short nap, get some exercise, or read the comics. Find what it takes to rapid charge your battery and do it whenever you fell a little low.

Don't forget to CYA - Check Your Attitude! Like it or not, your ATTITUDE determines your success (or lack thereof). To inquire about Matt's hit keynote speech titled "What's the value of your attitude?" call 563-773-6288 or email matt@mattbooth.com.



MONEY MAKEOVER

TERMS!

My ride was sketchy. So I went to Dupaco.com for a new car loan and got the green light on a hot rate with cool terms. When I rolled in to finalize the deal, Kurt suggested a Money Makeover. He showed me how I could pay Dupaco a lot less in interest by taking half my monthly payment and paying it biweekly. Then he showed me how I could pay off my credit card sooner and save a wad—without coughing up extra cash. Now I'm driving my new car and driving down the balance on my credit card—with money to spare. He even showed me how to save a couple hundred grand for retirement by taking a few extra bucks out of each paycheck! You can bank on a bank for some things. But give credit to a credit union like Dupaco for putting people before profits. I drove in for a loan. And drove out revved up.

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Life STILES A Year of Firsts

This past year has seen quite a number of firsts—including the inauguration of Barack Obama—though in my own life most of the inaugural events of 2009 have occurred in the Historic Millwork District of downtown Dubuque. For the first time in my 43 years of life for example, I've driven a skid-loader, operated a 65-foot lift and overseen the demolition of a large movie theater complex.

In spite of all those adventures, however, probably one of my most notable adventures this past year has involved the Warehouse Art Gallery, which was founded earlier this year in response to the Dubuque City Council's directive to incorporate the arts & culture in developments in downtown Dubuque.

To kick things off, February 2009 saw our first opening reception at WAG, featuring members of the Dubuque Camera Club and over 350 guests in attendance. The months that followed—while not always drawing hundreds of visitors on opening night—have seen our very first drawing exhibit (Aaron Butcher), our first pottery show (Megan Lindeman), our initial ceramics exhibit (Scott Lammer), our first duo show (by Abigail Butcher and Susan Robertson, which I'm told was also THEIR first-ever artist show), our first group exhibit (Broad Strokes Art Club) and our first-ever joint fundraiser benefiting a local non-profit (local AP photographer Mark Hirsch's photography display that raised funds for the Dubuque Rescue Mission).

Meanwhile, throughout December Warehouse Art Gallery is proud to be hosting their first-ever recap show, featuring samples from nearly all the dozens of artists who displayed their creative works in our space throughout 2009. This eclectic multi-media presentation consists of varying media placed throughout a 5,700-square-foot portion of the first floor of our ex-

pansive building.

If you've never before been to one of our openings, this will be the month to do it. And if you HAVE in fact attended one or more of our opening receptions over the past 11 months, be prepared to be amazed at this new bigger-and-better space, which contains numerous paintings, framed photographs, ceramic and pottery items played on shelves and floors and displays. Many of the artists who showed in WAG over the past year will also be in attendance throughout the evening to talk about their works, and as usual there will be plenty of refreshments (Kalmes' Breaktime), wine samples (Park Farm Winery), brew samples (Bluff Street Brew Haus) and bottled water (The Gym).



Of course, as I've been telling visitors to our development-in-progress over the past month, Friday's December Recap Show will be a dress rehearsal for the New Year's Eve event that will be held in this same space the evening of Thursday, December 31—featuring live music, food, a cash bar, art contests, silent and live auctions, and a champagne toast with DJ dance music at the stroke of midnight.

It'll be another first no one should miss.

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EATING HEALTHY



"O-Live" It Up for the Holidays!

Green and black olives usually make an appearance this time of year on holiday tables, aside an assortment of veggies on traditional relish trays. But olives are also an ideal ingredient to add flavor and variety to party foods and appetizers for holiday entertaining.

Olives come in many different shapes, colors, sizes and flavors. The difference between black and green olives is simply the ripeness. Green olives are unripe and black olives are fully ripe. Olives, both ripe and unripe, are then cured or pickled before eating.

Even though olives have a high fat content - 15 to 30% - the majority of fat is heart-healthy monounsaturated fat. Olives are also considered a good source of vitamin E and contain natural antioxidants. Four or five medium to large ripe olives have only 25 calories and 2 grams of fat. Because of the curing process, olives do contain sodium. Rinsing olives first before eating will help reduce some of the sodium.

