

FREE
LIKE SPEECH

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Issue 6, Vol. 2 • Feb. 13, 2014

WEEKLY
EVERY THURSDAY

F5

*work like a farmer
party like a rock star*

>State of embarrassment

Short of burning witches at the stake, our state legislature is doing all it can to reverse time. p.2

>Legalize pot

There. We said it. So does everyone else. It's just up to our state legislature bozos. p.2

>Lego blockbuster

The new family-friendly film builds a good time — and subversion — no matter your age. p.10

>The Poetry of Murdock

Col. Marsh Murdock's *Wichita Eagle's* bosom heaved and sot with ecstatic emotion. p.4

>Cheap Valentines

Are you one of those commies too cheap to buy your own Valentines cards? You're set. p.15

F5

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LEGAL MUMBO JUMBO

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ABOUT THE COVER



PHOTO BY MIKE MARLETT

HEARTBREAKER: A tray of heart-shaped candies awaits diners paying their check at the Old Mill Tasty Shop in Old Town.

Kansas turns back the clock on reason

by Bill Jenkins
bjenkins@f5paper.com

Oh, those crazy guys and gals in the Kansas state legislature. You can hardly leave them alone for a minute or two and they go do something that can make us a laughingstock nationwide. Leave them alone for a week and they can set the state back a century.

This week, the House was debating Bill 2453. Anticipating that the U.S. Supreme Court might rule that forbidding same-sex marriage is unconstitutional, they decided that they had to do something.

This bill proposes to make it legal to refuse service to same-sex couples on the basis of religious beliefs.

The example that was given was that

a professional photographer should be able to refuse to shoot a same-sex wedding. This may not seem like a big deal. I mean, who would want to have a wedding photographer who spent the whole

ceremony trying to suppress his gag reflex over the idea of a same-sex couple?

The economics of the whole thing might sort itself out eventually. Some photographers would see same-sex marriages as a new revenue stream and actively seek that kind of business. The same for tuxedo rental shops and other wedding industry professionals. To refuse business on religious grounds might prove a disaster in this economic climate.

On the other hand, this concept smacks of the proverbial slippery slope.



BILL JENKINS

see "Clock" page 3

Really, Kansas, it's time to legalize pot

by Mike Marlett
mmarlett@f5paper.com

As our state legislature attempts to take giant, heartbreaking and breathtaking steps backwards, let's ignore that for a second and consider what our legislature should be doing. It should be raising some revenue streams, helping people who need it and otherwise staying the hell out of people's private lives. Which is, of course, why it should legalize pot.

Every time I talk about legalizing pot, I have to back up and say that I'm allergic to it. I once had to leave an open-air String Cheese Incident concert when the wind shifted. It is not a topic that I look at with any sense of personal joy. To me, it's just tax money and other people's freedom.

But at the end of January, about half of Colorado's 35 licensed recreational pot sellers released their confidential sales tax information to show that they had collectively generated \$1.24 million in 27

days. That's 18 of the 35 pot sellers. And some of them ran out of pot almost right away and only had four days of sales. Rough estimates are that the existing 35 businesses will generate around \$100 million per year in tax money.

And that doesn't even count the money the state is saving by not arresting, prosecuting and storing "pot criminals."

For perspective, Kansas made about \$143 million on alcohol sales last year, according to the Kansas Department of Revenue. All corporate income tax in Kansas last year was \$371 million.

One hundred million dollars is a lot of money.

I'm not saying it would be easy to convince our state legislature to do this.

Our state still hasn't ratified the 21st Amendment that ended Prohibition and still has 13 dry counties. (Don't worry, nobody worth knowing lives in those counties for long.) Sedgwick County



MIKE MARLETT

see "Pot" page 3

Letters to the editor ::

BECAUSE "DULLES AIRPORT" IS TAKEN

To the editor:

It is difficult to understand why many keep hoping that the City Council renames Wichita Mid-Continent Airport after Dwight D. Eisenhower. Or why the editorial board of the *Wichita Eagle* has endorsed this idea as well.

During his two terms, President Eisenhower ordered dozens of covert operations throughout the world, many involving assassinations. These were blithely carried out by Allen Dulles, the director of the C.I.A.

One was particularly heinous, and involved the savage torture and murder in 1960 of Patrice Lumumba, the elected and popular prime minister of the Congo.

Eisenhower feared Lumumba might lead the Congo into the communist camp, so he ordered him killed.

Had Lumumba been allowed to live a little longer, Ike feared that John Kennedy would not have allowed the execution to be carried out. So Lumumba was killed shortly before Kennedy took office.

Years later, a United Nations official very familiar with Lumumba's final hours and murder had this to say: "Lumumba's assassination was an unpardonable, cowardly, and disgustingly brutal act."

And so, on Nov. 22, 1963, a lot of people around the world who had been familiar with Eisenhower's assassination policies thought America got what it deserved.

Following Kennedy's death, the killing of foreign political enemies ceased to be a policy of the U.S. government. Ignorance of these facts, either by *The Eagle* or others, is no excuse for renaming Mid-Continent Airport after a president who ordered murder to be committed in the name of the American people.

— Michal Betz, Wichita

>GET HEARD

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"Clock" from page 2

The principle of refusing service on religious basis is a dangerous one. I can remember when interracial marriages were illegal in many states on religious grounds. Most states had anti-miscegenation statutes. Could a place of business now refuse service to a mixed couple on religious grounds?

Our political system is based on majority rule while preserving minority rights. This can be hard to balance in practice. There is a case before the U.S. Supreme Court which questions whether the new Obamacare regulations requiring contraception products to be included in all policies can be denied in the case of Catholic hospitals or businesses with strong religious beliefs. Whose rights should be protected, those of the institution or those of the female employees who point out that Viagra is covered and so should the birth control pills?

In very few cases have we allowed religious beliefs to exempt individuals from compliance under the law. The status of conscientious objectors in World War II and Vietnam was never really satisfactorily decided. Usually some sort of alternative service was required.

Christian Scientists are taxed to fund government health facilities from county hospitals to the National Institutes of Health, though they will most likely never use them. Hindus, Sikhs and other vegetarians by conscience pay taxes that pay for meat inspectors, agricultural research stations and the like. Pacifists such as Mennonites, Quakers and Amish have never been exempted from taxation that goes to fund the Department of Defense.

I suppose the difference is that the conservative Christians seem to be in the majority and thus in a better position to claim their religious beliefs should exempt them from the law of the land. If the states are legalizing same-sex marriage or the courts are mandating that same-sex couples be treated equally, Governor Sam and the Brownshirts are now trying to write into law the idea that businesses may discriminate if their religious values are being offended.

Of course this is not the first time. They have made stringent restrictions on facilities where abortions may be performed. They have legislated strip clubs nearly out of existence (and completely out of fun). They see their 19th century worldview slipping away but they still have a strangle hold on the Kansas Legislature.

In addition to HB2453, the legislature is up to more mischief. They want to do away with no-fault divorce. That would take us back to the 1950s and '60s. (When I was divorced in 1969, I had to admit to "extreme cruelty" just to get a simple divorce. Anything else would have involved hiring a detective or getting confined to prison or an insane asylum.)

Another bill, HB2473 seeks to wipe out the ability of municipalities to restrict open carry of a weapon. This would take us back to the 1860s. How far is far enough? When will the burning of witches be reinstated?

"Pot" from page 2

Sheriff turned State Attorney General, Vern Miller, performed alcohol raids on Amtrak Trains going through and planes flying over our state.

Our Edwardian-era liquor laws and their Byzantine administration and enforcement are a rather grand example of how not to do it. Overturning those is a whole other problem.

But with pot, we're not just leaving money on the table, we're spending money arresting the table makers. Much like Sheriff Miller, we are spending a lot of time and energy on something that someday will just not matter — and it will someday also make us look silly.

Right now, even with all our stupid alcohol laws, there are more than 750 liquor stores in Kansas. I couldn't find a reliable number on how many bars and pubs there are or how many grocery stores sell 3.2 beer ... but it's a lot, whatever the number is. With all of those, only \$143 million in taxes. Compared to \$100 million per year from just 35 pot stores.

According to the Marijuana Policy Council, America spends \$42 billion every year enforcing pot laws. That's \$140 per person per year. Just very roughly assuming that Kansas spends its share of that evenly, that's roughly \$403 million per year.

That's insane.

What would Kansas do with an extra half-billion dollars?

By now, I don't think anyone buys the arguments about the "dangers" of pot smoking. I mean, seriously, I'm the only person I know of for whom it is actually dangerous. Just being near someone smoking it makes me red, puffy and




BY MIKE PIVONKA

itchy. It's about like anyone you know who's allergic to cats, only very, very few people smoke cats at parties.

Enough people have self-tested marijuana enough for us to know that it's a non-addictive, low-side-effect substance that has a way of making people really lazy.

So if our legislature ever wants to get around to staying out of people's personal lives, helping the poor and finding

ways to fix our budget, here's a start. I won't hold my breath. Or inhale.



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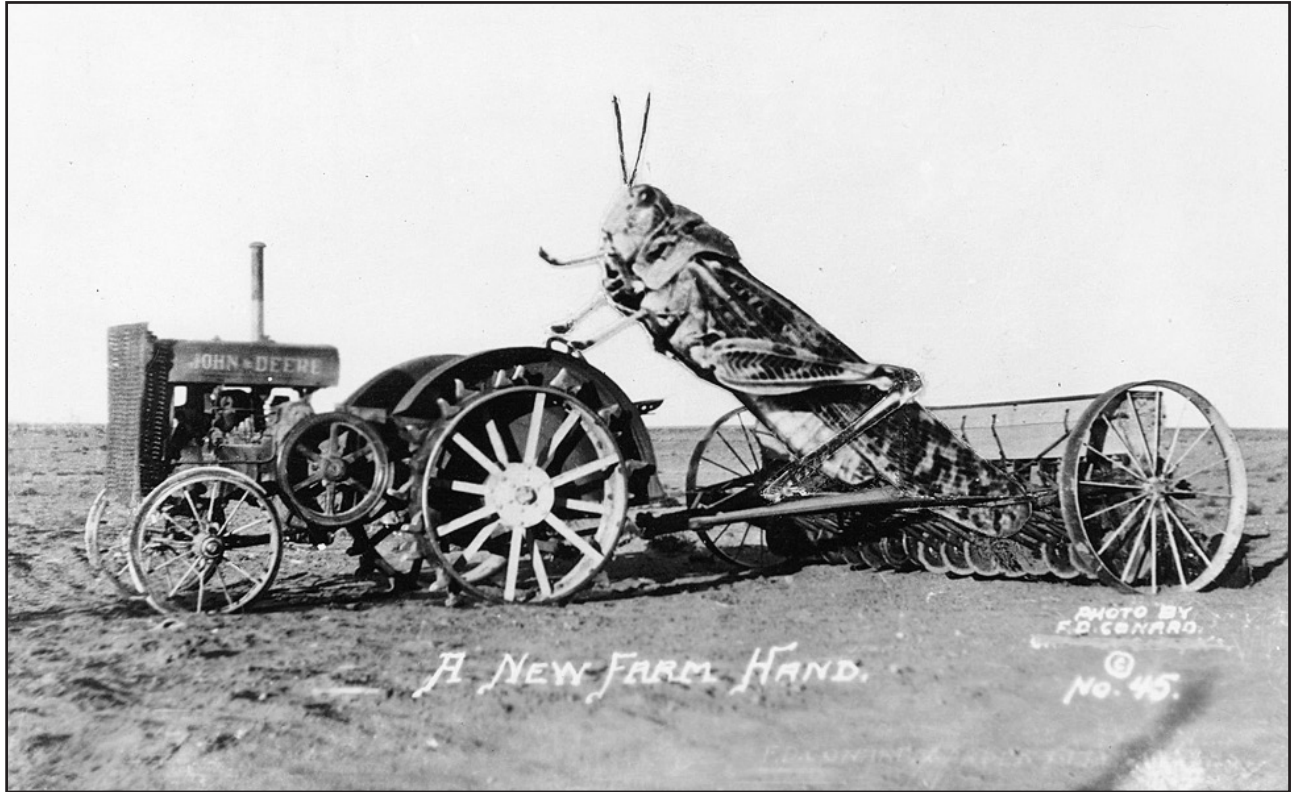
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WHO NEEDS PHOTOSHOP?: 19th-century Wichita, and Kansas at large, suffered plagues of grasshoppers, some so massive they literally blocked out the sun. Novelty post-cards such as this were popular jokes at the time.

