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*Issue 41, Vol. 1 • Dec. 12, 2013*

**WEEKLY**  
EVERY THURSDAY

# F5

*work like a farmer  
party like a rock star*

## >Conspicuous consumerism

Need help finding a gift for that weirdo on your list? We have some local ideas for you. *p.10*

## >Holiday tales

We give you a story of Christmas, space ships, desperate measures and casual Mirnday. *p.2*

## >It costs how much?

Changing the airport's call sign to IKE is all fine and good until you look at the pricetag. *p.2*

## >Call me, maybe

Picking up a phone and giving someone a call took a long time to become a trivial thing. *p.4*

## >Rock on

John Mayer came to town and we got really good seats and talked to a random guy. *p.6*

# F5

# View:~ OTHER PERSPECTIVES

## A Christmas tale from outer space

by Don Winsor  
dwinsor@f5paper.com

It had been several years since Space Commander Jerrald had seen any real action. That being the case, he chose to run his ship on a perpetual sort of "casual Mirnday," as it seemed far less important to him that rigid discipline be maintained than a sort of reasonably comfortable atmosphere.

"We have to live and work together, so let's not have anything be too formal," he would say to new recruits. "Just do your job well and don't worry too much about your uniform or silly things like that. Save that for inspections."

True, deep space was no place to do anything which might cause morale problems, but the fine line between requiring well-pressed duty uniforms and allowing bridge crew to hang dry their laundry on the bridge had led, over time, to a general malaise about the outer ring patrols which *PRC Bonaventure* was to maintain during this absurd time of galactic kerfuffle.

Today, however, things had gone badly. During an all-crew game of Cards Against Humanity And Other Various

Races, their ship had encountered a Regular cruiser, casually mistook it for a friendly Vareelan ship, and allowed it far too close before realizing the mistake. Casualties were heavy, damage was severe and no one would ever know

if Lieutenant Steve would maintain his record as undefeated CAHAOVR champion. All anyone would know was that he was undefeated in his lifetime, which had ended when his heart had been quite viciously and unexpectedly pulled from his body during the attack.

Jerrald stared out the floor-to-ceiling viewport in his quarters in his plush bathrobe. He took another sip of his espresso, which had grown lukewarm and bitter. "I used to love coffee, Jones," he intoned to his faithful ensign. "Now, it's just cold and black. Like my soul."

"It is the holiday season, sir. Can you find no joy in that?"

"Holidays, Jones? We're half-dead. We can try to limp home on what reserves we have left, after which should we even survive we'd be tried for deserting our posts. We can try to stay out here and wait to be picked off if that cruiser comes back, or they send their friends. It's a losing proposition no matter what we do."

Jones furrowed his robobrow in thought. "Could we not radio for assistance? Surely we must have friends in the quadrant?"

"What could they do? No one wants to start a war with the Regulars. Unpredictable, vicious when crossed, and completely without compassion. Others will offer up lip service at best but no one wants to get involved. Our own forces are too far away to get here in time. I've never felt so empty, Jones. So many and so much lost. Why would they attack us like that? It just doesn't make sense."

A full five minutes passed as the two stared out into the vast expanse of emptiness which in truth surrounds us all.

"No, it doesn't. I guess we're just fucked, sir."

With that, the Space Commander let out a small sigh, which might also have been a chuckle, and softly nodded. He took in what little remained of his morning espresso and tied the belt on his command bathrobe. "Only one thing to do, then, Jones."

Jones nodded in roboagreement. "Do it, sir."

Jerrald walked over to his nightstand and opened the cover of a large red button. The printing on the cover read

see "Space" page 15

## Airport renaming a waste of money

by Bill Jenkins  
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It boggles the mind that so many people (if I can judge from Opinion Line comments and other forms of editorializing) care passionately about a name for the new terminal at good old ICT. I for one really could not give a rodent's hindquarters about the name. You will notice that I euphemized the part about the rat's ass because a recent critic made the spurious point that one who uses names and naughty words belies the shallowness of his own ideas.

Anyway, there seems to be a movement afoot to name the new terminal after former president Dwight Eisenhower who, after all, was a resident of the state for a few years between moving here from Texas and going off to West Point and thence the Army. I had nothing against the Eisenhower idea until I saw the estimates given by the state on the cost of re-signing the approaching roads, etc. They thought it could rise as high as

three quarters of a million dollars. Egad!

I would be all for the change if it would make more people use the airport and thereby increase competition and drive costs down. But what kind of a name would make people abandon the three hour drives to Kansas City, Tulsa or Oklahoma City? Probably none. Well, short of calling it Flight Utility Kansas and changing the ICT to ... well you get the idea. Whatever. There doesn't seem any chance that a new name would draw more business.

I would be all for it if it made the planes land and take off on time. If it would do that, however, airports all over the country would be changing names. The air traffic control system, as it is presently constituted and equipped seems unable to make much

progress in that area and Congress seems unlikely to spend enough money to make significant advances.

I would be a big supporter if it promised to make for fewer mistakes in landing. After all, how many times can great big airplanes land at itty bitty air-

ports whose runway load capacity they exceed by a factor of 10 or more before we have a major disaster? And the names McConnell and Jabara do not seem so close as to cause confusion.

Maybe if we named it after John Denver we could get some pilots confusing it with Denver's International Airport thus causing an increase in inadvertent landings. They'd probably notice that the mountains were not lurking just to the west, however, and realize that they had miscalculated. No big benefit in doing that.

So what we are now left with is money. It all boils down to money, doesn't it? Just like we got Intrust to put up big money for naming rights to the downtown arena, maybe we should auction off the naming rights to the new terminal. Let the wealthy individuals and the big corporations bid for the honor of naming the place.

The problem with that is that these names have a tendency to change with the vagaries of big business. Twenty years ago, Boeing and Coleman were huge names in town. Thirty years ago it

see "Airport" page 15



DON WINSOR



BILL JENKINS

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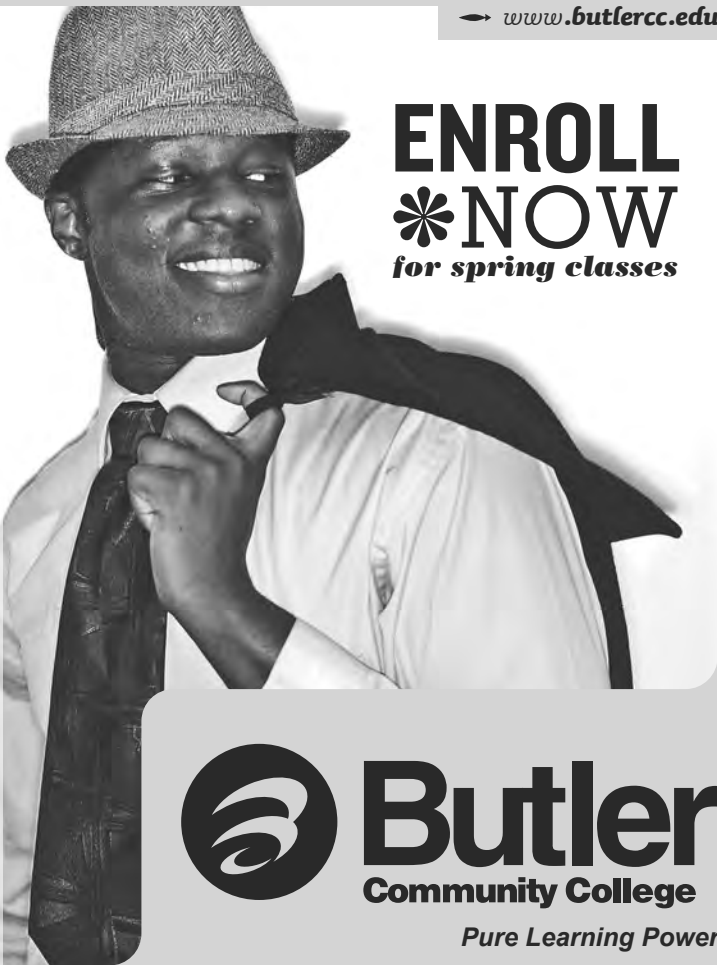
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**I SAID "BUTTER":** In this 1910 photo, Elizabeth Tatman takes an order over an old-fashioned "candlestick" telephone in the grocery store she operated with husband Wilbert at 1358 N. Waco. A Walgreens Pharmacy stands on the site today.

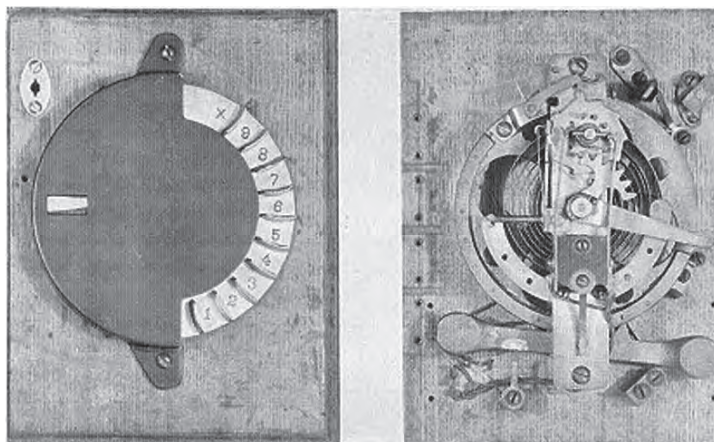
SOURCE: WICHITA/ SEDGWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

## Telephony on the Plains

by Michael Carmody  
[mcarmody@f5paper.com](mailto:mcarmody@f5paper.com)

In this modern era, when many of us are tethered 24 hours a day to our smartphones, we take for granted instantaneous communication on an almost literally global scale. But in the early days of prairie settlement, there was no quick and easy way to send a message or speak directly to someone only a couple blocks away, much less all the way around the planet.

The telegraph arrived in Wichita roughly at the time the city was chartered in 1870, making communication between locals and those "back east" easy and relatively inexpensive. One of the earliest commercial telegraph offices was in the lush Occidental Hotel (see March 28, 2013 edition of *F5*), allowing traveling businessmen to conduct their affairs from the field. Additionally, the railroads, with their need for precise timekeeping, used the telegraph system to ensure the clocks were maintaining proper time. The



SOURCE: AUTOMATIC ELECTRIC COMPANY

**THE DIAL IS BORN:** Invented in 1896, the Strowler switch — a device dreamed up by Kansas mortician Almon B. Strowler — freed telephone users from dependency on human operators to connect calls. Wichita began switching over to direct-dial service in 1929.

Jan. 27, 1876 *Wichita Eagle* noted: "The whistle of the City Mills is to be regulated by railroad time, which will be corrected by telegraph every few days."

A few weeks after that *Eagle* edition was published, on March 7, Alexander Graham Bell received

his patent for what would come to be known as the telephone. A year later the first such devices started appearing in Kansas, built in most cases by tinkerers interested in the new technology; though Lawrence seems to be generally accepted as the first Kansas city

with a working telephone, Topeka, Manhattan and Leavenworth all had them by the end of 1877.

An article in the Feb. 1, 1922 edition of *Kansas Industrialist*, the newspaper of Kansas State Agricultural College (today known as Kansas State University) recalled the first public demonstration of Manhattan's original homemade telephone: "Much excitement and enthusiasm was aroused through the state 45 years ago when cornet solos were given from Mechanics Hall, Kansas State Agricultural College, and transmitted from a telephone to towns throughout Kansas by means of telegraph wires. Large crowds gathered to hear the first telephone in Kansas, which was constructed by W.K. Kedzie, of the mechanical department, in 1877."

