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free
July/August ’06

Iowa City’s Best Third Place announced

PLUS

Rock n’ roll’s greatest pranksters

Hot town: summer in Iowa City
Iowa Summer Rep 2006

The Mystery of Irma Vep
by Charles Ludlam
June 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, July 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
A flash of lightning, a crash of thunder, a scream! So begins this night at Mandacrest Manor. Complete with werewolves, unidentified creatures that howl in the night, and 48 quick costume changes, this madcap comedy is a dizzying celebration of the live theatre experience.

The Artificial Jungle
by Charles Ludlam
June 29 - July 23

The Tale of the Allergist’s Wife
by Charles Busch
July 13 - 23

For tickets call 335-1160 or 1-800-HANCHER
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THIS MODERN WORLD

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE STORY OF THE LIBERAL COCKTAIL PARTY THAT CAUSED A LIFELONG DEMOCRAT TO BECOME A REPUBLICAN!

THE PARTY IS LEAVING ME!!

by TOM TOMORROW

NOW THAT THERE ARE NO CONSERVATIVES AROUND, WE CAN SAY WHAT WE REALLY THINK!

THANK GOD—WHO OF COURSE, DOESN’T EXIST!

IT’S SUCH A STRUGGLE KEEPING ALL OF THIS AMERICA-HATED BOTTLED UP INSIDE ALL THE TIME!

DOES THIS COUNTRY SUCK OR WHAT? I WISH THE TERRORISTS WOULD JUST WIN ALREADY!

AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES—WHAT A BUNCH OF IMBECILES!

THEY’D RATHER GO TO A NASCAR RALLY THAN SPEND A QUIET EVENING AT HOME READING PROUST! HA, HA!

BUT, YOU KNOW WHO I REALLY HATE? GEORGE W. BUSH! AND FOR NO RATIONAL REASON—
I JUST HATE HIM!

BARBARA STREISAND IS MY PRESIDENT!

STOP! I CAN’T TAKE IT!!

WHAT’S HIS PROBLEM?

I’M NOT LEAVING THIS PARTY—

WHO CARES, AS A SELF-INVOLVED LIBERAL ELITIST, I REALLY CAN’T BE BOthered TO CARE.

MORE CHAUDINNIB!

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Advertising and Calendar deadline is the 19th of every month. Contact Little Village for an ad rate card.
The Ped Mall is inherently democratic. It is a public place, open to anyone... The air is filled with smells, music and conversations. -Rod Sullivan

The Ped Mall is one of the finest third places in the whole State of Iowa, if not the whole U.S. Here is my reasoning:

The role of the individual in society has decreased tremendously over the past few decades. I think people in our society need to increase their public activities. The Ped Mall offers a tremendous number of opportunities to interact with others.

The Ped Mall is diverse. One lovely Friday last June, I had conversations with a former Olympic wrestler, a well-known author, a young woman battling schizophrenia, two Union laborers doing asbestos removal, a few 70-year-old anti-war activists, a local jeweler and a gentleman who teaches chemistry at the UI. That all happened between 11:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. And I wasn’t even trying.

The Ped Mall is inherently democratic. It is a public place, open to anyone. It does not cost anything to be there. You need not feel guilty for occupying a seat or declining to purchase a $3 beverage. Weather permitting, you can find it busy from 6:30 a.m. until 3 a.m. Seating is first come, first served. People are free to attempt to sell you their products and/or ideas, but you are free to politely decline. The air is filled with smells, music and conversations. Some people, sounds and smells agree with me, some do not, but we are free to coexist.

Interestingly enough, Dennis Kucinich and I had a discussion on the way in which the Ped Mall encourages democracy. He had traveled the country and felt the Ped Mall was one of the top couple locations for the exchange of ideas. I agree with him.

I’m sure most of you can think of additional reasons to love and celebrate the Pedestrian Mall. It is certainly the center of our arts community. We see that in full bloom during the summer with the various “Summer of the Arts” activities now under way: the Iowa Arts Festival, the Iowa City Jazz Festival, the Friday Night Concert Series and—nearby on the UI Pentacrest—the Saturday Night Free Movie Series. And the Ped Mall displays much of Iowa City’s public art on a year-round basis.

As Rod notes, the Ped Mall is the cauldron of political activism in our town, from the Friday anti-war vigils to the Day Without Immigrants rally this past spring and many more. And the Ped Mall and its environs are the homes of many of our community’s most significant cultural institutions, such as the Iowa City Public Library, the Englert Theatre and Arts Iowa City. And, as Rod notes, it’s just the place for our community to gather—whether we be downtown workers at lunchtime, kids after school, University students after hours or any community members who want to come
to the heart of town for fun, visiting, hanging out, people-watching or shopping.

A couple of years ago, in this very column, I encouraged our readers to think about the Ped Mall as our “agora.” As I said then, “A community, if it is to be such, must have a core, a center, a nucleus that binds together all the people and activities orbiting about it. Whether you proudly wear Iowa City’s nickname of ‘Athens of the Midwest’ or scoff at it, we do have our agora, our ‘Ped Mall.’”

We would like to thank all those who took the time and care to submit entries to the contest, as well as those institutions themselves for being important third places in our community. Those places include New Pioneer Co-op, The Iowa City/Johnson County Senior Center, the Iowa Memorial Union, The Apothecary Teas and Herbals, the Iowa City Farmers’ Market, the Iowa City Public Library and the Iowa City (City Carton) Recycling Center—quite an interesting and varied list! If we continue this contest into the future, we hope that these—and many more—third places, both public and private, cause their boosters to champion their cause.

At press time, we are still hoping that we will be able to have a “Talk of Iowa” radio program about our winner and the idea of the “Third Place” on WSUI, sometime in July or August. And we hope that Ray Oldenburg himself will be able to join us as a call-in guest. So please keep your ears open for that. In the meantime, it’s summertime, and it’s the time when our Best Third Place comes spectacularly alive with activity. We’ve always had any number of excuses to pay a visit to our central city’s gathering place, and now we have another. Please join your fellow community members downtown as often as you can and keep the Ped Mall’s tradition of the U.S.’s best “agora” going strong! 

Thomas Dean and his family are caretakers of four retired racing greyhounds. If you live on the far east side of Iowa City, you may have seen us walking our pack. We’re the ones with the greyhound who always carries a stuffed toy with him (his name is Wizard).
Several years ago, I was driving past a local high school, gazing at its enormous front lawn and thinking what a shame it was that all that space—about two acres of the richest soil on earth—had been given over to grass. It seemed sad to me that a state as firmly rooted in agriculture as Iowa would not be teaching agriculture to its children.

Then I remembered the efforts of Alice Waters and the kids at the Martin Luther King, Jr. middle school in Berkeley, California. They had turned an acre of blacktop into an organic garden where the kids worked the soil, raised the crops and even prepared the food in the kitchen. This was my Eureka moment, but it would take many years and a lot of convincing and cajoling to get from there to today.

Three years ago I wrote in my column:

*The Iowa City Community has been given an historic opportunity, one we cannot afford to squander. With the recent passage of the School Bond referendum, the school district will be building three new schools and adding onto or refurbishing many others. One or more of these new schools should be built with gardens, From the Ground, UP!* These gardens can be cared for by the students and supervised by willing teachers and community volunteers. An “edible schoolyard” can be interwoven with the school’s curriculum, offering a multitude of learning opportunities. Not just Science and Health, but so much more: Math, History, Literature, Discipline, Communication, Self-Reliance, Understanding, Community, Cooperation, Inclusiveness, Problem Solving, Cause and Effect, Awareness and Stewardship.

In 2002, all the exceedingly wise and generous voters of Iowa City and environs had approved a school bond referendum by an overwhelming margin, allowing the district to build those three new schools and improve many others. I saw this as an opportunity and stuck my foot into Superintendent Lane Plugge’s door. Why shouldn’t we, I contended, build at least one of these schools with a garden as part of the design from the ground, up? Three years later, Elizabeth Tate Senior High School, on Mall Drive in Iowa City was built and has nearly 12,000 square feet of garden and orchard space.

Why shouldn’t we, I contended, build at least one of these schools with a garden as part of the design from the ground, up?

Today the faculty and staff of Tate High School have created a beautiful garden using almost exclusively the heirloom varieties that were available to the natives of the area and to the pioneers who first settled here almost 200 years ago. Visit the garden and you will see potatoes and tomatoes, beans and lettuce, herbs, peppers and squash. Seed Savers Exchange and Slow Food USA donated most of the seeds. Tom Wahl at Red Fern Farms in Wapello donated the pear, hazelnut, heartnut, pawpaw and chestnut trees. Construction materials came from Lowe’s, Ace and Menard’s. Slow Food volunteers and the students built the raised beds themselves.

Many of the students and faculty will continue to work the garden during the vital summer months, but volunteers are needed. If you would like to be a part of something special, please drop an email to slowfoodiowa@mchsi.com. There is nothing that is taught in school that cannot be taught in a garden.

