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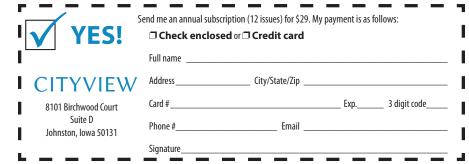


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CITYVIEW

DECEMBER 2021



BEFORE...
Our Christmas classic

'TWAS THE

Our Christmas classic for the holidays

NIGHT

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Chelsea gave to me

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Christmas. Jen gave to me

On the 3rd day of

IPL LASER

with dermaplaning and masque for \$225



On the 4th day of Christmas,

Tracie gave to me

COOL-**SCULPTING**

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(12-5-2021)



On the 6th day of Christmas,

Michelle & Colleen gave to me 20% off all

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(12-6-2021)

On the 7th day of Christmas, Nikki gave to me

FREE BOX of Skin Medica

eye masks with purchase of Latisse (12-7-2021)

On the 8th day of Christmas. Melissa gave to me

JUVEDERM VOLUMA XC

1st Syringe \$800 2nd Syringe \$600 (12-8-2021)

On the 9th day of Christmas, Kathy gave to me

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On the 10th day of Christmas,

Brenda gave to me 25% off

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On the 11th day of Christmas,

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ASK CITYVIEW By CITYVIEW staff

Picket line questions: John Deere vs. United Auto Workers Union... Who gets paid during a strike?

Ask CITYVIEW anything by emailing editor@dmcityview.com.

"With the recent headlines regarding the labor strife between John Deere and United Auto Workers Union," writes Ann from Ankeny, "It left me asking, 'Who gets paid during a strike?' Do employees get money from the union? Do union leaders still get paid during the stoppage? Do unions save money ahead of time to help members through potential strikes?"

As CITYVIEW went to press, The United Auto Workers Union (UAW) had reached an agreement with John Deere to end the work stoppage that began on Oct. 14. Thousands of employees were affected at 12 Deere facilities in three states, including lowa.

Deere has recently reported record profits, including a third quarter net income of \$1.667 billion and its full-year earnings forecast is \$5.7 to \$5.9 billion.

Deere employees originally rejected an offer that would have brought about a 5% or 6% wage increase. The final agreement is said to result in a 10% wage increase along with other benefits.

The last John Deere strike occured in 1986.

In regards to "who gets paid during a strike?" Ask CITYVIEW reached out to Lance Noe, who serves as the Director of the Center for Professional Studies in the College of Business and Public Administration at Drake University.

"Historically, unions build up strike funds and then tap into those strike funds to provide financial assistance to striking workers during strikes," he writes. "It would not replace lost income during the strike, but rather provides some modest assistance to help striking workers through the period."

"At the UAW we have a strike fund that members pay into," writes Brian Rothenberg of UAW International in an email. "At our Constitutional Convention they set the amount of strike pay."

According to UAW's website (uaw.org/strike-faq), weekly strike pay is \$275 per week with the potential for weekly benefits, holiday bonuses and strike assistance. To be eligible for strike pay, members must be in good standing on the day before the strike starts, current on dues and initiation fees, on the active payroll at the start of the strike, and they must participate in strike activities, such as picket assignments, strike committee and things of that nature. If they take another job that earns more than the \$275 per week, then they are not eligible for the union's strike compensation.

"The UAW may also pick up some healthcare benefits if the company cuts them off," continues Rothenberg.

In regard to the paychecks of union leaders during a strike, Rothenberg adds that the local leaders of UAW are also on strike.

The work stoppage at John Deere may be over, but labor strife is not a thing of the past. New unionization efforts are said to be emerging at major companies such as Amazon and Starbucks.



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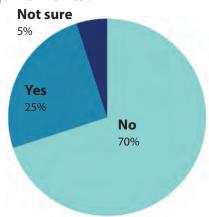
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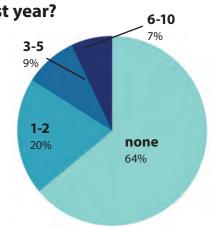
POLL POSITION

Results from last month's polls at www.dmcityview.com

Should religious exemptions be allowed for COVID-19 mask requirements?

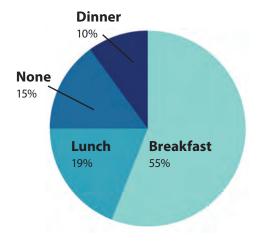


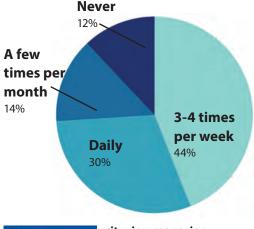
How many concerts have you attended in person in the past year?



How often do you exercise?







cityview magazine facebook (comments unedited)

Cityview Magazine: What's the weirdest thing in your fridge right now?

Jen Bailey: Face roller

Anthony Garza: Sanford and Son DVDs Lori Anderson: CBD Oil

Michelle Dudley: Ten pounds of butter. Not weird to have butter but who else has that much.

Jacki Carr: A dead fly and a dead mouse Andi Ayres: I am currently in my fridge Ray G Lakers: cannabutter **Breck Bonnell:** Severed toe.

Cityview Magazine: Do you believe in giving second chances?

Denver Ritz: Depends on the situation but in general if someone has shown you a pattern of authentic changed behavior yes. C Dub U Russell: People, sure. Farts, no. **Lemon Smith:** Absolutely. We have all made mistakes at some point; except for addiction, adultery and abuse.

Jennifer Anne Page: Depends, but most of the time yes. A "Second chance " though is different than unlimited.

Julie Luepke: Depends on the situation. Ray G Lakers: One too many times

Cityview Magazine: Do you believe in horoscopes?

Lemon Smith: Not at all, but always read

Dave Schmidt: Yes. I see them frequently. David Tweedt: Sure. Every one of them seem to apply every single day.

commute to work? How long is TOO long? David Clippert: I'm retired, so no commute!

Kelly Rae: 20 minute drive to both my jobs. 40 min is too long.

Robin Jacobson: I got tired of driving Indianola to DSM to Indianola every day, so I quit. It was an hour and 10 minutes each workday, not to mention wear-and-tear on the car.

Drew Kelso: 5 min bike ride. Christian Canada: 30-35 minutes....bad weather an hour.

Michael Leland: 10-minute walk. Frank Rhum: 0 minutes. Being self employed means I have no commute! Leslie Kay Frederick: 8 min

RETWEETS (comments unedited)



@mom ontherocks

My husband makes coffee for me every morning even when we're fighting. Consider this evidence if I ever die by poison.

@USMCSDI

Great... I tried to kill a spider with glitter body spray and it didn't work. Now I have a spider that won't stop dancing and insists I call her cinnamon

@mommywhitfield

Driving along the expressway and a truck with an open tailgate just bounced a cooler into the lane ahead of me and I didn't even panic all those years of Mario Kart finally paid off

@jimSarbh

Who called it 'my foot's asleep' and not 'comatoes'

@abbycohenwl

Before you get involved with another person, ask yourself: Is this someone I can see myself cropping out of pictures later?

@KattsDogma

A ballerina walks into a barre. Embarrassed, she splits.

@chrisdowning

I wonder what the part of my brain that used to remember phone numbers is up to these days.

@LittleMissAngr1

Karen: I was so desperate for an answer i even consulted a magic 8-ball!

Cityview Magazine: How long is your

Joel Bauman: 20 minute commute Jason Handy: Between taking the kids to school and work I drive 350+ miles during the week.

Jeremiah Johnson: 3 minutes. 6 if I hit red liahts.

Lemon Smith: Ten minutes should be the limit. Currently is 0, got to love it. Michael H Hamilton: Normal drive to work was about ten minutes until they revamped Euclid down to three lanes. Now, with having to wait through street lights multiple times to make it through, it can take up to half an hour.

Paddie La Bruyere': 30 mins on a good day. 45mins or more on bad days. **Debra Graham:** 15min is my commute. 30min is too long.

2021-22 OWA WILD PROMOTIONAL SCHEDULE



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PROMOTIONS



NEW YEAR'S DAY GAME POSTGAME ON-ICE FIREWORKS SHOW





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BOBBLEHEAD GIVEAWAY

Saturday, Jan. 29



PINK IN THE RINK

LED FOAM BATON GIVEAWAY Friday, Feb. 11



BOBBLEHEAD NIGHT

BOBBLEHEAD GIVEAWAY

Friday, Feb. 25



STAR WARS NIGHT

SPECIALTY JERSEY AUCTION

Friday, Mar. 25



PUCKS N PAWS

LEASH GIVEAWAY — FIRST 400 DOGS

Sunday, Mar. 27

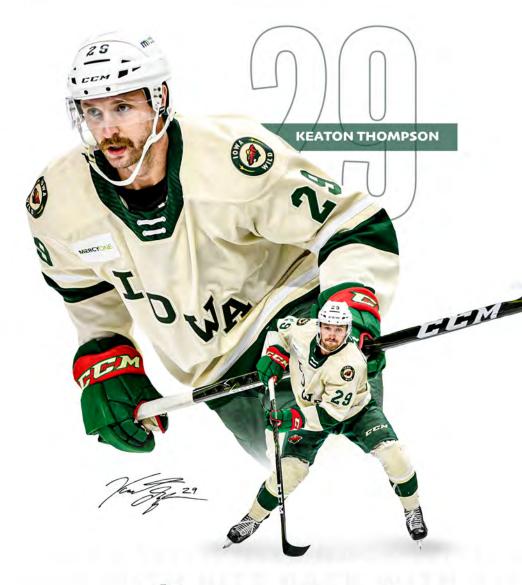


FAN APPRECIATION

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Saturday, Apr. 23







STRAY THOUGHTS BY RANDY EVANS

Libraries should be for all, not just for some

It is telling that no objections were lodged against the two Johnston High School books until this school year.

There's a big birthday coming up in Iowa in about a month.

This place we call home — these 55,800 square miles of farm fields, wooded land, and clusters of housing and commerce — joined the Union 175 years ago on Dec. 28.

This should be cause for a celebration. But it probably won't be. We have difficulty agreeing on much of anything these days, it seems — including libraries.

The spotlight was on them last week during a committee meeting in the Johnston School District. The topic was whether two novels for teens, "The Hate U Give" and "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian," should be available in the Johnston High School library for students to read. The school is the third largest in Iowa, with about 1,725 kids.

Parents Mandy and Rodney Gilbert complained the two books are inappropriate, obscene and offensive. The books contain sexually explicit language and material the Gilberts do not believe should be available to students.

State Senator Jake Chapman, a Republican from nearby Adel, attended the meeting and had similar concerns. "I don't know why the school thinks that they're above the law," he said, "but I intend to do something about it."

Chapman is the Senate's president and controls what bills come up for debate by senators. He said he is drafting legislation that would make it a felony for teachers or librarians to give what he believes are obscene materials to students.

The legislation also would include what he called "civil remedies." He did not elaborate, but people may recall that Texas' new law restricting abortions contains "remedies" that allow anyone, not just government, to bring a lawsuit to enforce the statute.

At the heart of the dispute in Johnston — and similar disputes in a handful of other Iowa communities — are books for teens involving lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender story themes.

Johnston teachers said the books have been used in English classes since 2017. But they have substituted other books for students whose parents ask for an alternative.

Veronica Lorson Fowler, an official of the American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa, said the ACLU opposes attempts to block young people from having access to books that are age-appropriate. Books should be judged on their overall artistic value and intellectual merit, she said, and not just on selected passages.

Put another way, a small group of parents should not be able to keep everyone else's children from having access to a certain book — whether it deals with coming of age as a teen who is gender-conflicted, or whether the book deals with growing up as a Black, Latino or Muslim.

Amanda Vasquez, chair of the Iowa Library Association's intellectual freedom committee, told The Des Moines Register: "We would hope that everyone would respect everyone else's right to read or view whatever it is that they like and for individual families to have those conversations with their children. ... No one should try to prohibit anyone else from reading materials just because they themselves may not find them appropriate for their own family."

It is telling that no objections were lodged against the two Johnston High School books until this school year. It is almost an ironclad certainty that banning the books would lead students to find ways to see what they are missing — by reading them at a public library, by passing around copies bought at stores, or by reading them on their phones or computers.

As for the language the Gilberts and Chapman find objectionable: If you were a mouse in the corner where many teens gather out of earshot of adults, you would almost certainly hear words and comments that would fit right in with the language found in many novels for young adults.

Chapman and other critics of some of these books casually throw around terms like "obscene" and "pornographic." The state's obscenity law, Chapter 728 of the Iowa Code, contains a very specific definition — material depicting sex acts that, when applying "contemporary community standards" and "taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, scientific, political or artistic value."

But the Legislature wrote into that law a specific exemption for schools and public libraries. It states, "Nothing in this chapter prohibits the use of appropriate material for educational purposes in any accredited school, or any public library, or in any educational program in which the minor is participating. Nothing in this chapter prohibits the attendance of minors at an exhibition or display of art works or the use of any materials in any public library."

For a state that was years ahead of many in recognizing the rights of blacks and same-gender couples, it would be regrettable if we celebrate Iowa's 175th anniversary by rolling back access to other views in school libraries, even if those are upsetting and unsettling to some people.

Randy Evans can be reached at DMRevans2810@gmail.com.

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CIVIC SKINNY BY CITYVIEW STAFF

Towing company says County supervisor's actions cost him contract. Women only on DMPS board. Eateries lose \$1.4 billion to COVID-19.

After losing a Polk County towing contract despite being the lowest bidder, towing operator Randy Crow, owner of Crow Tow, wrote to CITYVIEW to speak out against the Polk County Board of Supervisors, who he says is steering Polk County in the wrong direction.

"Recent news regarding the Polk County Supervisors being named in a lawsuit filed by a former county executive, coupled with my own experiences with the supervisors, makes me think it's time for taxpayers to take a much closer look at who is representing them," Crow wrote.

"On Sept. 4, 2020, at 12:04 p.m., Crow Tow received a phone call that was recorded from a property manager that had multiple vehicles illegally parked in their fire lane. They asked us to come remove vehicles, as allowed by law and posted parking regulations. Our driver showed up at 12:17 p.m. to request that people move cars into the garages, metered spots or somewhere else. The first three people moved their cars to the street immediately. The fourth person ran out of the garages yelling at the driver that he was a county supervisor and that he controlled the contract for the county. Our driver accurately stated, 'Even county supervisors cannot park in the fire lane.' The person in question was visibly upset but drove away without being towed. Upon learning of the conversation with this particular supervisor, I called them to share why the Crow Tow driver was dispatched and reminded them the property can be fined for having fire lanes blocked. Unfortunately, this supervisor refused to listen to any information I had to provide, called me a liar and then proceeded to go on their personal social media page to make false statements about my company."

Crow went on to explain that, when Polk County was seeking bids for a new towing contract set to begin on July 1, 2021, "We successfully navigated the RFP process and received an 'intent to award' letter on May 27 from the county — all subject to an in-person, business process meeting with administration staff." Crow says that meeting occurred on June 8, during which time they received "positive feedback from county officials, who said we had done a great job over the years and there were no complaints."

Crow says by June 24, this changed, as he received an email rescinding the county's award.

"I called right away to inquire about the change and was told it was because of an open records request by the press and an online petition, both of which the official admitted he had not read nor considered prior to the initial decision to award the contract. How did we go from being a reliable and respected provider of towing for Polk County the past 14 years and the best choice for the new contract to being persona non grata? Enter the Polk County Supervisors — more specifically, the supervisor involved in the towing incident last fall."

Crow claims that, after pressing for more answers, county employees confirmed this particular supervisor insisted the contract go to anyone but Crow Tow.

"County officials in their own documents insisted it should be Crow Tow based on RFP criteria, past performance history, infrastructure and current resources," Crow shared.

No one likes to get towed, Crow admits, not even him. "But we're in the business of non-consensual towing, and we're used to people being upset. But is this the type of person Polk County residents want representing them?"

Crow says the supervisors should never directly oversee bidding and procurement. Instead, he says, it should stay in the hands of the administration, so as to "keep backroom deals and politics out of any

Tom Hockensmith is the supervisor who was involved in the aforementioned fire lane incident with Crow Tow, but his version of events is different from

According to the superviser, two small packages had been delivered to his daughter's townhome earlier in the day. Since she couldn't get to them, he'd been dispatched to stop by and move them to the garage.

"I'm there (in the fire lane) for 30 seconds," he says. "The car was still running."

After a tow truck pulled up, Hockensmith says he tried to explain the situation, but the tow truck operator was "threatening in nature." The experience isn't one he'd like to repeat.

As to Polk County's RFP process and the circumstances surrounding the County towing contract:

"This (incident) had no relevance on the contract," he insists. While the procurement office did recommend Crow Tow as the low bidder, according to Hockensmith, it is the procurement office's job to determine which bidders can realistically fulfill a given contract, and out of those, they are ranked in order

starting with the one that would be the best value. But the Board of Supervisors is in place to exercise a different kind of judgment. The board's job is to determine which bidder is the most responsible and not just which is the lowest priced.

"Our phones lit up," says Hockensmith, referring to public outcry against Crow Tow. He doesn't remember the exact number of people who called or wrote before the vote to complain, but it was "over 100," he says. Based on that public response, plus Crow Tow's "F" rating by the Better Business Bureau at the time which has since been changed to an "A" — and after considering an array of online complaints, he preferred to opt for the next lowest bidder on the list.

"Our responsibility is to determine if they (the lowest bidders) are responsible. I did not and neither did the rest of our board," he says. The Polk County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to bypass Crow Tow and select the next lowest bidder, G & S Towing Service. ...

The Des Moines Public School Board (DMPS) consists of women only for the first time in its history as a result of this past November's election of three new members: Maria Alonzo-Diaz, Jenna Knox and Jackie

Iowa hospitality establishments lost an estimated \$1.4 billion due to COVID, according to Jessica **Dunker**, president and CEO of Iowa Restaurant Association in the Food & Beverage Iowa Business Quarterly. Further, according to a September survey from her organization that asked operators about their recovery, 50% of respondents were still below 2019's revenue numbers; only 16% are significantly ahead of 2019. The problem, in part, is an inadequate workforce.

"At the beginning of the pandemic, almost 70,000 leisure and hospitality workers were temporarily laid off," writes Dunker. "By the end of 2020, it appeared our industry had lost around 25,000 jobs."

Iowa eateries have expressed an appetite to hire many of these workers back, but, apparently, they can't be found. More than half of the survey's respondents cited the inability to find workforce and/or afford wages as the No. 1 impediment to recovery.

With that being said, "Consumer demand is skyrocketing," according to Dunker. "People want to come out to enjoy life again. For those choosing to work in our industry, wages have never been higher." ■

CHRISTMAS SKINNY BY MICHAEL GARTNER

Merry Christmas

Twelve drummers drumming...

...for "Max and Amy in the morning" — WHO radio's morning duo of Max Schaeffer and Amy Sweet but we miss Van (Harden) and Bonnie (Lucas)... for baseball announcer Alex Cohen...and football announcer **Ioe Stasi**...and weatherman **Ed Wilson**...and public radio's Charity Nebbe — but we still miss Doug Brown and Don Forsling...and sports guys Murph and Andy — Keith Murphy and Andy Fales — but we still miss Jim Zabel...and for morning "stars" Ken, Colleen and Kurt.

Eleven pipers piping...

...for everyone at the Roosevelt Shopping Center, but especially barbers Rick and Cindi and Bob and the great people at La Mie Bakery...and David Kilpatrick and Katy Merriman at the nearby Playhouse...but we still miss the movie theater (a ticket and popcorn: 26 cents) and the shopping center's long-gone drugstore and Reed's Ice Cream and Renard's SuperValu and Reichardt's and Angie's shoe repair...and, going back 60 or 70 years, the Dugout, the restaurant under the theater.

Ten lords-a-leaping...

...for Polk County Manager John Norris, who stepped into a hornet's nest when he took the job a year ago... and the ousted county personnel boss Jim Nahas, who stepped into the crossfire of an ugly fight among the supervisors...and the five supervisors (in alphabetical order): Bob Brownell, Angela Connolly, Tom Hockensmith, Matt McCoy and Steve Van Oort — but don't sit any of them next to one another at Christmas dinner...and former supervisor John Mauro, who held the place together for so long.

Nine ladies dancing...

...for **Tom Mattingly**, the new artistic director of Ballet Des Moines...and Eric Shepard, the new artistic director at the Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus...and all the other folks who run arts organizations: Michael Egan at the Des Moines Metro Opera, Jeff Fleming at the Des Moines Art Center...Jeff Chelesvig at the Civic Center...Joseph Giunta at the Des Moines Symphony... and Robert Warren at Hoyt Sherman Place.

Eight maids-a-milking...