On May 9, 1878, the *Eagle* made its first report of a telephone in Sedgwick County: "Will Hays has a telephone running from his house to the mill." William W. Hays was a notable figure in local history;

see "*Wichitarchaeology*" page 5



**MICHAEL CARMODY**

## "Wichitarchaeology" from page 4

he moved to Kansas in 1871, settling south of Wichita, then built a grist mill powered by the waters of Cowskin Creek. This at first made him a laughingstock amongst his neighbors, who had little faith that the tiny creek would provide enough energy to run a mill — but Hays had the last laugh, as his enterprise was so successful he quickly made enough money to build two more mills, both on the bigger Ninnescah River. A flood later wiped out all three of these operations, but by that time Hays had moved on to life as a public figure, platting the city of Haysville, serving as its first postmaster and later being elected sheriff.

In August 1878, a direct phone line was installed between two banks in Wichita, sparking much discussion in the city. Almost a year to the day after Hays had his mill wired to his house, the *Eagle* reported on May 8, 1879: "Telephones are becoming quite a popular contrivance in Wichita and wires are being stretched in many directions from business houses to homes." Note that there existed yet no central switchboard for the handling of calls; if you owned a phone, it was essentially useless unless you wired it directly to another phone, as children might do with two tin cans on a string. It was not until 1881 that a formal telephone exchange office opened in Wichita.

As time went on, more locals took the plunge and had their homes or businesses wired for telephony; what many had at first considered a passing fad was now becoming a daily reality. On Feb. 16, 1882, the *Eagle* reported: "The telephone exchange now reaches 70 odd subscribers and may be considered a permanent institution." Only six weeks later, the same paper noted: "The telephone company is putting in a new and expensive system board to accommodate 25 more wires," and by July 6 announced: "The telephone exchange is now open day and night. You can say 'hello' at any hour and be answered."

Phone service in those days was still quite expensive, and complaint letters to the editors of local papers began appearing on a regular basis. In early 1883, the administrator of the telephone exchange felt it necessary to respond in an op-ed piece in the *Eagle*, explaining that "telephones are a patent and the company here is compelled to pay almost half the gross earnings as a royalty."

In June 1884, there were 85 paying subscribers to the phone service in Wichita. But there would soon be many more. In 1887 the telephone exchange opened a new office in the brand-new Fechheimer Building at Douglas and Market. Updated equipment was installed, giving the exchange the capacity to operate up to 1,000 lines. By the end of 1888, there were 378 telephone subscribers in town, and the company was making plans to install long-distance lines, thereby establishing service between Wichita and other nearby cities.

As customers became increasingly dependent on their telephones, their

complaints over the price of the service only intensified. On Jan. 6, 1889, the *Eagle* reported: "Mr. C. C. Allen, manager of the telephone business of this city, has succeeded in getting the company to give telephone service to residences for \$42 per year, a reduction of \$8. This is lower for residence service than any other city in the state. There are 72 residences with telephone service and 308 places of business with telephone service." Bear in mind that \$42 in 1889 had roughly the purchasing power of \$1,100 today; we may now pay the same or more for our wireless bill, but that includes 24/7 access to the internet. These folks were paying that much just for a dedicated landline that could only reach one of some 400 other phones.

By the end of 1889, the streets of Wichita were increasingly tangled with aerial cables as poles piled up with wires carrying electricity (for both residential/commercial use and the electric streetcar lines) and telephone and telegraph signals. The Missouri and Kansas Telegraph Company sought an injunction against a local streetcar company, claiming that electrical leakage from the trolley line was interfering with telephone signals on their cables.

In November of 1889 it was announced that "the cities of Sedgwick, Halstead, Burton, and Hutchinson have been hitched onto our telephone system. The line was completed yesterday."

1891 saw the first simplified telephone directory in Wichita, a two-sided card listing the names and exchange numbers of every phone subscriber in town. At this time there was still no direct dialing; a person wishing to make a call had to hail an operator, who would then ring the person or number specified and physically connect the call by plugging cables into jacks on a large switchboard.

Elsewhere in Kansas (El Dorado, Topeka or Kansas City, depending on the source), a mortician named Almon Brown Strowger had discovered that he was losing business due to his competitor's wife working as an operator, channeling all calls for an undertaker to her husband's funeral home. Though he was not an engineer and had no apparent background in electrics, Strowger designed a switching mechanism that when refined would allow an individual to dial a set of numbers on his or her own telephone and reach the desired party on the other end with no help (or interference) from a human operator. Though it would be a number of years before it was implemented universally, the "Strowger switch" would go on to

revolutionize the industry, and remained the dominant mechanism in direct-dial telephony through the 1960s.


By January 1894, Wichita was averaging about 3,500 telephone calls daily, a fair number considering there were still only around 400 subscribers. 1895 saw the introduction of battery-free telephones, powered like modern landlines by a small current sent over the cable; until then, most every phone had a hand-cranked magneto to ring the operator and a battery to send the voice down the line once connected.

As time went on, more and more of America was connected by telephone. The Oct. 10, 1897 *Eagle* ran an article stating: "A new long distance telephone line has just been completed from Chicago to Kansas City. An extension from Topeka to Hutchinson is being made, and when completed, Wichita will be connected with all the great cities of the north and east including Chicago and New York. The new line has almost reached Abilene, from where it will be extended to Salina, McPherson, and then to Hutchinson, and will be completed this winter. Wichita is already connected with Hutchinson and 26 other Kansas towns."

There were 600 phone subscribers in Wichita in April 1900. By December the number had jumped to 725.

The existing phone system, operated by an outfit called the Missouri and Kansas Telephone Company (a component of the early Bell system), got competition in 1901 when local entrepreneur Frank T. Brown was given the go-ahead by the city council to construct a second telephone utility in Wichita. The June 20,

see "Wichitarchaeology" page 13



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**FLAP, ICARUS, FLAP:** The New Imperialism's Kevin Ives gets the crowd pumping at Rock Island Live on Saturday, Dec. 7.

PHOTO BY TORIN ANDERSEN

**Dead Silos bow out on a high note at TNI CD release party at Rock Island Live.**

by **Torin Andersen**  
tandersen@f5paper.com

I could hear Dead Silos, the opener for the night, as soon as I got out of my car. I had arrived at Rock Island Live a little behind schedule on Saturday, Dec. 7.

The sweet soulful psych-rock that Dead Silos performs made for a pretty rad soundtrack to walk through the alleys of Old Town.

Chatting with keyboardist Larry Donaldson later, he mentioned set up being a bit tough. I can imagine having so many guys, amps, instruments and pedals on the stage at Rock Island, mixing cables and the general tightness due to a lack of stage real estate could make for a challenging set up.

Dead Silos ended its last-ever show with a big bang and some tight vocal harmonies then

proceeded to move gear from the stage which now had a short wall alongside half of it.

Having not been to Rock Island for a while I noticed it has changed a little under the new ownership. Day of the Dead masks and colorful ponchos now hang in place of the paintings of famous musicians and PBR ads. Akin to the days of Red Rita's Cantina (the location's name in the '90s) it was a blast from the past thinking about how many times I had seen Dead Orchestra in that room and then turning the corner to see Miles Pehde — Dead-O guitarist and engineer for *Wax Wings* — in attendance, anxious for The New Imperialism to get started.

The New Imperialism has never been short on show during their live sets. With Kevin Ives swaying and singing — and Brandon LaBarge in the back filleting, chopping and

reorganizing each riff seated from his drum throne — Saturday night was no different. Set on a darker stage with a projector screen in the back the band played with a projection of undulating fire-water that changed color and pattern with each new rhythm.

The band played through all the songs on its new release, *Wax Wings*, with a few guest appearances by Jarrod Starling, Blake Attebury and Eric Ramos to a crowd eager to get their hands on the new CD. Playing a shorter set, it was good encouragement for me to pick up a CD if I wanted to hear more.

Myself, eager to leave the chilly room (huge glass garage door on the east wall) now that the show was over, I grabbed a CD and took a little audio adventure with *Wax Wings* toward the moon (much safer than Icarus's idea) on my way home for the night.

## John Mayer brings Montana sounds to Wichita

by **Elizabeth Barrett**  
ebarrett@f5paper.com

Wichita's Intrust Bank Arena has hosted many events for a wide array of audiences since its opening in 2010, but it may never have attracted such a large congregation of legging-clad, hysterically-stoked teenage girls as it did on Sunday, Dec. 1 when Phillip Phillips opened for John Mayer. Which was the bigger draw? The

American Idol alumnus, Phillips, with his baby face and undulating hips or the ultimate tabloid bad boy, Mayer, fresh off his self-imposed three-year Montana hiatus? It's hard to say, but the ladies loved it and the ladies' boyfriends seemed pretty OK with it, too.

However, in order to obtain a less hormone-driven perspective of the show, *F5* decided to interview a spectator that was there just for the music. Mark

Hazzard, a slightly unkempt man who seemed a bit disoriented but enthusiastic, seemed to be the perfect choice. He happily agreed to answer our questions after being assured twice that we were not connected with the local authorities.

EB: So Mr. Hazzard, where are you from?

MH: Everywhere! But I always end up where I need to be.

EB: How did you like the show tonight?

MH: Kinda weird, it was a little like a TV show, but the commercials were in different places. Like when Mayer said that when he closes his eyes to rock a guitar solo and all he sees is "Grand Theft Auto." Man, I've been trying to forget stuff like that. Cause, you know, I have priors.

EB: What did you think about Phillip Phillips singing a cover of "Nice and Slow" by Usher?

see "Mayer" page 20

**That chick from American Idol was pretty good, too.**



★★★★★

**Abstractionnisme  
Incandescence**

Deathbound Records, 2013

by Jorts McDude  
jmcdude@f5paper.com

Quebec has had this crazy lock on technical death metal (Ion Dissonance, Gorguts, Despised Icon, Neuraxis, Cryptopsy, Voivod, etc ad nauseum) that it's been easy to forget that there is a TON of other stuff going on up there. It's crazy to think that a province with about three times the population of our fair state can produce this ginormous number of quality metal bands, while Kansas has.... I dunno, Coalesce and Origin? Can you think of others? I can't.

So anyway, Incandescence is basically two main guys (that'd be Philippe Boucher on all instruments and Dystre Fjell on vocals) who record everything and play with a bunch of (if you bother checking out their website) kinda dorky-looking hired guns who cover the parts live. Actually, all of these guys look pretty dorky. Beware of "authentic" Black Metal bands whose promo pictures feature dad jeans.

My first taste of the band (and arguably the best on the album) was the title track off their new, eight-song LP that came out last month on Deathbound, which features a couple tracks from their 2011 demo whose only makeover was

a slightly slicker recording. The song-writing here jumps out at the listener as being fairly derivative of mid-career Marduk, but with pretty much no bass in the mix and much louder vocals. There are lots of little surprises throughout the album, with sweet little stops and starts and other hints that this band draws influence from outside genres like punk (lots of crust), and Quebecois death metal (listen to the last minute or so of "Derriere le Masque du Neant" and tell me these guys don't hang out with Gorguts). *Abstractionnisme* keeps the traditional Black Metal tri-tone themes to a minimum, and instead offers the listener a handful of really great and lyrical themes through each song that makes each song instantly characteristic from the others on offer here.



