

THE DUBUQUE AREA LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE, SEPTEMBER 2026

FREE

JULIEN'S JOURNAL



**FLY-BY-NIGHT PRODUCTIONS:
ENGAGING AUDIENCES
IN CONVERSATIONS**

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JULIEN'S JOURNAL

**Volume 50, Number 9
September 2026**

JULIEN'S JOURNAL IS A PUBLISHED BY

RTN PUBLISHING, INC
6170 FOREST HILLS DRIVE
ASBURY IA 52002-9349
PHONE – 563.557.7571
JULIENSJOURNAL.COM

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Our September issue starts with a sad note. *Julien's Journal* senior writer Constance "Connie" Cherba passed away in July surrounded by her husband and two daughters. Connie was a genealogist, historian, author and avocational archaeologist who enjoyed nothing more than looking into the past. She published more than 350 articles in local, national and international magazines, with her contributions to *Julien's Journal* spanning 30 years. Connie was the first feature writer that I met after purchasing *Julien's Journal*. I sent her an introductory email, and she called me within five minutes. When our conversation ended 30 minutes later, I realized that I had learned more about Dubuque's history during those 30 minutes than I had during the previous 20 plus years that I had lived here. Connie was a publisher's dream; her articles were professionally written and normally submitted several days before deadline. She was forthright but never rude and had the rare ability to provide great insight and suggestions while incorporating a subtle sense of humor. A family member told me that Connie frequently managed to get her grandchildren on the cover of *Julien's Journal*. It was a fun goal of hers to make that happen at least once a year, often for the annual August education issue. I had no idea that she was surreptitiously doing this, but it's still making me chuckle. Connie's last contribution to *Julien's Journal* is published in this issue and is titled, *How to Build and Communicate with a Pain Management Team*. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers as you read it.



Inside this issue

Building a comprehensive pain management team involves bringing together specialists from many disciplines who address the physical, functional, and emotional aspects of acute and chronic discomfort. Learn how to do it on page 13

While the term fly-by-night may cause you to think of something that is unstable or disappears rapidly, the Dubuque theater production company that bears that name is anything but transitory. Learn about them on page 16.

What sets The GRAD Partnership framework apart from traditional student success system models is that it is evidenced-based driven by data. Read about it on page 20

Plant a variety of bee-friendly shrubs and enjoy year-round beauty and loads of pollinator appeal. Learn how on page 22.

Mason Dixon Saloon offers delicious dry rub barbecue & more. Read our review on page 24.

TeamWine reviews two wines that are perfect for a September afternoon. Read about them on page 27.



ON THE COVER:

Amy Foley in What the Constitution Means to Me (2026). Contributed by fly-by-night productions.



JULIEN'S JOURNAL

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Photo of the Month



A Blue Heron takes flight at John Deere Marsh. Photo submitted by Julien's Journal reader Dave Wallis. Comments and photos for possible use in a future issue can be sent to Robin@JuliensJournal.com.

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Upcoming Events Should be Emailed to Juli@JuliensJournal.com.

Julien's Journal is published monthly by RTN Publishing, Inc. in Asbury, IA. Subscription rates are \$29.00 per year or \$55.90 for two years. Mailing address: 6170 Forest Hills Drive, Asbury, IA 52002-9349. Telephone 563.557.7571. Website: www.juliensjournal.com.

Return Policy: Magazines are mailed standard class and should be received within 15 days of the mailing date. Returns should be sent to *Julien's Journal Magazine*, 6170 Forest Hills Drive, Asbury, IA 52002-9349. You must provide name, address, and mailing label.

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These above policies apply to all *Julien's Journal's* subscriptions unless otherwise noted prior to the subscription.

Julien's Journal is printed each month locally at Welu Printing Company.

September Events



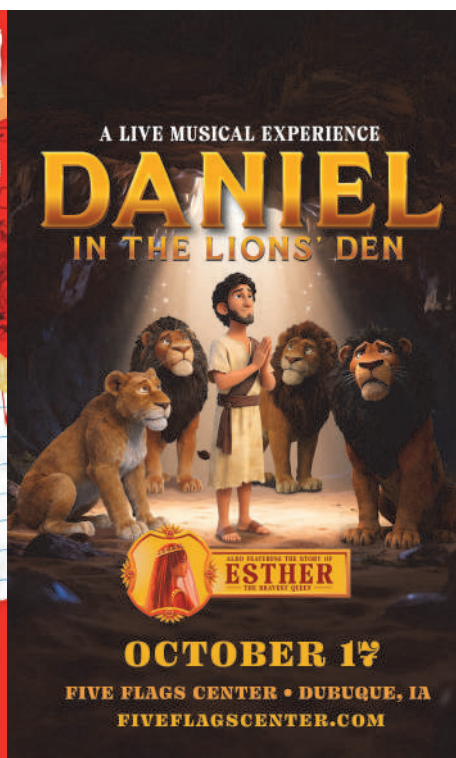
The Rock Orchestra by Candlelight

Wednesday, September 2; 8 PM @ Five Flags Arena

Witness the unexpected union of classical music and metal. In candlelit settings, this band of 14 classical musicians unleash enchanting melodies alongside powerful walls of distortion. Performing the music of iconic bands including: Metallica, AC/DC, Rage Against The Machine, My Chemical Romance, Linkin' Park, SOAD, Guns N Roses, Evanescence, Aerosmith, The Cranberries & MORE! Visit FiveFlagsCenter.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT
FIVEFLAGSCENTER.COM



Events are subject to change. Please visit listing sites for the most up-to-date information. Submissions may also be edited and printed at the discretion of the publisher.