...for everyone at the Iowa Dairy Association, of course...U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Iowa Ag Secretary Mike Naig...and Sarah Pratt, who carves the Butter Cow for the Iowa State Fair (at 600 pounds, it contains enough butter to butter 19,200 slices of toast, the Fair says)...for Kathie Anderson at Tandem Brick Gallery... Dr. Abigail Allard (and Henry and

Madeline and Elise, too), and welcome back to your hometown.

Seven swans-a-swimming...

...for Maggie McClelland (and, for that matter, all the McClellands) at the Iowa Confluence Water Trails project, which will be fantastic...for the 130 or so city lifeguards (and the countless ones in the suburbs and at private pools) who make the summers safe and fun for all of us...for reporter **Tommy Birch**, again...for dapper and knowledgeable Elvin McDonald and everyone else who makes the Botanical Garden so great...and welcome to Kim Perez, the new director there.

Six geese-a-laying...

...for retiring Grand View University president Kent Henning, who has done so much in his 21 years of leadership...and all the players and coaches for the undefeated Vikings football and wrestling teams... and former students Sam Bernabe and Scott Sailor... and for President Marty Martin and everyone at Drake University, which The Wall Street Journal ranks as way better than the University of Iowa or Iowa State University...for new Drake women's basketball coach Allison Pohlman — and we wish her predecessor, Jennie Baranczyk, great success at the University of Oklahoma...retiring Drake prof Kathleen Richardson... for Weston Barber of the Waukee Northwest Wolves... Klay Edwards of the Winfield-Mount Union Wolves... and Hugo Bolanos of the Iowa Wolves.

Five gold rings...

...for O. Kay Henderson, the new moderator on Iowa Press, and for **David Yepsen**, her predecessor and a walking encyclopedia of Iowa politics (but we still miss Jim Flansburg)...for Jason Clayworth and Linh Ta at Axios Des Moines and Kathie Obradovich and Clark **Kauffman** and **Jared Strong** (welcome back to town) and Katie Akin at Iowa Capital Dispatch...and the dogged Laura Belin, whose Bleeding Heartland is a must read every day...and Kathy Bolten, whose real-estate columns for the Business Record are so comprehensive and informative...oh, and the Business Record's Dave Elbert, too...and, of course, everyone at CITYVIEW, but especially Shane and Jolene Goodman, two nice people.

Four colly birds...

...for Des Moines Register reporter Andrea Sahuri, who was trying to cover a riot when the police tossed her in the paddy wagon, and her lawyers, Nick Klinefeldt and David Yashimura, who won her freedom...and all those others who fight for the First Amendment freedoms,

but especially Randy Evans at the Iowa Freedom of Information Council and lawyer Mike Giudicessi... for all the good cops, especially Dave Seybert and Mike Grasso...and Herb Strentz, who catches every typo... and Professor Mona Houck (and Steph, too).

Three French hens...

...for the people who give away money so wisely — Julie Stewart at Prairie Meadows and Lisa Moody-Tunks at Polk County and Kristi Knous and Lynn Yontz and all their colleagues at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines...lawyer Jo Christine Miles, director of the Principal Foundation...and Mary Lawyer at the Wellmark Foundation.

Two turtle doves...

...for Des Moines city manager Scott Sanders, who keeps a lot of balls in the air...and his lawyer, Hawkeye fan Jeff Lester, who has to catch some of those balls... for re-elected council members Connie Boesen and Josh Mandlebaum — and newly elected council member Indira Sheumaker...and thanks for the service to Bill Gray, who lost to Sheumaker....for everyone in Ben Page's parks department — and thanks for the great redoing of Riverview Park.

And a partridge in a pear tree...

...remembering Robert Larson, who brought opera to central Iowa...union leader Perry Chapin...business leaders Bill Vernon and David Fisher...conservationist Paul Johnson, an advocate for the land, Louise Moon, an advocate for free speech, Bruce Koeppl, an advocate for the aged...journalists Joe Patrick and Marv Hastings and Warren Taylor and Jerry Szumski and Frank Santiago and Dick Gibson (and Mary Susan Gibson, too) and, of course, John Karras... Grace Mauro and Jean Stauffer and Rosalind Rabinowitz and Judy Flapan and Marjorie Spevak, who at 99 outlived her fame for her contribution on the school board and Civic Music...and Lois Porath and Jack Sutton...Polk County Treasurer Mary Maloney...Woody Brenton... and Muffy Harmon and Anne Broderick, wonderful women...restaurateur Gary Fatino...Betty and Jim Wise...veterinarian (and so much more) Eric Jayne... the lovely **Dorothy Ely** (at 101)...**Carla Offenburger** ...Betty Lou Varnum, who built "the House With the Magic Window" on WOI TV...Marcie Coleman... West Des Moines School Superintendent Dale Grabinski...dairy owner Jim Erickson...Iowa State's **Neil Harl**, who cared about the land... And, especially, John Ruan and Neal Smith, who made Des Moines and Iowa better places for all of us...

...And, always, the first **Christopher**.

"Right now the discussion (of vaccine policy) has tracked towards a certain bias of medical approach, and some very valid voices have not been heard." ~ GOP Rep. Jon Jacobsen



POLITICAL MERCURY BY DOUGLAS BURNS

Former RNC chair: Reynolds should be in 'conversation' for presidency

And Michael Steele thinks country is in 'staging area' for civil war.

Gov. Kim Reynolds insists a life in Washington is not for her. But Michael Steele, the former chairman of the Republican National Committee and a high-profile political analyst, sees Iowa's Republican governor as a strong potential candidate for the presidency.

"She should be in that conversation along with a number of other governors who have served over the last four or eight years," Steele said.

Steele, the former lieutenant governor of Maryland who is considering a Senate bid in that state and appears regularly on the cable-TV talk circuit, said in an interview with Political Mercury that Reynolds brings a record and style of leadership that could be attractive to Republicans in a post-Trump election — should the former president, who maintains astronomical approval ratings within his party, opt not to run.

"Why not look at the governor?" Steele asks. "She's governed during a difficult time. Some of her decisions may or may not have been controversial or popular, but that's all part of the soup. That's how the country gets into its next groove."

Steele delivered the Manatt-Phelps Lecture in Political Science at Iowa State University on Oct. 28 titled "Trumpism and the Republican Party: What's Next?" The lecture is sponsored by the family of the late Charles Manatt and his wife, Kathleen. Manatt grew up in Audubon and went on to a successful career in the law and politics, becoming the chairman of the Democratic National Committee and U.S. ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

Steele spoke with Political Mercury before his Ames address and responded to questions about the viability of a Reynolds' White House bid.

"I actually like that question because, as a party in the recent past, we would focus on talented governors who are serving at the current time and showcase them and let the rest of the country see them in all their glory, if you will — handling a crisis like COVID, dealing with regional issues," Steele said.

That's the transition the party should be moving toward, he said.

"Typically, former presidents can fade back because the next generation, the next team up, gets out on the field,"

Emerging Republicans like Reynolds are overshadowed by the "omnipresent" Trump, he said.

"We are sort of blindly following down a road that is

ostensibly a dead end," said Steele, who is a fierce critic of former President Donald Trump. "You have these other leaders who offer a different pathway and maybe have a different set of ideas," he said.

For her part, Reynolds, talking with the media this summer, dismissed any speculation that she may opt to follow her close friend, U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, to Washington, D.C., by running for the Senate if U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, had opted to leave public office, having served in the Statehouse and Congress since 1959.

"I'm not leaving Iowa," Reynolds said. "I can say with great confidence, I am not leaving Iowa."

Would she run for the Senate under any condition? "No," Reynolds said.

Reynolds, a former lieutenant governor, ascended to the governorship in 2017 when then-Gov. Terry Branstad accepted President Trump's appointment as ambassador to China. She won re-election in her own right in 2018 over Democrat Fred Hubbell.

Trump drew thousands of people from Iowa and other states to a rally at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines just weeks ago, an event that had the trappings of a presidential campaign appearance. But Trump has not made a formal announcement on a 2024 bid.

The nation is in a "staging area" for civil war

The general who led the Union through the Civil War predicted what shape a second violent conflict between millions of Americans might take. Steele pointed out that Ulysses S. Grant described the dynamics and climate that could lead to a second civil war during a speech to veterans in Des Moines in 1875.

"If we are to have another contest in the near future of our national existence, I predict that the dividing line will not be Mason and Dixon, but between patriotism and intelligence on the one side, and superstition, ambition, and ignorance on the other," Grant, a Republican, said that September Iowa day to the Annual Reunion of the Army of the Tennessee in Des Moines.

Nearly 150 years later, and 30 miles north in Ames, another Republican, Steele, summoned the quote to make a point about toxic and tribal modern politics.

"The very survival of our democracy and this party is directly and solely connected to our collective answer to the question: Do we still believe in America?" Steele said.

"I and my fellow Republicans cannot heal ourselves of the wounds we've caused this great nation while



Former Republican Party of Iowa Chairman David Oman (left) speaks with former national GOP chairman Michael Steele of Maryland at Iowa State University. (Photo by Douglas Burns)

clinging on to Donald Trump," Steele said of the former Republican president.

Asked directly in an interview during his Ames appearance if the United States is in a cold civil war, Steele said, "I think some want us to be. I think some would even argue that we are. I would look at it as the staging area where elements that would go into something like that — the hot rhetoric, the regurgitation of misinformation and disinformation."

Many Americans who voted for President Trump still feel left behind, even after four years of presidency for a man they supported, Steele said.

"I don't get what you are getting fired up about if the guy that you are fired up about was in office, had the House, had the Senate, and yet still you are angry," Steele

Steele has been a leading Republican critic of Trump. Much of his speech centered on criticism of the former president, whom Steele says has sowed deep divisions and worked to diminish important American institutions.

What, if anything, breaks the Trump spell over many Americans?

"In my talks, I say to people we are where we are because this is where we want to be," Steele said in the interview. "And we'll be here as long as you want us to be here. We'll look at Jan. 6 and say, 'Oh it was just another day on Capitol Hill.' Or we will realize what it was, and we will do something about it." ■

Douglas Burns is a fourth-generation Iowa newspaperman. He and his family own and publish newspapers in Carroll, Jefferson and other neighboring communities.



COMING UP

NOTE: The following events and attractions are subject to cancellation or last-minute changes. Before attending, be sure to check with each event individually to verify its status, start times, offerings and other details.



Photo courtesy of SnowGlobe Kansas, 2020

POP-UP CHRISTMAS BAR

Through Jan. 2

At: Exile Brewing Company

Exile Brewing Company will open Des Moines' firstever Pop-Up Christmas Bar. The experience, known as SnowGlobe DSM, will feature more than 100,000 Christmas lights and nearly a semi-full of holiday decorations installed at Exile's Bar and Restaurant in downtown Des Moines. The attraction is expected to receive almost 10,000 guests. Exile is located in Des Moines at 1514 Walnut St. For more information, visit www.snowglobedsm.com.

SEAN KENNEY'S 'NATURE CONNECTS MADE WITH LEGO BRICKS'

Through Feb. 20

At: Muscatine Art Center

Just as LEGO pieces interconnect, everything in nature is interconnected in a delicate balance. The narratives in Sean Kenney's "Nature Connects Made with LEGO Bricks," along with the intricate displays, explore the importance of conservation, the balance of ecosystems, and predator/prey relationships, as well as the relationships between humankind and the natural world. The Muscatine Art Center is located in Muscatine at 1314 Mulberry Ave. For more information, visit www.muscatineartcenter.org.



DES MOINES BUCCANEERS -JUNIOR A AMATEUR ICE HOCKEY

This month's home schedule

At: Buccaneer Arena in Urbandale, 7201 Hickman Road

For more information, visit www.bucshockey.com.

- Friday, Dec. 3 vs. Fargo Force, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 4 vs. Fargo Force, 6 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 17 vs. Omaha Lancers, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 29 vs. Cedar Rapids RoughRiders, 6:30 p.m.



Photo credit: Shane Abbitt/Iowa

IOWA WILD - PRO HOCKEY

This month's home schedule At: Wells Fargo Arena, 730 Third St., **Des Moines**

The Iowa Wild ice hockey team plays in the American Hockey League, just a step below hockey's highest level, the NHL. The franchise supports the Minnesota Wild organization. For more information, visit www.iowawild.com.

- · Saturday, Dec. 4 vs. Chicago Wolves, 6 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec. 5 vs. Chicago Wolves, 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 14 vs. Milwaukee Admirals, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 17 vs. Manitoba Moose, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 18 vs. Manitoba Moose, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 27 vs. Rockford Icehogs, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 29 vs. Colorado Eagles, 6 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 31 vs. Colorado Eagles, 2 p.m.

CHRISTKINDLMARKET

Dec. 2-5

At: Principal Park

Indulge in European-style foods, products and activities at this European/German-inspired Christmas outdoor market. Admission is free. The event runs Thursday through Sunday at Principal Park, located in downtown Des Moines at 1 Line Drive. For more information, visit www.christkindlmarketdsm.com.



'THE SOUND OF MUSIC'

Dec. 3-19

At: The Playhouse

Let your heart sing. Based on the true story of Maria and the von Trapp family, "the happiest musical in the world" is a family holiday classic. The Des Moines Community Playhouse is located in Des Moines at 831 42nd St. For more information, visit www.dmplayhouse.com.



HOLIDAY TEA AT TERRACE HILL

Monday, Dec. 6

At: Iowa Governor's Residence

Tea, tea sandwiches, scones and cakes are all on the agenda for Holiday Tea at Terrace Hill, Iowa Governor's Residence and National Historic Landmark. Enjoy the twinkling lights, clinking teacups and enticing treats within the elegantly adorned historic rooms decorated for the holiday season. This year's event offers two time slots, 10:30 a.m. to noon, or 2-3:30 p.m. Reservations must be made in advance. Proceeds benefit the Terrace Hill Partnership, a nonprofit that supports conservation and restoration projects at Terrace Hill, located in Des Moines at 2300 Grand Ave. For reservations for the morning tea, visit th2021amtea.eventbrite.com, or, for the afternoon tea, visit th2021pmtea.eventbrite.com.

JAMES TAYLOR & HIS ALL-STAR BAND

Wednesday, Dec. 8 **At: Wells Fargo Arena**

Easy listening music icon James Taylor takes the stage along with his All-Star Band and with special guest Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Jackson Browne. Wells Fargo Arena is located in downtown Des Moines at 730 Third St. For more information, visit iowaeventscenter.com.



KING & COUNTRY -'A DRUMMER BOY **CHRISTMAS TOUR'**

Thursday, Dec. 9 **At: Wells Fargo Arena**

It's the most wonderful time of the year and brrrrumpabumbum. Drummer Boy Christmas comes to you in person and indoors for the very first time, brrrrumpabumbum, brrrrumpabumbum, brrrrumpabumbum. King & Country have broken their own industry record with their sixth consecutive No. 1 single, the multi-chart smash hit "Amen." This duo, consisting of Joel and Luke Smallbone, will perform its Top 10 album, "A Drummer Boy Christmas," in concert as well as selections from their six consecutive No. 1 hits. Wells Fargo Arena is located in downtown Des Moines at 730 Third St. For more information, visit iowaeventscenter.com.

'THE NUTCRACKER'

Dec. 10-12 at Hoyt Sherman Place **Dec. 17-18 Staplin Center in West Des Moines**

Ballet Des Moines will offer an updated production of "The Nutcracker" in 2021. Master dressmaker and fashion designer Sarah Dornink joins the creative team this season to create breathtaking new costumes highlighting new scenes and characters set to the iconic Tchaikovsky score. The production will also feature an expanded



professional company in addition to guest dancers and students from a total of 34 dance studios across central lowa. This magical and beloved holiday tale will take place over two weekends on two stages this year: Hoyt Sherman Place is located in Des Moines at 1501 Woodland Ave. The Staplin Performing Arts Center is located in West Des Moines at 3650 Woodland Ave. For more information, visit www.balletdesmoines.org.

HISTORIC **EAST VILLAGE** HOLIDAY **PROMENADE**

Fridays through Dec. 17 At: Downtown's Historic **East Village**

Get your annual dose of holiday cheer at the 20th Annual Holiday Promenade in downtown's Historic East Village. The celebration offers holiday-themed activities, entertainment, shopping and family-friendly fun with participating East Village retailers, restaurants and attractions remaining open until 9 p.m. For more information, visit eastvillagedesmoines.com/news.





DES MOINES SYMPHONY - NEW YEAR'S EVE POPS: 'THE MUSIC OF ELTON JOHN'

Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 8 p.m.

At: Des Moines Civic Center

Ring in the New Year with the Des Moines Symphony. The New Year's Eve Pops brings the Symphony together with "The Music of Elton John," starring Michael Cavanaugh and his band. The high-energy celebration will have you singing along to classic hits and rock favorites. The Civic Center is located in downtown Des Moines at 221 Walnut St. For more information, visit www.dmsymphony.org.



By Jeff Pitts

More than a half-million people call central Iowa home, and since our state is known for being "Iowa Nice," it should come as no surprise that when we asked readers to determine the area's most likeable man and most likeable woman again this year, the nominations poured in. We posted all of them on the Des Moines Most Likeable People Facebook page and asked readers to "like" their choices. During the ensuing weeks, the likes were cast and the final tally was taken.

This group of 24 honorees — listed on the pages herein — each has selected a charitable organization

to support and give a shoutout to via their likeability, and the first-place vote-getting male and female each received \$750 for a favorite nonprofit.

Who are the winners? You can find out by reading further, but first, we wish to give all 24 honorees one final thumbs up for being likeable and for working to help their special causes. These two dozen people — 12 women and 12 men — each participated to support the 24 nonprofits, also listed on the following pages, while providing an untold amount of shared joy, love and laughter. We salute you.

Editor's note: The voting is over, and the final winners are set. As such, we are donating \$750 to a charitable organization named by each of the first-place vote getters — one female and one male — as of the voting deadline. Since we like likeable people, it seemed appropriate to include the other honorees, too, along with each one of their special causes. It is likely that a few of you feel like someone else should have been included. That's OK. We still like you. Just keep in mind that we didn't select the finalists. Those who visited the Facebook page and posted their likes did.

DES MOINES' MOST LIKEABLE WOMAN FOR 2021...

ZULI GARCIA

Lives: Des Moines

Hometown: Los Angeles

Occupation: City of Des Moines Admin **Tastiest food?** Gorditas de chicharron

Mantra to live by? "Feet, what do I need them for if I have wings to fly," Frida Kahlo

Prediction for 2022? "I will fight to keep helping my community and especially making Knock and Drop Iowa grow."

Spare-time fun? Sunday is family day, pretty much always for Garcia. "Unless, unfortunately, there is a huge donation I can't say no to."

Zuli Garcia supports: Knock and Drop Iowa

"How can a child in the U.S. go hungry," asks Zuli Garcia, founding president of Knock and Drop Iowa and Des Moines' Most Likeable woman for 2021. "How is this possible?"

Doing volunteer work is important to Garcia.

"I find it very rewarding helping others," she says.

Her 9-to-5 is working for the Des Moines Police Department, but in her "off" hours, she goes to work figuring out ways to get food to people in need along with a team she helped build.

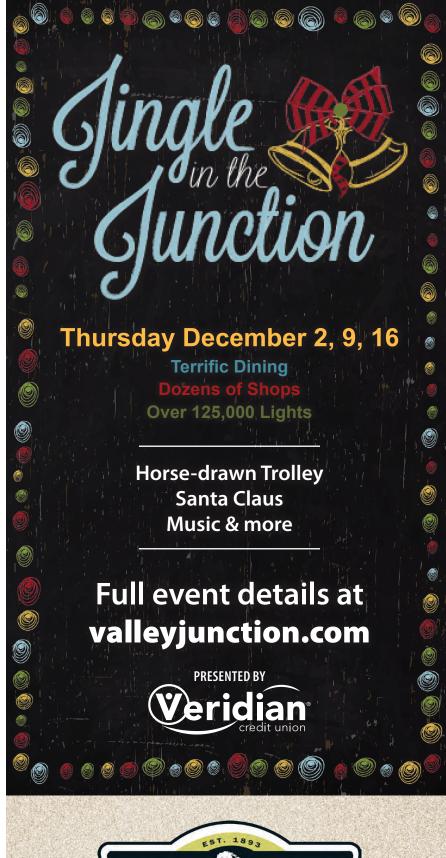
"We're all volunteers," she explains. "None of us get



A team of volunteers at Knock and Drop Iowa as it helps feed people in need. Back row, from left: Adriana Hernandez, Liz Ibarra, Zuli Garcia, Hortencia Contreras, Jacqueline Sanchez, Angelina Gonzalez, Sergeant Yanira Scarlett, Jose Gonzalez; and, in front: Axel Hernandez.









Thank you for supporting local!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEBSITE OF KNOCK AND DROP IOWA

Knock and Drop Iowa believes in making sure no one goes hungry. A child should never go to sleep with an empty stomach.