★★★★★

**Abisso  
Ovo**

Supernatural Cat, 2013

by Jorts McDude  
jmcdude@f5paper.com

Ovo is one of those bands who are really easy to miss, so I wanted to make sure I gave them some space here. In case you've missed them, Ovo are a sort-of hodgepodge of other noisy and experimental groups you may (or may not) be familiar with — imagine Khanate's vocals (and sometimes frustrating ssslll-loooowwww tempos) over the sonic what-the-fuck bombast of Lightning Bolt, with Milemarker's keyboard-heavy production. It's a great album, for sure, but no way will this make anybody's Best-of-2013 lists.

What's weirdest about this record is how fun it is to listen to: Opener "Harmonia Microcosmia" provides a terrifying mission statement: drums that shift from industrial to hip hop to total reverb, with layers and layers of keyboards, and vocals that shift from shrieks to En Esch's outtakes from KMFDM's *What Do You Know, Deutschland?*, to I'm not really sure where else to go from here. This thing is seriously all over the place, and I mean that in the nicest way possible.

I can't imagine where or when you would listen to this, though, and if you've read my column over the last 6

months or so, you know that imagining where music fits into your life is huge for me. Right now, it's 12:16 a.m. and I'm listening to this on the couch while Ms. McDude snores. It is possible to sleep through this record, apparently. Aside from this setting, I don't know how else I would really get down with this record. I just wanted you to know that this band exists and maybe you'll check it out and be into it.



★★★★★

**Sky Burial  
Inter Arma**

Relapse, 2013

by Jorts McDude  
jmcdude@f5paper.com

Since it's near the end of the year and I'm going to put together my best-of list pretty soon and since I didn't write for F5 in March, when this record came out, I'm going to take some liberties and write about it here. Please accept my late pass.

Anywho, if your favorite band is Neurosis and you have been bummed that Neurosis has not released a Neurosis album since last year's *Honor Found in Decay*, but you really wish that there was a new Neurosis album, but maybe one that combines *Given to the Rising's* thoughtfulness with *Pain of Mind's* frenetic pacing, but on an album on which every song pretty much still sounded like "Locust Star," boy oh boy, do I have the album for you.

Or maybe not. While writing this review and realizing how much this band sounds like Neurosis, I ended up losing interest in *Inter Arma* and just listening to Neurosis's *Through Silver and Blood* instead. Despite having enjoyed listening to *Sky Burial* over the past nine months, it's ultimately just a stopgap record for folks like me who are frustrated with Neurosis's turnaround time on new records. I mean, it's a good enough record, but only as a Neurosis record that hasn't been made yet, though "The Long Road Home" offers windswept instrumentalism that sounds equally windswept, Midwestern and gothic. Regarding the rest of it: If you haven't heard Neurosis at all, or are marginally familiar, you'll go crazy for this.

P.S. Neurosis.

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## From Mandela to Miller

by Will Darrah  
wdarrah@f5paper.com

In case you have not heard, Nelson Mandela died on Dec. 5. While many are saying he will be missed, I contend that he won't be missed because his actions were so powerful that his legacy is permanent and he will be with us for lifetimes to come. He was a great proponent of democracy and equality — so much so that he bravely stood in the path of a totalitarian government. A government that had his life in its hands.

Mandela said, "During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

What does Mandela have to do with beer? Well there is another powerful global influence from South Africa: South African Breweries. SAB is a drop to Mandela's ocean, so best drop that analogy there and just tell the story of the beer from South Africa that became the second largest brewery in the world.

A sailor by the name of Frederick Mead was working as a bartender in Durban (a city slightly larger than Wichita on the eastern coast of South Africa), and he partnered up with

George Raw and decided to start brewing beer. Because neither of them knew how to actually do the deed, they enlisted the help of W. H. Hackblock, a brewer from Norwich, England. Together they started the Natal Brewery Syndicate, LTD.

That might seem like a normal start up but what happened next would set the stage — in 1892 — of the model for the modern brewery.

In 1895, NBS purchased Castle Brewery in Johannesburg, South Africa. The growing market required expansion that could not be funded internally, so Mead went back to London, England, and set up the offices for the South African United Breweries in 1897. After construction of a larger brewery there came an additional round of funding and the company became the South African Breweries Limited.

At the time, South Africa was very segregated. The newly arriving colonists lived completely separate lives from the native inhabitants.

The problem worsened after the colonial British and Dutch governments withdrew. In 1948 the National Party was granted power and apartheid — the official, government-backed racial "apartheid" that formally divided the nation by skin color — began.

SAB struggled along with all breweries in South Africa due to apartheid, which set off international trade embargos against South Africa, which was not only bad for businesses but also took away tariff money and forced the nation to significantly raise taxes on

local goods, and the government specifically targeted beer for heavy taxes. But in the end, SAB succeeded by positioning itself to become immune to the whims of an irrational government.

It succeeded by executing three strategies.

The first was one of modernization and efficiency. The brewery was able to be the strongest of its peers in South Africa because it was able to run the leanest.

The second was investing in brewing operations and making marketing deals with breweries outside of South Africa.

And the third was acquisitions of any company inside South Africa that might add value to beer and beverage sales.

At the end of apartheid in the early 1990s — 100 years after it started — SAB exploded onto the international market. It quickly became a giant in South Africa and around the world. It owns familiar brands such as Pilsner Urquell, Fosters, Tyskie, Peroni and Grolsch. It also has minority positions in 150 other brands. Oh, and it is no longer SAB Ltd.; in 1999 it formed a new UK-based holding company, SAB plc.; in 2002, it bought Miller from Phillip Morris to become SABMiller plc.

Today SABMiller is the second largest brewer in the world. It sits among three others: Anheuser Busch-InBev, Heineken International and Carlsberg Group to produce 50 percent of the beer produced in the world.

Here is to South Africa. Here is to Mandela. Here is to equality. Prost!

# Acting in Annie

by Dan Kampling  
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Unlike most critics, I occasionally like to give up my theater seat and take the opportunity to be a part of the show, whether it's on the screen or on the stage. Back in October, I was featured in the cast for a musical version of the quintessential bad movie *Manos: The Hands of Fate* at the Wichita Scottish Rite Signature Theater and when I noticed that their upcoming production was going to be the 1977 Tony Award winning Broadway smash-hit *Annie*, I couldn't resist the chance to be a part of it, since it covered two of my interests: the 1930s-era and being based on a comic-strip. The show had a run from Sunday to Monday, but the short schedule left a lifetime of memorable moments for myself.

For many people, *Annie* is usually only remembered for her musical outing, but who could blame them with such signature show tunes like "Tomorrow," "It's the Hard Knock Life" and "Maybe?" Being well-versed in the history of comics in general, I knew that the antics of the "little chatter box" with "pretty auburn locks" started her life in the newspaper comics page as "Little Orphan Annie," which later became a popular radio show, as seen in the famous Ovaltine scene from *A Christmas Story*. Unlike other comic-based material, "Little Orphan Annie" didn't translate very well beyond the comics and radio, so the character was mostly forgotten, that is until the musical debuted in 1977 and became an enormous theatrical hit. When it came time to translate the Broadway hit to the big screen, *Annie* once again fell short with mixed critical reaction, but went on to become a success in its own right.

Going into the show with all of this knowledge may have helped a bit for getting into the spirit of the production and it provided a unique perspective on how the original stage version of the show compared to the film version most are familiar with. One of the more stark changes was centering the show around the Christmas holiday, as opposed to the film version's choice of the Fourth of July. This allowed for more edgier songs like "We'd Like to Thank You Herbert Hoover," which I participated in as a disgruntled Hooverville-ite, singing and dancing his frustrations out at the former president for the Great Depression state my character and others were in.

I wasn't just a one-scene actor. Being

a part of the ensemble means that you will have to take on multiple parts. Aside from a hobo, I took on the role as a dog catcher, a delivery boy carrying the "American Gothic" painting, three different radio announcers (one of which was dressed like Orson Welles' rendition of The Shadow) and the honorable Judge Brandeis. Taking on these multiple parts may seem to be a bit stressful, but it's really a lot more fun than being cooped up in the same costume for three-hours, especially if you only have a couple of scenes. What's really fun about the process is coming up with differences in the multiple characters, whether it's different clothes, voices, postures or even just a simple hair change. Just before I came out on stage, I decided at that moment that the judge character should have a spit curl, like Marlon Brando had as Jor-El during the opening scene of *Superman: The Movie* when he banishes General Zod and his cohorts into The Phantom Zone.

That's enough of tooting my own horn. The real credit goes out to the whole cast and crew for making a show like this possible, including our director Deb Campbell for holding us all together and providing a great opportunity to essentially "play" in such a well-beloved musical. I've made very good friends in the process and I look forward to seeing what is just ahead at the start of the year.



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# Local gifts for the super local shopper

by **Eleonore Verfaillie and Kate Clause**  
 everfaillie@f5paper.com and  
 kclause@f5paper.com

**Y**ou're a seasoned local shopper. You hit up the ICT Winter Bazaar last weekend with cash in hand, you've purchased 10 "Keep ICT Weird" shirts from the Donut Whole, and you've stocked up on foodie gifts from the Spice Merchant and the Nifty Nut House. After calling in a few orders to Bluebird Art House and Lucinda's, finding that long sought after chapeau at Hatman Jack's, getting the standard gift cards at Watermark, you find yourself wondering, "Where else can I go?"

Consider these shops in Wichita. Some are new, some are hidden gems, and some places aren't even "gift shops."

## WellDone Skate Supply

617 W. Douglas Avenue  
 (316) 558-5660  
 welldoneskatesupply.com

*For: Kids who need to spend more time outdoors, hipsters, stylish athletes.*

This 1,700-square-foot skate shop in Delano sells skateboards, long boards, indoor mini-ramps, markers, shoes, lessons and more. For less sporty but stylish teens, you will find hip clothes, graphic caps and skate sneakers from Fallen Footwear. Seriously, some of these boards are so beautiful you can just hang them on the wall.

For beginners, the WellDone team also offers lessons in the shop.

Check their website or call ahead to check about availability or events.

## Skeletons Out of the Closet

625 W. Douglas Avenue  
 (316) 269 2663

*For: Eclectic decorators, or friends who liked vampires before they were a thang.*

Have an artsy Gothic friend who needs a skull or medieval chair? You'll find those items and other uncommon goods at Skeletons Out of the Closet in Delano. Jessica Dunne-Olson's creepy and glittery store is filled with handmade pieces of local art, thrifted finds, and upcycled objects like monster figurines — all with a Baroque-pop vibe.

## Spektrum Muzik/Straight Screenprinting

2712 Boulevard Plaza  
 (316) 530-2870

facebook.com/straightscreenprinting  
 www.spektrummuzik.com

*For: the vinylphile, music lover, turntable or T-shirt enthusiast.*

Wichita's newest and "weirdest" record shop, Spektrum Muzik, is tucked away in Boulevard Plaza on east Lincoln street. And, bonus! The two gentlemen behind Spektrum also run Straight



**VINYL AND COTTON:**  
**Spektrum Muzik not only has an eclectic assortment of music, but a T-shirt shop — Straight Screenprinting — on site, too.**



Screenprinting custom screen printing, right in the same building.

Spektrum offers local vinyl, reissues, new releases and used records. Look for genres like metal, jazz, indie, experimental, pop, electronic, rap, and more. Spektrum also sells turntables, amplifiers, and speakers for record lovers.

Co-owner Phil Ross says there's a 15% off sale in effect until Dec. 21.