SOURCE: VINTAGE POSTCARD



MICHAEL CARMODY

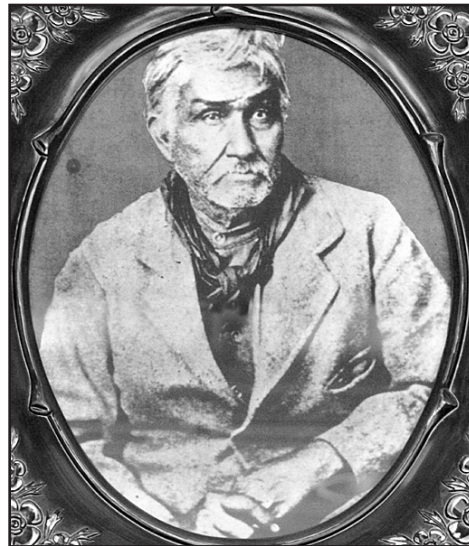
Flowery prose of the prairie

by Michael Carmody
mcarmody@fspaper.com

Today's newspaper reportage is typically dry and straightforward, with little to none of the florid prose employed by journalists of the 19th and early 20th centuries. This week's *Wichitarchaeology* collects samples of the long-lost old style of purple prose published in the *Wichita Eagle* many years ago; many can be attributed to *Eagle* founder Col. Marsh Murdock, the master of the style who coined such Wichita pseudonyms as "Peerless Princess on the Plains," "Magical Mascot of the Meridian," "Mecca of Men" and "The Windy Wonder."

Friday, April 19, 1872: The Little Arkansas river, which forms a junction with the Great Arkansas river, just west of Mr. Waterman's addition, is a beautiful stream. The water is blue as the sky in appearance. For short it is called hereabouts "Little River." Never have we known a stream so full of fish. They are seined out by the wagon load and angled out by piscatorial amateurs by the dozen. The worst varieties retail for 3 cents, the choice 5 cents per pound. We were told that one man has cleared \$2,000 during the winter in the fish traffic.

Friday, May 17, 1872: [The first railroad train arrived in Wichita on Saturday, May 11, 1872, bringing 44 passengers. This event marked a key turning point in the town's history, transforming it from a village into a proper city.] This is a fact. Regular through



SOURCE: OLD COWTOWN MUSEUM

TAKEN BY BEAR GREASE: Jesse Chisholm was a key figure in the expansion of American settlement into the mid- and southwest. Half-Scottish, half-Cherokee, he was fluent in 14 native languages and helped establish trade routes and cattle trails in and through Indian territories.

trains reached our depot yesterday. The bosom of our valley "heaved and sot" with ecstatic emotion. All is joy, and many, very many, are "too full for utterance." We are

exhausted, bewildered, and can say no more. It is enough.

Friday, July 26, 1872: We have often been interrogated as to the name "Chisholm" which the pretty little stream that flows along the eastern confines of our city bears. It was named after an old half-breed Cherokee trader whose ranch or post was located at the crossing of this creek where the old cattle trail of the same name intersects it. Chisholm has been dead about four years, the immediate cause of his transit to the happy hunting grounds of his fathers being an attack of cholera morbus, superinduced by an overdose of bear's grease. True to his Indian instincts and appetites, he was taken with a "big hungry" for bear's oil, which was appeased after a two week hunt by his killing an old bruin and drinking over a quart of its oil, which gave him such a cramping belly-ache as to quench his vital spark and knock him out of time.

Thursday, March 20, 1873: The shipment of buffalo hides and robes from this place is astonishing. Mr. Marsh informs us that an average of two car loads per day, or about 1000 hides per day, for the past two months, have been sent forward from Wichita. Some of these hides have been consigned to parties in Liverpool, and will be manufactured into leather. The destruction of these animals for the past winter has been fearful. A congressional law should be enacted against the wanton destruction of these monarchs of the plains.

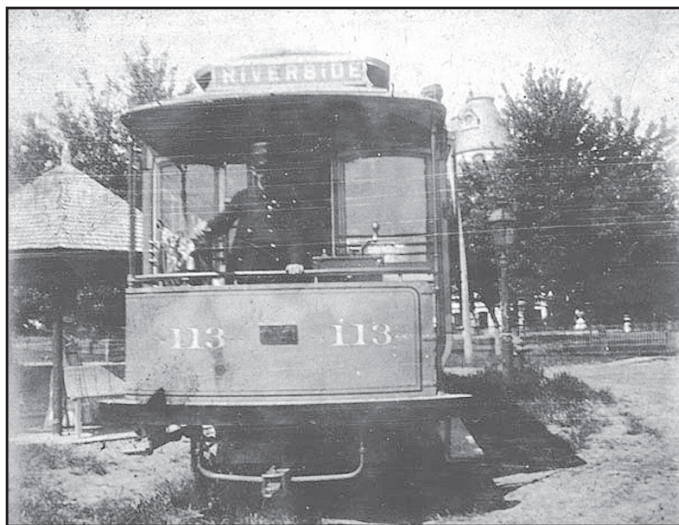
see "Wichitarchaeology" page 5

"Wichitarchaeology" from page 4

Thursday, July 23, 1874: Charles W. Hill has moved his large drug establishment into his new building on Douglas Avenue opposite the Eagle block, which leads us to remember that a little over two years ago we moved the Eagle establishment on to the same avenue, at which time there was no other business represented on the street, if we except old Jack Peyton's harness shanty. We felt lonesome enough, but a suitable room was to be found nowhere else.

Thursday, Jan. 7, 1875: [The Eagle published a letter describing] the grasshoppers that plagued this area last August. Male is seven-eighths to one inch long, with wings and legs same length as body. Female is one-fourth larger. Seen at a distance clustered on crops or trees they resemble bees, but flying in sunlight high in the air they look like flakes of snow. He (the writer) extrapolated from number counted in a cubic inch to approximately 43,000 in a bushel. In his son's corn field he found ten quarts of grasshoppers in an average rod, or an estimated 50 bushels to the acre, or 2,150,000 grasshoppers to the acre.

Thursday, Nov. 17, 1881: Our county attorney, D. M. Dale, was married on Nov. 3rd to Miss Louise Berry, of Pawpaw, Illinois. David may have dodged the strife of the late campaign, but we assure



THE DEATH KNELL: This 1898 photo depicts the Riverside streetcar at the circle drive in College Hill. At this time new electric trolleys and tracks were being pressed into service.

SOURCE: WICHITA/ SEDGWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

him he has enlisted in another, in the presence of whose warmth the heat of a political struggle would pale. The securing of bread and butter, shoes and stockings, little and big, soap, hook, wash-tubs, cooking stoves and pianos, may not bother him much, but as his acquaintance ripens with the milliners, and the spring and fall openings, the dressmakers and their wonderful figures, and the satanic smile of the average dry goods man, the bald spot on the top of his head will reach the nape of his neck and the furrows on his brow will look like

they had been made with a sub-soil plow. Ta, ta, young man.

Thursday, June 28, 1883: Mr. S. L. Davidson of the Citizens Bank has as yet failed to remove those unsightly old peach stumps from the lawn in front of his fine new home. Such incongruity is terribly shocking to the aesthetic residents on that avenue, and particularly unsightly in connection with the otherwise faultless surroundings. Clean 'em out, old man.

Friday, Oct. 15, 1897: The first spikes have been driven for the new up-to-

date street car system, when workmen began the construction of the new line to Fairmount. They were the death knell of the old, worn out, dilapidated, ramshackle, bone racking, creaking, rusty, and generally worthless street car system that has tried the patience, disturbed the peace, and paralyzed the Christianity of a long suffering public. There was general rejoicing at the prospect of a new railway system and of retiring the loudly and fervently cursed old system.

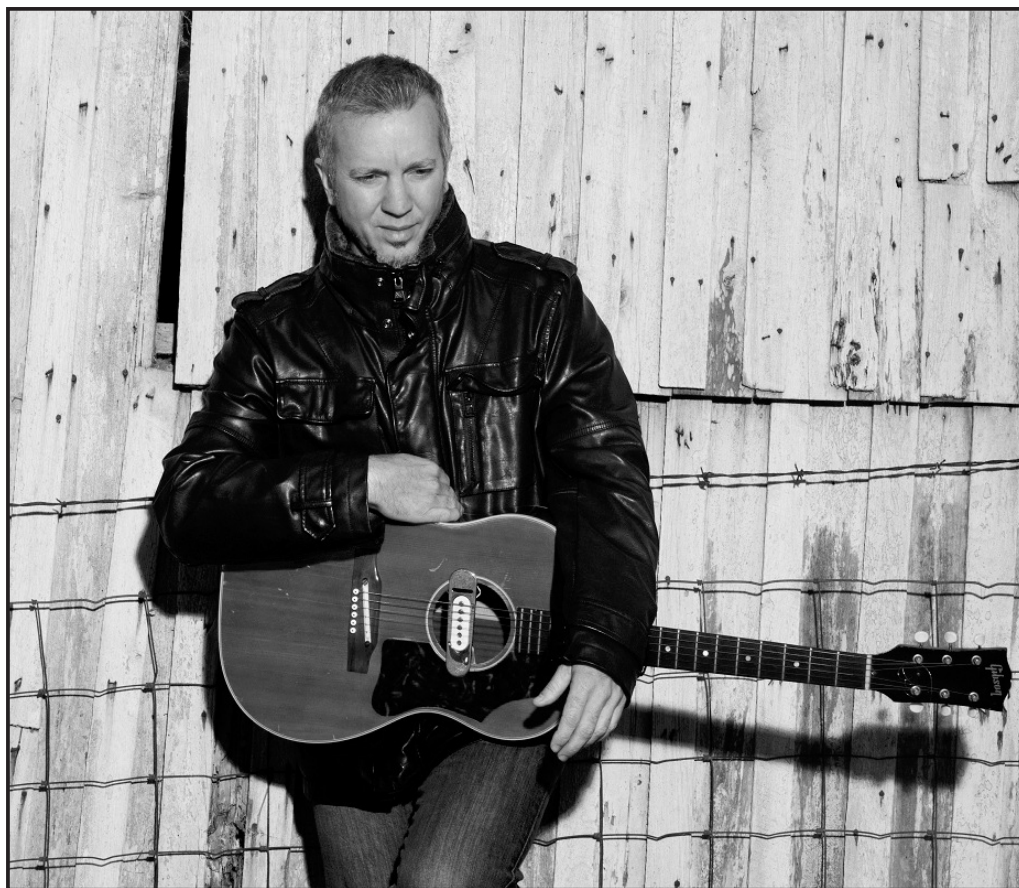
Thursday, March 27, 1913: Article on Mrs. Buckwalter's defeat in the primary election for city commissioner. She received 855 votes (fifth of eight candidates). Says one of the campaign stories that came to her ears was that "Her husband cannot live with her. She is so quarrelsome; he cannot eat her cooking, is the reason he is so thin. He is threatened with nervous prostration every time the moon changes. She has Socialistic views."