Knock and Drop Iowa is a non-profit organization designed to bridge the gap between the underserved and disadvantaged in the community with the resources available. Thousands of people live every day without food and other basic necessities. One of the main goals is to stop hunger by gathering food and providing it to those in need. Knock and Drop Iowa is funded by community support and donations. They are looking for volunteers and donations in order to assist more people.

MISSION: Knock and Drop is an organization for positive community action by implementing programs that are beneficial to the Latino Community.

VISION: An engaged, vibrant and healthy community

Knock and Drop Iowa is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit

It has been able to help hundreds of families all over lowa during these vulnerable times by bridging the gap between the Latinx community and the local resources available.

For more information about how to donate or how to get help, visit www.knockanddropiowa.org.

paid for this."

In March of 2020, at the start of the COVID-19 headlines, Garcia was hearing of an increase in food insecurity especially in local Latino communities.

In some ways, the formula for feeding people sounds simple: get food donations and then distribute them. But the pandemic presented additional barriers. As Garcia decided to work toward getting something done, the Knock and Drop idea was born.

Since social distancing and other requirements restricted people's access to one another, Knock and Drop would bridge the gap by dropping food at the doors of people in need and then knocking as they distanced. Problem solved. At least part of it.

"Some people were proud," she sighs. "But we were struggling; everybody was."

Since the work began in March, Garcia says her team has served 10,000-plus meals in its mission to combat food insecurity.

"And it's growing," she reports.

That number now stands at 20,000-plus meals.

"This is the first Latino Food Pantry in the Des Moines and Metro area," she says. "If you love our food, what makes you think we don't love it? We run a culturally specific Latino Food Pantry."

What makes Zuli Garcia so likeable?

"I am a huge advocate for my Latino Community," she says, adding later, "Why not use my spare time to give back to my community?"



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DES MOINES' MOST LIKEABLE MAN FOR 2021...



Tony "T-bone" Schmid is this year's Des Moines' Most Likeable man.

TONY "T-BONE" SCHMID

Lives: Des Moines

Hometown: Des Moines

Occupation: Owner/operator of T-bone's Outdoor Services; part-time bartender

Tastiest food? Alaskan King crab legs

Spare-time fun? Spending time with friends and family.

Mantra to live by? Always look on the bright side.

Prediction for 2022? The 2022 Des Moines St. Patrick's day parade returns.

Tony "T-bone" Schmid supports: Kiwanis Miracle League

Described by some as loyal, kind, generous and outgoing, Tony "T-bone" Schmid is this year's Des Moines' Most Likeable man. Some might even say he is the "life of the party."

"I'm a humble guy," says Schmid.

Working as the owner/operator of T-bone's Outdoor Services pays the bills — he is also a part-time bartender — but in his spare time, Schmid serves as president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. During his three years in this role, Schmid has had many opportunities to work with charitable organizations.

"One of our main missions is to raise money and donate to local groups," he explains.

Each of these is unique and special in some way, but Schmid won't soon forget his personal experience helping out the special needs kids at Kiwanis Miracle League at

Syphilis is on the rise in Iowa.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection. Early numbers show a 75% increase in syphilis cases in Iowa from 2020 to 2021.

It's more common and easier to get than you might think.

Syphilis is curable but can cause serious health problems without treatment. Talk to your doctor about whether you are at risk.



Principal Park.

"It's a joy," he says. "Heartwarming."

"As the president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Iowa, I've had the chance to participate in the Miracle League's baseball games at Principal Park and see firsthand what a donation can do."



The Friendly Sons organization has been around since the 1970s, according to Schmid, and the parade for which it is best known started in the 1980s. His grandmother and other relatives participated

early on and that's how Schmid became involved.

"The first parade was 12 guys, I'm told," explains Schmid. "Now, on a good year, we have one mile of cars and floats lined up with maybe 20-30 thousand attendees."

Of course, COVID-19 and the ensuing pandemic have rained on this parade in recent years, but after two years with no major St. Patrick's Day festivities, it should be all systems go this Thursday, March 17.

"The parade is scheduled," he confirms. "We are going forward with it."

The same is true for the Parade Tailgate Party put on by the Friendly Sons with food trucks, live music and a beer tent.

"It will be right on the parade route," he says.

Also returning is the popular Friendly Sons drawing, held Thursday, March 17 this year, with a first place prize of two round trip plane tickets to Ireland.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEBSITE OF KIWANIS MIRACLE LEAGUE:

"Buddies" assist Miracle League players. These buddies are mainstream children who play baseball, youth church groups, boys and girls scouts to mention a few. As a result, the parents, children and volunteers are all brought together — special needs and mainstream alike — in a program that serves them all through service to children with special needs.



Presently there are nearly 300 Miracle League Organizations across the country including Puerto Rico and Canada, 80 completed rubberized fields, and 100 fields under construction.

The Miracle League serves more than 25,000 children and young adults with disabilities.

The Kiwanis Miracle League at Principal Park was the first field in Iowa with hopefully more to follow.

As of 2021, there are 12 ML ball parks in Iowa — the most of any state.

Nationally, the goal is for 500 Miracle League fields including several international locations. Approximately 1.3 million children will be served. This goal is being realized with the help of communities, volunteers, parents, donators, individual sponsors and corporate sponsors.

"Every Child Deserves A Chance to Play Baseball."

For more information on how to help or participate, visit www.kiwanismiracleleague.org.









DECADES EVENT CENTER

"DECADES HAS PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST UNIQUE SPACES YOU WILL FIND ANYWHERE IN DES MOINES, JUST SET UP A VISIT AND YOU WILL SEE FOR YOURSELF. SECOND, YOU CAN DO IT ALL AT DECADES. WE DID OUR CEREMONY AND OUR RECEPTION ALL AT DECADES AND IT MADE FOR HAPPY GUESTS AND AN AWESOME TIME. THIRD, YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LOCATION. YOUR GUESTS WILL HAVE PLENTY OF HOTEL OPTIONS IN THE AREA AND WON'T HAVE TO TRAVEL FAR. LASTLY, THE STAFF AT DECADES GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR YOU AND YOUR GUESTS. KALE AND HIS STAFF MADE OUR EVENT SEAMLESS AND AMAZING. HE WAS THERE FOR ANY LAST MINUTE QUESTION, HICCUP (CORRECTED ALL THE GROOMSMAN POCKET SQUARES), OR NEED THAT WE HAD. HE EVEN HAD MINTS FOR THE ENTIRE BRIDAL PARTY BEFORE EVERYONE WALKED DOWN THE AISLE! NOT TO MENTION HIS STAFF BEHIND THE BAR IS A BLAST. THEY WERE DOWN TO PARTY WITH YOU AND ENJOY YOUR NIGHT AS MUCH AS YOU, NOT JUST SERVE DRINKS BEHIND THE BAR (ALTHOUGH THEY'RE GREAT AT THAT TOO.) WE TRULY CAN'T SAY ENOUGH ABOUT HOW GREAT DECADES, KALE, AND THE STAFF WERE. NO WRITTEN REVIEW WOULD DO THEM JUSTICE." -Will V.





515.224.5732 | DECADESWDM.COM 1208 GRAND AVENUE, WEST DES MOINES, IA

PHOTOS BY LE PHOTO | DESIGN

THE DANDY TWO DOZEN

Des Moines' Most Likeable People for 2021, with the first-place vote-getter listed first and then in no particular order.

ZULI GARCIA

Knock and Drop Iowa





www.knockanddropiowa.org

KIMBERLY KRANTZ

Best Buddies





www.bestbuddies.org/iowa

ALLYSON BRAUN

The Triple Negative Breast **Cancer Foundation**





www.tnbcfoundation.org

Bridge Project

RACCOON PEDESTRIAN

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We have various stocking hats! These are a favorite, angora slouchy top \$48



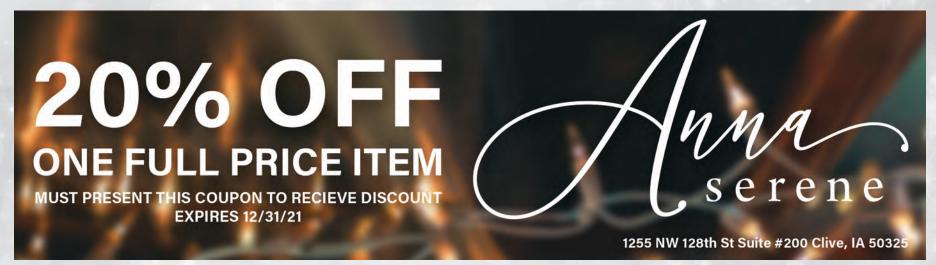
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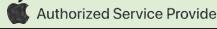


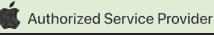
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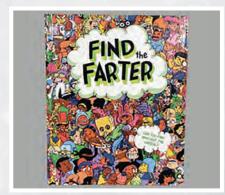


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At Easterseals, we believe that when individuals receive the right support at the right time, our whole community benefits. Your support as a donor will enable us to serve more individuals in Iowa and make our communities stronger! Fortunately, the support that we have received from our Iowa communities has made it possible for us to serve well over 3,000 Iowans and their families every year. In order to maintain our services, each year we must fundraise approximately \$1,000,000 in operational support, and we are proud that 93 cents of every dollar that comes into the organization is spent directly on mission delivery. We hope that the thousands of Iowans who have been able to get jobs within their communities, enjoy life-changing camp experiences and keep their families together has been a rewarding outcome of our community's investment and trust in our mission.

As we look to the bright future of our organization, it is helpful to reflect on our rich history of serving Iowans. Easterseals Iowa began in central Iowa in 1926, and, throughout our 90+ year history, we have



served hundreds of thousands of Iowans through many different service lines. One such program, Camp Sunnyside, began back in the early 1960s. Camp Sunnyside was built on donated land by nearly 100% volunteer labor because the community said, "We need a place where children of any ability can have the same summer camp experience that any other child would have." Since then, Camp Sunnyside has offered hope to families who were hopeless, given confidence to children who had none and provided our community with a joyful place where anyone, of any age, with any type of disability or special need can thrive and be successful

At Easterseals, we believe that, when individuals get the right supports at the right time, our whole community benefits. Your support will enable us to serve more individuals in our community and make our community stronger!

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AHeinz57 Pet Rescue 4002 Ash St., De Soto, IA 50069 (515) 834-1157 • adopt@aheinz57.com

give guide

A foster-based animal rescue organization

We are committed to saving homeless companion animals, assisting other shelters/rescues through rescue transports, offering low cost spay/neuter services for our community, and educating the public on the issues of pet overpopulation, responsible pet ownership and puppy mills.

We are a unique rescue organization in that we exist mainly to bridge the gap between traditional animal shelters and no-kill rescues in two different ways:

- 1) By providing free transportation for dogs from traditional shelters to other no-kill rescues all over the Midwest and Canada. We are licensed by the USDA and have two transport vehicles that are equipped specifically for the safe transport of these precious lives. Our transport volunteers typically drive dogs from Bethany, MO to Clear Lake, IA. Sometimes we take them as far north as Minneapolis, MN or go as far south as Houston, TX for pick up. We have been east to Illinois and west to Omaha, NE.
- 2) By pulling dogs out of traditional shelters that are on death row and placing them in foster-based programs and ultimately forever homes through our organization. When dogs and cats are scheduled to be euthanized or gassed in shelters, we pull as many out as we can and place them in temporary homes ("foster homes"). Then we get them completely vetted (rabies and core vaccines, heartworm test + prevention, Felv tests, flea/tick prevention, spay/neuter, dewormer medications, and microchip). Once all vet care is taken care of, we find forever homes through adoption events and posting cute photos and descriptions online.



AHeinz57 Pet Rescue & Transport also provides animal control services to surrounding cities and throughout rural Dallas County. To support the homeless animals in our community, we have a shelter building for dogs and a separate building for cats. We also have an Adoption Center where dogs transition from the shelter when their stray hold is up. The Adoption Center is also equipped with a special section just for nursing mama dogs and puppies.

We do all of this with a very small staff, so we always need committed volunteers and donors to make this work!



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https://aheinz57.networkforgood.com **Wish List** https://www.aheinz57.com/wish-list/







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Where are the CARS? Consolidation and COVID-19 have driven changes in the automotive industry both nationally and locally.

By Colson Thayer and Tammy Pearson

When Mark Hummel's great grandfather opened a Plymouth-DeSoto dealership in Beaverdale in 1929, his was not an anomaly. Small, family-owned dealerships were the norm, with many towns having multiple locally owned lots in the community. When consumers wanted a new vehicle, they often went to the same nearby dealership — and the next generation of the family went there as well.

Hummel, of Hummel's Nissan, spoke at a

recent Johnston Rotary Club meeting about how the industry has changed since those days when many types of businesses were "mom and pop" operations. Today, many of these once family-owned businesses — including car dealerships — have disappeared or closed due to consolidation, often by nationwide companies.

Today, about 200 auto dealerships operate in Iowa, Hummel said, and only a few remain in the same families that opened them generations ago.

Pandemic leads to shortages

Consolidation is only one trend reshaping the way car dealerships operate. As with other businesses, they have been impacted by COVID-19. For many, the pandemic has forced them to adapt and change some of their practices. Some of those changes have been the direct result of parts shortages for repairs and for the manufacturing new vehicles, said Scott Politte, president of Stivers Ford Lincoln in Waukee.

In particular, the shortage of global semiconductors, otherwise known as "chips," has slowed manufacturing. Not only are those parts in low supply, but nearly all replacement parts are, too, resulting in almost 30-day wait times for auto repair services to even receive the parts they need, Politte said.

The parts needed for repairs are often on backorder, which not only delays progress but can also result in more work for the service advisors at the dealerships.

"The workload is two to four times more than it should be," Politte said. Sometimes, parts are delivered damaged, which delays the process even more. By the time a car is finished, the service advisors have often had to contact the owners three or more times, he said.

The pandemic affected manufacturing, agreed Carl Moyer, president and owner of Karl Chevrolet in Ankeny. With a significant part of the workforce not able to work, a shortage of parts and vehicles developed and continues.

"I talk to the people who are supposed to know—the highest up the chain you can go to—and I'm given an answer, but it's not the same answer the following day."

"I talk to the people who are supposed to know — the highest up the chain you can go to — and I'm given an answer, but it's not the same answer the following day."

— Carl Moyer

The supply process may "never be back to normal," said Moyer. He and others in the industry have changed their business plans to accommodate the changes. "We've learned some lessons... and shifted our way of thinking," he says. The result is that a smaller inventory will likely be stocked as logistics for ordering and receiving parts improve.

Reduced inventories here to stay

Parts inventories have decreased, and so has the inventory of cars available for sale.

Pre-pandemic, consumers were used to driving past car dealerships full of new inventory on the lot. That is no longer the case. Instead, the selection has shrunk, said Politte. This lack of market vehicles can be attributed, in large part, to a shift in how



Carl Moyer

cars are sold. Rather than coming to car dealerships to buy cars from the lot and drive off with them, buyers will go to the dealerships, look at the market vehicles, and place an order for their car. Politte said about half of the cars delivered to Stivers are sold before they arrive on the lot. From there, customers have the option to have their cars delivered to them or pick them up from the dealer.

"Yesterday, I was at the barbershop, and the barber asked if we were going out of business" because so many cars on the lot had a "sold" sign on them, said Moyer. Those cars had been ordered, and the dealership was preparing them for delivery.

In the past, if the factory had a buildup of inventory, "they would ask us (dealerships) to take extra inventory. We're now learning we don't really need to have excess inventory," said Moyer.

Hummel told the Rotary Club that the dealership had 105 new cars on the lot instead of the usual 500 or more that used to be stocked due to disruptions in manufacturing and the supply chain. Even if those disruptions are resolved, he said he doesn't expect to return to pre-pandemic inventory levels. As car production becomes connected more to the demand created by orders, excessive and costly inventory will not be needed.

Access to the Internet and online resources has changed consumer preferences as well, said Politte.

Customers often come to the dealership knowing exactly what they want but desire to see it in person before they make a final decision. Customers are coming to the dealership better informed than in the past, he said, adding that they can inquire online and compare pricing, models and features.

Consequently, buyers who have done their research are willing to shop from long distances to get the vehicles they want.

"There have been more out-of-state sales in the last 18 months than the past five years combined,"
Politte said

Technology changes consumer habits

An increase in Internet sales has impacted inventories at car dealerships, but it has had other effects as well.

Walk-in traffic has declined significantly over the years, said Hummel, who said it wasn't uncommon 10 to 15 years ago for customers to visit a dealership 10 times before making a



Mark Hummel

purchase. Today, customers have done their research and narrowed their choices to one or two vehicles and come to the dealership ready to buy. Sometimes the customers know more about the cars than the salespeople, he said. In response to these technology-savvy consumers, Nissan has created an online shopping process that allows customers to complete much of the paperwork online.

"Online service has been gaining momentum for some time," said Moyer. Customers can go online and "build your own car," which enables them to choose what features they want in their packages and not pay for add-ons they don't want.

"Online shopping has been good for us," said Moyer, noting that his dealership has been continually adding staff to help people online over the last four to five years.

"It's good for the customer," said Moyer. "They get the package they want." An added benefit for the dealership is that the process "speeds up the trade cycle," said Moyer. As customers wait for delivery of their new vehicle, the dealership can begin lining up a buyer for the trade-in vehicle.

Personal touch

While Kelley Blue Book reports that some dealerships have moved to online sales only, with the dealership acting more like a delivery and pick-up location, local dealers say their customers still want the personal touch.

No matter how much one can review engine specifications, seat-covering options, cupholder locations,



Scott Politte

trunk space, and other features, no amount of online surfing and information gathering can replace the experience of getting behind the steering wheel and feeling how a vehicle responds and how comfortable it is. Hummel, Politte and Moyer all agree that it's the experience that continues to bring customers through the doors of their dealerships.

"There have been more out-of-state sales in the last 18 months than the past five years combined."

— Scott Politte

Indeed, many people still like to buy their cars the way people have for generations: in person. Politte reports only a slight increase in sales online for Stivers.

Hummel agrees, even with online buying options, the vast majority of buyers still show up at the door at some point — though they are more informed and often more ready to buy.

Bottom line, while the industry is undergoing changes, many spurred by the pandemic, consumers are still looking to dealerships for vehicle knowledge, industry expertise and to hand them the keys for a good, old-fashioned test drive.

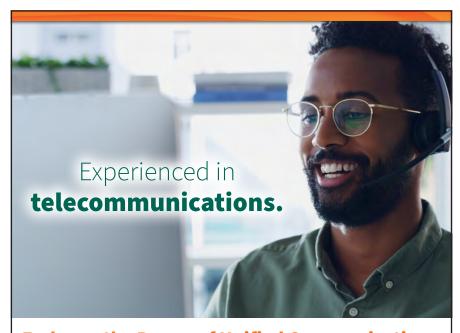
Electric car sales on the rise

The manufacturing of electric cars is on the rise, and they are arriving on dealership lots. The current talk surrounding electric vehicles is about having the resources in place to sell them. One of these concerns is the availability and access to electric vehicle charging stations for consumers.

"Do we have the capability to sell them?" is something that Scott Politte of Stivers Ford Lincoln in Waukee has to ask of his dealership.

While the talk surrounding electric vehicles is increasing, the actual production and sale of them do not match. Only a small percentage of the cars manufactured by Ford are electric, and, according to Politte, about 99.5% of the cars sold by Stivers still have an internal combustion engine.

While the number of electric vehicles will continue to increase, Mark Hummel of Hummel's Nissan said he doubts that we will see half of the fleet being electric by 2030. That is due partly to a Lithium shortage and a need for improved battery technology, he said, adding there are also concerns over what to do with the old batteries and the cost of replacements, as well concerns over the range and availability of recharging stations.



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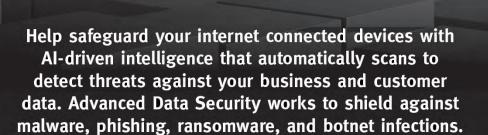
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COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS IN POLK COUNTY FROM OCT. 1, 2021, THROUGH NOV. 1, 2021.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF POLK COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE.