You can place a custom screen printing order while you're there. Straight Screenprinting offers pro-grade materials. They've got affordable prices on shirts, posters, totes, sweatshirts, textiles and more.

## Archaic Boutique

2724 E. Boulevard Plaza

(316) 993-6599

facebook.com/ArchaicBoutique

*For: the plus-sized fashionista, those who love vintage decor*

Just a few doors down from Spektrum Muzik is Archaic Boutique, Wichita's largest resale boutique for plus-sized clothing. Find chic outfits in sizes 10 to 32, plus shoes and accessories.

In addition to clothing, Archaic Boutique offers other treasures and home items, like vanity mirrors, jewelry boxes, and collectible items like Kodak Brownie cameras or one-of-a-kind purses.

Archaic Boutique is having special sales each Saturday in December. New items are added each Monday.

**OH, THE DRAGON SKULL I WAS LOOKING FOR: Skeletons Out Of The Closet has all your Goth gift-giving needs covered.**



**GET IT WHILE IT'S HOT: Thai Binh is like a Wal Mart from another country.**

## Reverie Coffee Roasters

2611 E Douglas Ave, Wichita, KS 67211  
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reverieroasters.com

*For: home roasters, coffee gadget lovers, fans of locally roasted coffee.*

Reverie roasts and sells its own coffee in-store, plus serves drinks like lattes and pour-over coffee behind its coffee bar.

For coffee geeks, you'll find brewing and serving equipment like Chemex, the Hario coffee syphon, the V60 ceramic drip cone, French presses and locally made coffee mugs, coffee cozies, and local art.

Reverie offers gift cards, gift baskets, and Coffee-to-Go, a box of brewed coffee for your morning guests.

And what about gifting a stranger with the present of coffee? You can buy someone a free coffee with their pay-it-forward system.

## Thai Binh Supermarket

1530 W. 21st St  
 (316) 838-8882

*For: fashion-forward friends, kitsch and art lovers, serious cooks*

While this family-owned Asian supermarket carries a dizzying array of noodles, produce, meats, rice, spices and snacks, shop the edges of the store for more gift ideas. Thai Binh offers rack upon rack of women's clothing and accessories, plus entire rooms dedicated to home decorations like statues of almost every deity imaginable, bamboo plants, framed art, and more. Need a marble dragon statue? Thai Binh's got your back. On the other side of Thai Binh, check out the aisles of cookware. They've got everything from high-end rice cookers and woks to dishware and elegant teapots and cups.

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**REDNECK TO THE RESCUE:** Jason Statham stars in the might-makes-right, good-guys-always-win jingoistic *Homefront*.

## *Homefront* an unwitting circle of violence

by Jeremy Webster  
jwebster@f5paper.com

**H**omefront, the new Jason Statham actioner based on a Chuck Hogan novel and featuring a screenplay by Sylvester Stallone, isn't a bad film in terms of what it's trying to be—an earnest action throwback with a cast good enough to pull it off. Action fans are likely to love what they see here and, indeed, director Gary Fleder and a talented cast make it a tolerable, often entertaining entry in its genre.

What is peculiar here is the film's seeming unawareness of a pattern of escalating violence that could have been stopped at any time with a little less ego and macho bullshit from either protagonist or antagonist.

After undercover DEA agent Phil Broker (Statham) retires from the force after a sting takes a nastier turn than he likes, he and his 10-year-old daughter Maddy (Izabela Vidovic) move to... hell, I don't know, the everglades or the bayou or somewhere... to have a peaceful life.

A bully at school decides to take Maddy's baseball cap from her. She asks for it back twice and, when he decides to push her, she pulls some of the ol' Jason Statham martial arts overkill on him and his unfortunate nose.

The little jerk's mom is irritated, and asks her brother "Gator" (James Franco), a local would-be meth kingpin, to send a message.

So yeah. Franco's nimrods do something mildly thuggish and idiotic. Statham force-

feeds them a gas pump screen and a car door. Franco decides to stop by Statham's house while the big guy and his little girl are riding horses to slash tires and be a generally moronic vandal, but, upon entering the house, finds boxes of Statham's old case files. Why, exactly, is he keeping massive stacks of boxed case files in plain view in his house? No clue.

Franco adds two and two with his semi-meth addled brain and contacts the biker gang from Statham's last sting, hoping they'll let him set up better meth distribution if he offers them this peace offering. Then, as can be expected, things get even more violent.

Every violent act of stupidity is built up from the last one, but the film seems naive to the fact that either party could have stopped this nonsense at any time with even the slightest sense of humility. Yeah, OK, Statham apologizes to the jerk kid's mom and dad, that's a good start... then he responds to two toughs at a gas station who were never any real threat with a level of brutality even Batman might wince at.

And, realize here, this all started with his daughter responding *in the exact same way to a similar nimrod*.

In one of the film's most amazingly obvious examples of moral naivety, Statham goes and confronts Gator in that vaguely indirect fashion heroes and villains usually meet each other in restaurants in better films such as *Heat* do. His point: Someone broke into my house, and next time they'll find me waiting for them.

*In the exact next sequence Statham breaks*

*into Gator's own place of business.*

Now, at this point we're well-aware that Gator's would-be boat garage is just a meth lab in disguise. A *smarter* movie would find a way to pose the question whether it's *right* for Statham to do this, *regardless* of whether what's in there is good or bad, or whether Gator is a good or a bad guy. The film does give us a bit of Karmic sensibility when Statham is ambushed in Gator's garage, but one has no sense that this occurs due to screenwriting ponderance. We're to take it it's *all right* for Statham to do this, because he's the *good guy*. It's not OK for Gator to do it, though, because Gator's the *bad guy*.

To go back to the initial examples, if you're more physically capable than the bully who took your hat and pushed you, why aren't you able to simply get your hat back *without* breaking his nose?

For all its philosophical moral clumsiness, the film really is served well by good production values, a pretty decent script for this sort of fare, and strong performances all around. Statham doesn't particularly have to step out of his usual idiom, and he has a similar aura of action film do-no-wrong charisma you'll see with others such as Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. Franco's Gator has a nice level of inner moral conflict, and Winona Ryder's turn as his junkie too-smart-to-know-this-is-going-to-end-well girlfriend is interesting. Every other element of the film falls in place so well, that it's really a tragedy that it can't quite recognize its own moral conflict underpinnings. 🐦

### >SEE IT

**Title:** *Homefront*

**Rating:** F2

#### **Short review:**

A capable, likable cast and good action setpieces can't make up for its own moral naivety toward its characters' brutal game of oneupmanship.

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**REACHING OUT:** The existing Southwestern Bell building at the corner of First and Broadway was updated with an even larger addition in 1955-56. The new building housed immense banks of equipment necessary for long-distance dialing.

SOURCE: WICHITA/ SEDGWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

moniker came a new office building at First and Lawrence (Broadway). Wichita had 17,000 phones.

1927 saw Wichita connected to London by telephone for the first time; a call cost \$27 per minute. There were 27,000 phones in the city. In 1928 Southwestern Bell began construction on a new facility at Second and Topeka, with the aim of bringing direct dialing to Wichita for the first time. The Aug. 13, 1929 *Eagle* reported: "Replacement of manual telephones in Wichita with dial telephones was begun yesterday, but it will be some time before the dials can be used." When all the new phones were distributed, there were 31,500 subscribers in the city.

Once direct dialing took over for operator-assisted calls, telephony entered its golden age, and little changed until the federal breakup of the Bell system in the 1980s and the subsequent rise of wireless phones. The biggest news in Wichita was the 1955-56 construction of the huge modernist addition to Bell's existing building at 154 N. Broadway, designed to house long-distance dialing equipment. At that time, there were 124,000 telephones in Wichita.

Today, given the panoply of options for telephone service, it is difficult to guess how many dedicated handlines there are in the city, or for how long they will continue to be considered necessary in an age in which it is so easy to "reach out and touch someone."

### "Wichitarchaeology" from page 5

1902 *Eagle* reported on the technical superiority of the new organization: "The new system should be completed in August. It will not be necessary to ring the bell to have central answer. Simply removing the receiver from the hook will run on a light in front of the operator, who will then ask for the number." Almost immediately, 1,100 people signed up with the new company.

Meanwhile the old phone company (M&KTC) was involved in an ongoing fight with the city over erecting new poles; its executives showed up to harangue councilmen at city meetings as its workmen were arrested in the street for doing their jobs. The company filed suit in federal court, seeking "an injunction against city of Wichita to restrain the city from injuring the property of the company or interfering with its operation."

By late 1903, after only a year in business, the startup Wichita Telephone Company boasted 2,000 paying subscribers. The next spring there were 300 more. The old M&KTC, hobbled by an increasingly archaic infrastructure (using iron wire rather than the more advanced newfangled copper), struggled to serve 1,250 customers of its own. In 1906 M&KTC spent a quarter-million dollars completely rebuilding its network from scratch, including running all its cables in the business district through underground conduits.

1907 saw such a proliferation in telephones that the city had to file legal action against the WTC because they were taking too long to install phones

paid for by new customers; they simply could not keep up with the demand.

The Oct. 24, 1909 *Eagle* made note of Wichita's inclusion in a factbook about American municipalities; among the highlights: "Area 18.75 square miles. Has eighteen grade schools and one high school. Has 349 miles of unimproved streets and 25 miles of improved streets, of which 16.2 miles have been improved the past year. Has 8,000 telephones." At the time there were about 52,000 residents in the city — and one telephone for every 6.5 of them.

1910 saw an end to the competition between the two phone companies, as the older, Bell-owned M&KTC bought out the independent WTC and set to combining the two systems into one. Starting on Aug. 21 of that year, subscribers of one service could for the first time call the telephones affiliated with the other. The newly unified company immediately found itself faced with the task of removing 670 redundant second phones from homes and businesses that had subscribed to both prior services. There were now 9,000 telephones in Wichita.

The Hamilton Hotel in 1912 installed its own switchboard, making it the first hotel in Wichita to offer a telephone in every guest room. That same year, Strowger's invention started taking hold coast-to-coast, and, though it would be another 16 years before the service was available here, the *Eagle* ran an article explaining the method of using a dial telephone.

In 1921 the phone company dropped its old Missouri & Kansas Telephone Company identity and adopted the name Southwestern Bell. Along with this new

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- F4** • Batten Down the Trailer!
- F3** • Blew Off A Few Shingles
- F2** • Slightly Sucks
- F1** • Just Blows

## >NEW THIS WEEK

- *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*
- *Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas*

## >OPENS WED

- *Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues*

## >RETRO

- *It's A Wonderful Life*

### 12 Years a Slave (R)

Starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael K. Williams, Michael Fassbender. Directed by Steve McQueen.

**Plot:** In the antebellum United States, Solomon Northup, a free black man from upstate New York, is abducted and sold into slavery.

**Genre:** Biography, Drama, History  
**13th Ave Warren:** 1:45, 4:45, 7:45; **21st St Warren:** 1:45, 5:10, 8:30

## Opens Wed

### Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13)

Starring Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate, Paul Rudd. Directed by Adam McKay.  
**Plot:** With the '70s behind him, San Diego's top rated newsman, Ron Burgundy, returns to take New York's first 24-hour news channel by storm.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**13th Ave Warren:** 9 Tues only and starting Wed 1, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15; **21st St Warren:** 9 Tue only, starting Wed: 1, 4, 7, 10; **Movie Machine:** 1:30, 4:15, 6:50 with 9:40 Fri-Sat; **Warren Oldtown:** 10:15 Tues only

### Bad Grandpa (R)

Starring Johnny Knoxville, Jackson Nicoll, Spike Jonze. Directed by Jeff Tremaine.