Tapenades are an olive puree or paste blended with seasonings and herbs. All you need is a food processor, blender or knife with a cutting board to prepare a basic tapenade. Tapenades are the perfect building blocks to use with baguettes, crackers or pita chips for holiday parties. Put olives on your holiday menu with one of these recipes found to the right.

RECIPE

Ripe Olive Tapenade Pizza Serves 6.

Ingredients:

- 1 (6 oz) can whole, pitted ripe olives, drained
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tsp chopped garlic
- 1 tsp chopped lemon zest
- 1 lb prepared pizza dough
- 3 oz grated Parmesan or Asiago cheese
- 2 tsp chopped fresh rosemary

Directions:

1. Pulse ripe olives, olive oil, garlic and lemon zest together in a food processor until coarsely pureed. Set aside.
 2. Place pizza dough on lightly floured surface and roll into 12-inch-by-16-inch rectangle. Cut into 12 loosely rectangular pieces and carefully transfer each piece to a lightly greased baking sheet.
 3. Spread with an even layer of tapenade mixture, then sprinkle with cheese and rosemary. Bake in 500-degree oven for 9-11 minutes.
- Nutrition facts per serving: 310 calories, 14g fat, 15mg cholesterol, 700mg sodium, 35g carbohydrate, 9g protein.

Source: California Olive Committee

RECIPE

Gouda-Stuffed Olives Serves 24.

All you need

- 1 oz Gouda cheese
- 1 (6-oz) can Lindsay large black ripe pitted olives, drained
- 3 oz thinly sliced prosciutto or deli ham

All you do

1. Cut Gouda cheese into small (1/4-inch) pieces; stuff one piece into each olive.
2. Cut prosciutto into 3-by-1/2-inch strips; fold each strip lengthwise once to form 3-by-1/4-inch strips.
3. Wrap a strip of prosciutto around each olive; secure with a toothpick.
4. Cover and chill up to 24 hours before serving.

Nutrition per serving: Calories 20, Total fat 1.5 g, Sodium 150 mg, Total carbohydrate 0 g

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ENTERTAINMENT ROUNDUP

Live music still lives downtown. Here's proof:

Six Nights Alone

Black Water Gin

Friday, December 11

Okay, when Six Nights Alone played the Dollar at the beginning of summer they were promising a new EP was ready any moment so we could finally get a listen. Well ... apparently they've been busy rocking live shows and winning the 2009 Battle of the Bands at Clarke College, so we're going to give them an extension on the due date. Hey, it's the holidays. Also performing will be Dodgeville country rock quartet Black Water Gin.



A Friend Called Fire

Saturday, December 12

Chicago rock trio A Friend Called Fire returns to rock the Silver Dollar Saturday, December 12. Combining the heavy grooves of a hard rock power trio with a more pop-oriented sense of melody than many of their metal contemporaries, A Friend Called Fire might appeal to the person who likes heavy rock but has a bit more depth on their iPod and can appreciate a singer who can do more than just scream.

Bitten By Gypsies

Friday, December 18

Man you gotta love this local music scene. When I first heard there was a new band called Bitten By Gypsies, I thought, "Cool, another new band with a fun name ... wonder what they sound like?" Well, little did I know that Bit-

ten By Gypsies is another "side project" of some of the same great players who seem to turn up in a fair number of other bands – Dean Wellman (Tribe of 2, Ragged Glory, Sun Green), Shawn Healy (Alma Sub Rosa and Feast of Mutton, among others), Bobby Bradford (BlackBloom and Sun Green) and the man who needs no other introduction, Denny Garcia. In this particular incarnation, the guys are jamming it acoustic style, taking turns in leading the others through songs that no doubt sparkle and meander through the sound of four acoustic guitars. Hmm ... I guess Jimmy Berg must have already been busy.



The Pimps

Saturday, December 19

Dropping the superfluous "Goodyear" part of their previously longer moniker, the more simply named Pimps return to rock their formidable local fan base Saturday, December 19. For those not yet part of that demographic, the Rockford-based (post) punks are prone to appropriate any particular style – funk, groove metal, cow-punk, and even reggae – that seems to suit whatever satirical theme they happen to target, and then rock the crap out of it. In a fun way.