ADDRESS: EAST OF ALTOONA **BASEBALL LEAGUE FIELDS, ALTOONA**

SALE DATE: OCT. 1, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,281,000 SELLER: JACOBS, RUTH **BUYER: SOUTHEAST POLK** COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 15

ADDRESS: 3455 S.E. GATEWAY DRIVE, GRIMES

SALE DATE: OCT. 4, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,011,740 SELLER: HY-VEE INC. BUYER: GT HOLDINGS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 2.746

ADDRESS: 1675 S.W. MAGAZINE ROAD, ANKENY

SALE DATE: OCT. 4, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,000,000 SELLER: DRA PROPERTIES LC BUYER: THE COLLIER, LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 3.28

ADDRESS: 2617 S.W. NINTH ST. DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 4, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$155,000 SELLER: BING, LLC BUYER: CIFUENTES, HENRY SQUARE FEET: 1,200 ACRES: 0.143

ADDRESS: 7085 BLOOMFIELD ROAD, DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT 5, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$16,500,000 SELLER: DES MOINES REGENCY MANOR, LLC BUYER: YES REGENCY MANOR, LLC SQUARE FEET: 800 ACRES: 57.4

ADDRESS: 7191 S.E. 32ND AVE., **RUNNELLS**

SALE DATE: OCT. 5, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$260,000 SELLER: BUTRICK, SARAH L. BUYER: RAY OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL INC. SQUARE FEET: 3,036 ACRES: 2.24



ADDRESS: 2000 GRAND AVE.. WEST DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 5, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$14,000,000 SELLER: DM WESTERN VILLAGE PROPERTY, LLC BUYER: YES WESTERN VILLAGE, LLC SQUARE FEET: 5,184 ACRES: 45.175

ADDRESS: 11410 FOREST AVE.,

SELLER: BRODERICK, THOMAS

BUYER: TWAS PROPERTIES, LLC

ADDRESS: 1170 S. THIRD ST., POLK

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION INC.

ADDRESS: 920 MEADOW LANE,

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021

SALE PRICE: \$1,620,000

SELLER: TUVELA, LLC

BUYER: NORTH VALLEY

APARTMENTS, LLC

SQUARE FEET: 23,312

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021

SALE PRICE: \$1,275,000

SQUARE FEET: 4,958

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021

SALE PRICE: \$350,000

SELLER: KIMBERLEY

BUYER: HY-VEE INC.

SQUARE FEET: 0

ACRES: 1.089

DES MOINES

ACRES: 2.187

ACRES: 1.5

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DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,850,000 SELLER: 2714 INGERSOLL, LLC BUYER: HOM INVESTMENTS 7, LLC SQUARE FEET: 14.424



ACRES: 0.465



ADDRESS: 3927 INGERSOLL AVE., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,600,000 SELLER: 3927 INGERSOLL, LLC BUYER: HOM INVESTMENTS 8, LLC SQUARE FEET: 13,032 ACRES: 0.395

ADDRESS: 1805 ARLINGTON AVE., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,944,000 SELLER: ARLINGTON APARTMENTS, **BUYER: ARLINGTON HEIGHTS** APARTMENTS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 26,082 ACRES: 2.34

ADDRESS: 1201 E. BELL AVE., DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 6, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$2,475,000 SELLER: SWIFT PROPERTIES II. LLC BUYER: 1201 E. BELL AVE., LLC SQUARE FEET: 38,997 ACRES: 2.156

ADDRESS: NEAR IRISHMAN ACRES' **CLOVER BARN, BONDURANT**

SALE DATE: OCT. 7, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$3,484,800 SELLER: TOP FARMS LLLP **BUYER: BONDURANT BUSINESS** PARK, LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 78.41

ADDRESS: 123 CENTER AVE. N MITCHELLVILLE

SALE DATE: OCT. 8, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$135,000 SELLER: TREANOR, PHILLIP E. BUYER: TURNER, JACOB SQUARE FEET: 1.928 ACRES: 0.051

ADDRESS: 1102 S.E. 66TH ST., **ANKENY**

SALE DATE: OCT. 11, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$340,000 SELLER: KIMBERLEY COMMERCIAL. LLC

BUYER: MUB PROPERTIES, LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 0.911

ADDRESS: 1525 S.W. SCHOOL ST., **ANKENY**

SALE DATE: OCT. 11, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$3,150,000 SELLER: DRA PROPERTIES LC BUYER: PRAIRIE TRAIL COMMERCIAL LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 11.559

ADDRESS: ALONG S.W. PRAIRIE TRAII PARKWAY ANKENY

SALE DATE: OCT. 11, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$850,000 SELLER: DRA PROPERTIES LC BUYER: PRAIRIE TRAIL COMMERCIAL, LLC SOLIARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 3.203

ADDRESS: 1713 N.W. PINE ROAD, ANKENY

SALE DATE: OCT. 12, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$3,750,000 SELLER: ANKENY PINE. LLC BUYER: PINE TREE FLATS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 45,504 ACRES: 3.17

ADDRESS: 1410 N.W. LAUREL ST., ELKHART

SALE DATE: OCT. 13, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,275,000 SELLER: PENTA PARTNERS, LLC BUYER: BEK. LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 9.997



ADDRESS: 1619 SIXTH AVE., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 13, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$120,000 SELLER: BUI, LANH MONG BUYER: DELANEY ENTERPRISES,

SQUARE FEET: 4,560 ACRES: 0.339

ADDRESS: 3507 SECOND AVE., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 13, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$262,500 SELLER: MARILYN H. STEINBACH TRUST BUYER: FREDDY'S HOMES, LLC SQUARE FEET: 3.631 ACRES: 0.282



ADDRESS: 2300 SHILOH ROSE PARKWAY S.W., BONDURANT

SALE DATE: OCT. 13, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$75,908,230 SELLER: RYAN BONDURANT, LLC BUYER: 2300 SHILOH ROSE PARKWAY PROPERTY, LLC SQUARE FEET: 282,750 ACRES: 48.235





ADDRESS: 2600 UNIVERSITY AVE., **WEST DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 13, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$5,050,000 SELLER: FLWELL JORDON P BUYER: MDM EQUITY-2021, LLC SQUARE FEET: 100,056 ACRES: 11.27

ADDRESS: 2201 FOREST AVE., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 15, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,955,000 SELLER: ANAWIM BUYER: PNL FOREST, LLC SQUARE FEET: 24,512 ACRES: 0.86

ADDRESS: 2600 UNIVERSITY AVE., **WEST DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 15, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$5,050,000 SELLER: MURRAY, AMY BUYER: MDM EQUITY-2021, LLC SQUARE FEET: 100,056 ACRES: 11.27

ADDRESS: 766 N.E. BROADWAY **AVE., DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 18, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$225,000 SELLER: SWIGART, MARTHA B. BUYER: MCCANN LAND COMPANY, SQUARE FEET: 4,500 ACRES: 0.851



ADDRESS: 521 E. 14TH ST., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 18, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$765,000 SELLER: NEWBLOOD DEVELOPMENT I, LLC BUYER: SMB VENTURES, LLC SQUARE FEET: 3,112 ACRES: 0.42

ADDRESS: 105 SECOND ST. S.E., **ALTOONA**

SALE DATE: OCT. 19, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$200,000 SELLER: CONKLING, CARYL J. BUYER: SINGLETON RENTALS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 3,005 ACRES: 0.145

ADDRESS: 3732 EASTON BLVD., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 19, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$25,000 SELLER: HUSSAIN, BABAR BUYER: VILLAFANA, JAIME SQUARE FEET: 2,804 ACRES: 0.49

ADDRESS: 175 S. NINTH ST., SUITE 460. WEST DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 19, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$186,500 SELLER: HOUSBY, MICHAEL A. BUYER: IRVING, LLC SQUARE FEET: 1,920 ACRES: 0.044

ADDRESS: 133 S.E. DELAWARE AVE.. ANKENY

SALE DATE: OCT. 20, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,500,000 SELLER: MENADUE DEVELOPMENT BUYER: MAHA LAXMI INC.

ADDRESS: 7109 HICKMAN ROAD, **URBANDALE**

SQUARE FEET: 70.722

ACRES: 5.214

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SALE DATE: OCT. 20, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$565.000 SELLER: 7109 HICKMAN, LLC BUYER: HARTZ PROPERTIES, LLC SQUARE FEET: 4,430 ACRES: 0.766

ADDRESS: 2625 COTTAGE GROVE AVE., DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 22, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$125.000 SELLER: BAK RENTALS, LLC BUYER: RTB RENOVATIONS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 2.959 ACRES: 0.104

ADDRESS: 1082 21ST ST., DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$280,000 SELLER: EPC, LLC BUYER: TEN FOLD CAPITAL, LLC SQUARE FEET: 6.300 ACRES: 0.244

ADDRESS: LAND NEAR LA QUINTA BY WYNDHAM, ALTOONA

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$540,660 SELLER: ADVENTURE LANDS OF AMERICA INC BUYER: EVERGREEN PARTNERS. LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 6.782

ADDRESS: 339 S.W. SIXTH ST., DES MOINES

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,500,000 SELLER: BENSKIN BROS INC. BUYER: MOTIFF, LLC SQUARE FEET: 19,588 ACRES: 0.942

ADDRESS: 175 S. NINTH ST., SUITE **465. WEST DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$193,500 SELLER: HOUSBY, MICHAEL A. **BUYER: PHILIP SUMNER WORTH REVOCABLE TRUST** SQUARE FEET: 1.920 ACRES: 0.044

ADDRESS: 950 28TH AVE. S.W.. **ALTOONA**

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1.450.000 SELLER: FOJOMLT INVESTMENTS. BUYER: GJB INVESTMENTS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 7,243 ACRES: 1.749

ADDRESS: 4809 N.W. 62ND AVE., **JOHNSTON**

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$382.500 SELLER: KIRKEBY, MARCIA A. BUYER: S&E INVESTMENTS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 5,280 ACRES: 0.482

ADDRESS: 4779 N.W. 62ND AVE., **JOHNSTON**

SALE DATE: OCT. 25, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$382,500 SELLER: KIRKEBY, MARCIA A. BUYER: S&E INVESTMENTS, LLC SQUARE FEET: 5,280 ACRES: 0.482

ADDRESS: 30 N.W. 47TH PLACE, **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 28, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$75,000 SELLER: BREEDEN JEFFREY BUYER: IRON RANGE PROPERTIES, LLC SQUARE FEET: 0 ACRES: 0.858

ADDRESS: 3911 INGERSOLL AVE., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 28, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$550,000 SELLER: 3911 INGERSOLL LC BUYER: BLOCK 39, LLC SQUARE FEET: 3.510 ACRES: 0.359

ADDRESS: 6010 CRESTON AVE... **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 28, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$4,650,000 SELLER: SEABASS INVESTMENT COMPANY LC BUYER: ARLINGTON APARTMENTS, SQUARE FEET: 53,840 ACRES: 3.591

ADDRESS: 7481 U.S. HIGHWAY 69, **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 28, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$750,000 SELLER: SOUTHGLEN OFFICE PARTNERS, LLC BUYER: SUNSTONE INVESTMENTS, HC SQUARE FEET: 12,697 ACRES: 1.523

ADDRESS: 6037 N.E. INDUSTRY **DRIVE, DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 28, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$2,400,000 SELLER: HPS-DSM, LLC BUYER: BVI REAL ESTATE, LLC SQUARE FEET: 30,744 ACRES: 2.952



ADDRESS: 1401 BUCHANAN ST.. **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: OCT. 29, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$1,060,000 SELLER: SANDHU MINIMART, LLC BUYER: OMKAR REAL ESTATE, LLC SQUARE FEET: 4,720 ACRES: 0.862

ADDRESS: 3700 DENNIS DRIVE, URBANDALE

SALE DATE: OCT. 29, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$180.000 SELLER: Z&M INC. BUYER: M ENTERTAINMENT, LLC SQUARE FEET: 1,952 ACRES: 0.403

ADDRESS: 3801 EASTON BLVD., **DES MOINES**

SALE DATE: NOV. 1, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$150,000 SELLER: FICKES, MONA A. BUYER: LEPLEY, BRADLEY SQUARE FEET: 2 168 ACRES: 0.424



ADDRESS: 101 SECOND ST. N.W., MITCHELLVILLE SALE DATE: NOV. 1, 2021 SALE PRICE: \$310,000 SELLER: STEPHENSON, JACKIE K. BUYER: BALDWIN, STEVEN SQUARE FEET: 2.760

ACRES: 0.138 ■



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A CITYVIEW SPECIAL SECTION THAT HONORS CENTRAL IOWA'S ESTABLISHED BUSINESSES.

MILESTONES

Where did they start?
How did they grow?
What are they proud of?

NINE CENTRAL IOWA
BUSINESSES
THAT HAVE SOMETHING
TO CELEBRATE.

LUCKY GAL TATTOO AND PIERCING

4 metro locations: Southside DSM, Eastside DSM, Clive, and Ankeny www.luckygaltattoo.com

2021 marks the 10th anniversary of Lucky Gal Tattoo and Piercing. From humble beginnings with our first shop on Des Moines' Southside, we have now grown to four locations, adding locations on the Eastside (2014), Ankeny (2017) and Clive (2021).

We began offering laser tattoo removal in 2018, and are one of only two places that offer the certified Q-switch laser removal. Our newest service, which we began offering in late 2021, is Medical Reconstructive Tattoos, which are 3-D nipple tattoos for those who have undergone a mastectomy and/or reconstruction.

2021 also is a milestone for Chris and Michele Pruisner in that they've opened up a new screen printing studio in Clive called Print Monster Printing and Apparel, and, coming in early 2022, a new arcade, Monsterama, which is located next to the the Lucky Gal Southside location.



New location in Clive at 1800 N.W. Sixth St., Suite 9

- 2011

Opening of Southside location 2014

Opening of Eastside location 2017

Opening of Ankeny location 2021

Opening of Clive location and Print Monster Printing and Apparel 2022

Coming soon -Monsterama arcade

YEARS

TRIXIE'S SALON

4118 University Ave., Des Moines 515-274-9981 trixiessalon.com

HAIR, BEAUTY, PHILANTHROPY,

At Trixie's, our promise is to beautify the world around us through our craft, education, and relationships with our guests. We believe in continuing education and training, and all of our talented stylists are passionate about staying up to date with the latest techniques to keep you excited about your style.

We are led by our passion for giving back and pledge to leave an impact on our community. We are members of numerous community chambers and volunteer often to support local charities.

DREAMCATCHERS FOUNDATION INC.

Tricia is so happy to share her passion and give back to the community through Dreamcatchers Foundation Inc. Learn more about Dreamcatchers

and the difference we are making for women in hospice care.





-2016

Trixie's Uptown opens

2017

Salon Today Top 200 Philantrophy Award awarded to Trixie's for

Tricia Rivas receives the 'Citizen of the Year Award' and runner up '2018 Business of the Year Award' presented by fusedsm

2019

Trixie's Salon receives 'Top Rated Local Business in the State Award' for the second year in a row

2020

Trixie's Boutique launches – a curated boutique with favorite items from local,

2021

Owner Tricia Rivas wins the Character Award presented by the Girl Scouts of Iowa given to women who show great character and integrity in their everyday actions

99



DUPACO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

1701 E. First St., Grimes, Iowa www.dupaco.com

Dupaco Community Credit Union is a not-for-profit, member-owned financial cooperative. The credit union is dedicated to the financial well-being of its members and specializes in personalized financial counseling, money advice and education.

It offers savings, loans, investments, insurance and wealth management products for individuals and businesses. Headquartered in Dubuque, Dupaco serves residents in 112 counties throughout lowa, northwest Illinois and southwest Wisconsin. Membership has grown to more than 143,000, with assets exceeding \$2.6 billion. It has more than 600 employees and will soon open its 20th branch in Grimes, lowa. Dupaco is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). It's a Forbes Best-in-State Credit Union and a Des Moines Register Top Workplace.

Coming from humble beginnings, Dupaco was chartered as Dupaco Employees Credit Union in 1948, when 10 employees of the Dubuque Packing Company pooled their money and founded the credit union on the philosophy of cooperation and mutual self-help. While its membership has grown exponentially over the years, the credit union's not-for-profit mission and structure remain the same, said Dupaco President and CEO Joe Hearn.

"Dupaco's cooperative structure still provides an opportunity for members to use and control their own money — on a democratic basis — to improve one another's lives," said Hearn. "It's still people helping people. And that's the credit union difference."

Dupaco now is making an even bigger positive impact in the lives of more members, added Hearn. As Dupaco's membership and branch locations have grown, so has its ability to provide an expanded range of cost-effective financial services. Through its free Money Makeovers, Credit History Lessons, Bright Track credit score monitoring and other services, Dupaco continues to help its members get ahead while meeting their lifetime financial needs.







Top: Dupaco President and CEO Joe Hearn and Dupaco's Torri Freese celebrate the opening of the new Edgewood Learning Lab in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 22. Photo by Ben Kaplan

Bottom Left: Dupaco Credit Union is chartered by the State of Iowa on July 17, 1948. The original Articles of Incorporation is signed by Dupaco founding members Marie B. Haupert, Melvin Schumacher, Alfred Carroll, R.W. Reavell, Larry Vize, William Moore, Ronald Nennig, Marjorie Alm, Nellie Tucker and Manley Alm.

Bottom Right: Dupaco staff celebrates as Ernest Barrios, of Marion, Iowa, enters a contest in celebration of International Credit Union Day, Oct. 21, 2021. Photo by Ben Kaplan

1948 DUPACO IS FOUNDED

With \$5 each and a loan for \$123.20 from their local union, 10 Dubuque Packing Company employees start their own credit union. They borrow six letters from their employer's name (<u>Du</u>buque <u>Pa</u>cking <u>Co</u>mpany) and call it <u>Dupaco</u>.

1950 BEGAN FUNDING HOME LOANS

Dupaco borrows \$5,000 from the lowa Credit Union League and uses the money to begin funding home loans.

1951 RENAMED DUPACO EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

Dupaco bylaws are amended to change the name from Dupaco Credit Union to Dupaco Employees Credit Union.

1975

SERVICES EXTENDED TO ALL DUBUQUE PACKING COMPANY EMPLOYEES

Dupaco services are extended to Dubuque Packing Company employees at all nine of its plant locations nationwide.

1986 RENAMED DUPACO COMMUNITY

CREDIT UNION

Bylaws are amended to change name to Dupaco Community Credit Union. An in-house credit card processing system is installed.

1996

DUPACO.COM IS INTRODUCEDDupaco makes its official online debut with the introduction of Dupaco.com.

1997

ONLINE BANKING IS INTRODUCEDDupaco launches their online banking platform, providing added convenience to their members.

- 1998

MEMBERSHIP EXTENDED TO ADDITIONAL COUNTIES

Membership eligibility is extended to anyone living or working in Allamakee, Buchanan, Cedar, Clayton, Clinton, Fayette, Jones, Linn, Scott, and Winneshiek counties in Iowa; Crawford, Iowa and Lafayette counties in Wisconsin; and Carroll, Rock Island and Whiteside counties in Illinois.

2005

FREE CHECKING, 1ST RATE CHECKING AND HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS ARE INTRODUCED

Dupaco introduces Free Checking, 1st Rate Interest-Bearing Checking and Health Savings Accounts. It also becomes the first financial institution in the tri-state area to introduce 24/7 online mortgage applications.

-2008

60TH ANNIVERSARY, MONEY MAKEOVERS ARE BORN

Dupaco celebrates 60 years of serving members. Free Money Makeovers are introduced to help members (and nonmembers) improve their overall financial well-being.

2016

DUPACO LAUNCHES THANK USE

Dupaco launches Thank Use and rewards more than 45,000 participating members with more than \$2.85 million for using their credit union. Field of membership expands to include people living or working in 45 additional counties in lowa.

2017 DUPACO SURPASSES 100,000 MEMBERS

While Dupaco's membership has grown exponentially, the credit union's not-for-profit mission and structure remain the same.

2018 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Dupaco celebrates 70 years of service to its members.

— 2022 DUPACO OPENS ITS 20TH BRANCH IN GRIMES

Dupaco's 20th branch will be located at 1701 E. First St. in Grimes, Iowa.

PRAIRIE NATURAL **MEATS & SEAFOOD**

1860 88th St, Floor 1, West Des Moines 515-243-6350 prairienaturalmeats.com

Established in 1999, Prairie Natural Meats & Seafood is the premier choice for those seeking a source for all-natural meats to infuse into their cooking.

As a native of Argentina, President-Owner Ale Vidal Soler, has built the company from the ground up, learning each role herself. The company in addition to their subsidiary, South American Beef, has grown to include a retail location in West Des Moines. They are now selling over 1 million pounds of meat each week.

As a direct importer of their products, their goal is to pass these savings on to local consumers. This advantage means you can switch to a healthier meat for a healthier lifestyle – at a price as much as 40% lower than other retail locations.

Whether you're looking for grass-fed and freerange beef, prime cuts of veal or mutton, or you're looking for harder to find options like goat or rabbit, they have you covered.

They care about your quality of your life and believe in only the best for your family. Their products are free of induced hormones, antibiotics and steroids. Pick up items by the piece or by the case. Stop in and taste the difference!









Front row from left: Mary Novak, president and owner Alejandra Vidal Soler, Anabel Herrera, Dianna Trehy, Vanessa Qui Wen Back row from left: Scott Graham, Logan Kraft, Dave Raduechel, Joel Rolling, Andrew Pugh, Nate Hamilton and Grant Ferquson.