**Plot:** 86-year-old Irving Zisman is on a journey across America with the most unlikely companion: his 8-year-old grandson, Billy.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**21st St Warren:** 1:50, 4:45, 7:25, 9:55

### The Best Man Holiday (R)

Starring Monica Calhoun, Morris Chestnut, Melissa De Sousa. Directed by Malcolm D. Lee.

**Plot:** When college friends reunite after 15 years over the Christmas holidays, they will discover just how easy it is for long-forgotten rivalries and romances to be ignited.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**13th Ave Warren:** Noon, 3:20, 6:45, 10:10

### The Book Thief (PG-13)

Starring Sophie Nélisse, Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson. Directed by Brian Percival.

**Plot:** While subjected to the horrors of World War II Germany, young Liesel finds solace by stealing books and sharing them with others. Under the stairs in her home, a Jewish refugee is being sheltered by her adoptive parents.

**Genre:** Drama, War  
**13th Ave Warren:** 11:40 a.m., 3, 6:20, 9:30; **21st St Warren:** 12:05, 3:20, 6:40, 9:50

### Captain Phillips (PG-13)

Starring Tom Hanks, Barkhad Abdi, Barkhad Abdirahman. Directed by Paul Greengrass.

**Plot:** The true story of Captain Richard Phillips and the 2009 hijacking by Somali pirates of the US-flagged MV Maersk Alabama, the first American cargo ship to be hijacked in two hundred years.

**Genre:** Biography, Crime, Drama, Thriller  
**21st St Warren:** 1:45, 5:15, 8:30

### Carrie (R)

Starring Chloë Grace Moretz, Julianne Moore, Gabriella Wilde. Directed by Kimberly Peirce.

**Plot:** A reimagining of the classic horror tale about Carrie White, a shy girl outcast by her peers and sheltered by her deeply religious mother, who unleashes telekinetic terror on her small town after being pushed too far at her senior prom.

**Genre:** Drama, Horror  
**Palace West:** 1:50, 4:30, 7, 9:20 with 11:45 p.m. Fri-Sat

### The Counselor (R)

Starring Brad Pitt, Goran Visnjic, Michael Fassbender. Directed by Ridley Scott.

**Plot:** A lawyer finds himself in over his head when he gets involved in drug trafficking.

**Genre:** Crime, Drama, Thriller  
**Palace West:** 1:25, 4, 6:30, 9 with 11:30 p.m. Fri-Sat

### Dallas Buyers Club (R)

Starring Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner, Jared Leto. Directed by Jean-Marc Vallée.

**Plot:** The story of Texas electrician Ron Woodroof and his battle with the medical establishment and pharmaceutical companies after being diagnosed as HIV-positive in 1986, and his search for alternative treatments that helped established a way in which fellow HIV-positive people could join for access to his supplies.

**Genre:** Biography, Drama, History  
**13th Ave Warren:** 12:30, 3:40, 6:45, 9:45

### Delivery Man (PG-13)

Starring Vince Vaughn, Chris Pratt, Cobie Smulders. Directed by Ken Scott.

**Plot:** An affable underachiever finds out he's fathered 533 children through anonymous donations to a fertility clinic 20 years ago. Now he must decide whether or not to come forward when 142 of them file a lawsuit to reveal his identity.

**Genre:** Comedy  
**13th Ave Warren:** 1:10, 4, 6:50, 9:40; **21st St Warren:** 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 10; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:30, 4, 7:05 with 9:30 Fri-Sat; **Movie Machine:** 4:25, 7 with 9:30 Fri-Sat

### Despicable Me 2 (PG)

Starring Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Miranda Cosgrove. Directed by Chris Renaud, Pierre Coffin.

**Plot:** Gru is recruited by the Anti-Villain League to help deal with a powerful new super criminal.

**Genre:** Animation, Comedy, Crime, Family  
**Palace West:** 2, 4:25, 6:50, 9:05 with 11:25 p.m. Fri-Sat

### Don Jon (R)

Starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Scarlett Johansson, Julianne Moore. Directed by Joseph Gordon-Levitt.

**Plot:** A New Jersey guy dedicated to his family, friends and church develops unrealistic expectations from watching porn and works to find happiness and intimacy with his potential true love.

**Genre:** Comedy, Drama  
**Palace West:** 1:30, 4:20, 7, 9:10 with 11:20 p.m. Fri-Sat

### Escape Plan (R)

Starring Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, 50 Cent. Directed by Mikael Häfström.

**Plot:** When a structural-security authority finds himself set up and incarcerated in the world's most secret and secure prison, he has to use his skills to escape with help from the inside.

**Genre:** Action, Mystery, Thriller  
**Palace West:** 1:20, 3:55, 6:40, 9:15 with 10:45 and 11:35 p.m. Fri-Sat

### Frozen (PG)

Starring Kristen Bell, Josh Gad, Idina Menzel. Directed by Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee.

**Plot:** Fearless optimist Anna teams up with Kristoff in an epic journey, encountering Everest-like conditions and a hilarious snowman named Olaf, in a race to find Anna's sister Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom in eternal winter.

**Genre:** Animation, Adventure, Comedy, Family, Fantasy  
**13th Ave Warren:** 11:30 a.m. (3D), 12:50, 2:30, 3:50, 5:30, 6:40, 8:30, 9:30; **21st St Warren:** 12:15 (3D), 1:10, 3:15, 4:10, 6:15,

7:10, 9:15 (No Tue), 10:10; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:20, 1:50 (3D), 3:50, 4:20 (3D), 7:05 with 9:35 Fri-Sat; **Movie Machine:** 1, 2, 4, 7:05 with 9:30 Fri-Sat

## New This Week

### The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13)

Starring Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen, Richard Armitage. Directed by Peter Jackson.

**Plot:** The dwarves, along with Bilbo Baggins and Gandalf the Grey, continue their quest to reclaim Erebor, their homeland, from Smaug. Bilbo Baggins is in possession of a mysterious and magical ring.

**Genre:** Adventure, Drama, Fantasy  
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# Events::

## >GET LISTED

Don't see your event? Send an email to [events@F5paper.com](mailto:events@F5paper.com)

## ARTS

### Friday, December 13

**Reception: Allison Sutton, Antonio Martinez and Blake Luttrell**  
6 p.m. @WSU Shift Space Gallery, 416 S. Commerce.

### Ongoing

**Icons of the Midcentury Southwest: Photographer Laura Gilpin and Potter Maria Martinez**

*Sat., Aug. 17 to Sun., Jan. 5, 2014*  
Laura Gilpin and Maria Martinez are exceptional pioneers and celebrated artists. @Wichita Art Museum, 1400 W. Museum Blvd.

**Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention**  
*Sat., Aug. 31 to Sun., Dec. 15*

Nature's Toolbox: Biodiversity, Art and Invention is an exhibition of more than 40 international artists in a wide range of media. @Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount.

**Exhibition: "Under New Management"**

*Wed., Sept. 11 to Sun., Dec. 15*  
@Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount.

**Exhibition: "Vital Signs: New Media Art from the San Jose Museum of Art"**

*Sat., Sept. 14 to Sun., Jan. 19, 2014*  
@Wichita Art Museum, 1400 W. Museum Blvd.

**Exhibition: Cary Conover, "Contrasts"**

*Fri., Nov. 1 to Sat., Jan. 18, 2014*  
@Derby Public Library, 1600 E. Walnut Grove, Derby.

**Exhibition: Jan Seawell-Ruckers**

*Mon., Nov. 11 to Sat., Dec. 21*  
@Friends University Riney Fine Arts Gallery, 2100 W. University.

**Exhibition: The Gage Brewer Guitar - "the first electric guitar"**

*Thu., Nov. 21 to Tue., Dec. 31*  
@Wichita - Sedgwick County Historical Museum, 204 S. Main.

**Exhibition: Kansas Watercolor Society National Exhibition**

*Fri., Nov. 22 to Sun., Jan. 5, 2014*  
@The Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

**Exhibition: "Joe's Swan Song"**

*Wed., Nov. 27 to Sat., Dec. 21*  
Curator Joe Goodwin presents works of art by Curt Clonts, John and Connie Ernatt, Wade Hampton, Rebecca Hoyer, Ted Krone, Gary Lincoln, Steve Miner, Kevin Mullins and Bruce Van Osdel. @CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

**Exhibition: Ray Trotter**

*Wed., Nov. 27 to Sat., Dec. 21*  
@CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

**Exhibition: Faith Stepp, "Metamorphosis: Transformation to Art"**

*Wed., Nov. 27 to Sat., Dec. 21*  
@CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

**Exhibition: Kent Williams**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Fri., Dec. 27*  
@Fisch Haus Studios, 524 S. Commerce.

**Exhibition: Hugh Greer and Danny Polk**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Tue., Jan. 28, 2014*  
@Gallery XII, 412 E. Douglas.

**Exhibition: Annual Small Works Show**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Tue., Dec. 31*  
Choose from over 60 signed, original small works by various local artists which includes affordable oil paintings, mixed media, photography and more. @Mead Street Gallery and Gifts, 121 N. Mead, Ste. 107.

**Exhibition: Brian Johnson and Craig Daniels**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Fri., Dec. 27*  
@R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Biting.

**Exhibition: Jeff Pulaski, "Lock Up"**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Fri., Dec. 20*

@Steckline Gallery, Newman University, DeMattias Hall, 3100 McCormick.

**Exhibition: Dustin Parker, "The Mask Becomes the Face"**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Fri., Dec. 27*  
@Watermark Books & Cafe, 4701 E. Douglas.

**Exhibition: Robert J. Schmidt, "Wurlitzer Works"**

*Thu., Dec. 5 to Fri., Jan. 31, 2014*  
Original works of art designed from 1939 Wurlitzer piano parts. @The Fiber Studio, 418 S. Commerce.

**Exhibition: Paul Bowen**

*Sat., Dec. 7 to Fri., Jan. 31, 2014*  
Aerial photography presentation by renowned aviation photographer, Paul Bowen. @The Gallery at Larksfield Place, 7373 E. 29th St. N.

## ARTS: CALL FOR ENTRIES

### Thursday, December 12

**6th Annual Sculpture WalkAbout**  
*Thu., Dec. 12 to Sat., Feb. 22, 2014*  
Visit [WichitaArts.com](http://WichitaArts.com) for entry procedure and criteria. @CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

### Ongoing

**Pastel National 2014**

*Thu., Nov. 7 to Fri., Dec. 27*  
This exhibition will be a national showcase, highlighting the art of pastel on paper. Prospectus available at [www.wcfta.com](http://www.wcfta.com), by calling 634-2787 or by e-mail at [areep@wcfta.com](mailto:areep@wcfta.com). \$30 for three entries. @The Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

**Riverfest Poster Contest**

*Thu., Nov. 7 to Fri., Dec. 27*  
Contest rules and entry form are available at [WichitaRiverfest.com](http://WichitaRiverfest.com). All entries may be hand delivered or shipped to Wichita Festivals, Inc. 18 and older. @Wichita Festivals, Inc., 1820 E. Douglas.