Open Studio

Mondays and Tuesdays, September 1 through December 28

Mondays, 1-4 PM; Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30 PM @ Bluff Strokes Art Center

Open studio, drop-in only; no instruction. Bring your own materials. Adults must accompany children who need guidance. Visit Bluffstrokes.org.

Early Explorers: "A" is for Alligator

Tuesday and Saturday, September 1 & 5; 10-11 AM @ National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

Programs include a variety of hands-on and active activities, such as a craft and a game. First come, first served. Ages 2-5 with caregiver. Visit RiverMuseum.org.

Museum Xtra: The Art of Science

Tuesday, September 1

6-8 PM @ National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

Step into nature's art gallery and discover the science behind its beauty. See the natural world through the eyes of both an artist and a scientist, revealing the stories hidden within tree rings, native wildflowers, freshwater mussel shells, and the landscapes around us. Visit RiverMuseum.org.

Wild West Wednesdays

Wednesday, September 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30; 7-11 PM @ Dubuque County Fairgrounds

Come for country dance music and fun. All ages. Visit DBQFair.com.

First Friday & Sequel Saturday Artist Demonstration

Friday and Saturday, September 4-5 @ Outside the Lines Art Gallery

Meet featured artist Gail as she demonstrates how she creates her unique sheet metal sculptures.

Enjoy a relaxed, family-friendly opportunity to watch her process, ask questions, and experience the creativity behind her work. Light refreshments will be served, and admission is free. For more information, email otlag@aol.com.

Dubuque Farmers' Market

Saturdays, September 5 through October 31; 7 AM-12 PM @ Iowa Street from 11th to 13th Streets

Come for a variety of locally grown produce, meats, cheeses, baked goods, hand-crafted items, on-site prepared food, and more.

Over 125 farmers, bakers, artisans, and makers from within 100 miles. Visit DubuqueFarmersMarket.org.

3rd Annual Wild Harvest Dinner

Saturday, September 5

5-7:30 PM @ Swiss Valley Preserve, 13606 Swiss Valley Road (Peosta, IA)

Hike scenic trails, enjoy locally inspired dishes featuring sustainably foraged ingredients, and dine overlooking the Bluebird Trail valley vista.

This one-of-a-kind evening is presented by Dubuque County Conservation, City Girl Farming, and Taproot Apothecary. Visit GiveButter.com/Wild-Harvest-Dinner-Copy-1917xo.

**Collin Raye**

Saturday, September 5

7:30 PM @ Five Flags Theater

Come see country artist Collin Raye, one of the true hit makers of the 1990s. Visit FiveFlagsCenter.com.

Millwork Night Market

Thursday, September 10

5-8 PM @ Jackson Street from 7th to 9th Streets

The Millwork Night Market is an independent farmers' market featuring local food, art, and other unique goods, while also providing a unique nightlife experience. Second Thursdays through October 8. Visit MillworkNightMarket.com.

Iowa Audubon – the Voice for Iowa's Birds

Thursday, September 10

7-8 PM @ EB Lyons Interpretive Center

Doug Harr will speak about Iowa Audubon, an independent federation of eight National Audubon chapters (including Dubuque Audubon) and two independent bird clubs. Visit Audubon-Dubuque.org.

**Dubuque Dragon Boat Festival**

Friday through Sunday, September 11-13

8 AM-5 PM @ Miller Riverview Park

Teams from multiple states and Canada compete in 40-foot-long boats shaped like dragons, holding 21 people of all ages, and racing on the mighty Mississippi. Shuttle service provided. Visit DubuqueDragonBoat.org.

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With attention to every detail they bring together music from all eras of the Eagles that produced hits over four decades. There are no pre-recorded backing tracks, all vocal harmonies and guitar parts are faithful to the originals and performed live. A Heartache Tonight concert is filled with moments designed to thrill classic rock fans with songs including "Seven Bridges Road," "Life in the Fast Lane," "Take It Easy," "Heart Of The Matter" and more.

TICKETS - ALL TICKETS \$35 - AT DOOR ALL TICKETS \$38

Food Festival Fridays

Friday, September 11 & 25, 11 AM-1 PM @ Washington Park and on 2nd Fridays @ Pocket Park on 4th Fridays
More food. More music. More reasons to head downtown. Food Festival Fridays is expanding by bringing you two chances to step away for lunch, gather with friends, and enjoy the best local food trucks and musicians. Visit DubuqueMainStreet.org.