FACTS AND FIGURES

1999

MILLION -

our products are 100% all natural

— 100% —— 40% OFF

prices up to 40% off of other retail locations

PRYSM JEWELRY & BODY PIERCING

13101 University Ave., Suite 2, Clive 515-868-4653 prysmpiercing.com

Prysm's goal since day one has been to leverage our education and experience to provide an individualized experience for our clients to achieve their vision

Prysm started as a piercing specialty establishment located within a tattoo studio (Color Works) in Valley West Mall. We enjoyed this location as a great way to bridge the gap into the mainstream, teaching the public about safe body piercing practices.

Our small studio featured three showcases, a small lobby with seating for two, a single piercing room and a separate reprocessing/sterilization room. All of this was creatively arranged within 500 square feet.

In 2012, Rob Hill (owner) became the first piercer in Des Moines to meet and exceed the minimum standards put forth by the Association of Professional Piercers (APP) and became a member in good standing. Rob was invited to be an instructional speaker at the 2013 APP conference and continues to teach as a senior instructor at both the conference and camp retreat. Between 2011 and 2014, he won numerous first place awards for body piercing through "Earmageddon," an international ear-piercing contest.

The year 2015 was one of expansion as we took on our first employee, Jacob Spjut. Jacob moved from Louisiana to make Prysm and Des Moines his home. He is a dedicated volunteer and member of the APP, he has become a staple of the Prysm brand and its success. This was also the first year we were awarded "Best Body Piercing Studio" by CITYVIEW magazine readers.

In our continued pursuit of excellence, we hired our third piercer in 2017, Nate St. Pierre, an lowa native and APP member. He has been a great asset to Prysm and strives for perfection in every piercing he performs.

As 2020 brought on hardships for many small businesses, Prysm was forced to close for two months and then reopened under heavy restrictions. This series of changes completely transformed the business model, for the better. We were able to slow down and offer an even better experience to our guests!

July 2021 marks our 10-year anniversary! To celebrate, we built a new studio and relocated to Clive. Our new facility is custom built from scratch, designed around employee needs and client experience. The 1,400-square-foot location boasts ample showroom space with seven showcases filled with lowa's largest selection of gold and implant-grade titanium body jewelry (American manufacturers). We have two customer-centric piercing rooms designed around creating a comfortable and clean space for our clients. We sterilize each guest's jewelry and tools while you wait, utilizing a full aseptic piercing technique. The hallways are filled with large canvas prints of macro photography (by Rob Hill) featuring jewelry we use and sell at our studio. Furthermore, we have always manufactured our own line of body jewelry and have moved our workshop into the studio. This allows us to custom fit, modify, and create the perfect piece for you right in our store.

We see guests by appointment only, available through our website at prysmpiercing.com.

Experience something exceptional.











- 2011

Humble beginnings

2012

First members of the APP in Des Moines 2013

Feature Instructor at APP Conference

2015

Best Body Piercing Studio -CITYVIEW'S Best Of Des Moines 2018

Best Kept Secret on the Local Retail Scene – CITYVIEW'S Best Of Des Moines 2020

Pandemic -Closed for 2 months 2021

Celebrates 10 years with a brand new studio in Clive

WESTSIDE AUTO PROS

1901 N.W. 92nd Court, Clive 515-225-9090

Finding a reputable auto repair shop in the Des Moines metro area can be a pain. Luckily, you've come to the right place. Westside Auto Pros has been a trusted repair shop in Des Moines since 1997.

We only hire Certified Master Technicians with high integrity and honesty who treat your car as if it were their own — that is the Westside Auto Pros advantage. Our technicians stay up to date on the latest automotive technology, utilizing professional, hands-on experience working with various types of vehicles. We use the most current diagnostic equipment available, including original factory equipment, allowing us to quickly uncover the problem and begin working on the solution to get you back on the road safely.

Our shop is AAA approved, a BBB accredited business, and is a part of MWACA (Midwest Auto Care Alliance). Our staff consists of an ASE Service Consultant and ASE Master Certified Technicians. We do everything, from oil changes to transmission repairs, and everything in between.

In 2009, AAA asked us to become their exclusive provider for the greater Des Moines metro area. This has grown to a fleet of more than 14 vehicles and a dedicated staff providing 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week service to over 34,000 people a year.

Since day one, our top priority has always been to provide complete customer satisfaction. With countless five-star reviews, we are proud of our reputations as one of the Des Moines area's most trustworthy Auto Repair Shops.



Tom Jacobs, Melanie Jacobs, Jessica Perkins, Joe Jerkins, Amanda Jerkins, Shaun Nilsen, Greg Bryan



Founder/Former owner: Ron Haugen



Vestside Automotive Team Mascot Lucy



Our Mobile Service Team is ready to help you! 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year.

- 1997

Founders and former owners Ron Haugen and Paul Kennedy open Westside Auto Pros

1999

Westside Auto Pros moves to its current location in Clive

2003

Westside Auto Pros Receives first of 14 consecutive AAA Top Shop Awards — a result of 98% of customers rating us as "Excellent"

2007

Westside Auto Pros wins first of 12 consecutive Best Of Des Moines Awards for "Best Local Place for Automotive Repair"

2012

Westside Auto Pros wins Facility of the Year Award at ASA Vision Hi-Tech Training & Expo

2013

Joe Jerkins promoted to General Manager of Westside Auto Pros

2014

Expanded to 6 ASE Master Certified Technicians

2015-2018

Purchased first tow truck and 3 battery vans, towing for AAA within 3 miles of shop – expanded to cover AAA for all of Polk County

2018

Joe Jerkins purchases Westside Auto Pros from Ron Haugen

2019

Took over Story County for towing and roadside asssistance with AAA and have expanded to 4 battery vehicles, 3 wreckers, and 5 flat bed tow trucks

HOMEMAKERS FURNITURE, MATTRESSES & ACCESSORIES

10215 Douglas Ave., Urbandale 515-276-2772 www.homemakers.com

Carl and Ina Merschman founded Homemakers Furniture in 1974, starting a family tradition of excellence. What began as a 31,000-square-foot store with 10 employees has grown to hundreds of employees and a 215,000-square-foot showroom. Throughout Homemakers' 47-year heritage, the roots, vision, and passion the company was founded on have remained.

As a family-operated and Iowa-founded business, Homemakers understands and values community. From becoming the 2021 Iowa State Fair Grandstand Concert Series Sponsor and Grand Champion Sponsor to recognizing the incredible accomplishments of local women through sponsoring the annual Remarkable Women event, Homemakers is dedicated to being a pillar of the Des Moines area.

Homemakers wants shoppers to feel good about supporting a local, environmentally conscious business that strives to continuously give back to the community. Recently, a large solar panel installation project of nearly 3,000 panels began to convert one-third of Homemakers' power needs to green solar energy. Employees are also given paid time off to volunteer throughout the community at organizations such as Trees Forever, the Food Bank of lowa, and the Animal Rescue League of lowa.

When you shop Homemakers, you can rest assured you'll have a no-pressure shopping experience. The non-commission sales team is complemented by a team of sales managers with over 150 years of combined experience, an A+ rating from the Better Business Bureau (BBB), and near perfect ratings on Google and Facebook. At Homemakers, it's truly about making your house a home.









THE HISTORY OF HOMEMAKERS

Before founding Homemakers, the Merschman family opened their first furniture store in St. Paul, Iowa in 1940. Homemakers maintains the same family-operated roots, vision, and passion today.

- 1974

Homemakers was founded by Carl and Ina Merschman. They purchased the former Gray's Furniture Store on Hubbell Avenue, a 31,000 sq ft store with only 10 employees.

1985

The Parker Brothers Factory in Urbandale, where Monopoly boards were made, was then purchased and opened as a second store.

2000

Nebraska Furniture Mart, a Berkshire Hathaway company, purchased Homemakers Furniture.

2009

Grand opening of the newly remodeled Urbandale location with special guest speaker Warren Buffet.

2014

Homemakers'
40th anniversary is
celebrated with a
new website allowing
customers to browse
and buy furniture
online.

2016

A new 120,000 sq ft warehouse is constructed, marking Homemakers' sixth major renovation.

2018

Celebrating a noncommission sales team and the addition of the Homemakers Outlet, stocked with budgetfriendly furniture.



TODD'S

4413 N.E. 14th St., Des Moines 515-266-2276 toddspremiumfoods.com

Martin Todd and his wife started Todd's in 1926, using their own recipes of seasonings and blends to serve meat lockers, markets, and packaging plants in the Des Moines area. He continued using his personal recipes, reformulating them to give variety. Martin soon started sending salesmen on routes across Iowa. Word spread throughout the meat lockers, markets, and packaging plants and Todd's service area quickly expanded across the Midwest.

Alan Niedermeier took over Todd's in 1971 coming from a background of working with Watkins. He continued growing Todd's to fit the changing needs of the time. Todd's started seeing a demand for equipment as well as their well-known seasonings and spices in the food industry. Seeing this new need, Alan started selling smokehouses, saws, tenderizers, patty machines, and many other useful tools.

The food industry continued developing and progressing rapidly through the '80s. Not wanting to be left behind, Todd's started offering the service of private packaging and labeling. It was very successful and helped Todd's once again reinvent itself to grow and succeed in the food industry.

In June 2011, Andy Holt purchased Todd's LTD and started working to increase quality, product range, and to provide the best experience for customers. Four short years later, in October 2015, Todd's bought the Summit Foods factory in Madison, Nebraska, which had much better efficiencies in liquid blending and packaging.

Today, Todd's continues to grow with a focus on being a reliable source for food packaging needs for both small and large businesses. We proudly support business growth through our product and packaging line, and we have fun doing it!

Todd's started off as a small business that has grown into a multi-award winning and publicly praised producer of fine products.









2021 COMPANY FACTS AND FIGURES

75 - 35,000,000 LBS -

states trust Todd's with their product manufacturing and packaging needs

30

plants under the Todd's umbrella

employees

of food produced in 2021

1926

Todd's opens under the leadership of Martin Todd and his family.

1971

Martin Todd sells Todd's Premium Foods to Alan Niedermeier.

1975

Niedermeier begins selling manufacturing equipment and expands across the Midwest.

1983

Todd's begins offering private labeling and packaging services.

2011

Andy Holt, current owner, purchases Todd's LTD.

2015

Todd's purchases Summit Foods in Madison, Nebraska, where liquid blending and packaging is done (think sauces and drinks)



AMISH HAUS FURNITURE

3201 100th St., Urbandale 515-270-1133 amishhausfurniture.com

25 Years of Excellence!

Amish Haus Furniture opened its doors in Urbandale in 1996 and has been locally owned since 2008. We specialize in heirloom-quality furniture and accessories. Our quality solid wood Amish furniture is handcrafted by Amish craftsmen here in the Midwest. Other vendors in mattresses and upholstery have been chosen to match the quality of the Amish, complete with timeless styles.

Our staff can tailor each piece to match your style. Amish Haus Furniture is committed to placing customers first and offering uniquely designed well-made products. We build on that foundation with the ability to customize most of our furniture with many options!

Our showroom has grown to over 12,000 square feet of inspiration for your home with timeless designs. You may choose from in-stock items or custom order in a different finish for your home, for the same price. Our design center features hundreds of combinations of woods, finishes, fabrics and leathers. At Amish Haus, you can collaborate with our experienced designers to coordinate all the right pieces for your home.

In addition to our Amish furniture, we offer Restonic Mattresses, several lines of quality upholstery, unique accessories, lighting, and wall art. All of this, with the idea of Many Styles – One Standard! Our store has grown to include a mattress gallery, power recliners and a great selection of leather and fabric upholstery.

Our experienced staff can help you with in-store consultations, home visits and the ability to design the room of your dream. Our builders are Old-Order Amish, but we are not, so please enjoy our website, online catalogs, and newsletters. You may also follow us on Facebook for all the latest Amish Haus Furniture news and updates.













DECEMBER 2021 | CITYVIEW |

The waterbug had grown old and weary. And he was alone. He was the only one of his kind left in the house. He knew he would never survive the next spring cleaning. He could not scurry away from the poison sprays anymore. Still, the waterbug had been so clever in his youth, and he had lived so long, that now he was the senior creature in the house. He knew that he had a last duty to perform.

So, as Christmas Eve approached, he called a meeting of all the creatures in the house. They met at a dark joint in the woodwork. It was a place that had happy memories of youth for the old waterbug. Once he had gathered with old friends here. Now all the old friends were gone. The waterbug did not recognize any of the young creatures who began to assemble around him.

There was a pair of silverfish, shameless and brazen because they had grown up in one of the popular novels on the bookshelf. An insolent young spider came. Her web was deep in a stereo set. She greeted the old waterbug with: "Hey, old daddy... what's happenin'?" Three ladybugs arrived, carefully made up and proud of their beauty. A cricket who lived in the television set came in and began acting like a game show

The old waterbug looked at the creatures sadly. He knew he was dealing with a new generation. But he cleared his throat and began:

"Now I know you are all new creatures in the house. This will be your first Christmas Eve here. It is my duty to tell you that there must be no stirring on that night. We are under a severe and clear directive. Not a creature in this house may stir on Christmas Eve, especially not the mice. It is a Tradition."

When he said that, the old waterbug stared directly at a wild young mouse who

had come late to the meeting. The mouse had been born in the fields of summer and had only come into the house when the nights grew cold. The old waterbug drew himself up in all of his brittle majesty. He sensed that be would have trouble with the mouse. The mouse was wild and resentful and, yes, he was a troublemaker.

"Wait a minute," said the mouse. "Whose tradition? That's a human tradition you're talking about. It has nothing to do with us creatures! We can stir around all we want to, Christmas Eve or not!"

"Right on, man," said the spider.

"Stay tuned, stay tuned," shouted the cricket. The silverfish giggled indecently and the ladybugs batted their long eyelashes.

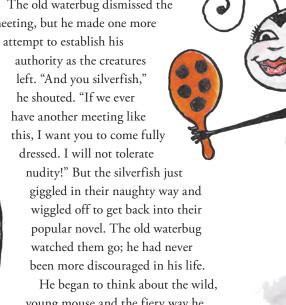
"And why should we cooperate with the humans, anyway?" the mouse shouted, wild now with rebellion. "They're trying to kill all of us. Why, right now, there's a trap set for me in the basement. And you, you poor doddering old waterbug, you can scarcely get your breath from all the poison they've sprayed at you! Stir? I'll show you stirring! I'm going to race around this house all Christmas Eve, and I just hope the other creatures will join me."

It was a full-scale revolt. The old waterbug could only draw a painful breath and thunder at the creatures: "Stop! This is quite enough. Creatures have always obeyed the Tradition on Christmas Eve. It's been handed down from generation to generation. I don't know why, and I don't know what it means, but there will be no stirring of creatures in this house on Christmas Eve! Is

that understood? I am senior creature here, and you will answer to me!"

The old waterbug dismissed the meeting, but he made one more

> young mouse and the fiery way he had spoken out. The old waterbug



Now I know you are all new creatures in the house. This will be your first Christmas Eve here. It is my duty to tell you that there must be no stirring on that night. We are under a severe and clear directive.





did not understand the mouse at all, but he rather admired him. He did not want the mouse to come to harm. The old waterbug thought about the trap set in the basement. He thought about the day when the mouse, being young, would foolishly attempt to take the bait. Perhaps, in an act of bravado, he would try to do it that very Christmas Eve. The old waterbug sighed and thought about what he must do.

He crawled painfully through the rooms of the house until he came to the Christmas decorations. For hours he gnawed away at a sprig of holly until he had removed a small piece of it. He carried it into the basement and found the trap set for the mouse. Risking his life, the old waterbug carefully pushed the cheese bait off the trap and replaced it with the bit of holly. He didn't get back to his dark place under the drain until dawn. He was exhausted.

The very next night was Christmas Eve. The little wild mouse came bounding out of his hole determined to stir around the house all night. He saw the trap with its bit of holly and stopped short. He knew at once that this was the work of the old waterbug. "Why, the old fool," thought the mouse, "he knows I don't eat that stuff." And then the mouse realized that was the point. The old waterbug had brought a gift of warning and good will. They might never understand one another, but they could wish one another well.

The little mouse thought about that idea as he went on through the house to the Christmas tree, where he was to meet the other creatures. He had promised to lead them "in a night of stirring around in this house that they won't soon forget." The silverfish, the ladybugs, the spider and the cricket were waiting for him. But they were strangely silent. None of them had ever seen a Christmas tree lighted before. It awed them.

The mouse looked at the tree and knew he had never seen anything so beautiful, not even in the fields of summer. He didn't understand what it





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CLEARMORTGAGE.COM

was. He thought, "This must be the Tradition the old waterbug is so hyper about." Dimly, the mouse knew that something was on display here that surpassed all the creatures and all humanity. The mouse made a decision and quickly told the other creatures what to do. He knew the old waterbug would be coming out soon to see what was going on.

And, sure enough, the old waterbug came crawling slowly out, but he stopped in confusion when he saw what the creatures were doing. The little mouse stood motionless among the tiny plastic animals around a manger. The spider had spun a brilliant web on the tree, and it shimmered in the lights. The silverfish and the ladybugs hung like glittering ornaments from one limb of the tree, and the cricket quietly sang a simple, peaceful song.

The old waterbug looked carefully at what the creatures were doing. He wanted to remember this sight for all the

rest of his life. Then he turned and crawled back to his place under the drain. He slept deeply and, for the first time in many nights, he did not have a nightmare about the dreaded Orkin man who would surely come for him in the spring. He knew that the Tradition had been passed on.

The little mouse watched from the corner of his eye as the old waterbug left. Then he stepped out from among the tiny plastic animals and called to the

rest of the creatures. "All right, fellas. Let's knock it off for the rest of the night, OK?"

All the creatures went quietly back to their places. Something had happened to them when they made their display for the old waterbug. They did not understand it, but they felt good about it.

Not one of the creatures stirred for the rest of the night. ■

or his eye as om among

Wait a minute. Whose tradition? That's a human tradition you're talking about. It has nothing to do with us creatures!

We can stir around all we want to, Christmas Eve or not!

— The mouse



BELLY UP TO: The Garden

New location with a spotlight on dinner theater

BY JACKIE WILSON

After 36 years, the Garden Nightclub moved from its old warehouse location on S.E. Fourth Street to a new location in East Village — the former House of Bricks. The Garden's last hurrah at the old place was on New Year's Eve of 2020. It relocated in May of this year.

The new location is a tad smaller and includes a rooftop patio and bar, which was temporarily closed during this review. Owners say the focus of the club has changed. As it is still the top gay bar in Des Moines, the spotlight is more on providing musicals, theater and variety club performances, along with their signature drag show events.

The kitchen was a big selling point. Co-owners Rusty Jones and Jerry Byrd are creating a dinner theater and show lounge experience, starting with drag show brunches on Sunday.

A "Rocky Horror Picture Show" event in October was popular, and they hope to do a live performance. A new music producer from Kata Klysmic Productions was hired. Nicholas Amundson is excited to provide entrainment for the new space.

"Dinner theater is in high demand," says Amundson. "People can see fun shows with a gay twist or a ramped up LGBT vibe, depending on the nature of the production."

The Garden's stage is already used for burlesque and drag shows. The stage was named after Yazmine You'nique DeMornay, a popular showgirl at The Garden who passed away last year.

The menu includes more than a dozen appetizers, sandwiches and breakfast items, decently priced from \$7-\$13. A drink for two included a Tito's cranberry and soda, plus a Big Grove Burch The Bear beer for \$10

Happy hour is all day Tuesdays and from 3:30-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It includes \$3 wells, \$4 calls and \$6 appetizers. On weekends, \$15 buckets of beer and other specials apply.

The all-black décor includes black walls and chairs with silver and glitter accents. Pictures of drag show beauties are artfully arranged on walls leading up to the stage area. When shows begin, a huge garage door shuts and bar patrons sit separately from the show.

At the old Garden location, a lighted dance floor used to pump out techno disco music spun by a D.J. On this particular evening, 1970s and 1980s disco tunes were piped in.

"The day of the big clubs are over," says Jones. "We're incorporating our vision of a dinner theater and show lounge. We'll still have a place to dance."

Jones and Byrd are passionate about giving back to the community by providing an AIDs awareness fundraiser at the Capital, a toy drive and other charitable endeavors. They're happy to be part of the East Village community and encourage folks to take in a show and explore downtown.

"We've had a great reception so far from our neighbors (East Village) and the gay community," says Byrd. "We want to provide a safe space for everyone — gay, straight — and celebrate good times together."



The Garden is newly located in downtown's East Village at 525 E. Ave., Des Moines.



The menu includes more than a dozen appetizers, sandwiches and breakfast items. A drink for two included a Tito's cranberry and soda, plus a Big Grove Burch The Bear beer for \$10.