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

### Sunday, December 15

**Jakub Jerzy Omsky**  
10 a.m. All ages. No cover. @R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Biting.

## FILM

### Friday, Dec. 27

**Rock the Dome: Pink Floyd**  
*Fri., Dec. 27 to Sat., Dec. 28*  
Three Pink Floyd cosmic light shows, *The Wall*, *Dark Side of the Moon* and *Wish You Were Here*. Doors open at 6. All three films for \$12. @Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

### Thursday, December 19

**"It's a Wonderful Life"**  
7 p.m. Screening of the 1947 film. \$4-\$5. @Orpheum Theatre, 200 N. Broadway.

## LITERARY

### Saturday, December 14

**Alex Browne, "Inner Light"**  
2 p.m. Author Alex Brown reads from and signs copies of her new book. @Watermark Books & Cafe, 4701 E. Douglas.

### Tuesday, December 17

**Robert Boswell, "Tumbledown"**  
7 p.m. Author Robert Boswell reads from, discusses and signs copies of his new book. @Watermark Books & Cafe, 4701 E. Douglas.

## SPECIAL

### Ongoing

**Mindbender Mansion**  
*Thu., Nov. 7 to Sun., Jan. 5, 2014*  
Enter this wonderfully perplexing world full of puzzles, brainteasers and hands-on challenges guaranteed to test the brain power and problem solving skills of even the most experienced puzzlers. Included in regular museum admission. @Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

**The Arc's Lights on St. Paul**

*Thu., Nov. 28 to Sun., Dec. 29*  
This light show is over one million holiday lights in hundreds of displays and is a benefit for The Arc of Sedgwick County. Visit [arc-sedgwickcounty.org](http://arc-sedgwickcounty.org) for more information and hours. \$5 suggested donation. @Douglas and St. Paul.

**"Illuminations"**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Tue., Dec. 31*  
Visit Botanica during "Illuminations" and experience a winter wonderland in lights. There will be expanded light shows, and more than 200 trees and structures will be illuminated. Tickets are \$12, \$10 adult member and \$7, \$5 youth member. @Botanica, 701 Amidon.

### Saturday, December 21

**"How Come Christmas"**  
7 p.m. Stories, carols and live music. @First Unitarian Universalist Church, 7202 East 21st North.

## THEATER & DANCE

### Friday, December 13

**"Tru"**

*Fri., Dec. 13 to Sun., Dec. 15*  
One man show starring WSU Theatre graduate Tom Frye as literary giant Truman Capote. This funny and poignant production explores the life and times of Truman Capote through his own words just before Christmas 1975. All proceeds go to the Audrey Needles Scholarship Fund, WSU Metroplex; call 978-3233 for show times and ticket information. @Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, 5015 E. 29th St. N.

**"The Nutcracker"**

*Fri., Dec. 13 to Sat., Dec. 21*  
Four guest artists from the New York City Ballet will perform with the Friends dancers for this ballet favorite. The first weekend will feature returning principal dancer Abi Stafford and new partner Jared Angle. Principal dancers Maria Kowroski and Tyler Angle will perform the second weekend. For tickets and showtimes visit [friends.edu/finearts](http://friends.edu/finearts), or call the Fine Arts Box Office at 295-5677. All ages. \$15-\$20. @Friends University Riney Fine Arts Gallery, 2100 W. University.

### Saturday, December 14

**Ballet Wichita, "The Nutcracker"**  
*Sat., Dec. 14 to Sun., Dec. 15*  
\$12.50-\$40. @Century II, 225 W. Douglas.

### Ongoing

**"White Christmas"**

*Thu., Nov. 7 to Sun., Dec. 22*  
Contact the Crown Uptown at 612-7696 for ticket prices and showtimes. @Crown Uptown Professional Dinner Theatre, 3207 E. Douglas.

**"Derbysville: The Town of Misfit Toys"**

*Thu., Nov. 14 to Mon., Dec. 30*  
Main feature will be followed by "A Very Mosley Christmas" Musical Comedy Revue. For reservations and showtimes visit [MosleyStreet.com](http://MosleyStreet.com) or call 263-0222. \$17-\$27. @Mosley Street Melodrama, 234 N. Mosley.

**"Naughty or Nice: A Rock-a-licious Review"**

*Fri., Nov. 15 to Sun., Dec. 22*  
For showtimes and ticket info visit [CabaretOldtown.com](http://CabaretOldtown.com) or call 265-4400. @Cabaret Old Town, 412 1/2 E. Douglas.

**"It's a Wonderful Life"**

*Fri., Nov. 29 to Sun., Dec. 22*  
For showtimes and ticketing information contact Wichita Community Theatre. @Wichita Community Theatre, 258 N. Fountain.

**"A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol"**

*Thu., Dec. 5 to Sun., Dec. 22*  
Call 303-2037 for show times and ticket information. @Prairie Pines, 4055 N. Tyler.

**"Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol"**

*Thu., Dec. 5 to Sun., Dec. 22*  
Visit [forumwichita.com](http://forumwichita.com) or call 618-0444 for show times and ticket information. @The Forum Theatre, 147 S. Hillside.

## "Space" from page 2

"WARNING: CERTAIN DEATH. OPEN ONLY AFTER A GOOD THINK."

"Sir," Jones meekly interjected, "will it hurt?"

Jerrald placed a hand on Jones' metal shoulder. "Haven't you heard, Jones? Suicide is painless."

The button, in bold white lettering on red, read "DETONATE FISSION CORE."

Jerrald took one last look at Jones, sighed "It's all just so fucking depressing, Jones," and pressed the button.

The ship was instantly vaporized in the too-bright expansion of newly decompressed star matter which had been contained in the powerful fission core powering the *Bonaventure*. All were lost in what became known as the *Bonaventure* Conflagration, which burned for countless years.

Many light years away on a distant, primitive planet, three traveling merchant kings were crossing the desert in search of a rumored messianic birth.

It took many years, but the bright light of Space Commander Jerrald's suicide reached their eyes just as they neared a small city called Bethlehem, outshining the light of the stars.

And that's the story of the Christmas star.

## "Airport" from page 2

was Vickers and Lear. Now these names are mostly gone or are on their way out of town.

Maybe Hartman-Ruffin Terminal? The problem with naming after individuals is that they let us down on occasion. Did Rusty Eck make us proud to have a sports facility named after him? Or Jim Hershberger? I suppose that once they have paid their debts to society in the form of jail time, they start over with a clean slate, but still.

Folkie/hobo/activist Bruce (U. Utah) Phillips once told me a story the upshot of which was "don't have a hero until he's dead." Makes sense more and more every day as feet of clay become visible under men of stature.

So, are we back to Ike? Historians will just drag out the story of Gen. George Marshall working very hard to convince Eisenhower from bringing his driver/lover Kay Sommersby home with him from Europe after WWII. The victorious Ike planned to divorce Mamie and marry his mistress.

Marshall managed to make his point successfully and Ike established himself as kind of a national grandfather figure.

The whole renaming thing seems like a non issue, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing (to rip off the bard). Why bother? Unfortunately that means our city fathers will probably do it.

## >GET LISTED

To get on this page, submit your info to [events@f5paper.com](mailto:events@f5paper.com).

### Thursday, December 12

#### Chase Rice and A Thousand Horses

7 p.m. All ages. \$15. @The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

#### Uche

9 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### Bile and The Rabid Whole

10 p.m. Must be 21. \$8. @John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

#### Ever So Android

10 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

#### Honky Suckle

10 p.m. Must be 21. @Lucky's Everyday, 1217 E. Douglas.

### Friday, December 13

#### Ebony Clemons

3 p.m. Piano showcase. All ages. No cover. @Mead's Corner, 430 E Douglas.

#### Those Party Bros

4 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### 13 Spigots

7 p.m. @Artichoke Sandwich Bar, 811 N. Broadway.

#### David Lord and Miki Jarvis

7:30 p.m. @Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas.

#### Stevie Warren

8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @Mead's Corner, 430 E Douglas.

#### Vwl

8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

#### The Fifth Fire and Pandora Roxx

9 p.m. Must be 21. @Betty's Runway Lounge, 4000 S Broadway.

#### Tattoo Karma

9 p.m. @Jerry's Bar & Grill, 630 N. Robin.

#### Honest Ape

9 p.m. Must be 21. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

#### Annie Up

9 p.m. @Loft 150, 150 1/2 N. Mosley.

#### Alright Eddy

9 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

### EDITOR'S PICK

#### The Tits and Diviner

9 p.m. Must be 21. @Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

#### Southern Voice

9 p.m. @Step-N-Out, 1525 W. MacArthur.

#### Turn Back Creek

9 p.m. @The Port of Wichita, 1548 S. Webb.

#### A.J. McCausland Band

10 p.m. Must be 21. @John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

#### Robin Roberts and Billie Preston

10 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

### Saturday, December 14

#### Jeremiah Johnson

4 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### Tia in the Rain with Bailey Shoehals and Taylor Dietrich

7 p.m. Tia in the Rain's *Detours* album release. 18 and older. @Sheesha Hookah, 2628 E. 21st.

#### Sandi Barresee and Randy Fields

7:30 p.m. @Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas.

#### American English

8 p.m. Renowned Beatles tribute band. \$18-\$28. @Orpheum Theatre, 200 N. Broadway.

#### Joslyn Martinez

8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Biting.

#### Elliott Road

8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

#### Tattoo Karma

9 p.m. @Jerry's Bar & Grill, 630 N. Robin.

#### Dialin Watts and Empire Falls

9 p.m. Must be 21. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

#### Annie Up

9 p.m. @Loft 150, 150 1/2 N. Mosley.

### EDITOR'S PICK

#### Ali Harter, Molly Gene One Whoaman Band and Jenny Wood Band

9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @Lucky's Everyday, 1217 E. Douglas.

#### Erin and Alan Band

9 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### Robin Roberts and Billie Preston

9 p.m. @Public at Brickyard, 129 N. Rock Island.

#### Justin Andrew Murray

9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

#### North Platte and Tom Page Trio

9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

#### Sizzle Biscuit and Dixie with Hipbilly

9 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Snug Harbor, 845 S. Christine.

#### Southern Voice

9 p.m. @Step-N-Out, 1525 W. MacArthur.

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#### Suite 68

9 p.m. @The Port of Wichita, 1548 S. Webb.

#### Dead Friend Walking

9 p.m. @The Rack, 1602 S. Meridian.

#### Tornado Rose

9:30 p.m. @Jon's Ale House, 917 E Douglas.

#### Jonathan Fleig and The Bishops

10 p.m. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

### Sunday, December 15

#### Evan Scott Peavy and Troy Hutson

9 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

### Monday, December 16

#### WCMS Jazz Series

8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

### Tuesday, December 17

#### Pete Stein

9 p.m. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

### Wednesday, December 18

#### Trans-Siberian Orchestra

6:30 p.m. \$32.50-\$72.50. @Intrust Bank Arena, 500 E. Waterman.

#### American Cream, Money Badger and Hosmer

9 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

### Thursday, December 19

#### The Beach Boys

7 p.m. \$49.50-\$89.50. @Hartman Arena, 8151 N Hartman Arena Dr, Park City.

#### Paul Shoemaker

8 p.m. All ages. @R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Biting.

#### Stevie Warren

8 p.m. All ages. @The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

#### Tony Ngo with Adam Case, Rudy Love Jr. and Scott Fowler

9 p.m. Album release party for Tony Ngo's first album, "IGNO." \$10. @Abode Venue, 1330 E. Douglas.

#### Sunshine the Bunny

9 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### DJs Lesley and Rhea

9 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

### Friday, December 20

#### Those Party Bros

4 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### The Crowsons

6 p.m. @Watermark Books & Cafe, 4701 E. Douglas.