Dear Evan Hansen

Friday-Sunday, September 11-20
Fridays & Saturdays, 7:30 PM;
Sundays, 2 PM

Seventeen-year-old Evan Hansen has felt invisible for his entire life. But when a tragedy shocks his community and thrusts him into the center of a rapidly evolving controversy, Evan is given the opportunity of a lifetime: the chance to be somebody else. Visit TheGrandOperaHouse.com.

Bloktober Fest

Saturday, September 12
12-5 PM @ Millwork District

With a lineup of BMX, skateboarding, kids' events, art, yoga, and an array of local food and beverages available for purchase, the free festival promises to be a sensational celebration of community, creativity, lifestyle, and recreation. Visit Facebook.com/DbqBloktoberfest.

Brandon Novak: Survival, Redemption, Recovery

Saturday, September 12
2:30-5 PM @ Heritage Center,
University of Dubuque

Once a skateboarding prodigy and star of *Jackass* and *Viva La Bam*, Novak's life was eventually consumed by addiction. With over 11 years of sobriety, today he travels the world sharing his story.

The event includes a meet and greet, Novak's presentation, and an expert panel discussion. Registration encouraged. For more information, e-mail HillcrestEvents@Hillcrest-FS.org.



The Music of the Eagles

Saturday, September 12
7 PM @ Ohnward Fine Arts
(Makoqueta, IA)

Come see the Heartache Tonight deliver a true Eagles concert experience, with meticulous attention to every detail. Visit OhnwardFineArtsCenter.com.

Music in the Gardens

Sunday, September 13
5-7 PM @ Dubuque Arboretum &
Botanical Gardens

The Arboretum has filled the grounds with free, family music every summer since 1991. Bring a chair or a blanket. Visit DubuqueArboretum.net.





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Wedding & Bridal Expo

Date: September 27, 2026
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm



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She Unites

Wednesday, September 16

6:30-7:30 PM @ The Innovation Lab

Come together for an evening of socialization and education. Rotating speakers talk about anything and everything pertaining to women in a chill environment. Visit SheUnitesIowa.com/Events.

Senior Expo

Thursday, September 17

9 AM-12 PM @ Dubuque County Fairgrounds

A variety of vendors will be on-site for this free event to showcase their organizations, services, and products that can help you live and age well. There will be a free lunch and door prize drawings throughout the event. Visit Facebook.com/Share/19LoZTWFF7.

Dubuque Oktoberfest

Saturday, September 19

11 AM-5 PM @ Back Waters Amp

Featuring live music and dancing, authentic German cuisine, cold beverages, traditional German games and contests, and wiener dog races. All proceeds from Dubuque Oktoberfest go to Camp Albrecht Acres in Sherrill, IA. All ages. Visit DbqOktoberfest.org.

The Music of Laurel Canyon featuring Buffalo Rome

Saturday, September 19

7:30 PM @ Five Flags Theater

The Rock & Roots series continues with The Music of Laurel Canyon featuring Buffalo Rome. Nicknamed "the Crosby, Stills, and Nashville of the digital age," Buffalo Rome blends the 1970s West Coast country-rock scene with modern Americana. In The Music of Laurel Canyon, the group pays tribute to the songs and artists including Joni Mitchell, Buffalo Springfield, The Eagles, and more. Visit FiveFlagsCenter.com.

Friends of DCCB Golf Outing

Sunday, September 20

3:30 PM @ Filmore Fairways Golf Course

Support the Friends of Dubuque County Conservation Board and enjoy a day of golf on the fairways. This four-person best shot includes nine holes of golf, cart fee, flag events, flight prizes, and supper. Visit GiveButter.com/DCCBGolf.



Napoleon Dynamite Live!

Friday, September 25

7:30 PM @ Five Flags Theater

The evening includes a full screening of *Napoleon Dynamite* followed by a lively, interactive experience with fan-favorite cast members, including Jon Heder (Napoleon Dynamite), Jon Gries (Uncle Rico), and Efren Ramirez (Pedro). The live show is a blend of Q & A, comedy improv, game show, and party with plenty of audience participation. Visit FiveFlagsCenter.com.

Distinctively Dubuque

Wednesdays, September 30 through October 28; 5:30-8:30 PM @ Various Dubuque Locations

This is a free, five-night interactive course designed to connect newcomers with one another and their new hometown. Visit Bit.Ly/DD_Registration, or call (563) 557-9049.

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DBOOKTOBERFEST.ORG

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



All events/activities are subject to change. Visit the online calendar at CarnegieStout.org/Events for the most up-to-date information.

StoryWalk®

An outdoor reading experience that displays pages of a book along a path. Locations: The 22nd Street Bee Branch Creek and Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Gardens.

Library Card Scavenger Hunt September 1-30

Celebrating Library Card Sign-Up Month.

Beginning Chapters Book Club Wednesday, September 2 @ 4 PM

Do you like *Magic Tree House*, *Junie B. Jones*, and *Nate the Great* books? If so, this club is for you. First through third graders. Registration required.

Pokémon Club

Wednesday, September 2 @ 5:30 PM

Meet other Pokémon trainers. Ages 6-12. Registration required.