Co-owner Rusty Jones pours drinks at The Garden.



The East Village hotspot provides musicals, theater, variety club performances and drag show events.

LUNCH WITH...

Steve Little

Former owner of Johnny's Vets Club, Winston's and Chef's Kitchen chose to meet at Cosi Cucina.

Chef Steve Little owned Johnny's Vets Club, Winston's and Chef's Kitchen. He sold the latter a couple years ago and "retired" as a restaurateur but still caters, consults with younger restaurateurs, and represents an Omaha co-op that buys groceries for restaurants. We asked him to lunch recently, and he chose Cosi Cucina, an Italian grill in Clive that features wood-burning pizza ovens and family recipe pastas. The café gained a lot of notoriety in the early 1990s when Clint Eastwood hung out there during the filming of "Bridges of Madison County."

A sign on the entrance announces that customers are not allowed to bring their own desserts inside. I asked Little if people actually try to do that.

"People try almost anything if they think they can get away with it. I once had a guy take gunshots at me because he didn't want me mowing the restaurant grass. Another time, when I had an early satellite dish that could receive hundreds of channels, a group of square dancers were so rowdy I had to come out of the kitchen to see what was going on. They were cheering for a hardcore porn channel they found," he explained.

Does Little have any advice for young restaurateurs?

"Yeah, don't do it. If you do it, keep it small. With no idea when the current labor shortages will end, how can you make money with big mortgages and empty tables? There is a new place on Ingersoll at MLK that cost \$5 million to open. I can't imagine how that can work. I drove by about 8 o'clock, and they had six cars in the parking lot," he said.

I added that the marvelous new Proudfoot & Bird restaurant is so short of labor that they only book a minimum number of tables each night, rather than overwhelm servers with too heavy a load.

"This is a new era for labor shortages. When I had Johnny's Vets Club, I employed 12 waitresses on weekends to serve five dining rooms and a lounge. I couldn't possibly staff that today."

What else has changed dramatically the last three

"Steak inflation is a real problem. I used to buy whole top sirloins for \$2.59 a pound. On a weekend, I would cut six cases of sirloin at the Vets Club. I did not know how to butcher until I owned a restaurant. Then

I butchered everything. We even sold our fresh ground burger and chili meat to customers. We sold a lot of our Italian dressing, too. It was made with eggs, and people loved it. I don't even know if it would be legal now. Today, I don't even know where you can buy whole sides of beef. Mostly it comes in precut and costs a lot more. That might be cost effective though with labor costs shooting up," Little said.

What was his favorite restaurant?

"Johnny's Vets Club. I loved that place. It was special, like an old fashioned supper club or roadside café. We had the piano room, and, during the first Gulf War, people would pack it for hours singing along to patriotic songs. We had two piano men. Jim Nelson and Frank Norman. Jim even had his own songbook with his original arrangement of all the songs he played. Frank used our standard songbook and both guys were popular."

That sounds like the great scene in "Casablanca" where the French patriots sing down the Nazis.

"Yeah, it was special."

What ended the Vets Club?

"Flood waters. I remember going to Star Equipment to rent pumps to try and keep the water that breached the dike from flooding the restaurant. Pumping out the water also pumped out the sand and dirt that formed the foundation under the building."

What other changes in the restaurant industry trouble Little?

"It has become almost impossible to get cooks to clean. They don't teach cleaning in culinary school. Yet everything falls apart if cleanliness is not top notch. Dishwashers are paid less than all other jobs in the restaurant, and, if you are short or out of clean plates or utensils, the entire service falls apart.

"I did most of the cleaning myself because I liked it. It took me a month to clean the kitchen at Vets Club. I put all the equipment on wheels so it was easier to clean underneath. I usually hired someone to help me clean rather than talk another worker into it. I would go in early to wash dishes."

What were some of his favorite old restaurants that he did not own?

"I loved Imperial House. Warren's Steak House was great. They would cut your steak when you ordered it.



One place that wasn't around long but was fabulous was Gianni's. On Sunday nights, they offered fabulous 14-ounce cuts of prime rib, and you got a second cut for free if you ate the first one. Several of us would go, and we all ate two prime ribs. We drank enough that the restaurant didn't lose any money on us," he recalled.

"I also miss late nights on Sixth Avenue. That was a place we probably should not have been going to, but we did. You could get anything you want at the Y Not Grill. Anything. Today the closest thing is late night at the Casey's on Hickman at MLK, but I am too old for that now," he said.

What does he make of the success of franchise chains?

"They have reasonable prices, and they completely control consistency. Applebee's is not a favorite, but they have a two for \$22 dinner that is as inexpensive as dinner can be. I have to believe that the Texas Roadhouse in Johnston is the busiest restaurant in Iowa. The parking lot is always packed. I think that fast food biscuits are excellent. McDonald's biscuits and gravy is a good deal. I think Hardees makes their biscuits in house from scratch. On the other hand, I don't get Casey's pizza, too much dough. Besides there is something wrong with the concept of a gas station pizzeria."

What is the story of Little's clam chowder?

"I learned that from Pep Perez at Players. I took it to my other places and to Wellman's Pub, but I don't think the same recipe is used today. I will give the recipe away before I let it die with me." ■

FOOD DUDE BY JIM DUNCAN

Proudfoot & Bird

The dining room is run by Andrew Wilson, who came to Des Moines from Charlie Palmer's Dry Creek Kitchen.

My first glimpse of Proudfoot & Bird was a personal downer. Having been a big fan of Django when it was in the Hotel Fort Des Moines, it was a shock to see that most of its marvelous trappings had not been retained. The unique floor, the ceiling and the bar

PROUDFOOT & BIRD

1000 Walnut St., Daily, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5-10 p.m. (breakfast coming soon)

were all gone. Some of them ironically were the works of Proudfoot and Bird, the original architects of the hotel. Things started getting much better after that first disappointment.

The new design works. It reminded me of an old New Yorker cartoon in which people in one booth ask the next booth, "Can you settle a bet for us — is this the Paris Hilton or the Berlin Hilton?" Yes the new restaurant looks like a lot of other hotel restaurants. Hilton Curio likes it that way. The new ceiling and walls probably contribute to the fabulous acoustics. This is the quietest restaurant in Des Moines and excellent for conversation.

The restaurant will serve three meals a day soon. Hilton Curio likes it that way. In short order, a coffee shop will open for breakfast and as a secret entrance to a speakeasy in the basement. That space, with nooks and crannies that are furnished with smart and eclectic style, will surely be the new hot spot for downtown drinkers. Breakfast can be taken in the marvelous new lobby, complete with traveler art and comfortable furniture.

Dinner is the star of the dining room run by Andrew Wilson, who came to Des Moines from Charlie Palmer's Dry Creek Kitchen, a gem of a place in restaurant and wine-crazed Healdsburg, California. Wilson has also worked in some of Tennessee's and Georgia's best cafés. The kitchen in Des Moines is dominated by its open woodburning grills where fruit woods provide a seductive aroma.

The menus are sensibly short. There are just eight choices for breakfast. Bacon and eggs and French toast share the menu with California things like smoked chicken sweet potato hash with smoked jalapeno hollandaise, truffle quinoa with eggs and kale, shakshuka (baked eggs with stewed tomatoes, chili spices and Feta), acai yogurt with berries, chia and hemp, steel cut oats with apricots and pecans, and avocado toast with salmon.

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Black cod with uni butter at Proudfoot & Bird

Lunch includes seven starter items, mostly salads, six entrees, mostly sandwiches, and six side dishes of vegetables. Salmon served with beets and wood grilled burgers impressed. So did a non-alcoholic drink made with pomegranate molasses, rosemary syrup and soda.

The luxurious black cod is a star on the dinner menu. I have previously only seen it on menus in the best Asian restaurants. It is not a cod; its real name is sablefish and is mostly fished off the Oregon and Washington coasts and sold to Japanese and Chinese buyers. It is a fabulous dish served here with miso, turnips and butter with sea urchin eggs. It was sold out on a subsequent visit, so I tried sea bass with romesco sauce, fennel and mint. Steaks, half chickens, pork chops and cauliflower steaks are more traditional offerings. Eggplant is Wilson's choice for the best side, but it has been hard to find lately. A three-way kohlrabi dish and mushrooms with smoked onion soubise and preserved lemon were both treats.

Olive oil cake with mascarpone and fruit, and a panna cota with date syrup and pistachios starred among desserts. Three-course Christmas dinners will be served for \$85, and reservations are suggested. In fact, due to staff shortages, the restaurant does not fully book, making reservations a good idea any time. ■

Jim Duncan is a food writer who has been covering the central Iowa scene for more than five decades.





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SOUND CIRCUIT BY JACKIE WILSON

Patricia Holly

Singer, actress from Waukee performs locally as part of the singing duo, Holly & Bochart.

Patricia Holly's greatest desire as a singer and actress is to convince talented musicians and actors to stay in Iowa. After all, that's what Holly did after a brief stint in Los Angeles' entertainment industry.

Holly grew up in Waukee, and at 8 years old, she admired her older sister, Sarah, who played in a

"I saw her playing the piano and thought it was cool," she remembers thinking. "She wrote songs from scratch."

Holly sang in Waukee High School's jazz and show choirs and won a "Waukee Idol" competition. As a teenager, she began writing music and playing the guitar. She landed her first musical role at the Des Moines Playhouse for the part of Sister Mary Robert in "Sister Act."

After high school, Holly served in the U.S. Marine Corps and continued to write music, while also acting in several commercials, one for the Iowa Lottery and another for Best Buy.

In 2018, she won the Minnesota division of the PBS television talent search show, "The Celebration of Music." The show has yet to be aired due to the pandemic, but it is a career highlight.

"There were so many moving cameras," she says. "I'll be excited to see it air."

The same year, she acted in a Christmas movie, "Christmas Break-In," streaming on Netflix and became a member of the Screen Actors Guild.

In 2019, she moved to L.A. and joined a singing jazz group, Satin Dollz, which performed in Paris, London and other locations before the pandemic.

Satin Dollz recently created a Midwest version.

The lure of living in an entertainment mecca was short lived as Holly missed Iowa. She says it's a misconception that Iowa is slower, but it is a different mindset.

"When people move to L.A., they don't realize the traffic is insane, the cost of living is high. In L.A., everyone has to look out for themselves," she says. "L.A. wasn't for me. Iowa is welcoming and uplifting and helpful. I like looking out for others besides myself."

Since moving back, she finds acting opportunities mostly in Minneapolis. She performs locally with a singing duo, Holly & Bochart, and recently performed at the Bart Howard Lounge in Burlington. She's writing music and working on her first album, hoping folks continue to embrace Iowans' talents.

"Iowans get excited because Iowans make it big — there's the Jason Momoas from Iowa. If people could embrace artists in Iowa, it could explode," she says.

Holly wants to see Iowa's film industry come back. She cites the "Field of Dreams" baseball game that recently showcased Iowa.

"If we can convince talented people to stay put, we could grow the industry and give local talent a chance," she says. "I love it here. I feel lucky I get to do this for a living."

You can catch Patricia Holly performing with Satin Dollz at Noir in Ames on Dec. 3 and Dec. 5 and at Sweetwater Café with Holly & Bochart on Dec. 12. ■



You can catch performances of local singer Patricia Holly with Satin Dollz at Noir in Ames on Friday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 5, or at Sweetwater Café with Holly & Bochart on Sunday, Dec. 12.

SOUND ADVICE BY JACKIE WILSON

Are you ready to ring in 2022? Music venues in Des Moines are gearing up for New Year's Eve celebrations. A quick note, check with the venue in advance regarding any COVID guidelines.

The Des Moines Symphony Orchestra features Michael Cavanaugh, singing the music of Elton John at the Des Moines Civic Center. Tickets start at \$40.

Head over to the East Village at Wooly's, where you're treated to

Pianopalooza along with Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. General admission tickets in advance start at \$15.

Local nightclubs are hosting free NYE music celebrations as well. Head to Waukee to catch Sister Sara at Mickey's Irish Pub or the Dick Danger Band at Kenny's Pub. Altoona is the place to be to see the Punching Pandas at the Brick & Ivy Rooftop.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, in the park, well, actually it's at the Des Moines Civic Center, when Chicago returns for a concert on April 16, 2022. The band is in its 55th year of touring. Tickets available at desmoinesperformingarts.org.

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FILM REVIEW BY DAVID ROWLEY

'Ghostbusters: Afterlife'

A soft reboot of the original.

Being a "Ghostbusters" fan has been a tough gig. The original was one of the greatest movies ever — a perfectly paced, perfectly structured blend of supernatural horror and dry, witty humor that unite in some of the best comedians of their generation to create something truly special and unique.

Unfortunately, the sequel never managed to reach the same heights. A third movie failed to materialize, and it seemed like the "Ghostbusters" franchise was at an end. But time heals all wounds.

By the 2010s there were rumblings that another movie was in the works, but the tragic death of Harold Ramis ultimately put the final nail in the coffin of the third "Ghostbusters."

Sony saw this as a chance to watch their own rebooted franchise with an all-female team of Ghostbusters (and the less said about that, the better).

Fast-forward five years and Jason Reitman, the son of the original "Ghostbusters" director Ivan Reitman, came with news we'd been waiting to hear: a true sequel to the second "Ghostbusters" was finally happening. The original cast was coming back, and, best of all, it was going to completely ignore the disastrous 2016 movie.

"Ghostbusters: Afterlife" can best be thought of as a kind of soft reboot — a well-meaning homage to the original, acknowledging the events of the first.

The movie kicks off with the death of Egon Spangler - known to locals as The Dirt Farmer — who has been living as a recluse in the middle of nowhere for the past 20 years. With Egon dead, his estate passes on to his estranged daughter Callie (Carrie Coon), who relocates there with her two kids Phoebe (Mckenna Grace) and Trevor (Finn Wolfhard). As the family tries to settle in to their new home, Phoebe begins to uncover clues about what her grandfather was working on — something big tied to the unnatural earthquakes happening in the area. It turns out that the entire area was once owned by Ivo Shandor, the mysterious figure who was mentioned in the first movie but never appeared on screen. It seems like old Ivo's plans to summon Gozer into the material world didn't end with the showdown in New York back in 1984. Egon knew this, too, which was why he sacrificed everything to delay it as long as possible. But now he's dead, and a ragtag collection of kids are the only thing standing in the way of Gozer's return and worldwide destruction.

The parallels between "Afterlife" and the original movie are strong and likely intentional. It's clearly a passing-ofthe-torch kind of movie with a new generation taking up the proton packs and learning to work together to combat a growing supernatural threat. All the same elements are present: the first clumsy attempt to capture a ghost; the gradual revelation of a bigger threat; the explosion of



ghost sightings; the Terror Dogs, the Key Master and the Gatekeeper; crossing the streams; and more.

"Ghostbusters: Afterlife" PG-13 | 124 minutes Director: Jason Reitman Stars: Carrie Coon, Paul Rudd,

This is all great, but plenty falls under the category of stuff that sounded better at the pitch meeting. For example, the Mini Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man that just kind of shows up for no reason. The original was an interesting combination of hilarity and sheer terror because he was basically an evil prehistoric God rampaging through New York in the guise of a cute company mascot. These things are designed to be cute rather than intimidating, and they get way too much screen time.

Finn Wolfhard

But I'll tell you what doesn't get too much screen time — the original "Ghostbusters" cast. While there were a million better ways to integrate them into the story, for what it's worth, you get to see them show up and do their thing.

I was nervous at the prospect of hanging a movie like this on a bunch of child actors and expecting them to do the work of guys like Murray, Ackroyd and Remus, but, for the most part, they proved up to the challenge. Podcast (Logan Kim) is the equivalent of Ray. He's earnest and kind of naive, but deeply invested in what they're doing, while Lucky (Celeste O'Connor) acts as a standard for Venkman. She's dry and sarcastic. Trevor is the least interesting, acting as the Winston of the group. He is not particularly knowledgeable about anything but is just there to help.

The real star of the show is Mckenna Grace's Phoebe, the protagonist of the film. She's a socially awkward nerd who skipped over Dad Jokes for Grandfather Jokes — oddly shocking while still groanworthy. She's clearly smarter than everyone else around her, but she never comes across as obnoxious or patronizing. Her gradual reconnection with the grandfather she never really knew acts as the emotional heart of the film.

To sum up this film, it's a well-meaning but slightly clunky and meandering love letter to the original. It is nowhere near as slick and intelligent, and it seems to be trying so much to please everyone that it never emerges from its shadow to be its own thing.

PREVIEWS

"Spider-Man: No Way Home"

PG-13 | NA Director: Jon Watts Stars: Zendaya, Benedict Cumberbatch, Tom Holland For the first time in the cinematic history of Spider-Man, our



friendly neighborhood hero's identity is revealed, bringing his superhero responsibilities into conflict with his normal life and putting those he cares about most at risk. When he enlists Doctor Strange's help to restore his secret, the spell tears a hole in their world, releasing the most powerful villains who've ever fought a Spider-Man in any universe. Now, Peter will have to overcome his greatest challenge yet, which will not only forever alter his own future but the future of the Multiverse.

"Red Rocket"

R | 128 minutes Director: Sean Baker Stars: Simon Rex, Bree Elrod, Brenda Deiss The audacious new film from writerdirector Sean Baker ("The Florida Project,"



"Tangerine"), starring Simon Rex in a magnetic, livewire performance, "Red Rocket" is a darkly funny and humane portrait of a uniquely American hustler and a hometown that barely tolerates him. Finding himself down and out in Los Angeles, ex porn star Mikey Saber (Simon Rex) decides to crawl back to his hometown of Texas City, Texas, where his estranged wife and mother-in-law are living. Just as this dysfunctional family seems to be making things work, Mikey meets a young woman named Strawberry (Bree Elrod) working the cash register at a local doughnut shop. He falls right back into his old habits.

"Silent Night"

R | 92 minutes Director/Writer: Camille Griffin Stars: Annabelle Wallis, Keira Knightley, Matthew Goode A couple invite their



closest friends to join their family for Christmas dinner at their idyllic home in the English countryside. As the group comes together, it feels like old times — but behind all of the laughter and merriment, something isn't quite right. The world outside is facing impending doom. A toxic cloud of lethal poison is sweeping the planet, and it's set to hit the luxe manor sometime past midnight on Dec. 26, so there's nothing for the guests to do but drink, feast and make merry as if there's no tomorrow — because, well, there isn't. Surviving the holidays just got a lot more complicated. ■



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Circles of clay

David Dahlquist's show opening at Moberg Gallery was also a retirement party for his administrative duties at RDG.



Art by David Dahlquist at Moberg Gallery

For the first time this fall, Moberg Gallery is showing two of Iowa's best-known artists. Their November exhibition featured David Dahlquist, a man who has worn many hats very well. After a teaching career, Dahlquist turned to ceramics and eventually became the head honcho at RDG Planning and Design, the multidiscipline firm in Des Moines that has created projects all over America. Their Facebook page identifies them as "architects, artists, engineers, landscape architects and planners with a passion for design and a drive to make a difference." After working on more than 80 public art projects across the country since 1988, including the well-known High Trestle Trail Bridge project and the Art-in-Transit program for the Iowa DOT, Dahlquist wanted to show his own work again, to return to the life of a studio artist.

Dahlquist's show opening at Moberg was also a retirement party for his administrative duties at RDG, as he is moving back to his clay origins. It drew the largest crowd I have seen in a dozen years of Moberg openings. The show was appropriately titled "Full Circle" and paired Dahlquist's giant ceramic sculptures with brightly colored paintings by Wendell Arneson, who was Dahlquist's teacher and mentor in high school. Dahlquist quotes Hehaka Sapa from "Black Elk Speaks" to explain, "Everything the power of the world does, it does in a

Literature played an instructive role in all the works in the show. Dahlquist's brother Daniel is a poet who keeps in touch, sending haiku to the artist. Most of the works in the show take their titles from those haiku. He calls his sculptures ceramic drawings and said they were about communication, in conversation with Arneson's new paintings.

Arneson's works have been exhibited at the Toledo Museum of Art, Groveland Gallery in Minneapolis, Wichita Art Center, and the Rochester Art Center, to name a few. He taught at St. Olaf College from 1978 to 2015, where he specialized in painting (oil, acrylic and watercolor), drawing and color design.

Dahlquist describes himself as a "storyteller who uses many different materials to draw people into a complete intellectual and emotional experience" and as "a translator, making connections for others searching for a deeper experience in their own lives. Whether for a given location, an individual sculpture, or piece of pottery, the desire and intent are the same, they must first be

understood and deeply felt by the artist."

He also calls himself a "rememberer" willing to take viewers of his art "down until they reach the river of collective memory." Going down near a river is also how one finds clay. Full Circle again. Dahlquist even has a new kiln from Alfred, New York, where he graduated from New York State College of Ceramics.