#### T.H.

8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

#### The Joy Coughs, High Five For Fisting and DubK

9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

#### Lucky People

9 p.m. @Loft 150, 150 1/2 N. Mosley.

#### Erin and Alan

9 p.m. @Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

#### Haymakers

9 p.m. @Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

#### Ophil and Soleb Theory

10 p.m. Must be 21. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.






**NYE2014**

## Samantha Fish

with special guests  
Kentucky Gentleman

### Saturday, Dec 28

## Logan Mize

with special guests  
Jill Martin, Randy Montana, Turnback Creek

### Tuesday, Dec 31

**MORE UPCOMING SHOWS -**

<p>THE LACS • SATURDAY, JANUARY 11</p> <p>CASEY DONAHEW • FRIDAY, JANUARY 17</p> <p>2014 BLUES BALL • SATURDAY, JANUARY 18</p>	<p>PHIL VASSAR • THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6</p> <p>80'S ROCK NIGHT • SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8</p> <p>JJ GREY &amp; MOFRO • THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20</p>
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## ASTROPOOP!

THE SKINNY ON YOUR WEEK  
by Diviner Mme Zanzibird

**Aries:** (March 21 — April 19)  
Week rating: F2  
The heavens have been conspiring to find you a better hairstyle. This week: Use F5s to wrap holiday gifts.

**Taurus:** (April 20 — May 20)  
Week rating: F4  
Thanks to icy streets and a four-wheel drive vehicle, you'll be able to save the day for several stranded motorists. This week: Host a Christmas party with your friends.

**Gemini:** (May 21 — June 21)  
Week rating: F5  
You will have a prophetic dream involving sock puppets. This week: Tell a friend that *Black Swan* is a light, romantic comedy.

**Cancer:** (June 22 — July 22)  
Week rating: F3  
The Universe has decided that you are destined to be a country music star. This week: All signs point to peppermint ice cream.

**Leo:** (July 23 — Aug. 22)  
Week rating: F4  
After a week of sub-freezing temperatures in Wichita, you'll be inspired to book a trip to the California Redwoods. This week: Send your crush a box of fruit and cheeses on a whim.

**Virgo:** (Aug. 23 — Sept. 22)  
Week rating: F2  
Your brain is too orderly; sign up for a new philosophy class. This week: Punch the person who told you *Black Swan* was a romantic comedy.

**Libra:** (Sept. 23 — Oct. 23)  
Week rating: F5  
Instead of evangelizing the Good Book, evangelize the *Hunger Games* series. This week: Pick up a new batch of books at the resale store.

**Scorpio:** (Oct. 24 — Nov. 21)  
Week rating: F1  
You will be exiled from the kitchen for asking whether a cup of baking soda goes into the cookies. This week: Re-read *A Christmas Carol*.

**Sagittarius:** (Nov. 22 — Dec. 21)  
Week rating: F5  
A friend will take you to a spa for your birthday. This week: Relax, Frankie.

**Capricorn:** (Dec. 22 — Jan. 19)  
Week rating: F3  
An admirer will send you a box from Harry & David in the mail. This week: Add to your snow globe collection.

**Aquarius:** (Jan. 20 — Feb. 18)  
Week rating: F2  
You will find an actual skeleton for sale at *Skeletons Out of the Closet* in Delano. This week: Ask the Guinness World Records people to check out your rubber band ball.

**Pisces:** (Feb. 19 — March 20)  
Week rating: F4  
Re-watching *Big Fish* will inspire you to write your dad a letter and to eat fish sticks. This week: Sell some books you no longer read.

## Ask a Mexican!

by Gustavo Arellano  
themexican@f5paper.com

**Dear Mexican:** You mocked and didn't answer the legitimate questions raised in a letter to you a couple of weeks ago, about the guy who didn't see a rosy future for a Mexican-led America. The writer correctly referred to serious

problems in the Hispanic community, such as poor academic performance and births out of wedlock. Instead of responding in a way that showed that you, too, see there are problems that need to be recognized and addressed to reverse the desperate state of Latinos in America, you brushed off the writer by referring to him as "your kind."

How can we solve the problems when people like you won't even admit to these serious cultural issues and, in fact, disparage those who bring them up?

— Not Wearing Bean-Colored Glasses

Dear Gabacho: I did answer the question; you just couldn't handle the question. We can easily solve the problems you, I, and activists decry by treating the problems for what they are — economic

see "Mexican" page 18



iAsk A MEXICAN!

Bohunk & Kern  
By Mike Hill



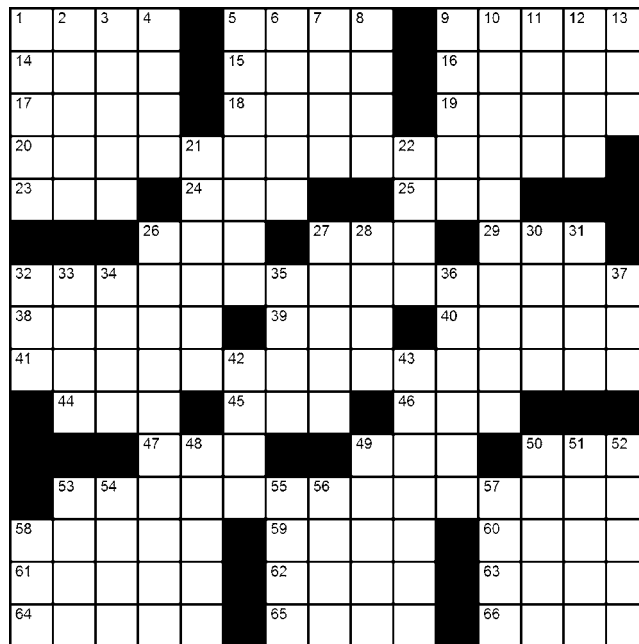
More at Facebook.com/BohunkAndKern

## Jonesin' Crosswords "Magazine Racket" — we've got some issues.

by Matt Jones

### ACROSS

- 1 La Jolla campus, briefly
- 5 Glasgow citizen
- 9 Better qualified
- 14 A or E, or an IOU for that matter
- 15 "American Gothic" setting
- 16 Divide the pie
- 17 "\_\_\_ do better than that!"
- 18 Handlebar feature
- 19 1980's White House name
- 20 Magazine that summarizes the contents of some cookies?
- 23 "Upstairs at Eric's" duo
- 24 Electronic surveillance gp.
- 25 Noah's project
- 26 Pelican State sch.
- 27 Captain Kirk's journal
- 29 Job in "The Santaland Diaries"
- 32 Magazine that stops you from dancing to a Madonna hit?
- 38 First words of "Baby Got Back"
- 39 Plumb of "The Brady Bunch"
- 40 "What now?!"
- 41 Magazine that shouldn't try to fit into an elevator?
- 44 Do some quilting
- 45 "Licensed to \_\_\_" (Beastie Boys album)
- 46 "Solve for x" subj.
- 47 Blind rage
- 49 Olive \_\_\_ (Popeye's lady)
- 50 "Blueberries for \_\_\_" (kiddie lit classic)
- 53 Magazine that draws readers to it 52 times a year?
- 58 Earth tremor
- 59 \_\_\_-Seltzer
- 60 Cold War org.
- 61 1983 comedy with the line "Kenny, don't paint your sister!"



- 62 Factual
- 63 "Let's Get \_\_\_"
- 64 Not all there
- 65 Programming language designed by Larry Wall
- 66 Book-lined retreats

### DOWN

- 1 Bring into one
- 2 Drink with marshmallows
- 3 Cable movie channel that used to have an exclamation point

- 4 Body shop concern
- 5 Enlists
- 6 Chick of jazz
- 7 Boo-boo
- 8 "Lights out" music
- 9 Ed who voiced Carl in "Up"
- 10 Not the best bedmate
- 11 "The Mod Squad" role
- 12 "Behold!" to Caesar
- 13 King: Sp.
- 21 Invisible
- 22 Herb in poultry rubs

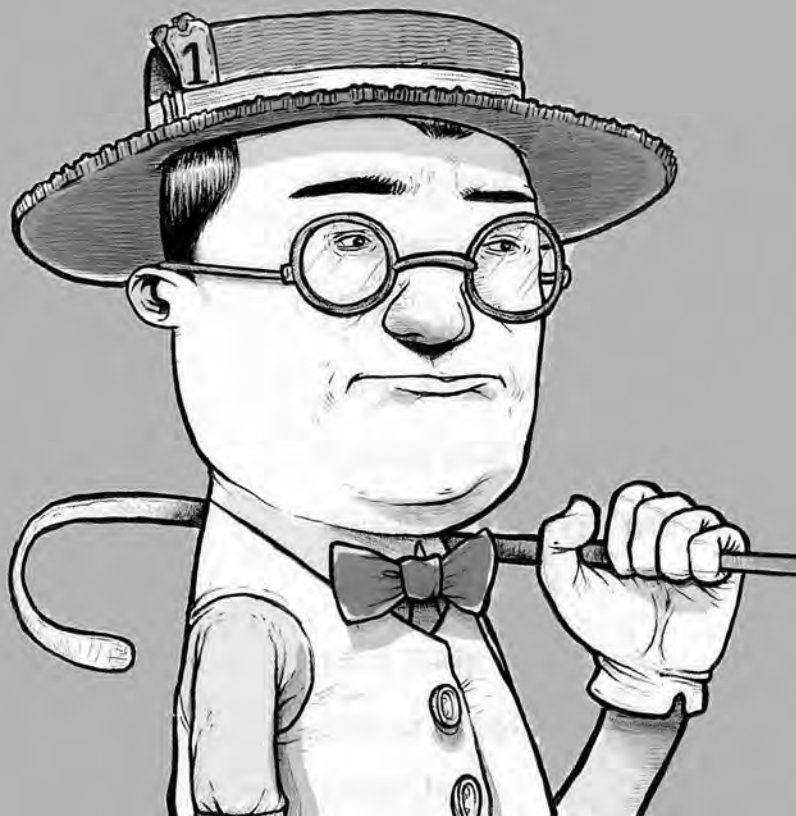
### LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

B	A	C	H	O	S	S	I	E	O	P	T					
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D	H	S		S	E	L	E	S		A	T	M	S			

- 26 "Idiocracy" actor
- 27 Video game segment
- 28 Tandoor, for one
- 30 \_\_\_ Bizkit
- 31 Baby horse
- 32 \_\_\_ for "victory"
- 33 Cheers at a bullfight
- 34 Cave in
- 35 Movie holder
- 36 Uma, in "The Truth About Cats and Dogs"
- 37 180 degrees from SSW
- 42 Arena section
- 43 Feature of subscription-only websites
- 48 Gin game
- 49 Liam's "Schindler's List" role
- 50 Footwear for a frozen lake
- 51 "Good Eats" host Brown
- 52 City on the Rhone
- 53 Prefix with nautical
- 54 Long ride?
- 55 "Deadwood" lawman Wyatt
- 56 "Gold" getter in a 1997 film
- 57 City west of Tulsa
- 58 T-shirt size lineup, for short

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Pirtle's sketchbook



"Mexican" from page 17

instead of "cultural" issues. All the problems you brought up are endemic to nearly every group of poor people this country has ever hosted, from *negritos* to *chinitos* to *gabachos*, Native Americans, and, yes, Mexicans. And those problems largely disappear once said group moves up in class — you don't see Boston Brahmins addicted to Mountain Dew like hillbillies in West Virginia, do you? Where people like you and that other *pendejo* you defend go wrong is by insisting on the Mexican part of the social-problem equation, reducing behavioral pathologies to cultural determinants — in language you can understand, *ustedes* think Mexicans are in a "desperate state" because they're Mexicans and nothing else. So, *sí*: you and your ilk deserve all the disparaging in the *mundo*, *pinche pendejos babosos*.