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 1914: Old "Mary Ann," the official provider of joy rides for newlyweds never piloted a more popular couple nor a jollier bunch of well wishers than last night, when Mr. and Mrs. Olin Epperly were the honor guests. "Mary Ann," the work car on the street car line, was gaily bedecked with electric lights and a banner inscribed "Just Married." Flashlight pictures were taken. Mr. Epperly has been with the street car company four years.

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COURTESY PHOTO

HIGH-ENERGY SHOWS: JJ Grey and Mofro built its fan base on the summer festival circuit playing for bands such as Allman Brothers, Phish and String Cheese Incident.

JJ Grey set to soulfully rock the Cotillion

by Jedd Beaudoin
jbeaudoin@f5paper.com

JJ Grey formed the band Mofro with friend and fellow Jacksonville, Fla. resident Daryl Hance somewhere in the deep recesses of the Clinton era. Blending elements of funk, soul and southern rock, the group began releasing albums in 2001 with *Blackwater*. Grey frequently touched on elements of contemporary southern culture and environmentalism in his lyrics but could just as quickly turn around and deliver a sex-soaked soul burner.

By 2007 the band had left behind the tiny Fog City label for the greener pastures of Alligator Records (the Chicago-based blues-oriented imprint).

By then Grey had stepped out front of the band with that year's *Country Ghetto* and each subsequent release credited to JJ Grey and Mofro.

The band had by then found its footing on the summer festival circuit, amassing a following that included fans of the Allman Brothers,

Phish, String Cheese Incident and others. With a revolving cast of musicians in the group, one thing remained consistent, Grey's reputation for high-energy tight-as-a-mouse's-ass live shows.

The latest release from Grey and Mofro is *This River*, issued in 2013. By no means a comprehensive list, here are five songs that you're likely to hear when the group takes to the stage at The Cotillion next Thursday.

1. "Dirtfloor Cracker" (from *Lochloosa*): A dirty, grit-fueled meditation on southern culture in the present day that lands somewhere between Muscle Shoals and Curtis Mayfield's backyard. Retro enough that you can imagine hearing it on 8-track, contemporary enough that you can catch a waft of hip-hop influences seeping in through the cracks.

2. "Lochloosa" (from *Lochloosa*): The title track from the group's sophomore release finds Grey meditating on the fate of his home state. The singer might have been fighting a losing battle with property developers but the ache in this —



COURTESY PHOTO

LOTS OF GENRES: Sick/Sea is Jonathan Garza, Cameron Scott and Audrey Scott of McAllen, Texas. The trio is influenced by pop, rock and jazz sounds.

One for all the kids

Sick/Sea, Abandon Kansas and Travel Guide put on an all ages show at Rock Island Live.

by Torin Andersen
tandersen@f5paper.com

Sick/Sea and Abandon Kansas will headline an all-ages show at Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island, on Thursday, Feb. 20, with Travel Guide leading the way.

Sick/Sea — from McAllen, Texas — is a trio consisting of siblings Audrey and Cameron Scott with friend/bass-player Jonathan Garza.

Their dreams of exploring the vast landscape of sound started at an early age. Fascinated by so many different genres of music, Sick/Sea decided to throw them all together. Drawing inspiration from pop,

>HEAR IT

Who: Sick/Sea, Abandon Kansas and Travel Guide

What: Alt-rock

When: 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 20

How much: Under 21, \$10; 21 and older, \$5

Where: Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island

see "JJ Grey" page 15

see "Sick/Sea" page 15



★★★★★

This Bluebird Wants Me Dead
Vehicles

2014, Self-released

by **Jorts McDude**
jmcdude@f5paper.com

True story: I got drunk and tried to start a fight with Ian McCulloch a few years ago at a SXSW "secret show" because his band Echo and the Bunnymen just wouldn't play "The Cutter" soon enough in their set. Apparently I threw more than one water bottle at his face and taunted him severely before Mrs. McDude dragged me out of there, somehow preventing me from getting an ugly knock on my rap sheet. This is why we can't have nice things, I guess.

What's this have to do with Vehicles? Well, they remind me a lot of Echo and the Bunnymen, and I mean that in the nicest way possible (though in all of music journalism, probably no band has ever been compared negatively to Echo and the Bunnymen). Cody Cloud and company are set to release their third album, *This Bluebird Wants Me Dead*, Feb. 22 at Lucky's, and it is fantastic.

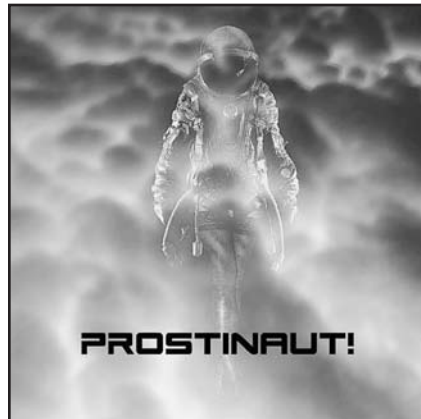
Hearing a band with a mastery of traditional song structures who manage to keep their sound fresh and interesting, while still fetishizing late-'80s pop sounds is a blast. Opener "Projections" acts as a fine introduction to anyone unfamiliar with Vehicles' work-spacey guitars, a killer chorus, and the best snare drum sound. Other highlights include the very slinky and smoky "Middle Modern," with its grooving bass and tremolo guitar, and the sugarsweet vocal harmonies and space-guitar bridge in "No Taxi."

Songs are mostly upbeat, danceable and super catchy, and band members show a ton of restraint, with emphasis on showcasing great songs over individual talent, though there's plenty of talent to go around in this band. And these songs are great, except the endings: unlike say, Interpol or Echo and the Bunnymen, or I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness, who benefit from enough time in the studio to really benefit from outros and fades, Vehicles' songs just kinda.... stop. It's a small detail, but 11 abrupt endings seem pretty anomalous compared to how

thoughtful the rest of the record is.

This Bluebird Wants Me Dead offers up a solid 45 minutes of thoughtful, well-written, well-produced, dark and danceable pop, and its appearance will be a most-welcome addition to your record collection. Oh, and I forgot to mention: When I refer to *This Bluebird Wants Me Dead* as a record, I mean it. It's a nice, shiny LP with beautiful packaging and as a bonus, it comes with a free digital download. Grab this record.

Record release Feb. 22 at Lucky's. Virgin Mary Satellite and DeVeils open. \$5.



★★★★★

Prostinaut!
Prostinaut!

2013, Self-released

by **Jorts McDude**
jmcdude@f5paper.com

Pulling out my favorite old CDs and cassettes is sometimes a fussy thing for me, because that slap in the face I feel when I hear what I once thought was cutting edge songwriting and production sometimes taints the way I'll listen to that album forever.

Maybe the members of Prostinaut!, from Dallas, felt the same when they dusted off their old Victims Family cassettes and decided that rather than petition Alternative Tentacles for reissues, it might be easier to start a band and update the classic Victims Family sound (if there is one). Victims Family is such

see "Albums" page 8



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HARVESTER IS: Kate Van Steenhuyse, founder/CEO, Kristen Beal: co-founder/COO; and Ryan W. Gates, co-founder/advisor.

Harvester Arts wants to be your catalyst

by **Christina Calhoun**
ccalhoun@f5paper.com

Chances are good you're soon going to be seeing some pretty sweet things around town under the umbrella of Harvester Arts. We thought you might want to be in the loop.

What is Harvester Arts?

The name Harvester encompasses our mission conceptually: to cultivate dialogue and new work. We are a catalyst for growth in the Wichita art scene.

Where are you located?

In the second story NEST space above Bluebird Art house in Delano.

What is the mission of Harvester?

We want to foster critical dialogue and expand the focus of the local art scene by inviting guest artists to Wichita for two week residencies culminating in an exhibition. We'll also host satellite exhibitions at locations around town to diversify our impact and draw people in. Harvester wants to connect local talent with guest artists from outside the community as a catalyst for fresh ideas that we can all chew over and react to together.

What specific projects/events are you excited about?

Eventually we want to see school kids writing essays or poems, local artists creating new projects, and all parts of the community getting involved. There is no right or wrong way to respond. Harvester is about doing and expanding our thinking.

Right now we have a big volunteer informational/painting meeting coming up Feb. 15. People interested in learning more about Harvester should come see the space and meet our team!

Who comprises your team?

Kate Van Steenhuyse: Founder/CEO. Kate is a painter, designer, and educator and currently serves on the Ulrich Museum of Art Alliance Board.

Kristen Beal: Co-Founder/COO. Kristen is a visual artist who studied in Kansas City, Virginia, and Wichita, who often explores various means of collaboration via community-based art projects.

Ryan W. Gates: Co-Founder/Advisor.

Ryan's work with Disney, Disney.com, The Kids WB and more has earned him a number of awards in film, web production, television and blogging.

I would like to volunteer and be involved, what do I do?

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"Albums" from page 7

a rad band; I'm going to listen to them when I finish with this.

Anyway, the rhythm section of Prostinaut! (TJ Callaway and Justin Schaefer on bass and drums, respectively) has been playing together, off and on, for some 20 years under different monikers, and their chemistry shines bright on this debut EP, which boasts lots of quirky stop/starts and oddball accents. The story goes that they spent years(!) looking for a guitarist before Colin Drake came along, and longer before finding singer Tommy Urritia, who rounded out the lineup.

The band wrote, performed, recorded, mixed and mastered this EP, and plan a steady schedule of EPs rather than sparsely-released full-lengths. Song titles

are totally absurd — "Sherlocks, Monday Night," "I Work at a Bank," "IROC and I Drive One, Too," etc. — though that absurdity is not carried into the music, which borders on progressive rock (think: Tomahawk, Thought Industry, Queens of the Stone Age). Highlights on this EP are the back-to-back guitar solos and bass engine-revs in "I Work at a Bank" and the weird little complexities in "IROC and I Drive One, Too" — the kind that trick your ears upon first listen that the song is much less intricate than it is three or four listens in. Bonus points for the nice bass solo to close the album out.