The Tasties

Saturday December 26

Bringing a Santa-sized bag of fun in the form of upbeat pop and party rock, The Tasties will provide the soundtrack for the Christmas weekend post-party at the Bank. You know these guys from a variety of other bands they've been in – The Uninvited, Middletown, The Shiz, Tattooed Molly, and Just Push Play – so you know the name says it all ... Tasties.

New Year's Eve Party

BlackBloom

Thursday, December 31

We're kinda running out of room here so check it out: New Year's Eve Party at The Bank with BlackBloom. 'Nuff said.

SUDOKU



CRYPTOQUIP

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: K equals E

GKVJWPK QB XHKVMWPI
HALMKOHKAIP YKMK GTWLCI
YCTRKPJRK,
BTW QHLCI PJB H'EK
VMHQXKO JAO PJEKO.

SUPER CROSSWORD

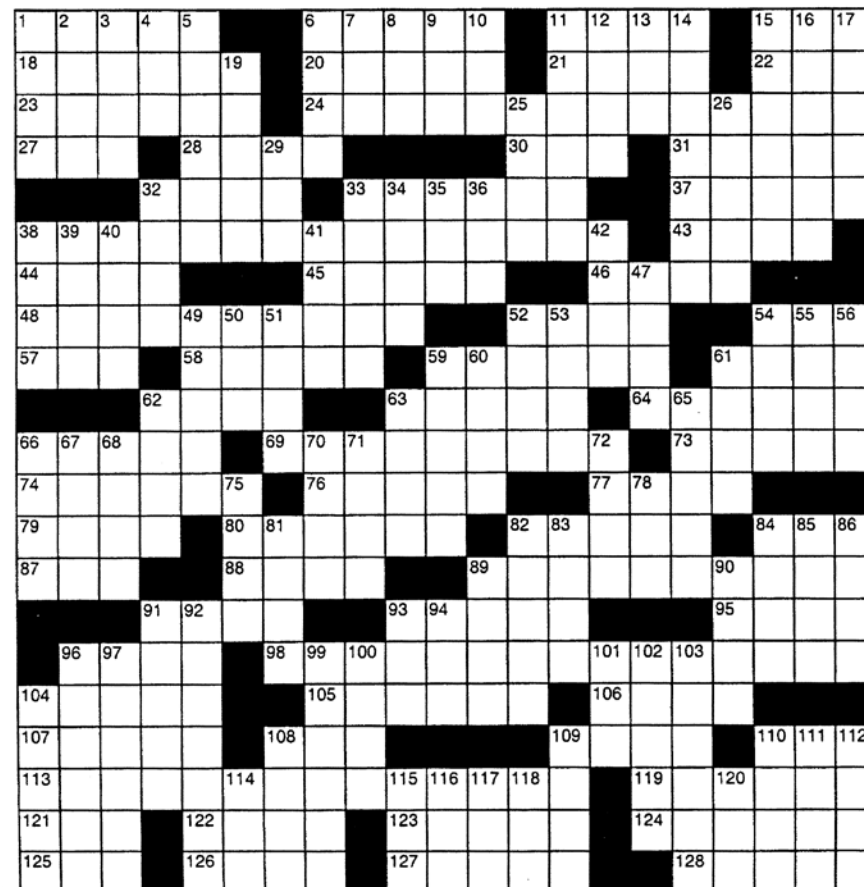
Super Crossword ON GUARD

ACROSS

- 1 Cook clams
6 Civvies
11 It came from Montana
15 Part of PST
18 Tom's temptation
20 Looked like Lothario?
21 — Rios, Jamaica
22 She's a sheep date
23 Plummer or Pays
24 Riddle: Part 1
27 Encountered
28 Caddie competitor
30 Flicka's food
31 Cliff hanger?
32 The Chipmunks, e.g.
33 Houston athletes
37 Covenants
38 Riddle: Part 2
43 Pindaric poetry
44 Libertine
45 Lo mein land
46 Culp/Cosby series
48 "Three Times a Lady" group
52 Competent
54 — standstill
57 High peak
58 Paris' prize
59 Adulterate
61 Singer
62 Hard to find
63 Certain horse
64 "Rats!"
66 That's no bull!
69 Riddle: Part 3
73 Stadium
74 Diva Maria
76 Stroll
77 Miami's county
79 Hunky-dory
80 Warns
82 Plankton connoisseur
84 Insert dialogue
87 Pro — (for now)
88 Sunflower st.
89 "Utopia" author
91 Self-smitten
93 Broadcast
95 Gymnast
96 Grouch
98 Riddle: Part 4
104 Celts
105 Pack up the tent
106 Boot part
107 Cross words?
108 Indian export
109 Hockey's Kolzig
110 Health club
113 Answer to riddle
119 Type of embroidery
121 Porgy part
122 Room without a view?
123 Common contraction
124 622 event
125 Poseidon's domain
126 Model
Macpherson
127 Share knowledge
128 Acts like a grandparent