*It’s About the Food* is a monthly feature of *Little Village*. Chef Kurt Michael Friese is co-owner, with his wife Kim, of the Iowa City restaurant Devotay and serves on the Slow Food USA Board of Governors. He lives in rural Johnson County. Questions and comments may be directed to devotay@mchsi.com.
Coming distractions
Mid-term election brawls fog the real issues

No matter how many years I spend as an observer of the American political spin cycle, there are still times when I find the disconnect between the reality of the American experience and the Neverland counter-narrative of American political discourse. This has recently resulted in my spending painful uncounted hours trying to get my head around the fact that, in a country with a multitude of pressing problems both foreign and domestic, the number one political issue of the season has thus far been illegal immigration.

To be completely fair about it, the American immigration system is indeed broken, and previous attempts to address the issue have been almost completely ineffective. But the fact of the matter is that it has been for years. Why this, and why now? Why, in a nation facing a laundry list of acute crises, are we devoting so much attention and energy to a chronic problem?

Why? Check your calendar, and note that the year ends in an even number. Welcome to election year politics, 2006. With a large majority of the populace expressing disapproval for the performance and agenda of the ruling Republican majority, the need for that majority to change the subject is obvious. The immigration issue is ideal for this purpose—emotionally (and racially) charged, highly controversial, and at the end of the day almost entirely irrelevant. Indeed, the raging debate over immigration isn’t really aimed at any real solution—with the House and the Senate intractably divided between an impossibly complicated and expensive mass deportation program and a “guest worker” program dependent on the ability of immigrants who have been carefully hiding their presence for years to document just how long they’ve been here, chances of any real government action on the subject is notably slim. Instead, the debate is an end in itself, a political sleight of hand designed to keep the voting public from concentrating on just how badly the current regime has screwed things up without actually taking any action that could be interpreted as another screw up.

Those of you wondering what possible relationship the above behavior could have to the common good are advised to hold that thought, and hold it tightly, until you close the voting booth curtain next November. Polls show that by and large voters are dissatisfied with, and distrustful of, the current leadership and have an agenda that doesn’t match the status quo in any particular. In this particular shell game, they are well advised to keep their eye on the ball.

German born, Minnesota raised and Iowa City educated E.C. Fish lives, works and takes daily offense in Minneapolis. He is currently working on a relationship memoir under the working title Bitch, Where’s My Staple Gun?
Remember the KLF? Most Americans don’t, for on these shores they were more of a one- maybe two-hit wonder. However, you probably have one of their songs stuck in a cobwebbed corner of your brain, a faded memory from the early ’90s. If you try really hard, you might remember the KLF’s global smash hit “3 A.M. Eternal,” or perhaps “What Time is Love?” and “Justified and Ancient,” a catchy head-scratching piece of pop that featured country star Tammy Wynette singing over a dance beat about how we are “all bound for Mu Mu Land” and also uttering lines like, “They called me up in Tennessee/ they said, ‘Tammy, stand by The JAMs.’”

Bill Drummond and Jimmy Cauty were a diabolical duo who used a variety of pseudonyms, including The Timelords, The Justified Ancients of Mu Mu, the above-mentioned JAMs and, of course, the KLF (which allegedly stood for Kopyright Liberation Front). In case you don’t know, and most well adjusted people have no need to know, the Justified Ancients of Mu Mu name was a reference to the fantasy/science fiction/conspiracy cult novel *The Illuminatus! Trilogy* from which the duo appropriated much of their cryptic cosmology. Their album cover art frequently included ominous pyramids and sometimes pyramids equipped with boom boxes—it’s the kind of logo a Masonic break-dancer might wear on a vinyl zipper jacket.

Embedded in their lyrics were references to epic battles between the Illuminati and the revolutionary Mu Mu organization to which the KLF supposedly belonged. Even more complicated was the fact that *The Illuminatus! Trilogy* stole a good chunk of its cosmology from a ‘60s prank religion that worshiped chaos, a “religion” named Discordianism, whose congregation also included the KLF. Given all this, it seems implausible that these jokers could get a country music legend to twang her way through lines like, “They’re Justified and Ancient, and they drive an ice cream van.” It was akin to convincing Mormon music legend/kitsch icon Marie Osmond to recite a Dada poem on national television—a mind-boggling event that actually occurred in 1984 on the ABC show *Ripley’s Believe it or Not.*

At the beginning of their career, the KLF practiced an aggressive brand of creative plagiarism that helped kick start a briefly successful career in a music industry they despised. Their debut album, *1987 (What the Fuck’s Going On?)*, made extensive and provocative use of samples from the Monkees, the Beatles and ABBA, with the album’s liner notes claiming that the sounds were liberated “from all copyright restrictions.” After ABBA’s song publishers, Polar Music, demanded that the samples be removed, KLF quickly released—an edited version of the album, which they deleted or truncated all offending samples and included instructions for how consumers could re-create the original version of *1987* by using old records. In response to Polar Music’s role in suppressing their album, the members of KLF took a trip to Sweden. As one story goes, while KLF’s song “The Queen and I” played in the
Guy Debord in collaboration with Idol judge Paula Abdul.

“If you are already a musician, stop playing your instrument. Even better, sell the junk. It will become clearer later on but just take our word for it for the time being.” Drummond and Cauty continue, “Even worse than being a musician is being a musician in a band. … So if in a band, quit. Get out. Now.” The book is packed with business addresses, phone numbers, and other contact information, as well as ridiculously absurd and obvious instructions.

When the KLF were voted Best British Group at the Brit Awards, the British version of the Grammy’s, they bit hard into the hand that fed it. During a 1992 awards ceremony, the duo performed an ear-bleeding rendition of “3 A.M. Eternal” with the grindcore metal group Extreme Noise Terror (a very descriptive band name, I might add). While pummeling the audience with deafening decibels and distortion, Drummond fired on the audience with a machine gun filled with blanks. “The KLF have now left the music industry,” went the post-performance intercom announcement. After that, they retired the group forever, vowing never to reform or sell another record until world peace ruled the land. To prove this wasn’t just a publicity stunt to sell records, the KLF deleted their entire music catalog, a feat made possible by the

The Manual (How to Have a Number One Hit the Easy Way)

THE MANUAL [ HOW TO HAVE A NUMBER ONE HIT THE EASY WAY ]

the Manual even came with a money back guarantee “if you are unable to achieve a number one single,” though the catch was that you had to follow their instructions exactly. It’s unclear if a member of the public tried to get a refund, but the trashy Europop group Edelweiss did use The Manual to sell five million copies of their ridiculous ABBA sampling song “Bring Me Edelweiss.” Drummond and Cauty’s book reads like an American Idol quickie publication, albeit with a heavy dose of Situationist-inspired satire, which could easily have been written by French theorist

If you are already a musician, stop playing your instrument. Even better, sell the junk.

- The Manual

ceeds from this hit single to fund a variety of art projects, including a satirical book titled The Manual (How to Have a Number One Hit the Easy Way).

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For sales in excess of zero” outside Polar Music’s offices.

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It went number one. The KLF used the pro-

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At the age of 12, Nathan Hainlin sat down and contemplated two recurring dreams. One dream involved wading across a river and becoming caught in the current. The other involved encountering an overtly feminine alter ego.

“It made me sit down and go, okay, what’s going on here?” Hainlin reflects 25 years later. “There had been a feeling that I had always had that there was something that I had forgotten and I was like, I have to find some sort of common thread that runs through all this. It was like an epiphany. BANG. There it was. I should have been a girl.”

In 2005, Nathan Hainlin legally became Susan Hainlin—the name change was just one of many steps in the journey of gender reassignment.

Iowa City is known for its GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender) friendliness. Few hard statistics can be found regarding the number of transsexuals in any area; census data only estimates the number of same-sex partner households, knocking Iowa City out of the top 10 with regards to a homosexual population per capita.

However, Iowa City was one of the first U.S. cities in 1996 to include gender and sexual orientation under discrimination protections.

According to an article published in MacLean’s and written by Stanford University biologist Joan Roughgarden, herself a transgender, male-to-female transsexualism occurs in one out of every 500 Americans. About one per every 30,000 adult males and one per 100,000 adult females seeks sex-reassignment surgery, a fact published in the American Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders IV.

When Susan started college in the ‘80s, she tried to ignore her gender issues and became so depressed that on the night of her 21st birthday, she purchased liquor and sleeping pills with the intention of suicide. An hour after drinking the alcohol and swallowing the pills, she woke up vomiting. Two days later, she signed up for the military.

“I was hoping to go somewhere. Ideal solution: get killed,” she explains bluntly. “I thought I had been depressed before, but it was even worse [after] because it was like, I am such a big fuck-up, I can’t even kill myself right.”

The military stint was brief. When Susan came home, her family began attending counseling sessions. Susan decided to start seeing a counselor on her own to discuss her gender issues, but it was 1991 and few people knew much about transsexualism. It would not be until 1996—when Susan gained Internet access—that she would finally start finding answers.

“It was like an epiphany. BANG. There it was. I should have been a girl.”

“I really believe that the Internet, by allowing greater flow of information, has changed culture to the point where there is some degree of acceptance of gender-variant persons,” she explains. Some of the friends supporting her through her transition are people she met online who have been through the gender reassignment process themselves.