So, the band's plan to release EPs every six months or so is nice, but that there are only five songs here leaves a little something to be desired. Which, I suppose, is the point. Check it out at <https://www.reverberation.com/prostinaut>

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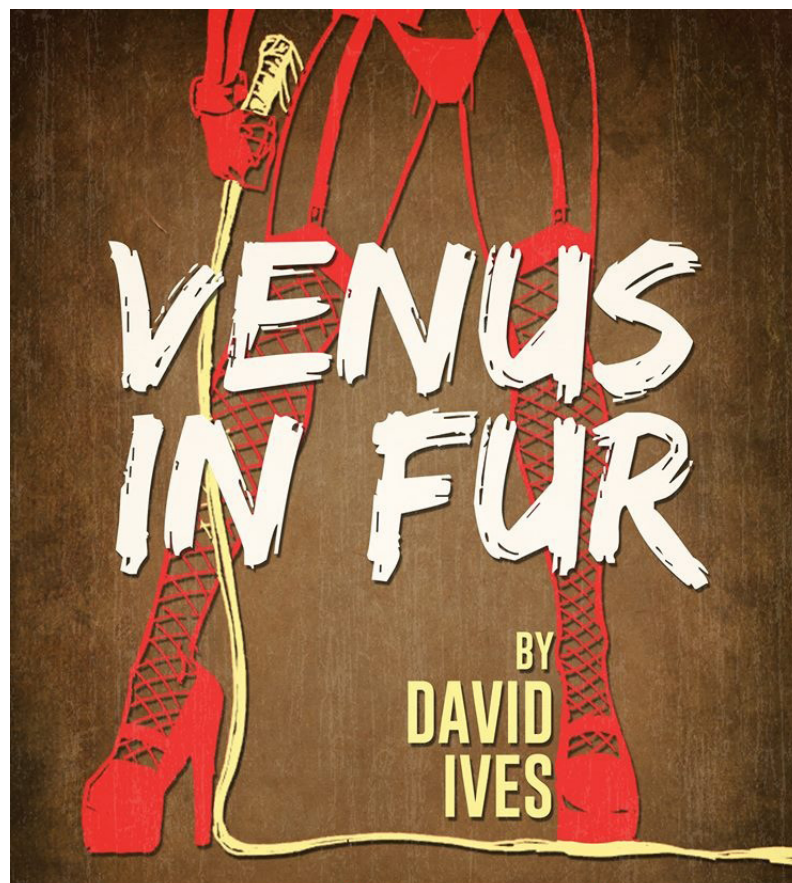
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>GET LISTED

To get on this page, submit your info to events@f5paper.com.

Thursday, February 13

Pullman Standard and Kelsey Kaup
7 p.m. @Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

12th Planet with Protohype, Herobust, Antiserum and Steady
7 p.m. All ages. \$16-\$18. @The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

Friday, February 14

Shoulder to Shoulder and The Kahlers
8 p.m. @Artichoke Sandwich Bar, 811 N. Broadway.

Last Transit
8 p.m. @Heroes Sports Bar, 117 N. Mosley.

The DeVeils
8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Bitting.

Lalo Mora, Revancha Nortena and Mensaje Norteno
8 p.m. @The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

Groove 42
9 p.m. @Jerry's Bar & Grill, 630 N. Robin.

Delano and Rob Wade Band
9 p.m. \$5. @John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

Air City Rock
9 p.m. \$5. @Loft 150, 150 1/2 N. Mosley.

Tornado Rose
9 p.m. \$5. @Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

Sleepy Truckers
9 p.m. @The Stadium, 620 W. Maple.

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

Saturday, February 15

Ronny Cox
7 p.m. \$25. @Stiefel Theatre, 151 S Santa Fe Ave, Salina.

James Duvall
8 p.m. All ages. No cover. @R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Bitting.

Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn
8 p.m. \$35-\$55. @Stiefel Theatre, 151 S Santa Fe Ave, Salina.

Stallion
8 p.m. @Walkers Bar and Venue, 220 S. Commerce.

Groove 42
9 p.m. @Jerry's Bar & Grill, 630 N. Robin.

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

3rd Annual Mid-Winter Metalfest
9 p.m. Cucuii, Absalom, Temple of the Damned and Axx of Hate. \$5. @Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

Victims of Spotlight with Dialin Watts and Fridays Waiting
9 p.m. \$5. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

Sky Chief
10 p.m. \$5. @John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

The Tits and Japanese Game Show
10 p.m. \$5. @Lucky's Everyday, 1217 E. Douglas.

Nasty Navigator with Chuck English
10 p.m. @Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

Sunday, February 16

Front Porch Blues
5 p.m. @Snug Harbor, 845 S. Christine.

Possessed by Paul James with Carrie Nation and the Speakeasy
9 p.m. \$10. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

Monday, February 17

Parker Millsap with John Moreland
9 p.m. \$8. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

Tuesday, February 18

Josh Roberts and the Hinges
10 p.m. @Lucky's Everyday, 1217 E. Douglas.

Wednesday, February 19

Jessica Paige, Jordan Minnis and Lacey Cruse
9 p.m. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Paul and Vinnie's Rockbomb
9 p.m. No cover. @The Elbow Room, 1507 E. Pawnee.

Thursday, February 20

J.J. Grey and Mofro with Cody Canada and the Departed
7 p.m. All ages. \$20-\$23. @The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

Abandon Kansas, Sick/Sea and The Travel Guide
8 p.m. All ages. \$5 for 21 and up, \$10 for under 21. @Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

Erik Mallory, Jon Eaton and Michael Rico
9 p.m. No cover. @Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Friday, February 21

21st Annual Friends University Jazz Festival
8 a.m. Day one performers in the vocal invitational concert include the Hutch Community College Jazz Ensemble, Ottawa University Jazz Singers, Friends University JVE and guest vocalist Connaître Miller. All tickets can be purchased online at friends.edu/finearts or by calling the Fine Arts Box Office at 295-5677. \$6 for seniors and students, \$9 for adults, all daytime events are free. @Friends University Riney Fine Arts Gallery, 2100 W. University.

Stretched Souls
5 p.m. @Heroes Sports Bar, 117 N. Mosley.

Split Lip Rayfield with Carrie Nation and the Speakeasy and Maw
7 p.m. All ages. \$16.50-\$18.50 @The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

Delano and Waffle Stomp
8 p.m. @Betty's Runway Lounge, 4000 S Broadway.

The Hounds Below
8 p.m. @Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

Abigail Williams, Erimha, The Trigger Effect, Untapped Market and The Bloody Wayside
9 p.m. \$8 advance tickets, \$10 day of show. @Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

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

Saturday, February 22

21st Annual Friends University Jazz Festival
10 a.m. Day two will feature several daytime events and conclude with headlining act Bobby Watson and Horizon. Daytime events are free, prices for headliner concert are \$20 for seniors and students, \$25 for adults. @Friends University Riney Fine Arts Gallery, 2100 W. University.

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Movies::



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY STEP ON THEMSELVES?: *The Lego Movie* sets a high benchmark for family-centric cinema.

>SEE IT

Title: *The Lego Movie*

Rating: F5

Short review:

With fantastic animation, wit, heart, and even subversiveness, the film sets a high benchmark for family-centric cinema.

Lego Movie is a blockbuster

by **Jeremy Webster**
jwebster@f5paper.com

The *Lego Movie*, a CGI animated romp based around the endlessly popular building toys, could have stopped at being a cute toy commercial and called it a day and would have probably made sufficient money. But it didn't settle for that. With fantastic animation, wit, heart, and even subversiveness, *The*

Lego Movie sets a high benchmark for family-centric cinema.

In Legoland, corporate conglomerate head cheese and national President Lord Business (Will Ferrell) finds change immensely irritating. After making his populace both mentally and imaginatively complacent, he sets about his evil plan to quite literally glue all the Lego people and structures in place, effectively halting change forever.

One of his populace, an average construction worker named Emmet Brickowski (Chris Pratt), stumbles across a legendary Lego piece called The Piece of Resistance. A resistance force led by the wizard Vitruvius (Morgan Freeman) quickly take Emmet into their ranks, for prophecy foretells of the one who finds the fabled piece to be the pinnacle of all MasterBuilders. Sadly for Emmet, he's really an unimaginative but bighearted schlub who has to figure all of this out as he goes, seeing as how the Piece of Resistance has somehow managed to become permanently affixed to his back.

Vitruvius and Emmet, along with romantic interest Wyldstyle (Elizabeth Banks), Batman (Will Arnett), an '80s space guy (Charlie Day), and a rainbow-obsessed cat

see "*The Lego Movie*" page 13

>SEE IT

Title: *The Monuments Men*

Rating: F3

Short review:

Clooney's treatment of an important achievement in WW II history is more of a quick study than a real portrait.

The Monuments Men isn't a piece of art

by **Mike Marlett**
mmarlett@f5paper.com

There's a few things everyone knows about the Nazis: they were bad, they plundered and they lost World War II. Unfortunately, George Clooney's *The Monuments Men* won't add much of anything to that assessment. Did you know that the U.S. government spearheaded an international effort to get the works of art that the Nazis stole back to their rightful owners? Well, they did. So now you know just about everything there is to learn from *The Monuments Men*.

It is an uneven and ultimately

light-weight film. From the outside, it has the markings of perhaps being an epic all-star World War II men-on-a-mission movie like *The Dirty Dozen* or *Kelly's Heroes*.

Clooney not only starred in this, but wrote and directed it, too. Compared to his previous similar projects — 2005's Edward R. Murrow biopic *Good Night, and Good Luck* or 2011's political trail drama *The Ides of March* — *The Monuments Men* is framed like an important work of art, but it paints all of its characters in broad strokes and gives them cartoonish motivations.