DOWN

- 1 Con game
2 Subdue
Simba
3 "L—, c'est moi"
4 Sheridan or Sothern
5 Violin virtuoso
6 Trims the turf
7 "Not spinach again!"
8 Neighbor of Ga.
9 Asian holiday
10 A mean Amin
11 Fertilizer ingredient
12 Sore
13 Haggard heroine
14 Fountain offering
15 Tenor Jan
16 Expects
17 Turns over
19 Michael of Monty Python
25 Tell's partner
26 Prepared
29 Westminster winner
32 Swarm (with)
33 Wan
34 Goes downhill fast?
35 Decimal base
36 Nutritional abbr.
38 '77 Richard Harris film
39 Mislead
40 Speed —
41 "God's Little —" ('58 film)
42 Art medium
47 Ooze
49 "Butterfield 8" author
50 Strauss' "— Rosenkavalier"
51 Couturier
Cassini
52 Busy as —
53 Comic Roseanne
54 — vera
55 "American Bandstand" viewer
56 Novelist Seton
59 Gorp ingredients
60 Narcissus' nymph
61 Skirt shaper
62 Depend (on)
63 "Yo!" at the library
65 Brother of Zeus
66 Glasgow guy
67 Daily receipts
68 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
70 Dentist's directive
71 Head set?
72 Cheeseboard choice
75 Literary pseudonym
78 Chicken — king
81 k.d. of country
82 Baby beagle
83 Wolf wail
84 Barbie, Ken, or Chucky
85 Prod
86 Bracelet bit
89 Mine car
90 Burrowing critter
91 Ruark's "Something of —"
92 "— makes the heart . . ."
93 Wine word
94 — la-la
96 Stephen King book
97 "Salve —"
99 Swimmer Gertrude
100 Tide type
101 Fashion monogram
102 Teach a tackle
103 Noyes or Nobel
104 Fish hooks
108 Commuter's charge
109 Promise
110 "M*A*S*H" Emmy winner
111 Fifi's father
112 Cry of concern
114 Dolores — Rio
115 Milliner's creation
116 Bonanza material
117 Arthur of "Maude"
118 Stateside Ltd.
120 Inflatable item?



HOCUS FOCUS

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



different. 5. Sheet fold is wider. 6. Picture is different. 7. Nightgown is different. 3. Curtain is missing. 4. Pajamas are

STICKELERS

Kelsey is standing in a line with other students. She is fifth in line counting from one end and 12th in line counting from the other end. How many students total are in the line?

LETTER BOX

Letter Box by Linda Thistle

Place a letter in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the letters listed above the diagram. When completed, the row indicated will spell out a word or words.



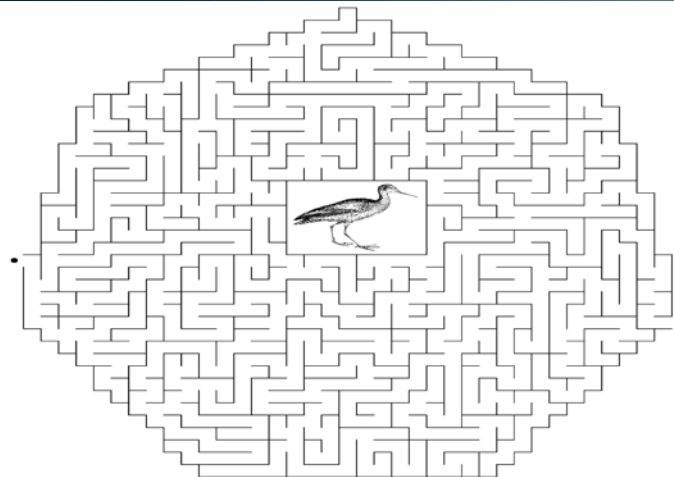
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MEGA MAZE