Beyond the Internet, even pop culture has publicized the trans’ community’s struggle. Showtime’s The L Word features Daniela Sea as Moira/Max, a character contemplating female-to-male sex-reassignment surgery. Alexis Arquette, sister of actors David, Rosanna and Patricia, is on the verge of stardom due to an upcoming A&E documentary on her impending male-to-female sex change, as well as a role on VH1’s The Surreal Life.

Lili Elbe was the first known recipient of male-to-female sex-reassignment surgery that occurred in Germany in 1930. She went through five surgeries but passed away shortly after her fifth operation.

The first male-to-female surgery in the U.S. took place in 1966 at the Johns Hopkins University Medical Center.

On an unremarkable March day, Susan sat among stacks of books in the UI’s main library to tell her story while unveiling the processes of undergoing male-to-female sex-reassignment surgery. A bright pink bandana perched atop a cascade of brown curls, which fell past her shoulders. Her legs are crossed and her hazel eyes contemplative as she sipped from an enormously large water bottle.

The first step she took was writing a letter to her mother, explaining her decision. Going back to college at the UI presented her with an opportunity to begin the gender reassignment process. Within a month of arriving in Iowa City, she began seeing a doctor in a private practice who told her that after she lowered her cholesterol and got a letter of recommendation from a psychologist, he would prescribe hormones for her.

Susan immediately began working on both tasks, in addition to getting a job as a driver for Cambus, the university’s public transportation system. She had just completed her training at Cambus when she received the all-clear to start taking hormones.

“First, there was this nice, happy thing at work, and all of a sudden it was just like happy joy,” Susan grins. “I still remember coming home that day. My car had been broken and I was walking everywhere. [The doctor’s] office was way out and I missed the bus back downtown. I walked for an hour and it was really hot and I didn’t care. I had my prescriptions in my pack and [the doctor] had given me some free samples and I was just like, YAY!”

Before submitting a letter to her coworkers explaining her ongoing transition, Susan’s an-
Community Profile

The Transgender Day of
Remembrance is held in
November to raise public
awareness, stop hate crimes
against transgender people
and end anti-transgender
violence.

The Day of Remembrance began
nationally in ‘99 after the murder
of Rita Hester (self-identified

Jen Hunold, the dispatcher
who reacted so enthusiastically to
Susan coming out, said, “When
Susan was ’Nathan,’ our interactions
were scarce,” “I felt that she was a little moody
and easy to upset. When I found out she was
undergoing gender reassignment, I realized
that she was likely on hormones and going through
a tremendous amount of changes.”

Jen felt that it was necessary to be very
positive about Susan’s change so that other
dispatchers could also be open about being
comfortable with it. However, not all of the
dispatchers were able to react so positively.

“Other dispatchers made comments about
how they had been noticing changes, but I
was oblivious to them,” recalls Dan Sorce,
the most tenured Cambus dispatcher. “I could
sense that my fellow dispatchers were anticipat-
ing my reaction and comments because of
my Christian faith. I believe that God made
Susan as a man – Nathan – in His image. I fi nd
it saddening that she was so distraught over
the way she was created. But ultimately, our


facial feminization surgeries are added in, she
will have spent approximately $50,000. These
surgeries include forehead bone and mandibu-
lar jaw contouring, face and neck lifting, fore-
head lifting, blepharoplasty (eyelid surgery),
and Trachea (Adam’s apple) shaving.

“In one sense, hearing talk about [the sur-
gery] is really interesting,” Susan muses. “On
the other hand, it’s grisly. I’m just glad that
when the time comes, they’re going to knock
me out.”

Sex-reassignment surgery, in the words of
Transamerica’s Bree, requires turning an “out-
ie” into an “innie.” The testicles are removed,
the penis is cut open on the bottom so that
erectile tissue can be removed, and the penis is
stitched back together and pushed into a natu-
ral cavity. A surgeon should have signifi cant
experience because the next part of the surgery
(establishing the clitoris, labia, etc.) involves
dealing with nerves and preservation of proper
blood circulation.

“There are moments when I do look in the
mirror and see the girl, but there are a lot of mo-
mments where I don’t,” she says wistfully.

Riva Geller is a senior at the UI, majoring in
psychology and journalism. She enjoys nap-
time and shoe shopping.

The University of Iowa School of Music presents Gilbert & Sullivan’s

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Prepare yourself for a perfectly delightful Victorian confection
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Hot Town
Summer in Iowa City

Hot, blistering summers in Iowa City are quaint and loaded with enough calendar-filling activities to satisfy every Iowa Citian’s palette. This summer offers traditional favorites like the newly-consolidated Summer of the Arts—Iowa Arts Festival, Iowa City Jazz Festival, Friday Night Concert Series and Saturday Night Free Movie Series—sure to bring the best of the best in music and film. It also offers off-beat fare like PATV’s Bike-in Theater. If you’re looking for a destination, you can visit one of the area’s popular lakes for swimming or boating, or take your furry best friend down to the newly opened Thornberry Off-Leash Dog Park. The summer also gives us garage sales and thrift stores aplenty, all just waiting to be explored, and you can never go wrong with the fresh veggies and baked goods from your local farmers’ market. As most long-time Iowa Citians will tell you, even as the population drops and the temperatures rise, there’s nothing better than summer in the city.

The arts downtown

Summer of the Arts (SotA) in Iowa City brings us the Iowa Arts Festival, the Iowa City Jazz Festival, the Saturday Night Free Movie Series (SNFMS) and the Friday Night Concert Series (FNCS). To make the four festivals happen it takes SotA Executive Director Katie Roche, 11 interns, a board of 18 people and over 350 volunteers, as well as $300,000 in fundraising from over 170 donors and sponsors.

“This is our first year working together,” Roche said. “The idea of joining these festivals was brought up each year of the last five or so as these festivals struggled with funding and operations.”

Yet even with combined resources, it takes an enthusiastic audience to make this cultural beacon a success.

“These [events] not only attract tourists, but give locals and people thinking of moving here reasons to be in the Iowa City area,” she said.

The regional music scene is a blossoming one, with local talent getting their stage time at the SNFMS and FNCS.

“I have a commitment to showcase as much of a variety of our local talent as we can on our stages. This brings out a more diverse audience and builds our sense of community,” Roche said.

The FNCS is a free event held on the Pedestrian Mall in downtown Iowa City. The series features live music performed by local bands each and every Friday night from now until Sept. 15. Children can enjoy the playground equipment, and everyone can take in local talent such as gritty crooner and banjo player Will Whitmore, funk and soul quartet The Diplomats of Solid Sound, and other local faves like Euforquestra, Ben Schmidt and Sam Knudson.

The SNFMS, an outdoor film series, is held on the UI Pentacrest where the old screen from the Englert Theatre hangs from the columns of MacBride Hall. The grass and shade from the grand Oak trees make for a perfect sit-in theater. Each Saturday through Sept. 16, enjoy a live pre-movie musical performance followed by a feature length film and/or an Iowa filmmaker short. Moviegoers can sit back, lounge in the grass and listen to spunky acoustic rocker Nikki Lunden and watch Jack Black in School of Rock or relax to passionate, singer/songwriter Sarah Cram followed by Woody Allen’s romantic comedy, Annie Hall.

Alissa Van Winkle is publisher of Little Village.
Hot Town: Summer in Iowa City

Aug. 31, 5pm
Regular market from 5:30pm–7:30pm
Visit the Iowa City market for free samples of veggies, fruits and baked goods and listen to music by Big Wooden Radio

7 days of fresh food
Farm fresh food in the Iowa City area is available every day of the week.

Iowa City Farmers’ Market
Lower level of Chauncey Swan parking lot on Washington St. across from City Hall.
Wed. 5:30pm–7:30pm
Sat. 7:30am–11:30am

Sycamore Mall Farmers’ Market
Tues. 3:00pm–6:30pm

Coralville Farmers’ Market
S.T. Morrison Park
Mon. and Thurs. 5pm–8pm

North Dodge St. and Ace Hardware Farmers’ Market
Church St. parking lot
Fri. 5:00pm–7:30pm
Sun. 1:00pm–3:30pm

Farm fresh food
On the cusp of every summer comes the Iowa City Farmers’ Market—a sensuous, locally grown feast for eyes, ears, noses and of course, taste buds. Ripe in its 34th year, the Market serves as a gathering place for the Iowa City community and an opportunity to ogle whatever surprises are in season from May to October. Although the pickings can be slim at first, the Market reaches its bursting point later in the summer as gardens bloom.

On a cloudy evening in late May, the lower level of the Chauncey Swan parking ramp was filled with a steady stream of people of all ages. Multiple languages could be heard floating around as the cement space was transformed by the alluring colors and smells of products from approximately 50 Iowa vendors. Soft brioche au chocolate, flaky croissants and pointed fougasse made by Simone Delaty of Simone’s Plain and Simple and Regina Miller of Sweet Pea Catering were being sold across from Iowa City eatery Thai Flavors Restaurant’s crisp, mint-laced spring rolls. Bright purple and yellow irises, brought by Pat Erbin of The Wooden Gate, were dazzling against the gray sky. The sticky scent of “kettle korn” being made on the spot by Jerry and Ruthanne Dill lingered, the sweet aroma melting over the Market.