Clooney's Frank Stokes has all of



GO GET 'EM BOYS: These guys are laughing because they just avoided all getting blown up by a land mine. Huh.

see "*Monuments*" page 13

NowPlaying::

F5

MOVIE RATINGS GUIDE

- F5 • Awe-Inspiring
- F4 • Batten Down the Trailer!
- F3 • Blew Off A Few Shingles
- F2 • Slightly Sucks
- F1 • Just Blows

>NEW THIS WEEK

- *About Last Night*
- *Endless Love*
- *RoboCop*
- *Winter's Tale*

>RETRO

- *The Princess Bride*

New This Week

About Last Night (R)

Starring Kevin Hart, Michael Ealy, Regina Hall. Directed by Steve Pink.
Plot: Two couples' new love is eventually put to the test in the real world.
Genre: Comedy, Romance
13th Ave Warren: 1:20, 1:50, 4, 4:40, 6:50, 7:30, 9:40, 10:15; **21st St Warren:** 1:30, 4:25, 7:15, 10:10; **Warren Oldtown:** 6:45, 7:30 (no Sun), 9:40, 10:20 daily with 12:30, 12:45 Sat-Sun and 3:30, 3:45 Fri-Sun and Wed

American Hustle (R)

Starring Christian Bale, Amy Adams, Bradley Cooper. Directed by David O. Russell.
Plot: A con man and his partner are forced to work for a FBI agent who pushes them into a world of powerbrokers and mafia.
Genre: Crime, Drama
Rating: F5
13th Ave Warren: 6:20, 9:20

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13)

Starring Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate, Paul Rudd. Directed by Adam McKay.
Plot: With the 70s behind him, Ron Burgundy, returns to take New York's first 24-hour news channel by storm.
Genre: Comedy
Rating: F3
Palace West: 1:20, 4:30, 7, 9:30 with 11:20 p.m. Fri-Sat

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, young Liesel finds solace by stealing books and sharing them.
Genre: Drama, War
Rating: F5
Palace West: 1:15, 6:40

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 MV Maersk Alabama.
Genre: Biography, Crime, Drama, Thriller
Rating: F4
Palace West: 3:55, 9:15

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 (PG)

Starring Bill Hader, Anna Faris, Will Forte. Directed by Cody Cameron, Kris Pearn.
Plot: Flint Lockwood is forced to leave his post when he learns that his most infamous machine is still operational.
Genre: Animation, Comedy, Family, Sci-Fi
Rating: F4
Palace West: 1:30, 4, 6:30, 8:50

Devil's Due (R)

Starring Allison Miller, Zach Gilford, Steffie Grote. Directed by Matt Bettinelli-Olpin, Tyler Gillett.
Plot: After a mysterious night on their honeymoon, a couple finds themselves dealing with a pregnancy of sinister origin.
Genre: Horror
Rating: F1
Palace West: 2, 4:35, 7:10, 9:30 with 11:30 p.m. Fri-Sat

New This Week

Endless Love (PG-13)

Starring Gabriella Wilde, Alex Pettyfer, Bruce Greenwood. Directed by Shana Feste.

Plot: A privileged girl and a charismatic boy spark a reckless love affair as their parents try to keep them apart.
Genre: Drama, Romance
13th Ave Warren: 12:45, 1:40, 3:45, 4:30, 6:30, 7:15, 9:20, 9:50; **21st St Warren:** 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10; **Movie Machine:** 2, 4:30, 7:10 with 9:30 Fri-Sat; **Theatres:** 1:40, 4:10, 7:05, 9:30

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 to find Anna's sister Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom in eternal winter.
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy, Family, Fantasy
Rating: F4
13th Ave Warren: 12:30 3:15 (Sing Along), 6:30 (Sing Along), 9:10; **21st St Warren:** 12:35, 3:25 (Sing-a-long), 6:15, 9; **Movie Machine:** 1, 7:05

Gravity (PG-13)

Starring Sandra Bullock, George Clooney, Ed Harris. Directed by Alfonso Cuarón.
Plot: A medical engineer and an astronaut work together to survive after an accident leaves them adrift in space.
Genre: Drama, Mystery, Sci-Fi, Thriller
Rating: F5
21st St Warren: 8:15 (3D)

Grudge Match (PG-13)

Starring Robert De Niro, Sylvester Stallone, Kim Basinger. Directed by Peter Segal.
Plot: A pair of aging boxing rivals are coaxed out of retirement to fight one final bout — 30 years after their last match.
Genre: Comedy, Sport
Palace West: 1:40, 4, 6:45, 9:10 with 11:35 p.m. Fri-Sat

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13)

Starring Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth. Directed by Francis Lawrence.
Plot: Katniss and Peeta become targets of the Capitol after their victory in the 74th Hunger Games sparks a rebellion.
Genre: Action, Adventure, Sci-Fi, Thriller
Rating: F5
21st St Warren: 1:45, 5:15, 8:45

I, Frankenstein (PG-13)

Starring Aaron Eckhart, Bill Nighy, Miranda Otto. Directed by Stuart Beattie.
Plot: Frankenstein's creature finds himself caught in an all-out, centuries old war between two immortal clans.
Genre: Action, Fantasy, Sci-Fi
Rating: F1
21st St Warren: 3:55, 9:45

Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG-13)

Starring Chris Pine, Kevin Costner, Keira Knightley. Directed by Kenneth Branagh.
Plot: Jack Ryan, as a young covert CIA analyst, uncovers a Russian plot to crash the U.S. economy with a terrorist attack.
Genre: Action, Drama, Thriller
13th Ave Warren: 4:10, 9:15; **21st St Warren:** 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:40

Labor Day (PG-13)

Starring Kate Winslet, Josh Brolin, Gattlin Griffith. Directed by Jason Reitman.
Plot: A depressed single mom and her son offer a wounded escaped convict man a ride and gradually learn his true story.
Genre: Drama
Rating: F5
13th Ave Warren: 1:40, 6:45; **21st St Warren:** 12:55, 6:55

Showtimes are from Friday, Feb. 14 to Thursday, Feb. 20

New This Week

RoboCop (PG-13)

Starring Joel Kinnaman, Douglas Urbanski, Abbie Cornish. Directed by José Padilha.
Plot: In 2028 Detroit, when Alex Murphy — a loving husband, father and good cop — is critically injured in the line of duty, the multinational conglomerate OmniCorp sees their chance for a part-man, part-robot police officer.
Genre: Action, Crime, Sci-Fi, Thriller
13th Ave Warren: 12:15, 1:10, 3:10, 4:15, 6:15, 7:20, 9:15, 10:15; **21st St Warren:** 12:30, 1 (IMAX), 3:30, 4 (IMAX), 6:30, 7 (IMAX), 9:30, 10 (IMAX); **Movie Machine:** 1:45, 4:20, 7, 9:35, 10:0; **Theatres:** 1:20, 3:55, 7:05, 9:40; **Warren Oldtown:** 7, 10 daily with 1 Sat-Sun and 4 Fri-Sun and Wed

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (PG)

Starring Ben Stiller, Kristen Wiig, Adam Scott. Directed by Ben Stiller.
Plot: A day-dreamer escapes his anonymous life by disappearing into a world of fantasies filled with heroism, romance and action.
Genre: Adventure, Comedy, Drama, Fantasy
Palace West: 1:25, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20 with 11:40 p.m. Fri-Sat

That Awkward Moment (R)

Starring Zac Efron, Michael B. Jordan, Miles Teller. Directed by Tom Gormican.
Plot: Three best friends find themselves at that confusing moment in every dating relationship when one must decide, "So, where is this going?"
Genre: Comedy, Romance
13th Ave Warren: 1:45, 4:20, 7, 9:40; **21st St Warren:** 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05; **Theatres:** 9:35

Thor: The Dark World (PG-13)

Starring Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Tom Hiddleston. Directed by Alan Taylor.
Plot: Thor must embark on his most perilous and personal journey yet, one that will reunite him with Jane Foster and force him to sacrifice everything to save us all.
Genre: Action, Adventure, Fantasy
Rating: F3
Palace West: 1:35, 4:10, 6:55, 9:25 with 11:45 p.m. Fri-Sat

Vampire Academy (PG-13)

Starring Zoey Deutch, Lucy Fry, Danila Kozlovsky. Directed by Mark Waters.
Plot: Rose Hathaway is a Dhampir, half human/vampire, who must protect the Moroi — peaceful, mortal vampires — from bloodthirsty, immortal vampires, the Strigoi.
Genre: Action, Comedy, Fantasy, Horror
13th Ave Warren: 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; **21st St Warren:** 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30; **Theatres:** 1:40, 4:05, 7:10

Walking with Dinosaurs (PG)

Starring Charlie Rowe, Karl Urban, Angourie Rice. Directed by Barry Cook, Neil Nightingale.
Plot: See and feel what it was like when dinosaurs ruled the Earth, in a story where an underdog dino triumphs to become a hero for the ages.
Genre: Animation, Action, Family
Palace West: 1:45, 4:05, 6:20 daily and 8:30 Sun-Thu

The Lego Movie (PG)

Starring Will Arnett, Elizabeth Banks, Craig Berry. Directed by Phil Lord, Christopher Miller.
Plot: An ordinary LEGO minifigure, mistakenly thought to be the extraordinary MasterBuilder, is recruited to join a quest to stop an evil LEGO tyrant from gluing the universe together.
Genre: Animation, Comedy, Family
Rating: F5
13th Ave Warren: Noon (3D), 1, 3 (3D), 3:50, 6, 6:45, 9, 9:45; **21st St Warren:** 12:40, 1:35, 3:20 (3D), 4:20, 6:15 (3D), 7:10, 9, 9:50; **Movie Machine:** 1:30, 4:10, 6:50 with 9:15 Fri-Sat; **Theatres:** 1:30, 3:50, 7, 9:20

Lone Survivor (R)

Starring Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch. Directed by Peter Berg.
Plot: Based on the failed June 28, 2005 mission "Operation Red Wings." Four members of SEAL Team 10 were tasked with the mission to capture or kill notorious Taliban leader Ahmad Shahid.
Genre: Action, Biography, Drama, War
13th Ave Warren: 12:50, 3:40, 7:15, 10:10; **21st St Warren:** 12:40, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50; **Warren Oldtown:** 6:30, 9:50 daily with Noon Sat-Sun and 3:15 Fri-Sun and Wed

The Monuments Men (PG-13)

Starring George Clooney, Matt Damon, Bill Murray. Directed by George Clooney.
Plot: An unlikely World War II platoon are tasked to rescue art masterpieces from Nazi thieves and return them to their owners.
Genre: Action, Biography, Drama, War
Rating: F3
13th Ave Warren: 12:50, 2, 3:50, 5, 7, 8, 10; **21st St Warren:** 12:50, 2:15, 3:50, 5:15, 6:50, 8:15, 9:45; **Movie Machine:** 1:15, 3:50, 6:40 with 9:25 Fri-Sat; **Theatres:** 1:15, 4:05, 7, 9:50; **Warren Oldtown:** 7, 10 daily with 12:30 Sat-Sun and 3:45 Fri-Sun and Wed

The Nut Job (PG)

Starring Will Arnett, Katherine Heigl, Brendan Fraser. Directed by Peter Lepeniotis.
Plot: Surly, a curmudgeon, independent squirrel is banished from his park and forced to survive in the city and stumbles upon Maury's Nut Store.
Genre: Animation, Comedy, Family
13th Ave Warren: 1, 3:45; **21st St Warren:** 12:50, 3:20, 5:45; **Movie Machine:** 4:25 with 9:25 Fri-Sat

Retro

The Princess Bride (PG)

Starring Cary Elwes, Mandy Patinkin, Robin Wright. Directed by Rob Reiner.
Plot: A classic fairy tale, with sword-play, giants, an evil prince, a beautiful princess, and yes, some kissing (as read by a kindly grandfather).
Genre: Adventure, Comedy, Family, Fantasy, Romance
Rating: F5
Palace West: 9:30, 11:55 p.m. Fri-Sat only

Ride Along (PG-13)

Starring Ice Cube, Kevin Hart, Tika Sumpter. Directed by Tim Story.
Plot: Fast-talking security guard Ben joins his cop brother-in-law James on a 24-hour patrol of Atlanta in order to prove himself worthy of marrying Angela, James' sister.
Genre: Action, Comedy
13th Ave Warren: 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 10:10; **21st St Warren:** 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55; **Theatres:** 1:35, 3:55, 7:10, 9:35; **Warren Oldtown:** 7:30, 10:20 daily with 1 Sat-Sun and 4:15 Fri-Sun and Wed

Events::

>GET LISTED

Don't see your event? Send an email to events@F5paper.com

ARTS

Thursday, February 13

ICT Army of Artists

6 p.m. First meeting of Wichita artists banding together to create more public art and fill neighborhoods with color and culture. @Bluebird Arthouse, 924 W. Douglas.