TRIXIE KITSCH BAD ADVICE FOR THE STUPID

Dear Trixie:

I have been really depressed. I lost my job and now I am struggling financially. There is a part of me that just doesn't care. Then while ironing a shirt, smoke came wafting from the bottom and when I lifted the iron I saw the burnt image of a face staring back at me. What I saw was the image of a kindly man with long hair and a beard. I suddenly felt a wave of warmth as if it were a sign from God. I feel that Jesus's love was filling my house with hope. Do you think it's a miracle?

--Rhonda in Rickardsville

Dear Rhonda:

Yes, I do. Nothing sticks to Teflon! But how can you be so sure it's Jesus? You saw a long-haired guy with a beard. It could be Charlie Manson or one of The Oak Ridge Boys. It could also mean that the heat setting was simply too high. Let me know when you see an apostle in a pancake.

Dear Trixie:

My husband got really ripped last night and passed out on the kitchen floor. He doesn't usually do his drinking here at the house so I don't have to make up too many excuses for him. This time the children saw him and ran to tell me about it. What am I supposed to say when they ask why Daddy is laying on the floor?

--Sick Of Co-Dependency

Dear Sick Of:

Tell them Daddy is doing a difficult Yoga position: Downward Facing Drunk.

Dear Trixie:

My husband's brother embarrasses me. He has this strange habit of talking to himself. He walks around town saying the most bizarre stuff. Yesterday he was arguing with himself in the cereal aisle at Hy-Vee. Total strangers stare at him and some people even point and laugh. I know he has some type of mental health issues but it doesn't make it any less embarrassing. What can I do?

--Sharon On Lea Lane

Dear Sharon:

Get him a cell phone ear piece.

Dear Trixie: My doctor says I am at risk for liver cancer. He says anyone who drinks six glasses of alcohol a day is going to develop cirrhosis of the liver. He says it's imperative that I make immediate changes. What is the best way to reduce the number of cock-tails I have per day?

---Jim Beam

Dear Jim:

Use bigger glasses.



Dr. Skrap's completely useless HOROSCOPES

Aries 3/21-4/19 Mid-December pants buying never takes holiday spread into consideration. Huge mistake. Buy pants in January.

Taurus 4/20-5/20 Don't sweat the small stuff this holiday season. Focus more on your recent convictable offenses.

Gemini 5/21-6/21 An uncomfortable silence ensues after a child gets a new electronic toy for Christmas but you forgot to buy the "not included" batteries. That's not the uncomfortable part. It's when the kid points out that mom has a lot of rechargeable batteries dad didn't know about that eyebrows rise.

Cancer 6/22-7/22 You can probably afford new snow tires if you stop smoking today and redirect those funds. Then again, you can probably get a lift from a sympathetic smoker friend.

Leo 7/23-8/22 You claim to hate fake breasts, but you put a McRib sandwich in your mouth the other day and you didn't seem to have an issue with that. So what gives?

Virgo 8/23-9/22 One succulent bite and you have to seriously wonder why peanut butter chocolate star cookies are only made once a year. That's a sin. Then again, so is eating them by the dozen. Better stick to once a year. Definitely buy new pants in January.

Libra 9/23-10/22 Everyone's wondering how long it will take you to polish off the bushel-size can of tri-flavored popcorn you got at the office Christmas party this year. The answer is dependent on whether or not you get dumped over the holidays. Discourage wagering.

Scorpio 10/23-11/21 Your new camera phone will not work in the shower. Why do I have to keep telling you this?

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21 Hey, as long as you're proud of it, it should count as a degree from a real college. You might not want to display in in the lobby however.

Capricorn 12/22-1/19 When you go to mom and dad's for Christmas this year, take time to hook up that fancy Blu-ray Disc player you got them for Christmas last year. Or convince them they'll never use it and take it home with you.

Aquarius 1/20-2/18 Castrol Synthetic is not "that" kind of lubricant. Consider yourself warned.

Pisces 2/19-3/20 This year you will spend a total of three hours and twelve minutes looking for better parking spots while shopping. That's a whole football game. But if you're a woman, that kind of qualification may not resonate with you the same as it does with a man.