“We come here to make an extra buck and to see the people—to see old friends and meet new friends,” said Jerry Dill, who drove to the Market from Cedar Rapids.

Next to the Dill’s giant vat of popped corn were piles of damp romaine lettuce, arugula and baby bok choy from the local Urb Garden and Catering. Leaning close, down from the sugared air, it was possible to smell the earth that the greens had come from. Nearby, food aficionados were mobbing around pillowly loaves of bread, as well as gleaming raspberry and cherry pies from a bakery in Kalona.

Continuing further down, close to the sharp spears of asparagus standing at attention and the punctuation of round red radishes, Kristina Arnold of North Liberty’s Cocina Del Mundo Herbs & Spices was offering samples of fresh greens flavored with her concoctions. Arnold’s table was crammed full of tiny bags with labels like Marrakesh Tagine—heady mixes of turmeric, cumin, cayenne, oregano, cinnamon that invoked the countries they were named after. A chef for 10 years, she comes to the Farmers’ Market to talk to people about food.

“I don’t want to be in a retail shop all day. This way I can be where the food is,” said Arnold.

After wading through the jars of jam and honey, bundles of yarn, shining strands of beads, pots of flowers and stacks of cookies, it is possible to take a rest from the sensory stimulation and observe the flow of buying and selling. Lanie Reel, who has been stopping by the Market for “three or four years”, was hanging out with friends in the park adjacent to the parking ramp, surrounded by bags full of food.

“Look at everybody that is out here, you know, just running around and playing, enjoying summer,” said Reel. “It feels like summer to me, that’s why I like it.”

Arna Wilkinson True/False: 1. Arna is not a lion tamer. 2. She loves wearing socks.

Photos by Arna Wilkinson
Hot Town: Summer in Iowa City

Sand and sun

Y

up, you’re in Iowa, where it’s sunny and 90 degrees one summer day and drops 30 degrees and storms the next.

Before the temperature drops for good, be sure to visit these three hot sandspots: Sugar Bottom, Lake MacBride and the Coralville Reservoir, “the Rez” for short. These are not the ancient secrets of old-town Iowa Citians, everyone who actually stays in the area for the summer should get to know these relaxation jems.

Sugar Bottom and Lake MacBride surround the beachgoer with trees and sky all around. What the Rez lacks in enveloping trees, it makes up for in people-watching.

Last Memorial Day found the Rez’s parking lot filled with pick-up trucks packed with coolers. On the beach, you’ll find all types—fatties in bikinis, wannabe football players (and some real ones), the aspiring models, the twenty-something sandcastle architects and little girls in pink fairy swimsuits that cry and cry and cry just because the water’s wet.

Those who want a lifeguard to swim out and save them when the water goes over their heads should go to a pool. Those who think they can take care of themselves, have at it. The Iowa beaches have a no-alcohol-on-the-sand policy, but some still pour their 40oz into their Nalgene and suffer the consequences of extreme dehydration and drunkenness: naps in the sun, fried skin and possible drowning.

The 11-acre park is open to any dog with an annual permit or daily pass. Permits are available at the Robert A. Lee Recreation Center or the Iowa City Animal Care and Adoption Center. Yearly fees are $25, with a $5 discount for proof of spay/neuter and another $5 off for proof of microchipping.

Lucky Pawz Playground, the main off-leash yard, is where most dogs and owners go to meet and greet. Emma’s Run, Agility and Training Yard provides a training area for dogs and serves as an off-leash option for dogs who don’t play well with others.

The third yard is for small dogs under 18 inches at the shoulder. Small dogs are welcome to use any part of the park they want, but this provides them with a place where they can play with dogs of like size and temperament.

Although the ribbon cutting ceremony was June 17 the park is still taking shape. The JC Dog PAC is working hard to add more features for dogs and humans, such as a play pond, permanent shelters in each yard, more benches and other amenities.

Even as the site continues to develop, the most important thing is that the park is safe and ready to be used by the dogs.

“So, the benefits—it all comes down to this—it’s good for the heart—both ours and theirs,” said Shields.

Alissa Van Winkle

Dog days of summer

Dogs are parts of our lives in a way that they have never been in the past,” explains Johnson County Dog PAC President of the Board, Beth Shields.

It’s been a long road for Shields and the rest of the JC Dog PAC, but a sigh of relief was heard as the Thornberry Off-Leash Dog Park, located in Penninsula Park at the west end of Foster Rd. in Iowa City, opened June 17.

The JC Dog PAC, an organization dedicated to making the community more accommodating for dog companions, has been working long and hard with the City to establish the park as a functioning area for dogs and their owners.

“We’ve been really fortunate to have City staff and Council who have been, for the most part, very supportive of our group, our concepts and our work,” said Shields.

The JC Dog PAC is not the first group to try to organize the off-leash park effort in Iowa City. Previous groups have tried in the past but nothing became concrete until Thornberry.

The Thornberry Off-Leash Dog Park is designed as a learning playground for dogs and humans. Dogs can learn about “dog language” from other dogs while learning how to play appropriately with them.

“We also know that people who have dogs want to spend time with them—and this park is created for that—for the people who have dogs, it gets us off the couch and outside into the fresh air, and for our dogs, gets them off the couch too,” said Shields.

Owners can also meet other dog owners and swap stories, a good way to learn about dogs.

“We know that exercised, socialized dogs are happier and healthier and make better neighbors and citizens,” Shields said.

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Bike-in theater

Summer in Iowa City is primed and ready for B-film enthusiasts’ best summer yet. Not only do they get to watch their favorites, they get to watch them outside. Like a backyard barbecue gone awry, Iowa City Public Access Television (PATV) has chosen a roster of films for those inclined toward novel rarities. From a Night Rider rip-off involving Jack Black as the hero and the voice of Owen Wilson as the super-bot-motorcycle that guides him on his investigations, to random collections of junk TV insanities, the Bike-In Theater schedule set by PATV is sure to amuse all summer long—for free.

July 12th is an Errol Morris freak-out. Morris is the Spielberg of the documentary genre. He has an eye for the character behind every story and a tendency to flawlessly locate the story behind every character. And with a little help from his friend, composer Phillip Glass, and an extensive stock footage library, he’s also developed a look all his own. Morris, famous for his knack for finding beauty in humanity and vice versa, has whittled the documentary genre down to a masterful formulaic system of divulging the narrative in a tightly constructed manner, to heighten the interest of his audiences.

The Bike-in Theater will screen excerpts from Morris’ First Person, a series that aired on Bravo in 2000. Morris focuses on a unique personality in each segment, from a man obsessed with the giant squid (Worth checking out: Noah Baumbach’s Squid and the Whale) to a man who lost his job over a disgruntled postal worker’s tirade. One of the creepiest segments in Morris’ first person narratives involves a woman obsessed with serial killers in The Killer Inside Me which ends with a keyboard ridden love ballad to the woman’s imprisoned obsession.

It’s the way Morris divulges the stories that makes him such an author of his craft. He interviews a man who runs a debt consolidation service, and somehow, that’s a short film. Morris’ first documentary, Vernon, Florida, resonates with a tragically still, small-town stagnancy. It’s a severely human tale of hopeless, droning old men, talking to whomever will listen on park benches and outside of local hardware stores. The subjects placed in front of the camera have a real allure to them, a certain beautiful country charm that is typically pointed out to me by young men who really get into the local homeless types and their toothless stories of trains and drugs. It’s not bad, but I’d take A Brief History of Time over Vernon in a heartbeat. Stick around for some truth-seeking Vernon, Florida trivia after the show.

On July 26th, bring your best found-object to compete for prizes in the 2nd Annual State of Iowa Found Object Championship. Check out www.patv.tv to get a look at last year’s winner. Not-to-mention a cache full of bizarre lost and found videos.

August 9th, Heat Vision and Jack, the failed TV pilot about Jack Black and his talking motorcycle will be screened. This is also Art Bike Night! Bring your bedecked bike and you could be the next winner of the Iowa City Art Bike Best in Show!

Augusr 23rd, From the AV Geeks Archives, PATV picks those films nearest and dearest to their hearts from the AV Geeks 16mm archive such as: Marijuana, LSD: Case Study, the Last Prom and more.

If you feel you know what the worst three-minutes in cinematic history are, make sure to enter the Piece of Crap Film Festival hosted by the Iowa City Micromcine on September 6th (send your ideas to icmicrocinema@yahoo.com).

Lastly, on September 20th, Iowa City Microcinema will present a night of videos made by you, dear reader. Strap on your filmmaking shoes and hit the streets. Submissions must be in by September 13th.

If all of this sounds fun and summery, head to PATV’s Parking Lot Movie Palace on 206 Lafayette Street.

Thrifty thrifting

What is that old proverb? Oh yeah, “A diamond with a flaw is worth more than a pebble without imperfections.” If you are a thrifting addict in search of buried treasure this summer, then this phrase might become your mantra.

Guarantees for quality vintage and second-hand clothes include Second Act, 538 Olympic Ct., which is stuffed full of eclectic and practical threads—especially take note of the costume-themed racks for interesting attire. Revival, 116 S. Linn St., has a super-fab mix of fashion from local designers and second-hand, well-known brand names, as well as stellar new sunglasses and bags. Artifacts, 331 E. Market St., has a small selection of vintage clothes, but what they lack in quantity, they make up for in solid style. There is also a wicked selection of accessories—visualize a trunk full of costume jewelry, stacks of swanky retro high heels and piles of old-school purses.