Saturday, February 15

"Reflections & Reconciliation: Celebrating the Role of African American Art in the Civil Rights Movement"

6 p.m. The event theme, "Reflections and Reconciliation," will explore the progress made and progress not yet achieved in race relations. Speakers and performers will take up this theme during the program and at a short panel discussion/town hall meeting to follow. Free. @Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, 5015 E. 29th St. N.

Tuesday, March 4

CreativeRush 1st Tuesday Talk, The Creative Deviants: Randy Regier, Kent Thomas Williams and Jill Miller

7 p.m. The Creative Deviants are people who draw from the kid at heart and take their existence, leadership, business, artistry, and innovation to change the way we view the norm. @T&J Studios, 144 N. Emporia.

Ongoing

Exhibition: "The Era of Downton Abbey, British Watercolors"

Thu., Dec. 26 to Sun., June 1
@Wichita Art Museum, 1400 W. Museum Blvd.

Exhibition: International Type ThrowDown

Sat., Jan. 18 to Sun., March 2
Graphic design students from around the world battle to be champions in the ultimate challenge of font design in International Type ThrowDown, on view in Ulrich Underground. @Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount.

Exhibition: "Chromatic Conceptions"

Tue., Jan. 21 to Fri., Feb. 21
Kansas Colorists art collective includes artwork by Victor Rose, Phillip Robl, Gwen Rose and Brenda Yarnall. @Butler County Community College, 901 South Haverhill Road, El Dorado.

Exhibition: Richard Ross "Juvenile In Justice"

Sat., Jan. 25 to Sun., April 13
The exhibition features nearly 60 large-scale images from juvenile detention facilities nationwide, including 18 from Sedgwick, Johnson, Wyandotte and Douglas County facilities in Kansas. For the past seven years, photographer Richard Ross has documented the placement and treatment of American juveniles that have been housed by law in facilities that treat, confine, punish, assist and occasionally, harm them. @Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount.

Exhibition: "On Repeat: Selections from the Collection"

Sat., Jan. 25 to Sun., March 23
"On Repeat" brings together a diverse range of artwork from the Ulrich's collection that demonstrates how artists use repetition in ways that go beyond pure formalism. @Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount.

Exhibition: Frederick J. Waugh, "The Clan of Munes"

Sat., Jan. 25 to Sun., April 13
Pieces created by Frederick J. Waugh for his children's books as well as two creature figures he created out of scrub trees. @Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount.

Exhibition: Tim High, "The Way Things Work"

Mon., Jan. 27 to Fri., Feb. 28

Printmaking exhibition at the Clayton Staples Gallery. @McKnight Art Center, Wichita State University.

Exhibition: KAM at CityArts, "Aviation History on Display"

Fri., Jan. 31 to Fri., Feb. 21
The Kansas Aviation Museum, in partnership with City Arts, will mount an exhibit of rare, little viewed photographs depicting the history of Wichita aviation. The exhibit will also include several scale models of iconic Kansas and Wichita airplanes, a partially complete wing of a rare, Wichita built airplane known as the Watkins Skylark and the full scale Pretty Prairie Special. @CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

Exhibition: Ju-Lynda Vaughn, "Unveiled 365"

Fri., Jan. 31 to Fri., Feb. 21
@CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

Exhibition: Tamara Cummings, "Courage"

Fri., Jan. 31 to Fri., Feb. 21
@CityArts, 334 N. Mead.

Exhibition: Doug Billings, "This Is Wichita?: A Personal Perspective"

Fri., Jan. 31 to Fri., Feb. 21
With special guest artist, Terry Corbett. @Gallery XII, 412 E. Douglas.

Exhibition: Bob Benson and Robin Lies, "Kansas: The Lost Art of Looking"

Fri., Jan. 31 to Fri., Feb. 21
@Steckline Gallery, Newman University, DeMattias Hall, 3100 McCormick.

Exhibition: "Iconic Views of the Sante Fe Trail"

Sat., Feb. 1 to Sun., May 11
Featuring work by Bill and Betty Dickerson, Robert Aitchison, Kenneth Adams, Ed Davison, Dick Mason, Doel Reed, Victor Higgins and more, this exhibition will run concurrent with George Catlin's "American Buffalo" at WAM. @The Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

Exhibition: Kansas Art Guild

Thu., Feb. 6 to Mon., March 31
@The Gallery at Larkfield Place, 7373 E. 29th St. N.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Friday, February 15

Wichita Symphony Orchestra, "The New World"

Fri., Feb. 15 to Sun., Feb. 16
The Wichita Symphony celebrates the music of "The New World," from Dvorák's Ninth Symphony, "From the New World," to Eric Ewazen's "Shadowcatcher" based on the Native American Portraits by photographer Edward Curtis and music from the motion picture "Dances with Wolves." The Wichita Symphony is proud to welcome the highly renowned American Brass Quintet for this concert. Visit wso.org for showtimes and ticket information. @Century II, 225 W. Douglas.

Sunday, February 16

Seth Girton

11 a.m. All ages. No cover. @R Coffeehouse, 1144 N. Biting.

FILM

Thursday, February 20

"It Happened One Night" 80th Anniversary Screening

6 p.m. \$4 for students, seniors and military, \$5 for adults. @Orpheum Theatre, 200 N. Broadway.

Friday, February 28

"Fist Full of Fives: A Progressive Movie Screening and Happy Hour"

5:30 p.m. Progressive screening of the classic western, "Wichita." The film will screen twice, and to watch it in its entirety, begin at the Monarch at 5:30 or 6:30 pm; catch the stagecoach to the Anchor for the next act and then to the Public where the film concludes. The stagecoach returns to the Monarch at the conclusion of the event. Each bar will serve a signature local craft beer draw for \$1.50/pint as well as food specials. \$15 charitable donation to the Tallgrass Film Association. @The Monarch, @The Anchor, @Public at Brickyard, 579 W. Douglas.

Ongoing

"Perfect Little Planet"

Sat., Jan. 18 to Sat., April 19
Find out what happens when an alien family tries to decide where to take a cosmic vacation. Screening in the Boeing Dome Theater. See exploration.org for exact show times. All ages. Kids 2-under free, 3-11 are \$3, adults 12-64 are \$5 and seniors are \$4. All ages. \$3-\$5. @Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

FOOD & DRINK

Thursday, February 20

Home Coffee Roasting Workshop

6:30 p.m. \$15. @Reverie Coffee Roasters, 2611 E. Douglas.

Saturday, February 22

Strong Ale Fest

1 p.m. Enjoy over 100 craft ales as well as a special menu from the Anchor and tastings at the Douglas Avenue Chop Shop. \$5-\$40. @The Anchor, 1109 E. Douglas.

Tuesday, February 25

Chocolate 101

6 p.m. Beth Tully will provide students with everything you wanted to know about chocolate but were afraid to ask. She will guide students through cultivation, production and myths we all believe about chocolate. Students will have the opportunity to taste 10 exotic chocolates including the rarest chocolate in the world. \$50 for members, \$60 general admission. @The Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

LITERARY

Monday, February 17

Syntactics

6:30 p.m. This writing open mic is the only monthly open-mic catered towards short story writers and novelists looking to try out excerpts in front of a listening audience. Poetry, and all other forms of written work are welcome as well. @Reverie Coffee Roasters, 2611 E. Douglas.

R Coffeehouse Poetry Slam

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

Saturday, February 22

John Brown, "Wichita State Baseball Comes Back: Gene Stephenson and the Making of a Shocker Championship Tradition"

2 p.m. Discussion and signing of John Brown's new book on the Gene Stephenson era of WSU Baseball. @Wichita - Sedgwick County Historical Museum, 204 S. Main.

NATURE

Friday, February 21

"Jim Henson's Sid the Science Kid Live"

6 p.m. \$19.50-\$34.50. @Orpheum Theatre, 200 N. Broadway.

SPECIAL

Thursday, February 13

Douglas Avenue Underpass Public Input Meeting
5:30 p.m. @WDDC Design and Innovation Center, 505 E. Douglas Ave.

Saturday, February 15

15th Annual Mardi Gras Celebration

7 p.m. This benefit for the YWCA Women's Crisis Center will feature live music by the Mudbugs, silent and live auctions, fine wines and much more. All proceeds will benefit the day-to-day operations of the YWCA Wichita Women's Crisis Center. Single ticket price is \$100 (\$70 is tax deductible). @Hyatt Regency Hotel, 400 W. Waterman.

Sunday, February 16

Freethinking Parents Group

4 p.m. For more information contact Beth Clarkson at 688-5071. @University Congregational Church, 9209 E. 29th Street.

Friday, February 21

Women's Fair 2014

Fri., Feb. 21 to Sun., Feb. 23
The 16th Wichita Women's Fair presented by Capitol Federal features the return of popular events – including the shopping marketplace, fashion and hair shows, cooking and dance demonstrations and Biggest Loser Challenge -- plus 385 exhibits offering information on an array of topics from health issues to financial planning. \$5.25-\$8.25. @Century II, 225 W. Douglas.

2014 Wichita Regional Science and Engineering Festival

10 a.m. General Exploration Place admission, free for members. @Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

THEATER & DANCE

Thursday, February 13

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"

Thu., Feb. 13 to Sun., March 9
Visit forumwichita.com for showtimes and ticket information. \$23-\$25. @The Forum Theatre, 147 S. Hillside.

Friday, February 14

"Sweet Southern Comfort and Rock n' Roll"

Fri., Feb. 14 to Sun., March 23
Opening show of the 2014 season at Cabaret Old Town. This musical is the story of one woman's journey through the emotional music of the 60's, featuring music by Etta James, Otis Redding, Roy Orbison, Janis Joplin and more. Call 265-4400 for showtimes and reservations. @Cabaret Old Town, 412 1/2 E. Douglas.

Friday, February 21

"Venus in Fur"

Fri., Feb. 21 to Sun., Feb. 23
A sexy new comedy by David Ives starring Susan Guntly and Bryan Welsby, and directed by Micheal Webber and Karen Wild. Contact Fisch Haus for showtimes and ticketing information. \$8 advance tickets, \$10 day of show. @Fisch Haus Studios, 524 S. Commerce.