Music @ your library

Friday, September 4 @ 6 PM

This is a First Fridays concert series featuring original music by local and regional musicians. All ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ukulele Time

Tuesday, September 8 & 22 @ 6 PM

For beginners. Ages 18+. Registration required.

Parachute Palooza

Wednesday, September 9 @ 4 PM

Participate in parachute games. Ages 6-10. Registration required.

Minecraft Mania

Wednesdays, September 9 through December 9 @ 5:30-6:45 PM

Sign up for this game-playing night to test your skills and build away. Ages 7-13. Registration required.

Beyond the Book Club

Thursday, September 10 @ 4 PM

Read a new book each month and meet up for a book discussion and activity. Ages 9-12. Registration required.

Movie Night

Thursday, September 10 @ 6 PM

Seating is first come, first served. Ages 16+.

Living Neighborhood History Workshop for Seniors

Sundays, September 13 through October 4 @ 1 PM

This 4-week creative workshop reflects on participants' experiences, shared memories, and the many places in Dubuque that have shaped lives. Ages 55+.

Lollipops & Music

Saturdays, September 12 through December 12 @ 10-10:30 AM

Concert series for preschool children and their families. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Reading with Rover

Saturdays, September 12 through December 12 @ 10:30-11:15 AM

Do not bring your own pet; kid-friendly dogs will be provided. All ages.

Toddler Time

Mondays, September 14 through December 14 @ 9:30 AM & 10:30 AM

Programs feature short stories, songs, and movement activities. Ages 18-35 mos. Adult participation required.

Salsa Dancing

Monday, September 14 @ 5 PM

For beginners and seasoned dancers. Held at Adam's Dance Connection, 900 Jackson St., Suite 108A. Ages 18+. Registration required.

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Julien's Journal

Reading Roundtable Book Discussion Group

Monday, September 14 @ 6 PM

Attend monthly through November for a book discussion for adult readers. Ages 18+.

Baby Rhyme Time

Tuesdays, September 15 through December 15 @ 10:30 AM

Hear stories, rhymes, and songs during this interactive program. Ages birth-18 mos. Adult participation required.

Puffy Paint Party

Tuesday, September 15 @ 4:30 PM

Apply puffy paint on a t-shirt. Ages 9-14. Registration required.

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays, September 16 through December 16 @ 10:30 AM

Stories, sing-alongs, and movement activities. Ages 3-6. Adult participation required.

Woven Mug Rugs

Thursday, September 17 @ 5:30 PM

Learn how to weave coasters out of yarn. Ages 10+. Registration required.

LEGO® Challenge

Saturday, September 19 @ 10 AM

Build, create, and have fun. The library provides the LEGOs®. Donations welcome. Ages 5-12.

Family Book Bingo

Saturday, September 19 @ 2 PM

Ages 4-12.

Air-Dry Clay Animal Party

Wednesday, September 23 @ 4 PM

Use no-bake clay to create animals. Ages 6-10. Registration required.

DIY Paper Butterflies

Monday, September 28 @ 4 PM

Ages 4-8. Registration required.

Sun SHINE Squad

Tuesday, September 29 @ 4-5:30 PM

Work on volunteer projects while providing feedback on making the library a welcoming place for teens. Ages 10-18. Registration required.



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ECHOES OF BROADWAY AND LAUREL CANYON COMING TO FIVE FLAGS THEATER

Echoes of Broadway

Five Flags Center is proud to announce the Echoes of Broadway Series, a 3-show lineup featuring Neil Berg's Broadway Holiday, Don't Stop Me Now: A Celebration of Broadway's Rock Musicals, and One Night in Memphis.

The series begins December 19 with Neil Berg's 'Broadway Holiday' featuring Dubuque native Rita Harvey. Direct from New York, the number one touring Broadway concert in America brings Broadway's finest stars and greatest songs together for an unforgettable holiday event. Neil Berg's critically acclaimed musical revue takes audiences on a journey through Broadway history with hits ranging from classic shows such as *My Fair Lady* through ground breakers like *West Side Story*, to blockbusters like *Jersey Boys*.

On February 19, the stage lights up with *Don't Stop Me Now! A Celebration of Broadway's Rock Musicals*. *Don't Stop Me Now* is a high-voltage tribute to the greatest rock musicals of all time – where Broadway meets rock & roll. From the rebellious spirit of Hair to the powerhouse hits of Jagged Little Pill and more, this concert experience takes you on a journey through the music that changed generations. Backed by a live band and driven by vocals, this show delivers one iconic anthem after another.

The series concludes April 11 with *One Night in Memphis: The Number 1 Tribute to Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, & Johnny Cash*. This critically acclaimed tribute to legendary Sun Records recording artists Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley performed live and starring former cast members of the Broadway musical, *Million Dollar Quartet*. Over 90 minutes of authentic rockabilly, country, gospel and 1950's rock and roll.

"Echoes of Broadway" series ticket packages allow fans to experience all three performances while saving 25% on ticket prices. Packages start at just \$90 with a purchase in person at the box office. Individual show tickets are also available.

Five Flags Center is also proud to present the rich sounds of Music of Laurel Canyon featuring Buffalo Rome on the Five Flags Theater stage as part of its ongoing celebration of America's 250th anniversary.