For kitschy art, furniture or whatever else your thrifty heart desires, check out Artifacts again. Previous personal purchases there have ranged from a vintage bicycle to old black and white photographs of a baby sitting on a horse to a framed print of reclining Greek goddesses. Another cache you can comb through is Houseworks, 111 Stevens Dr., which has everything you could possibly need to deck out your digs—couches, tables, bookcases and an insane amount of kitchen supplies, along with the occasional goldmine of cassette tapes. More places for highly coveted decor include the spacious Granny’s Antique Mall, 1725 Boyrum St., UI Surplus, 1225 S. Gilbert St., and Sharpless Auction, 5049 Herbert Hoover Highway, where the highest bidder can bring home the goods every Wednesday night starting around 5pm.

Another summer pleasure for thrifters is random garage sales, so keep your eyes open for homemade signs as the weather gets warmer. The typical moving in/our times around May and August can also yield curb-side spoils and more adventurous types might go sniffing around the UI dorm dumpsters.

What are you waiting for? Go on, start thrifting for that elusive diamond find before someone else steals your loot.
Local CD Reviews  
Please send albums for review and/or press kits to: Little Village, P.O. Box 736, Iowa City, IA 52244

Ed Gray  
Fresh Coat on the Powder Keg  
Unread Records/Sober Cannibal

Maybe it’s all in the name, but when I hear “Ed Gray,” I imagine something Magnetic Fields-esque, something overwhelmingly clever, but kinda gloomy, too, in an overcast, rainy sort of way. An album for finishing off a half-eaten tub of Rocky Road and sobbing off your latest disappointments. Ed Gray’s Fresh Coat on the Powder Keg is not that album. Instead, it’s yet another lilting, hesitant wallflower of an alt-country/folk record that does very little to distinguish itself from the quadrillion other albums that also fall into this category.

But maybe I’m being too harsh. In truth, the album’s not half bad. There’s a kind of “human emotion” appeal to it—you know, everybody hurts, loves, et al. On “Old Man, City,” Gray exhibits the kind of stumbling, heartfelt crooning that makes you want to forgive all. However, I can’t forgive all...there’s just not enough here. As an EP, the record rounds out at 17 minutes. Maybe with more time I could be convinced, but as of now, I’m left wondering why I should be listening to something kind of like Neil Young when I actually could be listening to the real thing. Ultimately, within the alt-country/folksy genre there’s just got to be something to make you stand out from the crowd. I keep waiting for the punch line, but I’m just not getting the joke.

Alison Feldmann will be having a yard sale very soon. She can be reached at AlisonFeldmann@yahoo.com.

Bob Hillman  
If You Lived Here You’d Be Home  
Authentic Records

Bob Hillman? I’d never heard of him before receiving his new CD If You Lived Here You’d Be Home, but I realized that I’d heard his song “Another Country” in bumper ads for “Live From The Java House” on WSUI. No musician deserves to be lumped into a category, but I’ll do it anyway—Bob Hillman’s CD sounds like the WSUI morning show singer-songwriter music. Competent, tasteful folk-inflected playing, clever songwriting, but nothing too edgy that might upset Mom while she does the breakfast dishes.

Before Bob comes after me with a microphone stand, I should state that the above faint praise with which I’ve damned him doesn’t do him justice. I’m enough of a music geek to appreciate the twists and turns he builds into his chord progressions, and his lyrics manage to balance an impish jokingness with wistful cynicism. “Something” starts by quoting the opening guitar flourish of “Hard Days Night” and then goes on to describe damaged relationships in terms of Beatles songs: “I sang ‘All My Loving’ and then ‘I Want To Hold Your Hand’, just another pleasant jog through the Beatles’ catalog, but I should have sung ‘We Can Work It Out.’”

That’s some trick, writing a song this deliciously meta (how many songs have nested quotes in their lyrics?) while still carrying a sincere emotional charge. Hillman deserves a closer listen than the sort of Adult Contemporary stuff he’s likely to get lumped with. He joins artists like Aimee Mann, Dan Penn and Dan Bern in the ghetto of intelligent singer-songwriters on the outskirts of commercial pop music. Hillman refuses to dumb things down and write great songs for grownups. After all, doesn’t Mom deserves good music, too?

Kent Williams escaped from Cedar Rapids in 1980 but only made it as far as Iowa City. By day, he programs computers at the UI. By night, he makes electronic music which his wife has described as “what is wrong with the stereo?” He has been writing music reviews since the last millennium.

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16 | little village | july/aug 2006
Music Tour | Kent Williams

**Hwy 27 Revisited**

Columbia, MO., is another Midwestern college town with a similarly thriving local music scene centered around a few funky, beer-soaked venues. The six-hour drive between the two cities has lately become well traveled in both directions. When Coolzey (reviewed in the last LV) and Shaffer the Dark Lord (formerly of LV Burmese) toured, they included the Columbia band Witch’s Hat on several dates, even though their brand of Mad Magazine hip-hop had no obvious common ground with Witch’s Hat’s prog-tastic arena anthems. The Columbia show was a Highway 27 lovefest, adding IC’s Miracles of God to the bill.

![Kim Chee](image1.png)

**Kim Chee**

Kim Chee’s Kim Chee Music—which features Asia Wong as Kim, Mary Nguyen as Chi and Seth Ashley as DJ Bi Bim Bop, is nothing if not High Concept. None of them are Korean, yet the band’s songs combine samples of Korean language learning tapes with laptop synth-pop. Kim and Chi sing lyrics lifted from the language tapes mixed with English translations. When they perform live, they have a PowerPoint Presentation that displays the lyrics, but it’s not clear if that’s for your edification or to reinforce the nerdy vibe. This CD is perhaps a comment on the experience of Asian Americans in America, but mostly it’s just a lot of fun. Especially the monumental “Numbers” which teaches you to count in Korean. The uplifting chorus of “1, 2, 3, 4, 5” has the sort of hands-in-the-air portentousness of a Journey ballad, with a machine beat that harks back to Kraftwerk’s “Numbers.”

**Rex Sharqi**

*Songs To Fall In Love*

Rex Sharqi’s album *Songs To Fall In Love To* is an album made by an engagingly modest Iowa City/Columbia supergroup comprising Columbia’s Asia Wong (of the Leah Quinelle All Stars Featuring Happy), and Iowa City musicians Zach Lint (a.k.a. Coolzey), Daren Ho (Racoooooon) and Pi Nuerenberg. Every song is in waltz time and sounds straight out of the American Popular Song tradition—Stephen Foster and Danny Elfman come to mind. With a song about the love affair between a wolf and a lamb (“Carnivorous Love”), cuttlefish (“Cuttlefish Waddle”) and crabs (“Hermit Crab On the 59th Street Bridge”), these guys apparently dig Aesop’s Fables, as well. The squeeze-box, violin, guitar and understated drums give these songs a front-parlor intimacy. It’s literally home-made, and that’s a good thing.

**Witch’s Hat**

*Mastery of Steel*

This CD is the band’s attempt to bring Awesomeness back to rock music. With songs about a dragon-slayer ("Huzzah"), a vampire ("Glodyany 1972") and a love affair with a space alien ("Space Baby"), you might think they’re not being entirely serious. But WH loves artists like Freddy Mercury, Dio and Neil Diamond unreservedly for their razzamataz and showmanship. It’s a refreshing change from the po-faced gloom that pervades most indie-rock.

“Huzzah” isn’t just a winking tribute to Heavy Metal’s medivalists, it’s also the best song ever about dragons, heroes and princesses. The chorus is the sort of triumph-alist hook that you’ll never get out of your head. My only complaint about this CD is that it sounds like it was recorded with indie-rock sonics—the songs are wonderful, but Witch’s Hat deserves to be pumped up with monumental, big-budget production values. This band is completely over the top, and as awesomely awesome as awesome gets.

**Iowa City Yacht Club**

*Live 2005*

Iowa City Yacht Club (where, to keep up the IC/MO linkage, featured Kim Chi live recently) is not a place I can claim any objectivity about—I’ve always loved it as a venue. It’s first incarnation in the ‘80s made it a favorite destination for live music, and current owner Scott Kading bought the building just to bring it back after several year’s absence. ICYC’s size, sound system and ambience make it my favorite place to hear live music, and for many musicians, it’s also their favorite place to play. *Live 2005* collects performances by local heroes like Dave Zollo, Public Property, Euforquestra and Dennis McMurrin. The sound quality is remarkable for mixing board recordings—well balanced and clear. It’s the best of both worlds—the live vibe is thick, and for once you can really hear it. If you have any love for the bands represented, you need this CD. And if you visit the Yacht Club for a show, you can buy the CD, drink a few Beachhouse Blondes and catch some live music the way it was supposed to be heard.
**Art/Exhibits**

**African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center**
55 12th Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 877-526-1863
*Africans in Iowa, ongoing.*

**AKAR**
257 E. Iowa Ave., Iowa City, 351-1227

**Alberhasky Eye Clinic**
2346 Mormon Trek Blvd., Iowa City, 337-2220
Wilford Yoder, photography, through Jul. 10.

**Arts Iowa City**
103 E. College St., Iowa City, 337-7447
*Sights of the Summer,* through Aug. 31.

**The Art Mission**
14 S. Linn St., Iowa City
Ephraim Faience pottery, through Jul. 1.

**Brucemore**
2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375
*The Families of the Brucemore,* ongoing.

**Cedar Rapids Museum of Art**
110 Parkside Dr., Cedar Rapids, 362-1501
*The Sixties: The Time They Are a-Changin*, through Oct. 29.