Moberg's December show will feature James Elwanger, an artist from Des Moines who dressed the city with some of its best public art, also mostly sculptures. For the last five years, he has hung his hats mostly in St. George, Utah, and Las Vegas, where he has been creating public art for new developments. Recently he moved to La Quinta outside Palm Springs. His show will open Friday, Dec. 3. That is the same date for the Fitch to have an open house for its many artists' studios.

Two of Des Moines' distinctive arts organizations have new directors. Ballet Des Moines hired Tom Mattingly from the Madison Ballet in Wisconsin. The Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus promoted Eric Shepard of Des Moines who has been involved with the gay men's chorus since about 2009, as a performer, choreographer and member of the board of directors.

IOWA ARTISTS BY JACKIE WILSON

Crooked Street Studios

Randy and Paula Garza combine street and Latino influences.

When Paula Garza experienced a troubled time in her life, she took her paycheck and purchased art supplies, discovering that painting provided an outlet for her sadness and anxiety. Before long, she dreamed of sharing her art.

Paula was raised in Texas, 10 miles from Mexico, and reconnected with an old high school sweetheart by sending him a painting of Iowa and Texas together. Randy Garza was intrigued with the painting and wanted to pursue art, just as Paula had done several years earlier.

Randy moved to Iowa, marrying Paula, and they opened up Crooked Street Studios, named after a street in

Each has a unique style of artwork, but they still collaborate on painting murals. Paula's style is mixed media, acrylic and other materials. She's inspired by her Latino heritage and her idol, Frida Kahlo.

"Frida was a Mexican artist ahead of her time," she says. "She is a big influence for me. We had a big blank wall in the studio and put Frida in there to not forget who we are."

Like Frida's paintings, Paula's work is "bright and obnoxious." She frequently paints sugar skulls from the Day of the Dead. She cherishes the holiday, as both her parents died before she was 12 years old.

"Día De Los Muertos is my thing. Death is often seen as horrible. It's remembering and celebrating what the deceased meant to you," she says.

Randy's street style is more pop and graffiti. He learned spray paint from fellow artist Shawn Palek. He credits Shawn and other artists for being supportive.

"Shawn opened up his wings and gave us everything he knew about painting. He gave us that nudge to pursue it and share it," he says. "The nice thing about the art

community is, it's like a family. We support each other. It's not us versus them."

Another prompt appeared after they had a pop-up art show in Des Moines.

"We felt like we could do art," says Paula. "It seemed far-fetched, but we never looked back. It's our baby. It fills our life."

The pair painted a mural together at the new Lauridsen Skate Park in Des

"Our wall is next to another famous artist," says Randy. "It's so humbling and a great feeling to drive past that and see our mural."

They've sold artwork at the Waukee Arts Festival, selling only originals and not prints. They feel their artwork is affordable.

"People yell at us that we aren't priced right. I'd rather charge \$45 for someone who is moved by our artwork," says Paula. "We're not about the hustle and bustle." Randy and Paula paint the art they like, inspired by their lives.

"If anyone digs it, that's a plus for me," says Randy.

"My favorite quote is 'Vive la vida,' which means live your life. We try to live our best life," adds Paula. ■



Paula and Randy Garza opened up Crooked Street Studios, named after a street in Texas.



Paula Garza's mixed media style of art is inspired by her Latino heritage and her idol, Frida Kahlo.



Randy Garza learned spray paint from fellow artist

Find answers at www.dmcityview.com/the-games

OVER-THINKING THINGS

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- 20 Cartoon cel material
- 21 Bassett of Hollywood
- 22 Witch's elixir
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Shoe-collecting Marcos
- 26 State whose cap. is Boise
- Company that retails 27
- outdoor gear
- 28 FDR follower
- Gather, as a harvest
- 31 Pooch's yap
- 32 Riddle, part 2
- Free of charge, as legal services
- 41 Make knotted
- 42 Large simian
- 43 Stroke gently
- 44 Riddle, part 3
- 48 Right wrongs
- Genesis game system maker
- 50 Egg, formally 54 "Cool beans!"
- Lenin's land: Abbr. 60 Tubular pasta
- 64 Part of REO
- Riddle, part 4
- 70 -- kwon do
- "Toyboat" singer Yoko
- Caravan layover locale 73 See 112-Across
- 74 Gift for music
- Riddle, part 5
- 79 Ho-hum

- Like gear that guells mobs 10

- 81 English lav
- Chair fixer of a sort 82 83 Bug spray ingredient
- Auction, e.g.
- Oscar winner Mercedes 88
- 91 Riddle, part 6
- 100 Toby drink
- 103 Zodiac lion
- 104 Hocus-pocus
- 105 Big retail stores
- 106 End of the riddle
- 110 Nibble on
- 111 Be furious
- 112 With 73-Across, fluorescent paint brand
- 113 Pampering, in brief
- 114 Pal, to Yves
- 115 Demonstrate clearly
- 117 Riddle's answer
- 125 Bleep bad words from 126 Warning on an airplane
- wing 127 Earhart or Lindbergh
- 128 Tramps (on)
- 129 Sub-locating devices
- 130 Greek

DOWN

- Looked at
- Apollo 7 astronaut Wally Go toward
- "-- girl!" ("All right!")
- Dads
- Verb ending in the Bible
 - "Gloria in Excelsis --" Guy's sense of self-

Neighbor of Michigan

Entertainer's rep.

- importance
 - 66
 - Italian for "years" "Dumb" bird

- 11 "Ho-hum"
- 12 Land in la mer 13 Voice a quick greeting
- Inscription on a tombstone
- 15 ---com (film genre)
- In -- (gestating) 16
- 17 Make a heap
- 18 Up till now 19 Talk testily to
- 24 Hi-tech address 29 Salty expanses
- 31 Many an iDevice game
- The Lone Ranger's chum
- 33 Gung-ho for 34 Hamlet
- 35 Operates, as a booth
- Northwestern French department
- 37 Many a YouTube journal
- 38 Pollen transporter 40 Triumphs over
- 45 Lifesaver, perhaps Football field unit
- 47 Kind of IRA 51 Determine by ballot Nervousness
- 52 53 It shows reflections 54 Passable
- 55 Comedian Boosler 56 "-- Fideles" (Yule carol)
- Atop 58 59 Doe's partner "Othello" role
- 62 Wide divide 63 Farlier
- Suffix with 45-Down

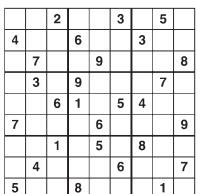
- Stringed instrument of yore
- 69 Canadian gas station
- Atop, to poets
- Essential part 76 77 Potential reply to "Who's
- there?"
- 78 Shredded 79 Round of gunfire
- 82
- Lay's snacks 85 Oscar's kin
- 86 doH 87 Corporate ID
- Takes unfair advantage of
- Girl in a J.D. Salinger story 90 92 Part of REO
- 93 Hands down, as a verdict
- Cato's robe
- 95 More wee
- 96 Lugs around Recluse under a religious VOW
- 98 Person acting as a link China's Sun -- -sen
- 100 Influence
- 101 Shutter slat 102 Ferret cousin
- 107 High-IQ group 108 Sacred songs
- 109 Outer: Prefix 114 Central Asia's -- Sea
- 116 Flaky fish 118 Winning row in tic-tac-toe 119 Rival of AOL or Yahoo!
- 120 NYC rail and bus org. 121 "That'll show va!"
- 122 Adam's woman 123 Petroleum
- 124 Three, in Italy

Is this a

SCRAMBLERS RENTED RANEY Unkind DINES **HEALIN** TODAY'S WORD

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

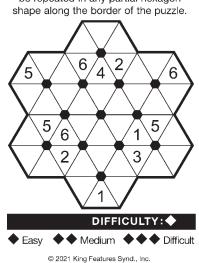


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY: ♦◆ ◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon

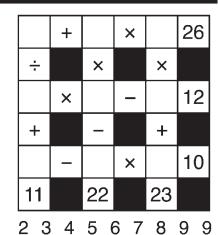


GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult ★★★ GO FIGURE!



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DECEMBER 2021 | CITYVIEW |

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This month's winner

"When they say Clive is the No. 1 suburb of Des Moines they mean it; as Clive will not put up with No. 2 at all."

Mark Alvord



Runners-up

"The city of Clive, which uses the slogan, 'Distinct by Nature,' makes an effort to educate its citizens on the meaning of double entendre."

Dennis Moore

"A waste of signage."
Mary Wedewer

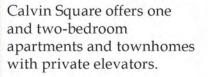
"No. 1 only!"
Harlan Donaldson

"As seen at Clive 'Water Works.' "
Jeni N.



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Winter is coming

And Sister Marla Smith's eyes light up. Trust me.

Holding her thin hand and rubbing her thin back, I sit quietly beside her wheelchair.

She smiles, and I swear a light comes into her eyes.

I know what you're going to say — it is all malarky about the "eyes lighting up," or "sparkling eyes," or "twinkling eyes," or a "wink of the eye," but I'll be darned, her eyes did light up.

Clearly, Sister Marla Smith is here and ready to be

"That feels nice," she says out of nowhere.

It is late fall in Iowa. The birdbath is frozen when I leave Des Moines in the morning. The sun is a bit dimmer. The grass is matted and brown. The orange and red and yellow leaves are now a shade of mud.

"Winter is coming."

Dire words written by George R.R. Martin in his "Game of Thrones" series for the fictional land of Westeros.

Yup, winter is coming. Sure, maybe not White Walkers, but certainly snow plows and subzero temps.

For my aunt, Sister Marla Smith, this is her 99th winter. Ninety-nine years gives one a bit of perspective, I imagine. And with no one left alive of her generation, who is going to argue with her about how much snow actually fell in the great blizzard when her father had to drive draft horses through giant drifts to get to the barn? No one. Even her father who loved a good story can't back her up any



A thin, tough woman with iron grey hair and bright eyes, Sister Marla is dogged and compassionate and kind and smart. Just a few months ago, she laughed and joked and ate dark chocolates. But she has taken a turn and is struggling a bit.

The inevitable change of seasons, I guess, but what a ride it has been.

My aunt used to order her life very specifically church and work, work and church. Which is why she surprised me 45 years ago when she rented a piano for me, an obnoxious unbeliever, to practice on as I lived with her elderly father. And if that wasn't out of her wheelhouse, she then set me up on dates with her other dietitian friends and interns. Unbelievable as it sounds, I had never dated anyone who specialized in white sauce for a degree. But thanks to Sister Marla, that empty spot on my to-do list is now checked. But where she caught me most by surprise is when she insisted



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we take disco dance classes together. My only regret of that time is that the Franciscans were no longer wearing their habits. That would have been a picture. And she was a superb dancer. Naturally.

"Now is the winter of our discontent..." A young King Richard delivers this line for Shakespeare. And it might describe a winter day in Iowa where the snow



is dirty and hard-packed, and the wind slices through the small, exposed neck of your coat, and there is a real possibility that spring will never come, and you might as well lie down in the snow and call it quits.

Really? Is that helpful?

Winter IS coming, but don't you love the quiet peacefulness of an Iowa winter day when nothing stirs, you are the only living person outside, the crystal air is sharp and pure, and the sun reflects bright off the top of the snow? You are alone in the universe, and the universe is good.

When asked a couple of months ago about whether she was sad after the death of a dear friend, Sister Marla said, "Why? She is in a great place."

As is Iowa, when the wind blows down from Canada, and the smell of woodsmoke drifts across the snow, and the eagles and hawks float gracefully over a pure, white world.

I drive away from my aunt's home at Saint Francis Convent in Dubuque thinking about life. Playing on the radio is the classic hit by KC and the Sunshine Band:

"Oh, do a little dance, make a little love Get down tonight, get down tonight Do a little dance, make a little love Get down tonight, get down tonight"

And there she is. Doing the hustle. Wide smiled and loose limbed. And look at that — she is ending with a dramatic John Travolta point toward the heavens.

And her eyes light up. Trust me. ■

Joe Weeg spent 31 years bumping around this town as a prosecutor for the Polk County Attorney's Office. Now retired, he writes about the frequently overlooked people, places and events in Des Moines on his blog: www.joesneighborhood.com.









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'Even Greater Mistakes: Stories by Charlie Jane Anders'

When life is busy, and my attention span is short, I turn to short stories to fill in the gaps of my day. I enjoy a quick punch of a story to curb a bad mood (or heighten a good one). For me, there is no one better suited to blow my mind in 15 minutes or less than Charlie Jane Anders. With a huge range of topics covered in these 19 stories, she highlights many absurdities of humanity: premise and impulse, art and tragedy, passion and comedy — all with snappy, spare and gorgeous language.

I first heard "As Good As New" read to me by LeVar Burton, but trust me, it's just as delightful in text form. The story of the last person on Earth and the Genie who can, maybe, fix things is hilarious and heart-warming in surprising ways. "Six Months, Three Days" is a tragic love story that utterly broke me. "A Temporary Embarrassment in Spacetime" was so funny I cried.

Full of beauty, unexpected humor, and revelatory characters, I can say with confidence that there is something in this collection for everyone. Pick it up when you need a shot of the good stuff. — Review by Julie Goodrich



10/26/21 352 pages \$27.99 **Tor Books**

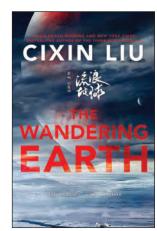
'The Wandering Earth'

Science Fiction can often seem to follow a formula, to the point where a long-time aficionado (such as myself) can predict the ending from chapter one. In such a speculative and wide-ranging genre, the tropes get old — quickly. Thank all the fiction gods then, that we have the wondrous mind of Cixin Liu to make everything old and rusted seem new and shiny again.

There are 10 stories in this award-winning collection ranging in scope from the galactic to the microscopic. "Mountain" and "Devourer" set up the classic first-contact tropes and delve into the ramifications for humans as a species as well as the affect on the aliens themselves. "Sun

of China" and "The Wandering Earth" both explore just how grand and greedy humanity can be, in the right circumstances, while still exploring the limits of science.

The blockbuster success of his "Three-Body Problem" trilogy thrust Liu into the sci-fi spotlight. If you somehow missed his trilogy, then I envy your first taste of just how good sci-fi can be in the right hands. This is "big idea" science fiction at its finest. ■ — Review by Julie Goodrich



By Cixin Liu 10/26/21 464 pages \$28.99 **Tor Books**

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CENTER STAGE BY JOHN BUSBEE

Leaving the 2021 holiday performing arts season in the rearview mirror

The glow of holiday arts has never felt more vibrant.

Last year, the world of live arts experienced a pandemiccaused paucity of performances. Producing companies eagerly prepared a month of shows to feast upon.



(L to R) John Earl Robinson, Jennifer Hughes, foley artist Kim Haymes are featured in Iowa Stage Theatre Company's "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play." Photo Credit - Iowa Stage Theatre Company

CLASSIC SHOWS TAKE CENTER STAGE

The Des Moines Community Playhouse renews its holiday show big musical tradition with "The Sound of Music." With music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, and a book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, this musical is revived regularly to share the joy of the best in musical theatre. This story is based on Maria Von Trapp's 1949 memoir. "The Sound of Music" runs Dec. 3-19.

The holiday season would be wanting without "The Nutcracker." The strains of Tchaikovsky's magical passages are touchstones for many a family's holiday tradition. "The Nutcracker" often is the first live performance young ones experience. The Civic Center stage will resonate with this great ballet story presented by Iowa Dance Theatre (IDT) Dec. 11 and 12. IDT renews its multi-decades legacy through this famous ballet.

Ballet Des Moines (BDM) will produce its version of "The Nutcracker" at Hoyt Sherman Place Theatre Dec. 10-12, then move its show to the Staplin Performing Arts Center in West Des Moines Dec. 17-18. BDM will showcase 10 professional dancers, representation from 34 dance studios from across central Iowa, and new scenes add a special spark to their 2021 show.

While the cinematic version of "It's A Wonderful Life" is a celluloid favorite, a new way to experience "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" is the vibrant new take on Frank Capra's familiar film. Based on Philip Van Doren Stern's 1943 self-published short story, "The Greatest Gift," Iowa Stage Theatre Company gives audiences a delightful way to immerse themselves in a 1940s live radio performance, complete with radio actors performing multiple characters and live foley effects. Iowa Stage presents this show Dec. 16-23.

NON-TRADITIONAL FARE BRINGS ADDITIONAL JOY TO THE SEASON

Two shows opening Dec. 3 are guaranteed to produce plenty of laughter in their respective performing halls. Tallgrass Theatre Company (TTC) and Ankeny Community Theatre (ACT) spice up the seasonal offerings with "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some)" and "Geezers," respectively.

TTC's show brings something very special to the region: a new performing arts campus. This wellestablished company, founded in 2002, has more or less served as West Des Moines' community theatre. The pandemic challenged TTC even more as their current lease expired just prior to that. They found a remarkable space at 2019 Grand Ave., West Des Moines, giving them a larger performing hall with added capacity for a scene shop, plenty of rigging space and additional

TTC presents "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some)" Dec. 3-19. This madcap romp brings a potpourri of pleasure as three performers decide to perform every Christmas story ever told, plus Christmas traditions from around the world. Up tempo and uplifting, this promises to be a memorable christening to the new TTC space.

Ankeny Community Theatre offers an evening of laughter with a show whose very title should elicit a giggle or two, "Geezers," Dec. 3-12. When a young man is hired to help seniors in their retirement home, it turns out that this shy twentysomething is the one who gets lots of help.

TWO STOCKING STUFFERS

Theatre Midwest brings its next Fresh Produce offering to the stage in a concert reading of "Dairy Queen (or, Our Sovereign State)" Dec. 4 and 5. This event can be experienced in-person or online, and is free although, goodwill contributions are welcome.

Add a kickoff for December on the 1st from Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre as they present a new round of the popular showcase entertainment, "Duets." One veteran musical theatre performer is paired with a rising star, and past performances have been especially rousing.

It appears as if our theatrical stocking won't be filled with lumps of coal this year, but rather an enticing array of performing arts. Book your dates and experience as many of these shows as possible.

John Busbee is a creative project developer, critic, playwright, author, producer and media professional. He has produced his weekly show, The Culture Buzz, on KFMG since 2007.



OVERHEARD IN THE LOBBY

Check for updates with each company.

- Ankeny Community Theatre
- www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com
- Carousel Theatre of Indianola
- www.carouseltheatre.org
- Class Act Productions www.captheatre.org
- Des Moines Community Playhouse/Kate Goldman Theatre – www.dmplayhouse.com
- Des Moines Performing Arts
- https://desmoinesperformingarts.org
- Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre
- www.dmyat.org
- Iowa Shakespeare Experience
- www.iowashakespeare.org
- Iowa Stage Theatre Company
- www.iowastage.org
- Pyramid Theatre Company
- www.pyramidtheatre.org
- Tallgrass Theatre Company www.tallgrasstheatre.org
- Urbandale Community Theatre
- www.urbandaletheatre.com

DES MOINES FORGOTTEN BY KRISTIAN DAY

When Wooly's was a Woolworth's store

On Oct. 19, 1950, Woolworth's had its grand opening at 504-508 E. Locust.

For the last 10 years, I thought variety stores were a front for some type of shady black market deal. Amazon, Walmart and Target have seemingly taken over every type of retail flavor we can think of. Five and dimes. Remember those? Everything was 5 to 10 cents less than the competitor. I thought it meant that everything was 5 or 10 cents and often wondered how these stores made money. (This was, in fact, true, but not since most of us have been alive.) I feel like I am not part



Des Moines, Iowa. circa 1960. Woolworth's department store. Courtesy of Des Moines Historical Museum.

of a generation that cares about savings or customer service. What sells me on something is what will interfere with my life the least. This includes me not leaving my house or interacting with any type of salesperson. My Baby Boomer father, on the other hand, loves the traditional process.

Most everyone in Des Moines is familiar with the live music venue Wooly's. If I had a nickel for the number of times I walked out of there covered in fake bodily fluids from a GWAR concert, I would have enough money for a few cups of coffee. But long before all this, it was a Woolworth's store. In fact, this was the store's second location.

Once upon a time, there was the Victor Dime Store, which was located across the street from where Wooly's is now at 523 E. Locust. It was run by E.J. Trumbull, and on May 1, 1916, an announcement was made that it was being sold to the F.W. Woolworth Co., which would take possession on May 15 (from The Evening Tribune, May 1, 1916).

Woolworth's operated in this location for a bit more than 20 years. On Oct. 19, 1950, Woolworth's had its grand opening at 504-508 E. Locust with 9,000 square feet of air conditioning, fluorescent lighting, a cafeteria, and a giant stainless-steel and dust-proof candy case. Cafeterias in stores like this and others were significant back then because customers spent much of their day shopping at a store and needed to stop and take a lunch break. This was common back in the days of the Younkers Tea Room, and even Macy's and Bloomingdales had cafeterias during their peaks. Admittedly, I do find myself taking a snack break at Ikea when I make the trek to Minneapolis or Chicagoland, so I guess it's really not in vain. A grand opening advertisement featured in the Des Moines Tribune called Woolworth's restaurant side: "Des Moines' newest and most modern lunch department."