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Laurel Canyon

On Saturday September 19th, the Music of Laurel Canyon featuring Buffalo Rome takes the stage featuring Kevin Douglas (Bendorf), a Lancaster, WI, native. Nicknamed "the Crosby, Stills, and Nashville of the digital age," Buffalo Rome blends the earthy feel of the 1970s West Coast country-rock scene with a modern Americana sound. In The Music of Laurel Canyon, the group celebrates one of the most influential musical communities of the 1960s and early '70s, paying tribute to the songs and artists that defined an era, including Joni Mitchell, Buffalo Springfield, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, Joni Mitchell, The Mamas and the Papas, and The Eagles.

The Music of Laurel Canyon is part of a 3-event Rock & Roots Series celebrating the enduring artistry of American music traditions, from mountain harmonies and bluegrass storytelling to the folk-rock sounds that shaped a generation.

Tickets are available online at **FiveFlagsCenter.com** and in person at the Five Flags Center box office, open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 AM to 5 PM.



HOW TO BUILD AND COMMUNICATE WITH A PAIN MANAGEMENT TEAM

by Connie Cherba

Building a comprehensive pain management team involves bringing together specialists from many disciplines who address the physical, functional, and emotional aspects of acute and chronic discomfort. By coordinating care among providers, you can establish an effective, personalized treatment plan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Pain can result from a variety of injuries and conditions. Pain can also result from treatments for conditions and injuries, or it can be the main feature of a condition. Acute pain can last a short time and go away when you heal while chronic pain can last for months or in some cases even years. Some pain just won't go away, but the goal of pain management is to improve quality of life. Pain management can help regulate pain with medications, procedures, exercises, and therapy. Pain management specialists might recommend one approach or a combination of several approaches to prevent, reduce, or relieve pain.

Who can benefit from pain management and putting together a pain management team? Those suffering from arthritis and muscle and joint injuries and autoimmune conditions like Crohn's disease, lupus, and fibromyalgia are likely to benefit from the expertise of a pain management team. Your pain management team can help with

burns, cancer, pinched nerves, chronic pain disorders like central pain syndrome, circulatory disorders, endometriosis, headaches, migraines, and spine or spinal cord related conditions or injuries.

Who should you see for pain management? Although the answer to that question might depend on the source and type of your pain, there are several health care professionals who are ready to work together to help alleviate your discomfort.

They include:

Primary Care Provider (PCP)

This is the central point of care – the physician who will help to coordinate treatments, provide initial diagnoses, and manage referrals.

Pain Management Specialists

These are physicians who specialize in evaluating and treating complex pain. Often, they have extensive backgrounds in anesthesiology, neurology, psychiatry, or physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Physical and Occupational Therapists

Physical therapists can help improve your strength, mobility, and flexibility through exercise and movement. Occupational therapists can help you adapt and perform daily tasks and activities with greater ease and less pain.

Mental Health Providers

Psychologists and psychiatrists can assist with the emotional impact of chronic pain. They can outline and help you develop coping strategies.

Nurses and Nurse Practitioners

These trained specialists offer hands-on care as they monitor your response to treatment. Additionally, they can assist with procedures and medication management.

Pharmacists

These trained specialists are available to advise on the safe use, dosages, and potential side effects of pain medications.

Other Specialists

Depending on the cause of your pain,

your pain management team might also include neurologists who address nerve pain, oncologists who address cancer pain, orthopedists who address joint and bone pain, or rheumatologists who address autoimmune diseases.

There's a right and wrong way to address your pain management team. Here are some phrases to avoid, followed by what to say instead:

1. "I know exactly what I need; just prescribe it." This demand gives the impression you want a specific medication rather than a diagnosis. An alternative might be, "I've heard about [Medication/Treatment] and wondered if it might be a good option for me. Can you explain the pros and cons?"

2. "Nothing else works, so I just need stronger pain pills." This makes you appear uncooperative while a focus on "stronger pills" can set off red flags for providers. Instead say, "I've tried [Previous Treatments], and I'm still struggling with discomfort. What other alternatives or therapies can we explore to help me function better?"

3. "I can't tolerate physical therapy or injections." This exhibits an unwillingness to give other fields a chance to fully help with your recovery. Instead say, "I had a tough time with physical therapy last time due to [Specific Reason]. Can we modify the approach, or are there other specialists I can work with?"

4. "I didn't think it was important to mention the supplements I'm taking." Leaving out the over-the-counter supplements you take can be dangerous as they can cause harmful interactions with prescribed medications. Instead bring along a list of all supplements to make sure it's safe to take them alongside the treatment plan.

5. "My pain is a 10 out of 10, all the time." This sort of statement makes it hard for the doctor to track even subtle improvements or determine when and how pain occurs. Instead consider saying, "On an average day, my pain sits around a [Number]. However, it spikes to a [Number] when I try to do [Specific Activity], like sleeping or getting dressed."

Additionally, communication should focus

on function – how pain affects your daily life. Using phrases like, "It's interfering with my sleep." or "I had to stop doing X." can effectively let the doctors know the severity of your condition. Finally, keeping a pain journal that outlines when your pain happens, what triggers it, and what it prevents you from doing can help determine a plan for treatment.