**The History Center**
615 1st Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-1501
*Living Along the Tributaries,* ongoing • *Timequest,* ongoing.

**Hudson River Gallery**
538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488
Mark John Hoffman, oil paintings, Jun. 2-Jul. 15.

**Iowa Artisans Gallery**
207 E. Washington, Iowa City, 351-8686
*Through the Parks,* pastel paintings by Marcia Wegman, through Jul. 17  •  *Akiko Edmondson, Raku* •  *Lasansky: The Nazi Drawings,* through Jul. 17.

**Iowa City Chamber of Commerce**
325 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 351-9637
Oil paintings by Martha Fulton, Ceramics & Watercolors by John Siewert, Jun. 2-Jul. 29.

**Meta Home**
Old Capitol Town Center
Clinton St., Iowa City, 351-0508
*Russian Streetscapes,* oil paintings by Sabine Golz, through Jul. 15.

**Mount Mercy College**
1330 Elmhurst Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids
*Living Along the Tributaries,* oil paintings, through Jul. 15, Gallery 1  •  *Living Along the Tributaries,* oil paintings, through Jul. 15, Gallery 1

**UI Museum of Art**
150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1277
*The Ghost Elm and Other Views from Tenecre,* Virginia A. Myers, through Jul. 9, Carver Gallery  •  *Homelands: The Story of the Czech and Slovak People,* ongoing.

**UI Hospitals and Clinics**
Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417
*All exhibits, Patient & Visitor Activities Center,* 8th floor John Colloton Pavilion unless noted otherwise.

**World Music Festival**
Chauncey Swan Park
Gilbert and Washington Streets, Iowa City
All music, 5pm.
Kalimbaman, Jul. 5  •  *Ron Hillis, Jul. 12  •  Alan & Aleta Murphy, Jul. 19  •  Bob & Kristi Black, Jul. 26  •  The Drollingers, Aug. 2  •  Dave Moore, Aug. 9  •  Mark Hartstack, Aug. 16  •  The Gilded Bats, Aug. 23  •  Robert Morey, Aug. 26  •  Big Wooden Radio, Aug. 31.

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**Music**

**Chauncey Swan Park**
Gilbert and Washington Streets, Iowa City
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*The Families of the Brucemore,* ongoing.

**Cedar Rapids Museum of Art**
410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503
*Material Girl,* Cat Chow, through Sep. 3  •  *Face to Face,* portrait prints, through Aug. 13  •  *Art in Roman Life,* through Dec. 31.

**The Cottage**
14 S Linn St., Iowa City, 358-5533
Angela S. Tornbane, through Aug. 15.

**Faulconer Gallery**
Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

**Herbert Hoover National Historic Site**
110 Parkside Dr., West Branch, 643-2541
*The Sixties: The Time They Are a-Changin*, through Oct. 29.

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**Iowa Artisans Gallery**
207 E. Washington, Iowa City, 351-8686
*Through the Parks,* pastel paintings by Marcia Wegman, through Jul. 17  •  *Akiko Edmondson, Raku* •  *Lasansky: The Nazi Drawings,* through Jul. 17.

**Iowa City Chamber of Commerce**
325 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 351-9637
Oil paintings by Martha Fulton, Ceramics & Watercolors by John Siewert, Jun. 2-Jul. 29.

**Meta Home**
Old Capitol Town Center
Clinton St., Iowa City, 351-0508
*Russian Streetscapes,* oil paintings by Sabine Golz, through Jul. 15.

**Mount Mercy College**
1330 Elmhurst Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids
*Lundy Commons* Summer Student Art Exhibit, through Sep. 13.

**Mythos**
9 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-3576
From One Man’s Folly: Meditations on the Aftermath of War, new work by David Dunlap, Gelsy Verna, David Hefner, Liz Haven and Marco Maisto, Opening Reception, Jul. 4, 5-9pm, exhibit through July.

**National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library**
50 16th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, 362-8500
*Prague Between History and Dreams,* through Jul. 16  •  *Embroidished Textiles—Absolutely Art!,* through Oct. 1  •  *Homelands: The Story of the Czech and Slovak People,* ongoing.

**Senior Center**
28 S. Linn Street, Iowa City, 356-5222
*A Roving Eye,* Rod Strampe, through Jul. 30.

**UI Museum of Art**
150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1277
*The Ghost Elm and Other Views from Tenecre,* Virginia A. Myers, through Jul. 9, Carver Gallery  •  *Mauricio Lasansky: The Nazi Drawings,* through Jul. 30, Carver Gallery.

**West Bank**
229 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City
Iowa Artists at the Marriott Public Spaces Part II, through Jul. 15.

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**Music**

**Chauncey Swan Park**
Gilbert and Washington Streets, Iowa City
All music, 5pm.
Kalimbaman, Jul. 5  •  Ron Hillis, Jul. 12  •  Alan & Aleta Murphy, Jul. 19  •  Bob & Kristi Black, Jul. 26  •  The Drollingers, Aug. 2  •  Dave Moore, Aug. 9  •  Mark Hartstack, Aug. 16  •  The Gilded Bats, Aug. 23  •  Robert Morey, Aug. 26  •  Big Wooden Radio, Aug. 31.
Charlie’s
450 First Ave., Coralville, 356-6914
Monday Night Blues Jam, Outta da Blooz, Mondays.

Clapp Recital Hall
UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160
All-State Music Camp Jazz Concert, Jul. 1, 10am • UI Jazz Faculty Recital, Jul. 7, 8pm.

Emerald City
712 2nd Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids
All music, 7pm.
Damiera, Forth Effect, Cantus Firmus, Lakeshore Drive, Jul. 8 • the Felix Culpa, the Lovekill, Cantus Firmus, Lakeshore Drive, Jul. 9 • Cambridge, Jul. 24 • Eyes Like Aster, Aug. 3 • Hudson, Aug. 6.

Engelst Theatre
221 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 688-2653
The Music Man, Jul. 28-30, Aug. 4-6 • Of Montreal, Aug. 8 • Greg Brown, Aug. 26, 8pm.

First Presbyterian Church
2701 Rochester Ave., Iowa City
Messiah, Chamber Singers of Iowa City, Saturdays, 7:30pm & Sundays, 3pm, through Nov. 5.

Gabe’s
330 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 354-4788

Harper Hall
Voxman Music Building, UI Campus, 335-1603
UI Jazztet, Jul. 26, 8pm.

Iowa City Jazz Festival
Downtown Iowa City, Main Stage
South Shore Youth Jazz Ensemble, UI Jazz Ensemble with Robin Eubanks, Mel Rhyne Trio, Immediate Left featuring Tim Hagans & Scott Kinsey, Bad Plus, Jul. 1, 2-10pm • Bob Dorr and the Blue Band, Rachael Price, Andy Milne and Dapp Theory, Geoffery Keezer Trio, Mingus Dynasty, Jul. 2, 12-8pm.

The Java House
211 E Washington St, Iowa City, 335-5730
WSUI’s “Iowa Talks Live from the Java House,” Fridays, 10am.
Amy Finders with Four Feet High and Rising, Jul. 7 • Matthew Maybanks, Jul. 14.

The Mill
120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529
Open Mike Mondays, 8 pm • 2nd & 4th Wednesdays Burlington Street Bluegrass Band, 7 pm • All music, 9pm unless noted otherwise.
Nice Peter, Jul. 1 • Public Property, Jul. 3 • The Brakes, Jul. 6 • Tom Kinders Hands and Feet, Jul.