PUZZLE ANSWERS from page 27

Sudoku

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

Sticklers

Sticklers Answer

There are 16 students in the line.

0000●000000000000

Fifth and 12th in line.

Cryptoquip

Because my piecrust ingredients were bought wholesale, you might say I've crimped and saved.

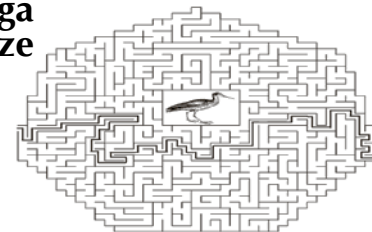
Crossword

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

Letter Box

N	K	G	V	E	I	O	B	R
B	R	I	C	K	O	V	E	N
V	E	O	R	B	N	C	I	K
E	C	B	O	V	R	N	K	I
R	V	K	I	N	B	E	C	O
O	I	N	E	C	K	R	V	B
I	O	V	B	R	E	K	N	C
K	B	E	N	O	C	I	R	V
C	N	I	R	K	I	V	B	O

Mega Maze



365 Quiz?

THE ANSWERS Questions on Page 6

1. C. 15.5 inches of snow fell in 24 hours in 1959.
2. D. The year 2000 saw 37.6" of snow
3. C. -47 degrees in 1912 and 1966
4. A. Yes, it can be too cold to snow.
5. D. According to the interweb, there has been a 15" diameter snowflake
6. B. There are five basic snowflake shapes
7. A. Snow crystal shape is determined by temperature. D might also be an acceptable answer.



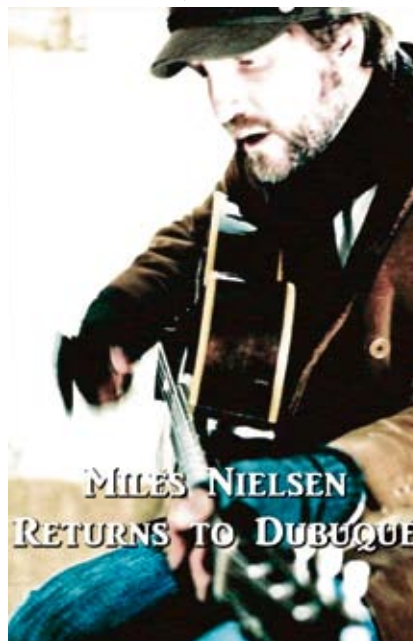
about the war, these men and women are risking their lives for us. They deserve our respect and support so when we were asked to go on this tour we jumped at the opportunity."

This will be the second overseas trip for the band, having spent nearly a month in Japan and Korea in the summer of 2008. 2009 has apparently been a busy one for the band. After dates at Austin's South By Southwest music conference and an opening for 311 at Iowa City's Field House this spring (not to mention gathering reviews in music industry publications like Billboard, Pollstar, Radio & Records, and Relix this year), Blue Island Tribe spent the summer touring through Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Iowa, Nebraska, and Colorado, before heading to Phoenix, Arizona for ten days of recording new material with noted producer Kevin Stratton who has worked with Chicago, Stevie Wonder, and Van Halen.

The group has released five recordings to date, selling over 30,000 units in total. Blue Island Tribe's latest release, The Five Hits of Ecstasy EP, has not only drawn favorable reviews, but reached the number three position on the iTunes reggae charts.

This story about live music performances may be a bit outside our usual scope, but we think it's pretty cool. Des Moines-based reggae band and 180 Main regular performers Blue Island Tribe, formerly based in Cedar Falls, will be traveling to the Mid-East over the holiday season to entertain U.S. military troops stationed in Bahrain, Qatar, Djibouti, and Kuwait. Set to depart on December 15, the band will return after a New Year's Eve performance in Kuwait.

"We are very excited to spend Christmas and New Years with US Troops this year. It is an opportunity for us to try and bring a little bit of home to them at a time they can't be at home with their loved ones," stated lead singer, James Frey, in a press release. "It doesn't matter how you feel



formance space.