**Why do Mexicans drag their ass when crossing the street? I have noticed that wherever I go in Orange County, when a Mexican is crossing the street and folks are waiting for them to clear the crosswalk they seem to slow their already slow asses down just because they know the cars have to wait. Is this simply a ploy to piss**

**people off that are in a hurry? Because it's working. I have also noticed this is a peculiarly Mexican trait; Asians, blacks, and white folks actually briskly walk across the street when they see someone waiting for them. For a race that seems to be all about respect it seems pretty disrespectful.**

— Cruising Ambulators Really Rip Off Suckers

Dear CARROS: They're slowing down because they don't want to die. The Federal Highway Administration of America's *The Pedestrian and Bicyclist Highway Safety Problem As It Relates to the Hispanic Population in the United States* found that Latinos make up 16.3 percent of pedestrian fatalities, with Mexis making up nearly 65 percent of that stat — both stats about par for Mexi representation in this country, so not exactly an epidemic. While the report did find fault with Latinos importing the traffic laws of their home countries to *el Norte*, it also reported that these pedestrians found "a lack of respect from drivers" most of the time that led to accidents. So, *sí*: our *raza* is all about the respect, but we give it when you're not running us over.

Ask the Mexican at [themexican@f5paper.com](http://themexican@f5paper.com), be his fan on Facebook, follow him on Twitter @gustavoarellano!

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## In *Tumbledown*, Robert Boswell takes his quiriness from life

### >READ IT

**Title:** *Tumbledown*  
**Author:** Robert Boswell

**Publisher:**  
Graywolf Press,  
Aug. 6, 2013

**Price:** \$16.34  
(hardcover,  
448 pp.), \$11.34  
(kindle)

**ISBN:** 1555976492

### >DO IT

**What:** Robert Boswell reading and signing

**Where:**  
Watermark Books, 4701 E. Douglas

**When:** Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.

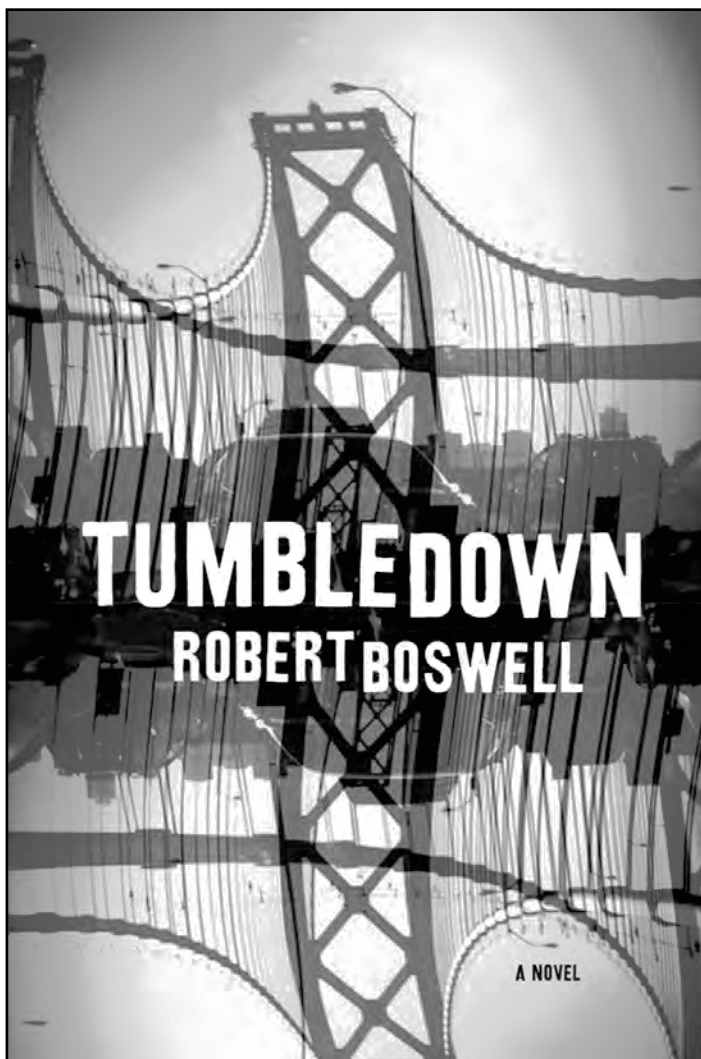
by Kelsie Baab  
kbaab@f5paper.com

The beautiful thing about Robert Boswell's latest novel, *Tumbledown*, is the author's ability to depict a motley group of psychologically damaged clients from The Onyx Springs Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Center as simultaneously insightful and relatable, while the non-clients — the counselors, their relatives, and the director of Onyx Springs — are driven by obsession, confused about their motivations and generally unhappy with their lives.

James Candler has taken all the necessary steps to confirm his appointment as the youngest director of Onyx Springs. He's moved into an oversized home outside La Jolla (the board members believe "the extra rooms [are] meant for a family"), traded his truck for a ridiculous Porsche Boxster ("debt... is a stabilizing influence") and is engaged to be married to Lolly ("his bachelorhood [had been] the only remaining drawback to his candidacy"); with all his ducks in a row, what harm could come from rendezvousing with Lise Ray, a *fascinating* piece of ass he meets at a bar just two weeks before his fiance arrives to live with him?

Patricia Barnstone, another counselor at Onyx Springs, is shunned by her colleagues for allowing a former male client, Andujar, to live with her. If her coworkers weren't so blind by the misconception that Barnstone is a lesbian, surely they would wonder whether or not Barnstone and Andujar sleep together (which they do), and if they've ever had sex (which they have). But, in her mind, Barnstone's affection for Andujar is like "the love of a mother for a difficult and damaged son." And she knows her colleagues would never understand. Besides, she tells herself, "the sex [is] like therapy for him."

And finally there's John Egri, the bigwig of Onyx Springs, Mr. Head Director, who describes his responsibilities to his protege thusly: "Are you listening? I'm teaching you how to manage

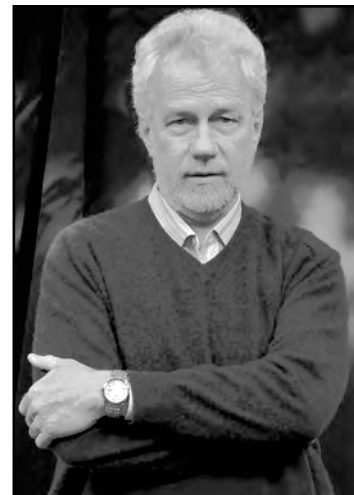


things after I'm gone. I'm on *all* the committees, and I encourage the board to divvy up the duties. Divide and conquer. I'm the only one who has all the information and I pack the committees with ringers; ergo, I'm the one who always wins." Sure, he's a good man. He's never cheated on his wife, though he'll buy the first round of drinks if the boys are going to the strip joint.

It is just this kind of rationalized immorality that blurs the line between the cognitively capable (i.e. — Candler), and the clients themselves. In contrast, the clients' motivations and emotions are unequivocal; they just have difficulty articulating them.

Take Mick Coury, for example; a handsome, Firebird driving, 17-year-old boy in the prime of his youth until schizophrenia strikes, and he begins to lose sight of who he once was. He skimps on his medications because, on them, "he could barely put one word after another," but, off them, sometimes he does *the ramble*, "when his mouth [betrays] him, falling so far behind his thoughts that he [sounds] incoherent... like a fire that burns so brightly and at both ends that its race to the middle is not only exhilarating but terrifying and explosive."

Mick is in love with Karly Hopper, another client at Onyx Springs, who "was friendly to



COURTESY PHOTO

Robert Boswell

everyone, and she was forgiving of people... maybe she had trouble concentrating, but... she didn't take meds. Sometimes, if she didn't want to talk about a subject, she'd act like she couldn't understand, which was more polite than cutting somebody off." Well, isn't it? Couldn't the rest of us learn a little bit about humanity by following the lead of these simpletons?

Or perhaps it is naivety that separates the cognitively capable from the cognitively impaired — the willingness (or lack thereof) to have faith in Authority, at least in the world Boswell has created.

The clincher for me, while reading, though, was learning that in the 1970s and 80s, Boswell worked as a counselor. Though the book is not an autobiography, there are many parts "stolen from his life," as he admits in an interview with Publishers Weekly — like the dilapidated truck, the San Diego setting and who knows which other exploits of James Candler were once experienced by Boswell himself.

Be sure not to miss Robert Boswell at Watermark Books, 4701 E. Douglas, on Tuesday, Dec. 17th, 7 p.m. While you're there, check out some of his other works which include *The Heyday of the Insensitive Bastards* (2010), *Mystery Ride* (1993), five other novels, three collections of stories, two works of non-fiction and a play. 🐾



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## Music::

*"Mayer" from page 6*

MH: That girl's name is Phillip? Go figure. That ain't right. I thought it was Billy Ray's youngest the way she was dancing around up there.

EB: That wasn't a girl. Phillip Phillips is a boy, I mean man, I mean a young man. He won season 11 of *American Idol*. Do you watch that show?

MH: Is it on the same channel as that Duck show? Cause I hate that shit.

EB: No, I think it's a different channel. So Phillips closed out his set playing his debut single "Home," which really seemed to get the crowd on their feet. Are you familiar with that song?

MH: That last song the girl played? I thought that was from the Mumford boys.

EB: No, that was Phillip Phillips' most famous song. But perhaps you are more familiar with John Mayer's music then?

MH: Oh yeah, that guy is ridin' a gravy train on biscuit wheels!

EB: That sounds delicious. So are you happy that Mayer is touring again after spending three years writing his new album, *Paradise Valley*, and recovering from vocal surgery in Montana?

MH: I would say I'm indifferent. But I wish him well on his tour. I hope he makes the best of traveling around this great country of ours. As for Montana, I can't hate nobody for wanting to hang in the mountains and get away from a soulless manufactured music industry that pimps out the American dream and sells it to ya after they steal it from ya... damn socialists.

EB: Yes, I see. So what did you think of the huge screen behind John Mayer that was projecting desert landscapes and shooting stars and gently falling rose petals during the show?

MH: I don't understand, so I disagree. But his band, now they were razor sharp! And there was more gear on stage than Shocker memorabilia at the Village Flea Market! That reminds me, I need to go help "roadie out" some gear, if ya know what I mean.

EB: OK, well were you happy that Mayer played some of his best-loved songs such as "Daughters," "Gravity," and "Waiting on the World to Change"?

MH: We're all waiting on the world to change, but darlin' if you want it to change you've got to change it yourself.

EB: Well I appreciate you taking the time to speak with me, Mr. Hazzard. I know you probably have some post-concert plans to get to.

MH: I tell you, I'm busier than a cucumber in a women's prison, but I always like to take time to help out when I can. It's what Jesus would do.

John Mayer will continue his U.S. tour through the end of 2013 and his new album can be purchased online at [www.johnmayer.com](http://www.johnmayer.com). Phillip Phillips' debut album, *The World from the Side of the Moon*, can be bought through his website [www.phillipphillips.com](http://www.phillipphillips.com). A list of upcoming events at the Intrust Bank Arena can be viewed at [www.intrust-bankarena.com/events.asp?id=11](http://www.intrust-bankarena.com/events.asp?id=11).



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