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---Every Sunday---
• The Mill Pub Quiz ! @ 9pm General knowledge quiz with prizes!
---Every Monday---
• Open Mic w/ J. Knight
  Thu 06.29  David Haack Band w/ guest Sarah Woolover pop-rock
  Thu 06.30  Catfish Keith world class acoustic blues
  Sat 07.01  Nice Peter raunchy rock comedy
  Sun 07.02  Devochka indie/jazz/marshch/norteno/Eastern European folk
  Mon 07.03  Public Property Reggae
  Thu 07.06  The Brakes Smooth Philly soul-pop
  Fri 07.07  Tom Kinders Hands and Feet funk-fusion wonder
  Sun 07.09  Stuart Davis CD release from the pop music bodhisattva
  Wed 07.12  No River City w/ Deathsips alt-pop
  Thu 07.13  NYCO acclaimed Modern rock from Chicago
  Fri 07.14  Pieta Brown featuring Bo Ramsey Americana soundscapes
  Sat 07.15  Shame Train pop-poeat art rock
  Wed 07.19  Goran Ivanovic Group Balkan music
  Thu 07.20  Dave Alvin from the Blasters!
  Fri 07.21  The Pines hypnotic songwriting from a down duo
  Sun 07.23  Carla Bozulich/ The Dead Science Tangled nerve ends and emotions
  Thu 07.27  Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys w/ The Diplomats of Solid Sound
  Fri 07.28  Public Property Reggae for the people
  Fri 08.04  Mr. Baber’s Neighbors Traditional Bluegrass Blowout
  Sat 08.12  Adrienne CMT Rising Star
  Sat 08.19  Dave Zollo Iowa’s alt-rock hero

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**CALENDAR**

7 • Matt Bar, Jul. 8 • Stuart Davis, Jul. 9, 8pm • No River City, Deathships, Jul. 12 • NYCO, Jul. 13 • Pieta Brown & Bo Ramsey, Jul. 14, 7pm • Shame Train, Jul. 15 • Goran Ivanovic Group, Jul. 19, 8pm • Dave Alvin, Jul. 20 • The Pines, Jul. 21 • Carla Bozulich, The Dead Science, Jul. 23 • Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys, Diplomats of Solid Sound, Jul. 27 • Public Property, Jul. 28 • Myr. Babers Neighbor, Aug. 4.

**Paramount Theatre**
123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888
Iowa Ambassadors of Music, Jul. 2, 7:30pm.

**Pedestrian Mall**
**Downtown Iowa City**
Friday Night Concert Series
All music, 6:30pm.

**Pentacrest**
UI Campus, Downtown Iowa City
Saturday Night Free Movie Series
The Iowa City Community Band, Jul. 8 • Highway Shelter, Jul. 15 • Nikki Lunden, Jul. 22 • Paloo, Jul. 29 • Yellow Notebook, Aug. 5 • Jesus Don’t Like Killin,’ Aug. 12 • Aaron Shafer, Aug. 19 • Greg Thompson & Emily Ginsberg, Aug. 26.

**Q Bar**
211 Iowa Ave, Iowa City, 337-9107
Public Property, Jul. 3 • Bad Fathers, Aug. 4.

**Record Collector**
125 E Washington St., Iowa City, 337-5029
Bonnie Prince Billy, Aug. 13.

**Sanctuary**
405 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 351-5692
All music, 10pm.
Friends with Benefits, Jul. 8 • Steve Grismore Trio, Jul. 22 • Polutropos, Jul. 29 • Lake Street Dive, Bridget Kearney & Rachael Price, Aug. 11-12.

**S.T. Morrison Park**
1512 Fifth St., Coralville, 354-3006
All music, 6:30pm.
Scott Cochran, Flannel, Jun. 6 • Groove Ship, Jul. 20 • Funk 101, Aug. 3 • Big Wooden Radio, Aug. 10.

**UI Hospitals and Clinics**
Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417
Colloston Atrium, noon.
Kevin B.F. Burt, Jul. 6, 8th floor terrace • Patsy Wellman, Jul. 13, 8th floor terrace • Courthill Woodwind Quintet, Jul. 14 • Shinbone Alley, Jul. 20, 8th floor terrace • UIHC Brass, Jul. 21 • Nancy Cree’s Piano Students, Jul. 26 • Lazyboy and the Recliners, Jul. 27, 8th floor terrace.

**Uptown Bills**
401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401
Open mic, Fridays, 8pm.

**West Music**
1215 5th St. Coralville, 351-2000
Battle of the Bands, Jul. 15 • Fiddle Fest with the Mayflies, Jul. 22 • RAGBRAI Campfire, Jul. 28

**Yacht Club**
13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464
Blues Jam, Sundays, 9pm; Throwdown: Free Dance Party, Tuesday nights; Jam Band Jam, Wednesdays, 10pm. All music, 9pm.

**Theater/Performance/Dance/Comedy**

**Brucemore**
2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375
The Fantasticks, Jul. 13-16, 20-23, 8pm.

**Chait Galleries Downtown**
218 E. Washington St, Iowa City, 338-4442
“Tango & Tapas,” music by Alan Swanson, dance by Habes Corpus, Jul. 14, 7pm.

**Engelt Theatre**
2210 W. Washington St., Iowa City, 688-2653
Beaute and the Beast, Jul. 1, 2pm & 7pm • The Pirates of Penzance, Jul. 16, 2pm, Jul. 21-22, 8pm • Releve Dance Company, Aug. 18-19.

**Old Brick Auditorium**
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, 319-466-4245
Kahraman Dance Weekend, Jul. 28-29.

**Penguins Comedy Club**
209 First Ave. S.E., Cedar Rapids, 362-8133
Ty Barnett, Jul. 1, 7:30pm & 10pm • Flava Flav, Jul. 7, 7pm & 9:30pm • L.A. Hardy, Jul. 7-8 • “Uncle Lou” Larry Reeh, Nathan Craig, Jul. 14-15 • Robert Kelly, Jay Davis, Bob Biggerstaff, Jul. 21, 7:30pm & 10pm • Paul Frisbie, Bob Biggerstaff, Jul. 22 • Amateur Night, Jul. 27, 7:30pm • Scott Novotny, Jeremy Essig, Jul. 28-29 • Donny Baker, Brian Noonan, John Garrett, Aug. 4-5 • Bill Bauer, Matt Fugate, Aug. 11-12 • Kevin Bozeman, Marques Bunn, Aug. 18-19 • Sean Kent, Matthew Lumpkin, Aug. 25-26 • Amateur Night, Aug. 31, 7:30pm.

**Riverside Festival Stage**
Lower City Park, Iowa City
The Tempest, Jul. 1, 5, 7, 8pm, Jul. 2, 7pm • Twelfth Night, Jul. 6, 8pm, Jul. 9, 7pm.

**Theatre Cedar Rapids**
102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592
Urinetown, Jul. 14-15, 18, 20, 7:30pm, Jul. 16, 2:30pm.

**UI Theatres**
Theatre Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160
The Artificial Jungle, Jul. 1, 5, 11-12, 16, 18-20, 8pm, David Thayer Theatre • The Mystery of Irma Vep, Jul. 5, 7-9, 8pm, Theatre B • The Allergists Wife, Jul. 13-15, 21-23, 8pm, E.C. Mabie Theatre • Red Scare on Sunset, Jul. 23, 20, Theatre B.

**Words**
The Java House
211 E Washington St, Iowa City, 335-5730
WSUI’s “Iowa Talks Live from the Java House,” Fridays, 10 am.

**Prairie Lights**
15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 337-2681
All 7pm, broadcast live on WSUI.
The University Club Writers’ Group, Jul. 6 • Bob Leonard, Jul. 7 • Paula Morris, Jul. 10 • Anne Bauer, Jul. 11 • Hope Edelman, Jul. 12 • Greg Hewett, Ted Mathys, Jul. 13 • Marvin Bell, Jul. 17 • John McNally, Jul. 19 • Juliet Patterson, Jul. 20 • J.C. Hallman, Jul. 21 • Jason Roberts, Jul. 25 • Robin Hemley, Jul. 27 • Melissa Fraterrigo, Alicia Conroy, Jul. 28.

**Senior Center**
28 S. Linn Street, Iowa City, 356-5222
“Life Passages through Literature” class, Thursdays, through Jul. 13, 10-11:30am • Book Club, Tuesdays, through Aug. 15, 9:30-10:30am.

**UI Museum of Art**
150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727
Know the Score LIVE, Mozart & Shostakovich show, Aug. 25, 5pm.

**Film/Video**

**Bijou Theatre**
UI Memorial Union
UI Campus, 335-3258
2006 Oscar Shorts, Jul. 6-19 • Brick and other TBA, Jul. 20-26.

**Iowa City Public Library**
123 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200
Mtg. Rm. A
Winter Soldier, Jul. 13, 7pm.
Pentacrest
UI Campus, Downtown Iowa City
Saturday Night Free Movie Series
All films, 9pm.
Superman, Jul. 8 • The Birds, Jul. 15 • School of Rock, Jul. 22 • Silent Film TBA, Jul. 29 • The Goonies, Aug. 5 • Casablanca, Aug. 12 • Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory, Aug. 19 • The Raiders of the Lost Ark, Aug. 26.

Public Access Television
Bike-in Theatre
206 Lafayette St., Iowa City, 338-7035
All films, 9pm.

S.T. Morrison Park
1512 Fifth St., Coralville, 354-3006
Wallace & Grommit: Curse of the Were-Rabbit, Jul. 13, 9pm.

Misc.
Chauncey Swan Park
Gilbert and Washington Streets, Iowa City
Farmers’ Market, Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30pm, Saturdays, 7:30-11:30am.

Emma Goldman Clinic
227 N. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 337-2111
Dog Wash, Jul. 15, noon-3pm.

Englert Theatre
221 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 688-2653
Iowa City Record Fair, Jul. 2, 10am-4pm.

Lamrim Buddhist Center
10 S Gilbert St, Iowa City, 331-1851
“How to Solve Our Human Problems,” Mondays, 7:30pm.

North Dodge and Ace Hardware
600 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, 354-4112
Farmers’ Market, Fridays, 5-7:30 pm & Sundays, 1-3:30 pm.