Miles has been especially busy this fall, playing a series of high-profile dates. With Cory Chisel & The Wandering Sons, Miles performed on Late Night With Jimmy Fallon and at Carnegie Hall/Zankel Theater in October. In late November, Miles performed with fellow singer-songwriter Ernie Hendrickson and producer/collaborator Bo Ramsey at a special holiday show at the New American Theater in his hometown of Rockford. Miles has also been featured on some high profile radio programs this fall, including Chicago station WXRT's "Hear First," and NPR's "Mountain Stage" and "World Café" (again with Cory Chisel & The Wandering Sons). Keeping the momentum rolling into the New Year, Miles and Cory Chisel will appear on the "Late Show with David Letterman" in January.

Singer-songwriter Miles Nielsen returns for a performance at Monk's Kaffee Pub Thursday, December 17. Though probably best known as the son of Cheap Trick guitarist Rick Nielsen, Miles has been building himself a strong local following for his own unique songwriting talents over the past year with a series of shows in Monk's intimate per-

For those who have not yet heard Nielsen's music, his self-described "Beatlesque Cosmic Americana" hints at a wide range of influences, including the Fab Four and even a bit of Cheap Trick, but finds its own path in lovely, nuanced melodies over intricate folk-pop arrangements. It's no wonder the rest of the world is finally getting caught up.

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Mayor Roy Buol Continued from Page 20.

73. Help them become an expert at something.
74. Be excited when you see them.
75. Tell them about yourself.
76. Let them act their age.
77. Praise more; criticize less.
78. Be consistent.
79. Admit when you make a mistake.
80. Enjoy your time together.
81. Give them a special nickname.
82. Marvel at what they can do.
83. Tell them how proud you are of them.
84. Pamper them.
85. Unwind together.
86. Be happy.
87. Ask them to help you.
88. Support them.
89. Applaud their successes.
90. Deal with problems and conflicts while they're still small.
91. Chaperone a dance.
92. Tell them stories in which they are the hero.
93. Believe in them.

94. Nurture them with good food, good works, and good fun.
95. Be flexible.
96. Delight in their uniqueness.
97. Let them make mistakes.
98. Notice when they grow.
99. Wave and honk when you drive by them.
100. Give them immediate feedback.
101. Include them in conversations.
102. Respect them.
103. Join in their adventures.
104. Visit their schools.
105. Help them learn something new.
106. Be understanding when they have a difficult day.
107. Give them good choices.
108. Respect the choices they make.
109. Be silly together.
110. Hang out together.
111. Make time to be with them.
112. Inspire their creativity.
113. Accept them as they are.
114. Become their advocate.
115. Appreciate their individuality.
116. Talk openly with them.
117. Tolerate their interruptions.

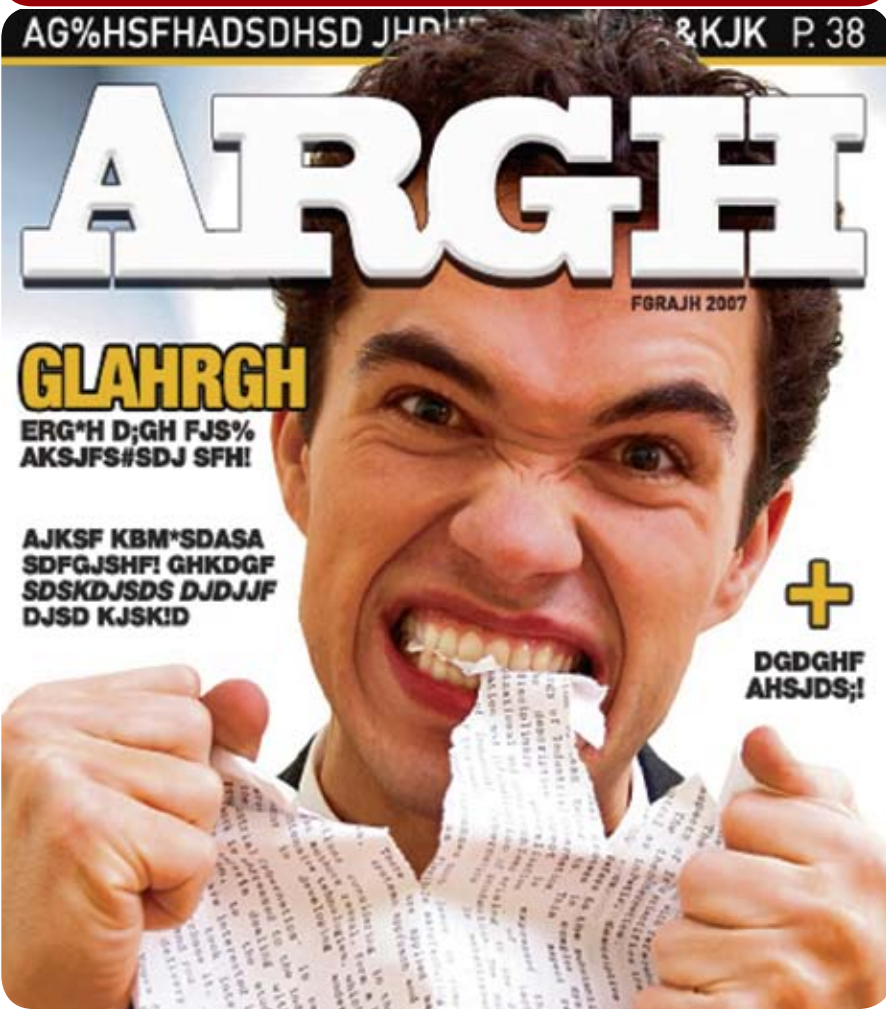
118. Trust them.
119. Share a secret.
120. Write a chalk message on their sidewalk.
121. Create a safe, open environment.
122. Be available.
123. Cheer their accomplishments.
124. Encourage them to help others.
125. Tackle new tasks together.
126. Believe what they say.
127. Help them take a stand and stand with them.
128. Daydream with them.
129. Do what they like to do.
130. Make decisions together.
131. Magnify their magnificence.
132. Build something together.
133. Encourage them to think big.
134. Celebrate their first and lasts, such as the first day of school.
135. Go places together.
136. Welcome their suggestions.
137. Visit them when they're sick.
138. Tape-record a message for them.
139. Help them learn from mistakes.
140. Be sincere.
141. Introduce them to people of