Woolworth's was originally founded in Utica, New York, and Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1879 by Frank Winfield Woolworth. Both started as 5 cent stores but eventually raised the price ceiling to 10 cents, which reportedly made them profitable. By 1904, Woolworth's stores totaled 120 in 21 states as far west as Colorado. F.W. Woolworth passed away in 1919, but not before he merged a handful of rival companies into his own. These included Seymour Horace Knox (Woolworth's first cousin) with 108 stores; Fred Morgan Kirby with 84 stores; Charles Sumner Woolworth (Frank's brother) with 14 stores; and Earle Perry Charlton with 48 stores. This eventually grew the Woolworth company to 596 stores across the country. The company headquarters was the Woolworth Building in New York City, which was the tallest building in the world from 1913 to 1930.

As time moved on, Woolworth's raised its price ceiling to 20 cents and then abolished the price limit in 1935. By 1982, the company had 8,000 stores but was starting to see serious competition by none other than... Kmart. The Woolworth company began to rely more heavily on its specialty stores including Foot Locker, but things were starting to go downhill. The flagship Woolworth's stores were declining, and their doors shut in 1997. This was the end of the venture in general merchandise style retail stores. Woolworth's is gone and is now renamed as Foot Locker, Inc.

As I drown myself in nostalgia for a moment, I realize that my fellow millennials were



The Des Moines Tribune. May 18, 1950. Courtesy of Des Moines Historical Museum.

probably the last to really enjoy the traditional holiday shopping season with store-front window decorations, people gathering with their families in line for the 6 a.m. Black Friday sales, and knowing that only a few of your friends would unwrap that original Sony PlayStation on Christmas morning. That experience still provides a warm feeling for many. But a growing number of others are completing their holiday shopping from their couch or a public restroom on a phone. without disrupting too much of their busy lives or getting up early to trample over their fellow man. So whether you shop at the stores in person or hang out at home and watch "Die Hard" while filling up your online carts with gifts, be sure to enjoy the season for what it is today, as who knows what the future of shopping will be? ■

Kristian Day is a filmmaker, musician and writer based in Des Moines. He also hosts the syndicated Iowa Basement Tapes radio program on 98.9FM KFMG.





Ford Bronco

The world's first sport utility vehicle is revived after 25 years.

BY JACKIE WILSON

A quarter of a century ago, Ford Motor Company retired its popular Ford Bronco. In 2021, Ford revived the Bronco in the midst of a pandemic. Although they endured months of COVID-induced delays with parts and production, along with limited availability, I was fortunate to finally test drive the new model.

The four-door, four-wheel drive Big Ben model, dubbed as "designed for adventure," seemed a steal at \$38,970 compared to other off-road SUVs. This model includes a full retractable soft top, which folds back for an open-air ride. Although a too-chilly 45 degrees prevented me from testing it, the manual opening on top seemed simple enough to access from the inside.

Getting in the vehicle proved easy as the solid tube step and grab bars inside were sturdy. I manually adjusted the seat, as it wasn't automatic. It was less complicated than some SUVs — which contain six buttons for seating comfort, when depressing a wrong button usually results in an arched back and dangling

feet.

The infotainment screen is embedded in the dashboard. The owner's manual can be accessed from the screen, allowing you to search for warning signal icons or how to change the clock while freeing up room in your glove compartment for other essentials.

Another screen setting I liked was the "calm screen." This mode only displays the date and time, not the street names, song titles, arrows or traffic icons to clutter up your Zen driving mode.

The 2.3 liter eco boost engine has various drive train modes. As I drove along, it sounded like objects pelted the top of the vehicle, but it was just the 25 mph wind gusts that made a flapping noise on the soft roof.

The all-terrain tires and rugged underbody lend to an ideal off-road experience. This is when I wish CITYVIEW was located in Colorado and I was test driving it in the mountains and not on our flat roads. Arguably, you could take it up and down hills, over

rocks and bounce around in an entertaining, adventure-

drive Big Ben is an ideal combination of a convertible/off-road/adventure seeker vehicle.

Ford was one of three car companies that developed the Jeep during the war. After producing 250,000 Jeeps, Ford surveyed Jeep drivers about what they liked or disliked and adjusted their newest vehicle.

filled ride.

Throughout the initial design plan, the Bronco was first known as the G.O.A.T — Goes Over All Terrain. Can you imagine driving a goat versus a bronco? So, in 1965, Ford created what they consider the world's first sport utility vehicle.

It quickly became a popular vehicle for off-road racing and ultimately a getaway car. Remember O.J. Simpson televised in his white Ford Bronco chase in 1993? With 95 million television viewers, Ford reportedly increased sales after the classic chase.

The Bronco is an ideal combination of a convertible/ off-road/adventure seeker vehicle. I am glad they resurrected the Bronco instead of a goat. ■

NEIGHBORS BY JEFF PITTS

It's the holiday season!

Mary Jo Ragaller, 85, sifts through the seasonal donations at St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store.

"I'm in it for the money," laughs the 85-yearold volunteer. "Steve (Havemann, St. Vincent de Paul's executive director) keeps giving me more zeros but nothing in front of them."

- Mary Jo Ragaller

Deep within a forest of fake Douglas fir Christmas trees, and somewhere within the massive mounds of decorative ornaments that are piled high around heaps of wreaths surrounding boxes upon boxes of holiday mugs in the back room at St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, smack dab in the middle of it all, every year for the past two decades or so, stands Mary Jo Ragaller. The octogenarian gets work done.

"I'm in it for the money," laughs the 85-year-old volunteer. "Steve (Havemann, St. Vincent de Paul's executive director) keeps giving me more zeros but nothing in front of them."

Fun and quick-witted, Ragaller's personality makes her a customer and employee favorite. She specializes in organizing donations for the seasonal sections — Easter, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, The Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving and then, of course,

"Anything that comes in that has to do with the holidays comes to me," she says.

After retiring from her real job more than 20 years ago, Ragaller tried staying home, but "I just couldn't do it," she remembers. Her restlessness found its cure at St. Vincent's "just two days a week," at first, but now she frequently puts in three and sometimes four.

"Everybody that works here treats me like gold," she

Christmas platters, ornaments, bearded nutcracker men, Santa hats, Santa boots, Santa beards, racks of ugly sweaters for the ugly sweater season and so on....

"Stuff comes in, and it's a lot of work, but this is my

second home," she says.

Prices are set using a complicated

"Well, some we make up," she laughs. "I use my Spidey sense. None of my prices are very high."

The work is steady all year around, and only the items that pass her test make it to the shelves.

"If I wouldn't buy it, no one else would buy it."

That's the standard.

"We are OCD," she jokes. "If it has a stain or if something is broken, we throw it out."

Dozens of Frosty the Snowman, a multitude of gingerbread men, gingerbread houses, garland, sparkling lights, "an Elmo that is my size"....

"Every year we say, 'Gosh, we'll never get rid of this all,' but then we

In early November, Ragaller recruits her grandkids to help move the bulk of the loot into the store, stocking the shelves with the gently used items that are ready for new owners. It has become a family tradition. Then the back store room is ready to fill up again, and it's time to start

"There is something going on all of the time," she



Mary Jo Ragaller has been organizing the holiday donations as a volunteer for two decades at St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store.

If you want to drop something off for Ragaller, she works at the St. Vincent de Paul in Des Moines at 1426 Sixth Ave. Others will surely help you at the south side location at 520 Army Post Road, Des Moines.

"Make sure Mary Jo gets this," people often say.

"She is so dedicated and relentless," says Beth, a coworker. "She runs circles around me."





Finally — a dog!

Cayla Nord says adopting pets is the right thing to do.

BY JACKIE WILSON

As a child, Cayla Nord dreamed of owning a puppy. She asked Santa Claus and wrote a persuasive letter to her parents outlining how she'd take care of a dog. But the pleading and begging didn't work. She remained dogless.

As an adult, she still wanted her own dog, and she finally adopted Molly in 2015 from Panora PETS (Protecting Even The Strays) in Panora.

Molly is a mix of a half dozen different breeds. According to her DNA test, she's part American Shepard, terrier, pit bull and more.

Molly shares a home with Nord's husband, Derek, and his dog, Jasmine, a puggle. The couple thought Jasmine could use a friend. The two dogs get along — most of the

"Jasmine tolerates Molly. Molly loves her older sister," she says. "But Jasmine was howling and crying when we left to come here (for the interview)."

Nord feels adoption is the best way to obtain a dog.

"There's so many pets in shelters," she says. "I know people want certain breeds for whatever reason. I'd rather see dogs find a home. So many dogs need a second chance."

She admits that Molly took time to adjust to her new home.

"She wasn't house trained. She was timid and scared. You have to put the work in. But she deserves a chance,"

Nord says adopting is always the right thing to do. She says shelters help with behavioral problems after an animal is adopted out.

"Most rescues want a successful adoption. Rescues are your first resource," she says.

Because of her love of dogs, she began volunteering with the Pet Project. The Pet Project is a non-profit that gives food and pet supplies to those in need. Cayla helps distribute food to clients requesting pet food.

"Volunteering once a month isn't a huge time commitment," she explains. "It's rewarding and a great experience. You can tell that people receiving the food are thankful and appreciative. We have one person who always gives me a few dollars to put in the donation bucket. She didn't need to do it. It shows she appreciates the support."

Nord started a social media page, Dog Spots DSM, which promotes dog friendly places and resources in Des Moines. She and Molly look for new places to explore and share with other dog owners.

Nord says a dog's unconditional love is one reason why she wanted a dog so long ago.

"I love dogs because they are there for you, taking you as your are — good days and bad," she says. "I always love her even if she's barking and annoying. She has a happy wagging tail every time I get home. It makes everything better." ■

COLLECTIONS & HOBBIES BY JEFF PITTS

Life-long hippie and music lover

5-plus decades of concert-going results in two books for James Taylor.

Once upon a time, it was 1972 or so, and, in a bar in Fairfield, a man, who was clearly not from there,

"What's it like in Iowa?" This stranger wanted to know.

A young local named James Taylor answered as best as he could and then asked his vaguely familiar bar mate what he did for work.

"I'm the lead singer for the Beach Boys," he said. "I'm Mike Love."

Taylor will be 70 in March. The retired truck driver lives in Polk City and is a self-described life-long hippie. "Can't retire from that," he laughs.

Old habits, it seems, die hard. Especially the fun ones. He has a million or more stories he likes to spin, most of them revolving around music.

As a kid, Taylor bought not just the records he enjoyed listening to, but he also purchased the ones with the best-looking album covers and the albums with neat-sounding names — The Presidents of the United States of America, the Dead Kennedys, The Dead Milkmen — even if he hadn't heard of the musician. This strategy paid off. Today, his collection is so impressive he needs to carry an extra insurance policy to protect it.

"I have over 1,500 pieces of music — albums, CDs, etc. with many signed," he explains.

The collection fills much of Taylor's down time and his basement — but live music fills his heart.

"(I've seen) every artist except the complete Beatles,"

That might be a slight exaggeration, but he numbers his concert experiences in the thousands. He has been doing it for five-plus decades, which makes it difficult to pin down his favorite show.

"Visually, probably Pink Floyd," he says. "I was blown away."

But one magical night in Kansas City, circa 1975 at Arrowhead Stadium, was a show he'll never forget.

"Probably the best show I've ever heard was The Rolling Stones," he says. "That was when they were at their musical peak."

Ted Nugent "was probably the loudest," according to Taylor. Sly & The Family Stone, at the old Ames Fieldhouse, might have left him the least impressed.

"They played Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin) over and over," he remembers. "Until after about



Polk City man, James Taylor, 69, has written two books about his life and his many concert-going experiences.

30 minutes, he (Sly) walked off the stage."

The memories generated from Taylor's lifelong love affair with music eventually spawned two self-published books. These books can't be found for sale at many places, according to Taylor, online or otherwise, but if you ask him, he might offer you one. Be ready for a trip down memory lane.

"I met my wife 42 years ago as members of Des Moines' first alternative radio advisory board," one story

And then...

"I remember going to see the Monkees (at Vets Auditorium), and the guy who opened up was mesmerizing. His name was Jimi Hendrix."

Are you experienced?

"I've learned so much about bands," he explains. "I have seen just about every act from the 1960s to now and have had the chance to meet with a few."

The education continues.

"I have seen just about every act from the '60s to now and have had the chance to meet with a few."

"I went to three shows just this week," he says. "I saw, I think, the best 'bar band' (Stafford) I have ever seen last week at Wooly's. ... the place was packed. ... I thought they were the best jam band I've heard in 55 years of concert-going."

And that's what it is like living in Iowa for James Taylor. ■

DECEMBER 2021 | CITYVIEW |

WALKS OF LIFE

COMPILED FROM IOWA LIVING MAGAZINES

Stringless instruments

Singers who love to sing offer up a part of their hearts that stirs up an internal energy and lifts our souls. Joy. Sorrow. Heart. Heartbreak. Emotion. Energy. The art of song might be the best gift anyone can give.

Music might be the world's most popular art form — and for good reason. It makes us come alive, alters our mood, brings back special memories and allows us to deal with deep feelings. In short, music makes us feel and helps us heal. The four people featured below — their stories are condensed courtesy of CITYVIEW's sister publications, the Iowa Living magazines — have a passion for sharing something special. When these fine folks open up to sing, central Iowa is all ears. ■



CATHY HANESAccompanist at St. John's

Cathy Hanes started playing piano in second grade and continued while on a college music scholarship.

"Music has always been a big part of my life," she says. "Especially throughout my school and college years. Being the accompanist to the choir, for music programs or the congregation, and hearing people sing to the music I played gave me joy."

But with family and work responsibilities — life — Hanes once reached a point where she felt disconnected from music.

"My mother had given me her piano, but I seemed too busy to play it," Hanes remembers. "When I was asked to play for the church, I was nervous, but it brought me back into playing music again. Now, I am so glad to provide the music for people to sing; the joy is back."

Source: Adel Living, November 2021; by Marsha Fisher



GABBY CLUTTER

For the love of opera

Gabrielle (Gabby) Clutter's greatgrandmother taught voice and piano, and her mother is a music teacher. So, when her guidance counselor asked what she wanted to be when she grew up, the answer was easy.

"The next Britney Spears," she remembers saying.

As an 8-year-old, Clutter attended an opera by The Des Moines Metro Opera. The production had her sitting on the edge of her seat, and music became even more important.

In high school, Clutter did A Cappella, and then she double majored in vocal performance and music education at Drake University before earning a masters degree from Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

Now, Clutter teaches voice lessons and works at Drake University. She has several auditions on the agenda for upcoming performances.

Source: Indianola Living, November 2021; by Becky Kolosik



JEFF ARRANDALE

From AM radio to Christian gospel

It all started with an AM radio for Jeff Arrandale.

"I am a child of the '60s, '70s, and '80s," he says. "I loved pop rock music."

That love led him to the guitar then on to composing. Next, he played in bands during high school and college, which was a good creative outlet and a release, but, for some reason, Arrandale put music aside for a while. But upon discovering Christian music, it was on again.

The Jeff Arrandale Band plays "a combination of pop rock, country and Christian gospel." The purpose, according to Arrandale, is to point people to Jesus Christ

The band's current EP is out and is called "Guided." For more information, visit jeffarrandale.com.

Source: Norwalk Living, November 2021; by Rachel Harrington



SHEILA BALES

Turns laryngitis into lemonade

"If they ever had a Catholic 'Name That Tune' game show, I'd win," jokes Sheila Bales, who performs in three Catholic choirs — St. Francis of Assisi, St. Ambrose Cathedral and Sacred Heart's Praise Band.

You might think Bales can't get enough of music, but that's only kinda true. She remembers one holiday season with a heavy practice schedule that led to her losing her voice.

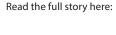
"I was beside myself because I couldn't sing," she remembers.

But when life gives you laryngitis, it's time for some proverbial lemonade.

Since she couldn't sing, she invited dozens of students who were home from college break to fill in while she directed.

"I got to hear it all," she remembers. "I had the best seat in the house. I took the time to soak it all in."

Source: Jordan Creek Living, November 2021; by Jackie Wilson ■





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get the B

Helpful tips for your employment search

5 tips for effective job hunting

(BPT) - Whether you're actively looking for a job or are simply curious about a new career, you're not alone. Millions of people nationwide are open to work, but it can be hard to know the most effective methods for finding the right job for you.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, almost half of all American job seekers are currently looking to transition careers, according to a new Morning Consult job-seeker insight survey commissioned by Amazon. Many of those job seekers (43%) identified better pay and benefits as the top reason they are looking for new work.

"Whether you've been out of the job market for a while or have been working and want a change, this is a fantastic time to be looking for a new opportunity," says Luli Chaluleu, hiring expert at Amazon. "Many companies are hiring, and with the right search tactics you'll find a job that you not only love, but has ample benefits."

Amazon is included in that list of companies

eager to hire. Despite the pandemic, in 2020 they hired over 400,000 employees in the U.S., of which, more than 60% are now paid more than they were paid at their previous job. Competitive benefits include health insurance, up to 20 weeks of parental leave and companyfunded career advancement opportunities.

"Amazon gave me a chance to branch into the IT field with no prior tech experience. The company really values us as employees, and it shows, from the pay to the benefits to the ability to learn and move into new careers — within Amazon or beyond," said Erica Bozeman, data center technician at Amazon.

If you want to find a new job, knowing current job search strategies can help, including updating your resume and conducting virtual interviews. Research career events that allow you to learn, network and even apply for positions of interest. Career coaching can help as well.

TIPS FOR JOB SEEKERS

To help supercharge your job search efforts, Luli shares these important tips:

- Explore the company website: One of the best ways to learn more about an organization is through their digital presence. Look at the website, including careers pages, news sections and any applicable departmental information. If you know where you want to work or what role you'd like to pursue, have that information ready when you apply or speak with a recruiter.
- Keep your resume short: Resumes should be compelling and concise. Think about skills you gained at previous jobs and how they apply to future positions. No matter how long you've been working or how many positions you've had, a resume should be no longer than two pages. Focus on the facts, communicate essential skills and highlight career achievements. When you interview, you can go into more detail.
- **Customize with keywords:** Many companies use technology to discover and track the best candidates for open positions. These applicant tracking systems look for







important words and phrases within a resume to filter candidates, so be sure to use keywords in your copy. The job description is a good source for potential keywords. If you need more ideas, look at resumes and profiles for other people who have a similar position.

- Apply even if you're not 100% qualified: If you see a job post of interest, but hesitate to apply because you don't have all the qualifications, think again. Hiring managers know that oftentimes candidates may lack experience in a few areas. If you have the majority of the skills listed and a willingness to learn the ones you don't, apply anyway and then convey your enthusiasm about the opportunity during the interview.
- **Stay positive:** Job searches take time and you may have to apply to many positions and interview numerous times before getting an offer. Don't be discouraged, because if one role doesn't pan out, there are plenty more opportunities to explore.

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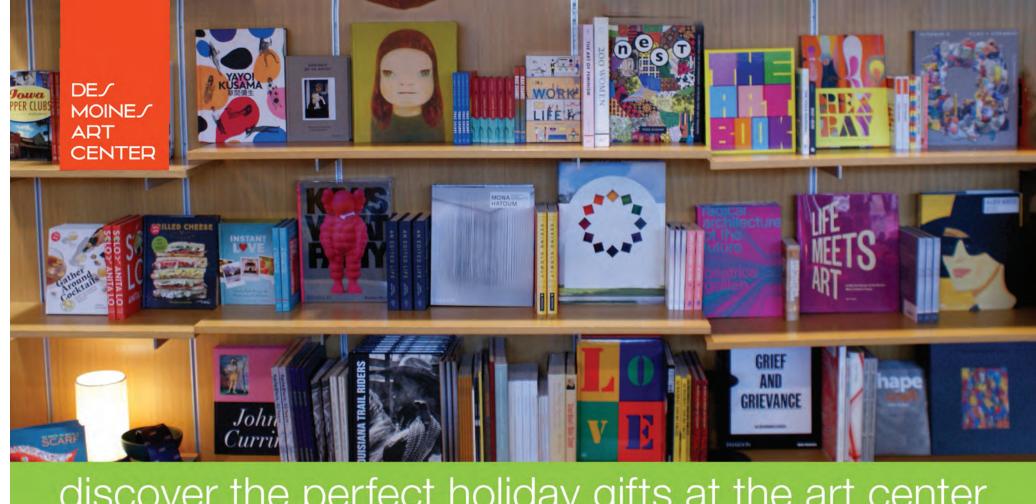
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