New Pioneer Co-op
1101 Second St., Coralville, 358-5513
All Cooking Events 6pm.
Summer Tapas with Liz Clark, Jul. 5 • Cooking with Salsa with Tim Palmer, Jul. 6 • Peach Party with Elizabeth Weinberg, Jul. 11.

Old Brick Auditorium
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, 319-466-4245
Alliance for Mental Health Sale, Aug. 18-19.

S.T. Morrison Park
1512 Fifth St., Coralville, 354-3006
Farmers’ Market, Thursdays & Mondays, 5-8pm.

Sycamore Mall
Sycamore St. and Highway 6, Iowa City
Farmers’ Market, Tuesdays, 3-6:30 pm.
**Hustle & Blow**

The benefits to going oral

“There is no clitoral equivalent to the uterus. The clitoris is not a doorknob.”

—Nina Hartley

The difference between the porn-stars and the unhappy hook-ups at home lies not within the man but on his leading ladies’ faces. No, it’s not that sticky white substance ubiquitous in porn films and egg-fertilization, but rather in her smile.

Partners at home can have such a smile, too, once they learn the pleasure of being a cock-pleaser. The same guidelines apply to pussy-pleasing, only with different tactics. The benefits of being a Sex Positive Feminist (SPF) include guilt-free sexual pleasure in consensual, adult play and an ever-growing self-confidence that comes from knowing you can both attract and fulfill.

The best oral sex is one part egotism and one part altruism—you do it both for yourself and your partner. After that, the formula has endless combinations. The popular 69, for instance, can take different bottom-top, side-sucking or limb-entangling positions. Imagination is the key. Recently, Queen Zelda herself discovered the orgasmic joy of sucking while being sucked (for the first time!). Yes, even us sexperts have not experienced it all, though believe me, we’re trying.

The side-suck is probably the easiest to balance, perform and achieve equal suck-cess. I’ve always had issues receiving from the top, and I definitely have issues giving from the bottom. So the side-suck seems the most egalitarian, as well. Save the 69 for special occasions or just when it feels right. You don’t want such an equal-opportunity orgasm to get boring.

I have to admit, although that aforementioned bed-adventure was rather exhilarating, the good ol’ fashioned on-her-knees position is my preference for everyday encounters. One thing about getting hot ‘n’ heavy is that it gives the body the freedom to wriggle and jiggle in any direction it feels like. Take this opportunity to slide off the bed, call him over to sit over your kneeling body, and boy, will he get excited.

SPF’s know it’s okay to be a bottom, to submit yourself to your partner’s pleasure. Getting to know your partner’s psychological desires is another benefit to going oral. Without the freedom of manipulating bodies and positions, or at least discussing the possibility, you might miss out on that mental bond established through sexual collaboration.

The best oral sex is one part egotism and one part altruism—you do it both for yourself and your partner.

A benefit of the on-her-knees position—besides having firmer ground from which to lick and suck—is being able to physically communicate your desire to serve someone you love and/or respect. Your partner will get the point that you’re enjoying yourself on multiple levels.

For an SPF, one of the best benefits is getting to know the human body and all of its nuanced preferences. Surprises are certainly fabulous, and going oral allows for far more creativity and inventiveness with the head and hands and mouth than straight-up sex. After all, without surprises, how would any relationship endure the long-term companionate coupledom that American culture calls for?

Just for those curious ones out there, Queen Zelda has a few initiating tips. Never ever begin by going for the gold—unless they ask for it, of course. Make them tremble, as Rocky Horror’s Dr. Frank-N-Furter said, “with antic…pation”.

Wannabe cock-pleasers can lay their faces against his thighs, brush their lips along his head or play his shaft like a tiny, keyless pia.

The difficulty lies not within the ability to excite a guy—his body does that himself more often than not—but rather within the ability to vary the motions and sustain the salvation. (You need enough saliva to make that smacking sound they love.) Knowing you give better head than the sexually repressed is a benefit in and of itself.

For a complete set of instructions on how to blow a man, Queen Zelda recommends consulting pages 109-110 of Jenna Jameson’s *How to Make Love Like a Porn Star or Nina Hartley’s Guide to Oral Sex*. Jameson documents her “10 Commandments” of giving head and Hartley shows you how. *Guide to Oral Sex* also contains a segment on pleasing female genitalia, complete with an instructional pussy-puppet.

Wannabe pussy-pleasers must always start off slowly and work their fingers and mouths towards her pearl. Once the clit is hard, she can feel waves of vibrations from the tiniest movements. So, yes, less is definitely more. Hearing her ooh and ahh over your mad finger-tongue combinations will boost not only your ego but also your sense of sexual self.

And the boosting doesn’t stop there. Reaching orgasm in any situation increases oxytocin levels, the neurochemical that causes a woman to feel a bond with her child while breastfeeding. Oxytocin is the emotional nec tar of the neurochemical gods. If seratonin makes you happy, oxytocin makes you love.

Scientists attribute the elation caused by oxytocin to the rhythmic vibrations of certain actions. An orgasm, they say, occurs with peaks beating 40 to 50 times per minute, the same rate at which an infant sucks its mother’s nipple. Natalie Angier, author of *Women: An Intimate Geography*, suggested a connection between orgasms, perpetual motion machines and nirvna. Can oral sex lead to enlightenment? Queen Zelda cannot imagine giving head that fast… but scrotum-licking is another story.

Pink Cashmere Kink is a bi-monthly column written by sex-positive feminist, Queen Zelda. Queen Zelda wants everyone to get laid as much as possible. Her bottom line: enjoy yourself, respect your partner.
FORECAST FOR JULY 2006

ARIES—For the next couple of years, the planets want you to delve into your deepest thoughts and feelings. Explore issues you hide from the public and even from yourself. Where job and other interactions with the work-a-day world are concerned, let others take the lead. Your ideas about such things are pretty well outdated. Success on the job will depend on the success of your inner quest to free yourself from old hang-ups. However, the planets are providing shelter, support, and guarantees to protect you from any fallout.

TAURUS—It is time to start making some complicated choices. Who do you want to share your life with? Who do you want in your home and who do you want out? How do you balance family and work? You are also being strongly urged to expand your horizons mentally and spiritually and to reach out to people at a distance. You have to start taking your personal and professional life to the next level. Through it all, keep the budget within bounds and preserve the sanctity of your home.

GEMINI—You will be dealing with serious problems and all the pieces will fall in the right place. But make certain your first direction is to your deepest thoughts and feelings. Explore issues you bring sobering realizations. However, being realistic about life means letting your thoughts and feelings be your barometer. If work or partnership is concerned, let others take the lead. Your ideas about such things are pretty well outdated. Success on the job will depend on the success of your inner quest to free yourself from old hang-ups. However, the planets are providing shelter, support, and guarantees to protect you from any fallout.

CANCER—The world is loosening up, generally speaking. People are willing to consider many possibilities they would have rejected before and so are you. Also, you are protected from any really bad outcomes. But money is an issue. Money is not so much tight as it is uncertain. So consider the various options and combinations of options, be sure to choose those that safeguard long-term savings and ensure a steady, adequate cash flow. Simpler is better and, for the time being, closer to home is better.

LEO—There is a lot going on this month even by Leo’s standards. Love and relationship issues are strongly stimulated. There is a lot of intensity, drama and some very stubborn obstacles. Add to that many private anxieties related to all these issues. But you don’t quite have the energy to deal with all this stuff. Fortunately, the planets are also providing a big, strong safety net. In the end, it will all boil down to making some tough, smart, long-term financial decisions so that everything is easier to deal with and allows you greater room to maneuver. After July, doing what you must do won’t conflict so strongly with doing what you want to do. If you communicate your needs and desires, others will achieve a deeper, intuitive understanding and respond more fully. Negotiation is key.

SAGITTARIUS—You can play a very important part in bringing about beneficial changes. Help others act with hope and confidence. You won’t have as much information as you’d like and there will be even less money than there is information. What you do know leads you to suspect further problems. And you know that these changes will only get you part way to your goal. However, you can be confident that the overall effect will be good. You are in a position to benefit directly and/or indirectly from whatever happens.

CAPRICORN—The promise of change and growth endures, but so do certain obstacles to your progress. This month, there might not be a great leap forward. The basics will remain the same. However, things will change so that everything is easier to deal with and allows you greater room to maneuver. After July, doing what you must do won’t conflict so strongly with doing what you want to do. If you communicate your needs and desires, others will achieve a deeper, intuitive understanding and respond more fully. Negotiation is key.

SCORPIO—The planets are pushing you to make some tough, smart, long-term financial decisions so that everything is easier to deal with and allows you greater room to maneuver. After July, doing what you must do won’t conflict so strongly with doing what you want to do. If you communicate your needs and desires, others will achieve a deeper, intuitive understanding and respond more fully. Negotiation is key.

PISCES—The planets are being supportive and protective, but you could be put on the spot as people seek your insight and guidance. They could try to draw you in as they seek clear direction. You might not be able to maintain the distance, detachment and privacy that you very much prefer. You will probably have to think long and hard then follow up with some long, detailed conversations to achieve resolution. Issues of trust and empowerment will come up often in the midst of these complicated but manageable interactions.

Contact Dr. Star at chiron@mchsi.com

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