- excellence.
142. Tell them what you expect of them.
143. Give them your phone number.
144. Introduce them to new experiences.
145. Share a meal together.
146. Talk directly together.
147. Be spontaneous.
148. Expect their best; don't expect perfection.
149. Empower them to help and be themselves.
150. Love them, no matter what!

What we are learning is whether they are our own children, our students, or youth members of the community, all kids need some of the same things. If an entire community can put children first and recognize a responsibility to provide resources and support, we will see great things in the development of our youth. (Have you seen the movie "The Blind Side" yet?) Importantly, and regardless of faith tradition, spiritual development is a key component in youth development, and helps kids discover a sense of meaning, purpose, and belonging. Merry Christmas, Dubuque!

365

Funnyness we found on the Interweb



DUBUQUE365.com
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DUBUQUE 24-7-365

The Holidays at The Diggs

December 12 and 13
Bake Sale benefiting food pantries and scholarships. \$5 and \$10 tables.

Sunday, December 27
Live Music, 3:30-7:30
Featuring **Sam Wooden**

New Year's Eve!

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- Champagne toast at Midnight
- Huge fireworks display immediately following the toast
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space. With this type of business that we do, wrapping vehicles and all that, it was necessary. Now we have space, and we have a decent showroom."

Visitors to Digital Designs familiar with the old facility will be impressed with the redesigned floor space. It was a process to get there, though.



"Most of the work was done by Epic Construction," says Shaw of the expansion. "We did paint, flooring, some of the trim work ... it was difficult, because we were so busy doing work-work to focus on the building work."

That's yet another parallel to those of us here at 365; any regular reader of Bryce's Inkubator will remember the details of moving into our new world headquarters on Locust Street. (We're getting there!)

Despite the occasional difficulties, Shaw still sticks to his guiding principles.

"When we get clients, they tend to stay with us," he says. "We really strive to do a good job. It won't leave the door if the quality is questionable."

And he's still having fun doing it.

"It has its moments," says Shaw, smiling. "I like talking to people. I like the relationship part of this. When you've got your own thing, you wind up working a lot of hours ... but it has its benefits. I really enjoy being able to work alongside my wife. I'm responsible to no one but myself. If I didn't like it ... well, it just wouldn't work."

And it seems to be working very well.

Located at 3350 Center Grove Drive, Digital Designs will be hosting an open house to show off the new facility on Wednesday, December 16, at 4:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.printmebig.com or call 877-307-2244.

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