Ready to put together a pain management team? In addition to pharmacies, primary care physicians, physical and occupational therapists, and mental health providers, there are several pain clinics within the tri-state area. Depending on your location, consider making an appointment at Southwest Health in Platteville and Kieler, Wisconsin; Unity Pont Health Finley Hospital Pain Clinic in Dubuque; Grant Regional Health Center in Lancaster, Wisconsin; United Therapy Services in Dubuque and Lancaster, Wisconsin; Midwest Medical Center in Galena, Illinois; Medical Associates in Dubuque; and Mercy Medical Center in Dubuque.

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Fly-by-Night Productions: Engaging Audiences in Conversations

by Beth Triplett

While the term fly-by-night may cause you to think of something that is unstable or disappears rapidly, the Dubuque theater production company that bears that name is anything but transitory. Fly-by-Night Productions (FBNP) recently completed its 43rd season and has plans to continue pushing the artistic envelope in its upcoming season.

The group occupies a niche in the area, providing “theater that starts a conversation.” Self-described as an in-between community theater and professional companies, Fly-By-Night Productions offers shows that examine topics and take risks.

“We want the audience to come and engage, and then we can give them something in return,” said Sunil Malapati, artistic director. “We want people still thinking about it two days later. Our audiences have grown to expect that, and they appreciate us for that.”

FBNP differs from other companies due to the subject matter of its productions.

“We’ve always been called the thinking man’s theater,” said Kay Schroeder, managing director. “There’s usually some social context to our work. Fly-By-Night Productions gives you the opportunity to examine conversations and topics like what the constitution means, women’s rights, or how you feel when you’re stopped by a police officer and you’re innocent.”



The shows are followed by talkbacks where the audience can participate in a conversation about what the play meant to them.

The next production is *Death of Justice*, September 26 at Carnegie-Stout Library. The show excavates a 1777 play set in a small Massachusetts town and addresses war profiteering and small-town community obligations. The event includes a play-reading and presentation of the context for the play as well as woodcuts that accompanied the publication.

FBNP produces special events in addition to its three main shows each year. Examples include Vanity Theater, where anyone can sign up to perform a monologue, and play readings. The company also recently presented *Venus and Adonis*, a Shakespeare poem crafted into a play, at the Green Bay Fringe Festival as a way to spread its artistic wings. They



The Diary of Anne Frank (March 2026) with Benita Menitz, Rob

have produced shows by local playwrights and host an improv troupe, Wing’n it, as a pipeline to encourage people to eventually audition for shows.

The group has no permanent theater and has produced shows in more than a dozen locations throughout town, matching the venue with the play’s content and setting. Shows have been held in the Old Jail, Lacy Mansion, Bijou Room, on a riverboat, a courtroom, and an art gallery.

It is a time of major transition for the company, as founding members Doug Donald and Lenore Howard have stepped away from their principal roles. The stalwarts of Fly-By-Night Productions, the couple fulfilled almost every role over the 40+



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY FLY BY NIGHT PRODUCTIONS

ert Armstrong, Susan Barg, Jessica Baltierra performing.

years and left an indelible imprint on the organization.

“Fly-By-Night Productions has existed for 43 years because of a certain set of values set in place by Doug and Lenore,” said Malapati.”



“We are committed to following that. We are committed to taking risks. We’ve always done that, and we will continue to do that. I want to make sure people love us for who we are.”

While the company continues to uphold its core beliefs, some changes will undoubtedly occur. One major one is splitting the functions previously handled by Lenore into two roles: managing director and artistic director. It’s a step in making the organization evolve from a personality-driven one to a process-driven one, creating documentation that outlives any one person. The company will certainly miss the couple’s expertise and dedicated leadership, but both will remain involved in other





(Above) *Terra Nova* (June 2024) with Dakota Vassen and Robert Armstrong performing. (Below) *Venus and Adonis* (2026) with Jessica Demaria and Brianna Richey performing.



capacities.

Two core commitments remain steadfast: the types of shows selected and the way people are engaged in producing them.

Shows are determined by the Script Committee, whose charge is to select shows that meet the mission of the company, finding plays that both entertain and encourage a conversation. The committee values risk and challenge in its show choices, seeking to be bold and innovative in its picks.

"When we do a show, we are committed to conveying what the playwright wanted," said Schroeder. "We do the best to make

it professional and what the playwright intended. We don't ever take anything out of a script or add to a script."

Another tenet is that FBNP does theater as a group, with the audience being the final cast member.

"You care as much about the actors as you do about the technical people, the sound people, the costumers, and all those involved," said Schroeder. "A lot of people do a lot of different things. They might be in the show this time and maybe doing tech next time."

Malapati concurs. "It's actually part of

"We will take you any way you want to come, as an audience member, as an actor, as someone who wants to become involved behind the scenes, as an usher, as a sponsor, or especially people with technical expertise," said Schroeder. "If you haven't checked us out, you really should."