Saturday, February 22

Wichita Burlesque: Leather and Lace

9 p.m. @John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

Ongoing

"Godspell"

Fri., Jan. 31 to Sat., Feb. 22
"Godspell" is a musical by Stephen Schwartz that paints, with various musical parables from the Gospel According to Matthew, a portrait set in late 1960s New York City. Jesus Christ recruits a group of followers and teaches them important lessons through song and dance featuring a wide range of musical genres including bluegrass, R&B and rock and roll. This electrifying tale follows the teachings of Jesus Christ with levity and reverence and has appealed to a wide range of audiences around the world. Call 612-7696 for more details. @ Crown Uptown Professional Dinner Theatre, 3207 E. Douglas.

"Clybourne Park"

Wed., Feb. 12 to Sun., Feb. 16
Written in response to Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun," this Pulitzer and Tony Award-winning play opens in 1959 as a community struggles to accept a black family moving into an all-white neighborhood. As the plot progresses to 2009, the same (but now predominately black) neighborhood addresses modern racial issues and gentrification as a white couple attempts to buy the same home. For tickets and showtimes, contact The Wichita Center for the Arts. \$15 for students, \$20 seniors and students, \$25 for adults. @The Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

Noir angel novel delightfully bends reality

>READ IT

Title: *Something More Than Night*

Author: Ian Tregillis
Publisher: Tor / Tom Doherty Associates

Price: \$25.99 (hardcover), \$12.99 (ebook)

ISBN: 9780765334329 / 9781466810204

by Anna Perlberg Andersen
aandersen@f5paper.com

Something More Than Night, Ian Tregillis's metaphysical noir, opens with the murder of the seraph Gabriel. It's a passage that sets the tone for the whole novel: jaw-dropping prose, weaving through religious ecstasy and quantum physics, tinged with the Chandleresque tough-guy argot of Bayliss, the fallen angel who narrates every other chapter. I would really like to quote two pages here, but will contain myself to the first two paragraphs: "They murdered one of the Seraphim tonight. Gabriel streaked across the heavens like a tumbling meteor, his corpse a fireball of sublimated perfection. He had been a creature of peerless majesty, but now the throes of his death etched the firmament."

It's not just the writing that makes this one of the best new books I've read in the past year, though — the story is deft, heartfelt, gloriously complicated even as it falls into the rhythms of classic noir. There's a dame, Molly Pruett, accidentally killed by Bayliss and resurrected as an unwilling angel; there's a Macguffin, Gabriel's Jericho Trumpet, which has gone missing and must be found; there're bad cops and secrets, plot twists galore, and oh the slang flows freely in Bayliss's chapters. Reading it's like drinking straight whiskey, peering world-weary through cigarette smoke.

Tregillis is a physicist by trade — he works at Los Alamos National Lab — so time and space bend like genres throughout, and alternate realities lurk behind every corner.

The angelic Choir, Bayliss explains to Molly, is responsible for maintaining the Mantle of Ontological Consistency: their mutual conceptions of reality, overlapping and reinforcing each other, make the universe possible. Physics, mathematics, the necessary conditions for life are all dependent on the MOC, which is why replacing Gabriel was so vital.

But Molly makes a mistake. Longing for mortal connection, she visits her ex-girlfriend Ria; her angelic form, however, is incomprehensible to the human experience, literally mind-blowing, and Ria is left brain-dead by the brief contact. In her grief, Molly tries to push back time, to take back what she's done — it's a forbidden act, and the enigmatic Voice of God, METATRON, punishes the whole Choir, tearing their Magisteria (every angel's personal corner of Heaven) to pieces, leaving the metaphysical world "a featureless infinite-dimensional expanse." To the angels, it's painful and terrifying. And some of them want revenge.

Even all the above is merely scraping the surface, though. *Something More Than Night* uses Chandler and Hammett as a mold, and fills it from the well where the divine and the farthest reaches of physics combine, nebulous, overwhelming, sublime. The stuff dreams are made of.



"The Lego Movie" from page 10

with a horn called Unikitty (Alison Brie) race through various bizarre Lego worlds with the forces of Lord Business led by Bad Cop (Liam Neeson) hot on their heels.

Visually, *The Lego Movie* is stunningly kinetic, with plenty of bizarre creations not just populating the onscreen world but built by the characters on the fly during its action and chase setpieces. It's hypnotic in much the same way as the transformation scenes in Michael Bay's *Transformers* films are, but in a far more carefree, inventive-feeling sort of way.

The story and dialogue are a triumph of witty writing, striking that rare balance where it can be hilarious or heartfelt and both adults and children will be able to appreciate all of it.

For a film coming from a big studio like Warner Brothers based on such a huge toy line, the film's subversive nature comes as a shock, but a delightful one. An evil corporate overlord/political tyrant who keeps his populace mentally subverted via

bad sitcom television, pop music and distraction? Batman as an out-and-out jerk? For coming from a couple of huge corporations with big pop culture footprints, *The Lego Movie* employs a scorched-earth-by-way-of-laughter satirical comedy style that in less talented hands might have been awkward but works here to tremendous advantage.

The film also serves up plenty of bizarre surprises along the way, with a late sequence in which Emmet falls outside of Legoland into a different world providing a sober, heartfelt punctuation to all the frivolity going on in his homeworld.

With the animated family film genre becoming more and more tired and uninspired as time passes, *The Lego Movie* is a surprising, awesome achievement that both parents and the little ones will love. Its success will, of course, necessitate a sequel, and it's hard to imagine how the powers that be would be able to create something to rival, let alone top, this outing.

But let's leave that for them to figure out. Whether you're 5 or 50, you owe it to yourself to check out *The Lego Movie*. It's that good.



THE DARK LEGO: For a film coming from a big studio like Warner Brothers based on such a huge toy line, the film's subversive nature comes as a shock, but a delightful one.

"Monuments" from page 10

Clooney's effortless leading-man charm, and as an art historian and the academic who tells President Franklin D. Roosevelt that a special group should be formed to protect humanity's greatest achievements. "If you destroy an entire generation of people's culture, it's as if they never existed," Stokes says. "That's what Hitler wants. And that's the one thing we can't allow."

A team of stereotypes is assembled

around Stokes: John Goodman as a sculptor, Bill Murray as an architect, Matt Damon as the curator of the Met, Bob Balaban as a theater director, Hugh Bonneville as an Englishman, Jean Dujardin as a Frenchman and Dimitri Leonidas as a German jew. They all play themselves very well — Bill Murray's Bill Murray is particularly Murray like, as is Goodman's Goodman — which somehow fails to be very interesting. Only Balaban's fussy little Private Preston Savitz manages to be a thought-out character, though his screen time is almost entirely

comic relief and (probably gay) straight man to Murray.

Cate Blanchett fills out the good guys as a member of the French Resistance who was working undercover with the Nazis and tracking the shipments of art out of her country. Blanchett's performance is great, but the character goes from deeply untrusting of the Americans to throwing herself at them rather suddenly.

It's a side effect of the character development shorthand that spends more

time on a *Blues Brothers*-like effort to get the band back together than exploring what makes anyone tick.

And the bad guys? Yeah, there were some Nazi dudes who were bad guys. Sure. They were either very mean and nasty looking or a mean sad sack.

The Monuments Men has some witty one-liners and amusing bits. It has some important speeches and lofty ideas. It doesn't really pull those things together, though. It's more like a nice idea for a movie than a good movie.

ASTROPOOP!

THE SKINNY ON YOUR WEEK
by Diviner Mme Zanzibird

Aries: (March 21 — April 19)
Week rating: F4
For wooing a Valentine, remember no one does syrup like Ingrid Michaelson. This week: Go to couple's skate night at Skate South.

Taurus: (April 20 — May 20)
Week rating: F5
A friend will surprise you with tickets to the circus this week. This week: Write angry poems about freezing and heartbreak.

Gemini: (May 21 — June 21)
Week rating: F2
Your Valentine's Day will be more illogical and unpredictable than the existence of a star-nosed mole. This week: Celebrate with champagne and Netflix.

Cancer: (June 22 — July 22)
Week rating: F3
Oh no! Your date will actually buy you those hoodie footie PJs they talk about on the radio. This week: Snuggle up and deal with it.

Leo: (July 23 — Aug. 22)
Week rating: F4
For most people, writing a memoir is a bad idea. But you should go for it. This week: Use the coupon code to buy your sweetie some footie pajamas.

Virgo: (Aug. 23 — Sept. 22)
Week rating: F1
Nothing says "Let's take a break" like a cold, burned casserole for Valentine's Day. This week: Order a heart-shaped pizza.

Libra: (Sept. 23 — Oct. 23)
Week rating: F2
True love is a red velvet cake donut from the Donut Whole. This week: Break up with the artisan snowball maker you'd been dating before the snow melts.

Scorpio: (Oct. 24 — Nov. 21)
Week rating: F3
The heavens will create a meteor shower, just for you. This week: Listen to "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter" by the Stolen Sweets in lieu of trying to find a Valentine.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 — Dec. 21)
Week rating: F5
A bad bout of indigestion will lead to a strange, yet useful, epiphany. This week: Take your lover to the circus.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22 — Jan. 19)
Week rating: F4
Who needs romance? You have after-Valentine's Day chocolate sales. This week: Host an "I Hate Valentine's Day" party with your friends.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20 — Feb. 18)
Week rating: F5
Your mom will buy you a schmaltzy, heart-shaped cake this year. This week: Enjoy the cake and family time. Cake is cake.

Pisces: (Feb. 19 — March 20)
Week rating: F3
Your talent for avoiding the boring chocolates in the candy box will come in handy soon. This week: Find a sweetie to share the bon bons.

¡Ask a Mexican!

by Gustavo Arellano
themexican@f5paper.com

Dear Mexican: I know an 18-year old getting deported from the United States. He has been here since he was five years old. His entire family is here and undocumented. He grew up in juvenile halls and did a felony as soon as he turned 18. Will he be deported for sure or will the immigration judge give him a

break since his entire family is here?

— **Deportations are for Dummies**

Dear Gabacho: Alas, homeboy is probably going, going *adios*. The Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA), which allows undocumented youngsters a two-year stay of deportation (subject to renewal) until Congress gets its amnesty act together, specifically states that candidates aren't eli-

gible if you've "been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and ... pose a threat to national security or public safety." Without knowing the circumstances of the guy you're talking about, it doesn't seem he stands a chance for judicial mercy or to become a cause celebre for DREAMers across the country. That said, if all the charges were bullshit, and the legal system has royally screwed the kid, get in contact with your local DREAMer movement, as their courage

see "Mexican" page 16



iASK A MEXICAN!