Amy Foley in *What the Constitution Means to Me* (2026).

our ethos,” he said. “At FBNP, we’re all in it together. Backstage and on-stage, we all go out after a show. It’s a way to build community, because when we say we build conversations, it’s not just a conversation with the audience; it’s a conversation within us, too.”

Many conversations occur during the run-up to the show as well.

“So much of theater is just problem solving, these are the resources you get, and that’s all you have to convey this particular feeling or emotion,” said Malapati. “It involves a light choice, a costume choice, an acting choice, a directorial choice so everything comes together.”

The company consists of a core of 25-40 members who rotate in and out of different capacities but is also always seeking new volunteers for any of the many roles.

The company was established to foster diverse and challenging theatrical opportunities for artists and audiences alike. Those intrigued about joining that conversation can learn more at FlyByNightDubuque.com or on Facebook or Instagram.

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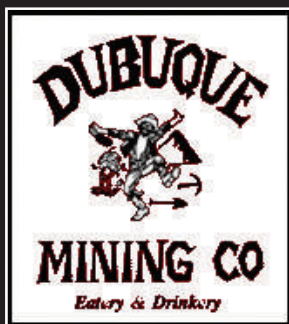
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A New Framework to Support Student Success



Photos contributed by the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque

Eddie Santiago is a key player in the Community Foundation's GRAD Partnership initiative.

On a Thursday morning, students at Dubuque's Alternative Learning Center are taking part in a listening session, answering questions about their school experiences. How helpful are teachers? How do students support one another? How do students know about their academic performance?

A senior named John Fisher speaks up: "Teachers are really good at telling you how you are doing in class," he says. "Like with Eddie, I know I can walk into his office and ask, 'How am I doing, and he will tell me.'"

Eddie is Eddie Santiago, and he is sitting next to John. Eddie also is the school's principal and a key player in the Community Foundation's GRAD Partnership initiative. In his four

years at the Alternative Learning Center, he has worked with Dubuque Community School District administrators to increase graduation rates at the school, which serves students who benefit from a more hands-on high school learning experience.

The GRAD Partnership provides a framework to build on that positive momentum. Through this national partnership, we work with schools in the Dubuque region to build and enhance student success systems. The goals are more engaged students, better attendance, and higher graduation rates. It's part of our broader efforts to

tackling chronic absenteeism and set students up for long-term success.

“Anything we can do to remove barriers so students can meet the goal of graduating is helpful.”
– Eddie Santiago

What sets The GRAD Partnership framework apart from traditional student success system models is that it is evidenced-based driven by data. This helps educators identi-

fy warning signs early and intervene before students fall too far behind.

“It emphasizes supportive relationships as important to academic success,” says Shirley Hosrstman, school attendance and college access coordinator. “This is not just teachers and administrators implementing a program. Students, families, and communities all have a voice in shaping solutions that work in their specific context.”

The GRAD Partnership is still in its early stages in the Dubuque region, but national data suggests what local schools can look forward to: significant declines in absenteeism and course failure rates.

Back at the Alternative Learning Center, the student listening session is wrapping up. As students stand to leave, Eddie lets them know that he brought candy, just as he promised, and the teens grab a few pieces as they walk out the door.

It’s one of those small gestures to remind them that they are supported.

This article is made possible by a partnership between *Julien’s Journal* and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque.

Comments on this article can be sent to comments@juliensjournal.com. ❖



Shirley Hosrstman

Among schools that began implementing The GRAD Partnership’s student success systems in 2022-’23 and continued using them in 2023-’24:

- ✓ The average chronic absenteeism rate **declined from 29% to 21%** over two years, a 28% reduction.
- ✓ The average **course failure rate declined from 31% to 20%** over two years, a 32% reduction.

The Four Essential Elements of High-Quality Student Success Systems



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How to Boost Your Landscape's Beauty with Bee-Friendly Shrubs

by Melinda Myers

Plant a variety of bee-friendly shrubs and enjoy year-round beauty and loads of pollinator appeal. Include a mix of spring, summer and fall bloomers, providing nectar and pollen for visiting bees throughout the season. Selecting bee-friendly shrubs suited to the growing conditions and the available space also boosts your landscape's beauty and reduces maintenance.

Start the season off with dwarf fothergilla (*Fothergilla gardenia*). Its honey scented white flowers first appear before the leaves, offering food to early foraging bees and other pollinators. The

blue-green leaves turn shades of red, orange and yellow in the fall.

Include black (*Aronia melanocarpa*) and red chokeberries (*Aronia arbutifolia*) with white flowers in spring, great fall color

and the black or red fruit that persists into winter. These plants tolerate some shade, wet and occasionally a dry soil.

Grow the native ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*) in those sunny well-drained locations. This durable drought-tolerant shrub also tolerates occasionally wet soil. White flowers with a pinkish tinge appear in late spring and the rugged exfoliating bark adds texture to the winter landscape.

If you are dealing with black walnut toxicity and dry locations, consider planting New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*). This North American native shrub is deer-resistant and prefers full-sun and well-drained soil. White flowers appear in summer that not only support bees and other pollinators, but this plant is also a host for several butterflies.