Bohunk & Kern
By Mike Hill



More at Facebook.com/BohunkAndKern

Jonesin' Crosswords "Large and in Charge" — craaaaazy freestyle time.

by Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1 Like Twiggy's fashion
- 4 Mild lettuce
- 8 Old French Communist Party of Canada inits. (hidden in EPCOT)
- 11 HBO character Gold
- 12 Old soap, sometimes
- 15 Give it the gas
- 16 Unwilling to move
- 17 Unit of electrical charge
- 19 Tom's wife
- 20 Tibetan Buddhist practice
- 23 Checks a box
- 24 Howitzer of WWI
- 26 "___ the Beat" (Blondie album)
- 27 A, in some games
- 28 Substance that may darken your pasta
- 30 Series end at Downton Abbey?
- 31 As of riiiiiiight.....now
- 32 Z3 or X5 maker
- 35 Mission of "Pee-wee's Big Adventure"?
- 36 Anatomical eggs
- 37 NASA astronaut Leroy ___
- 40 Minor Arcana card
- 42 Opening opening?
- 43 DMV requirement
- 44 "C'est magnifique!"
- 46 Vitamin-B complex nutrients
- 49 Indivisible division figure
- 52 Sine ___ non
- 53 Wish for the trip back
- 54 Thurman of "The Producers"
- 55 All the same
- 56 Cautious (of)
- 57 Go down

DOWN

- 1 Chagall or Jacobs
- 2 Milkshake flavor
- 3 Gave out, as a secret
- 4 Sedative, often
- 5 Ox tail?
- 6 Canadian singer/songwriter ___ Naked
- 7 Baseball's Powell
- 8 Washing machine cycle
- 9 Television host Dick
- 10 Brunch staple
- 12 "All Quiet on the Western Front" author
- 13 Scared beyond belief
- 14 "Am not!" comeback
- 16 Kid with no commute

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

L	A	M	A	A	H	S	D	I	R	G	E
E	R	A	B	L	O	T	P	A	N	E	R
T	I	N	B	I	T	O	H	E	L	T	E
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			W	E	W	U	Z	R	O	B	B
U	S	E	R	F	E	E	G	R	O	V	E
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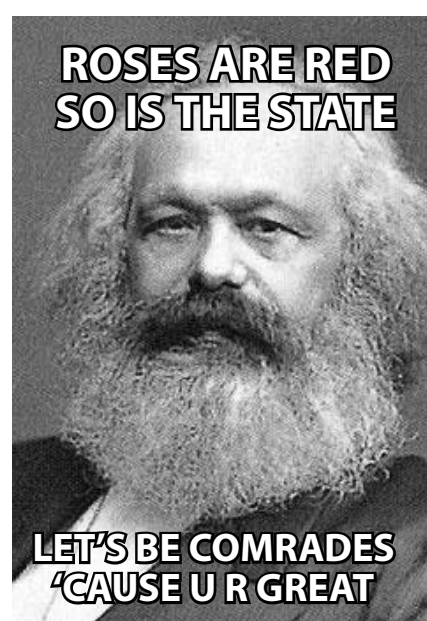
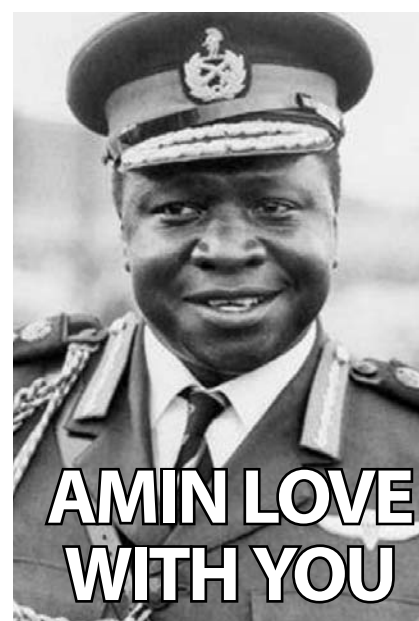
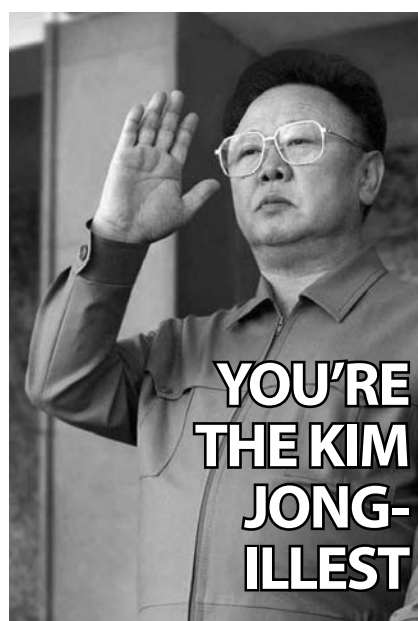
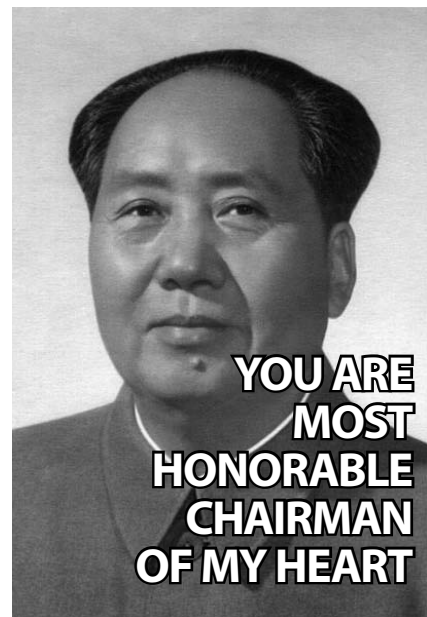
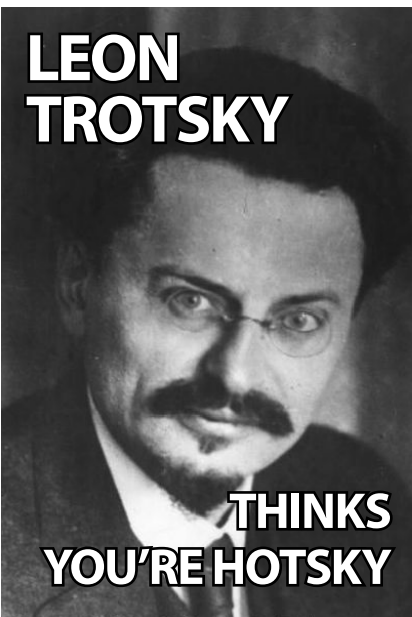
- 18 "Chocolate" dog
- 21 Temple of films
- 22 Posted to your blog, say
- 24 "Moulin Rouge!" director Luhrmann
- 25 Drink machine freebie
- 29 Active
- 32 Little shop
- 33 AL award won by 7-Down in 1970
- 34 Never-___ (not even a has-been)
- 35 Anti-heartburn brand
- 37 Horse sounds
- 38 Bit of cheer
- 39 As we go about our days
- 41 Palindromic trig function
- 45 Not tons
- 47 Unable to sense
- 48 Car that sounds like it's crying
- 50 Week-___-glance calendar
- 51 Mangy mongrel

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Valentines

Use these and you don't have to go out and buy expensive capitalist pigdog Valentines.

by Don Winsor



"Movies" from page 11

New This Week

Winter's Tale (PG-13)

Starring Colin Farrell, Jessica Brown Findlay, Russell Crowe. Directed by Akiva Goldsman.
Plot: A burglar falls for an heiress and uses his gift of reincarnation to save her.

Genre: Drama, Fantasy, Mystery, Romance
13th Ave Warren: Noon, 12:15, 3, 3:30, 6:15, 6:50, 9:30, 10; **21st St Warren:** 12:30, 3:40, 6:45, 9:55; **Warren Oldtown:** 6:30, 9:50 daily with Noon Sat-Sun and 3:15 Fri-Sun and Wed

The Wolf of Wall Street (R)

Starring Leonardo DiCaprio, P.J. Byrne, Jon Favreau. Directed by Martin Scorsese.

Plot: The true story of Jordan Belfort's rise as a wealthy stockbroker to his fall involving crime, corruption and the federal government.

Genre: Biography, Comedy, Crime, Drama
Rating: F3

13th Ave Warren: 12:10, 4, 8

"JJ Grey" from page 6

one of his best vocal performances to date — suggests otherwise.

3. "Tame A Wild One" (from *This River*): A classic story of misguided love that ends in heartbreak.

Grey doesn't assign blame, he just

"Sick/Sea" from page 6

rock, jazz and some other more esoteric forms of indie rock, these Texans mix it up, innovating their own blend of sonic architecture.

Since touring for their 2012 release, *Moral Compass*, Sick/Sea have traveled a large swath of the United States and have visited Wichita a few times along the way.

calls the plays and the listener emerges sad and wiser from a ballad that would not sound out of place on a jukebox somewhere on the dirt roads of Georgia or Alabama (or Florida) circa 1968.

4. "Country Ghetto" (from *Country Ghetto*): Pretty much everything you need to know about or hear from Grey in

one powerful track.

A great intersection of his disparate influences and lyrical obsessions.

5. "Ho Cake" (from *Blackwater*): A little (ahem) slice of some southern cuisine for listeners that find Grey blasting forth in his most soulful voice. Guaranteed to bring down the house.

Wichita's Abandon Kansas released *A Midwest Summer* last June — its first EP since going independent — and fans have been excited to hear more from the newly liberated Wichita trio and hope this show will give a glimpse into what to expect on its upcoming full-length album.

The quartet Travel Guide will be opening the night. Not necessarily a new band, Travel Guide isn't as seasoned as

the rest but will still provide much bang for the buck.

Speaking of the buck, it will be \$10 if you're under 21 and attending this rare all ages event at Rock Island Live. If you're 21 or older, it's only \$5.

Rock Island Live, now under new management, is putting a lot of effort into bringing this establishment back up to its former prominent live music venue status.

"Mexican" from page 14

in fighting for the damned has been far more impressive than what Latino politicians have shown. And do it fast: the Obama administration deports Mexicans as quickly as California's reservoirs are drying up.

My wife, (who is Mexican) is a tough nut psychologically to figure out, so I am turning to the expert for some desperately needed insight. Essentially, when we began dating, all was right as rain. She was sweet, kind, considerate and extremely attentive. Now, what I call "brown outs" occur. She will fly off the handle at the drop of a hat, throw things, say awful nasty things — basically turn into a she-devil. Furthermore, the jealousy (although seemingly dormant for the moment) is always there. I think it would drive her loca if I ever left my garage and had a beer at the cantina again. We love each other very much, so I guess you could say our marriage is anything but dull. Is this typical with Mexican women? !Ayudame!

— Lobo Blanco

Dear Gabacho: The traditional explanation was that it was all about *sangre*: the blood of the Moors, Spaniards, Gypsies and Aztecs coursing through a *mujer's* veins resulted in a quartet of *locura* that was simultaneously alluring and dangerous (just refer to the Agustin Lara canon, specifically "Granada," for further detail). On second thought, that's just bigoted heteronormative misogyny...so let's just chalk it up to the fact that Mexican woman are crazy because they're women, m'kay?

I have no pride in being Mexican-



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American. I'm not that insecure! It's pathetic that people take pride in something they had no control over! I take pride in my personal accomplishments and my behavior and things that I control, the decisions I make, the goals I reach. Grow up.

— Proud to be Me

Dear Wab: Congratulations on becoming the first Mexican acolyte of Ayn Rand!

Ask the Mexican at themexican@f5paper.com, be his fan on Facebook, follow him on Twitter @gustavoarellano or follow him on Instagram @gustavo_arellano!

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