Your garden will be abuzz with bee activity when growing Kalm's St. John's Wort (*Hypericum kalmianum*). This small shrub is covered with bright yellow flowers in mid-summer. Grow this drought-tolerant shrub in full to part sun and well-drained soil.

For moist to wet locations consider Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). Its

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round white flowers appear mid-summer, inviting a variety of pollinators to the garden.

Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*) and Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) are two more summer-blooming shrubs that are shade and moist to wet soil tolerant. Look for varieties of these deer-resistant shrubs that fit your available space and garden design.

For dry shade consider dwarf bush honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*). This is not one of the invasive honeysuckles but rather a native plant with yellow summer flowers and leaves that turn from yellow to orange and red then purple in fall.

Brighten your late summer and fall landscape with Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*). This large shrub appeals to several specialized bees, prefers full sun to partial shade and is moderately deer resistant.

Finish off the season with Seven-son flower (*Heptacodium miconioides*) considered a large shrub or small tree. You and the many visiting pollinators will appreciate the late season fragrant white blossoms. The rosy-



Photo Contributed by MelindaMyers.com

purple calyx persists, and the attractive exfoliating bark extends its ornamental appeal through winter.

Adding bee-friendly shrubs is an excellent way to support these important members of our community. Don't stop there. Consider including some pollinator-friendly flowers in your gardens to further ex-

tend the bloom time and beauty of your landscape.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts the "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Her website is MelindaMyers.com. ❖

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Taste

RESTAURANT REVIEW

The convenient location on Main Street offers patrons easy access to downtown Dubuque.

MASON DIXON SALOON OFFERS DELICIOUS DRY RUB BARBECUE & MORE

by Cassie Cate

The Mason Dixon Line is a significant, imaginary border in the United States, acting as a symbolic divide between cultures and the historical differences between the North and South. While it still serves as a landmark to some Americans today, here in Dubuque, Mason Dixon refers to an upscale, downtown Saloon that bridges the divide between deliciousness and good old-fashioned fun.

In June 2010, father and son duo Dennis and Joe Hefel set out to establish a sports bar with a nightclub feel in downtown Dubuque. Joe was already running Gin Rickey's, but he wanted to expand by introducing food. Dennis told Joe and his wife Kari, the current owners, that he was all in as long as his signature ribs, perfected from years of preparation and practice on the farm, could be on the menu. With this agreement in place, the three created a down-home menu, including Dennis's seasoning and dry rub, along with his late wife's homemade BBQ sauce recipe right off the farm in Sherrill. All

this combined with Joe's intent to create a rustic, southern country feel, and Mason Dixon Saloon was born.

Joe and Kari Hefel are no strangers to the food industry. The two met while he was bartending at Riverside Bowl, sharing with Kari his dreams to open his own establishment one day. This dream became a reality. With over 33 years in the business, Joe opened his first bar Gin Rickey's in 2006. From there, Joe's simple upbringing on the farm set the tone for Mason Dixon Saloon. Using Linda Mae's BBQ sauce was a way to honor Joe's mother who was never able to see his success but always encouraged

him to follow his passion to start his own business.

Offering delicious smoked meat options was critical. They also decided to make their own coleslaw, salsa, and all but one wing sauce, including their own ranch, which customers love.

These meat options are prepared on the two in-house charcoal cookers that Dennis made himself, complete with rotating grates. Dennis has used his talents to make several cookers over the years, including the two at the saloon, one at his farm, and even smokers for people who have requested one.

The baby back pork ribs are slow cooked with Dennis's dry rub and since the process is quite labor intensive, they are offered two days each week, Thursdays and Sundays. Typically, the customer demand surpasses the supply, so those wanting to try them need to get there early. This same dry rub is used on all menu items at Mason Dixon.

The wings at Mason Dixon are also a well-



The baby back pork ribs are slow cooked with Dennis's dry rub.



Mason Dixon's famous Ruben Sandwich.



The wings at Mason Dixon are also a well-loved.



Mason Dixon Saloon gives a unique vibe to downtown Dubuque.



Adding to the fun is their offering of NFL Sunday Ticket, making all games available to patrons.



A moody atmosphere creates the perfect space for a good time in the lower level of the saloon.

loved menu item. The dry rub coats these as well, followed by a dip in the deep fryer. These wings are served naked because they are so delicious, but they also come with dipping sauces that are made in house to use. The Reuben is said to be the best in town, probably due to the six-hour cook on the brisket, which later marinades with the sauerkraut, creating an incredible sandwich experience. The most popular appetizer is a creamy little kick called Dixon Dice, pepper jack cheese curds fried to perfection for a perfect start to any meal.

If visit Mason Dixon Saloon on a typical weekend, you will see a variety of clientele. With its central location downtown, it creates the perfect stop for wedding guests coming in for a drink after the ceremony before heading to the reception. Out of town guests and tourists come to enjoy the atmosphere as they make their way around town. Locals come to have a few drinks, enjoy some BBQ, and gather for their favorite football, basketball, or baseball game. The lower level opens at 10 PM on Friday and Saturday nights, complete

with in-house DJ, creating a nightclub atmosphere with a dance floor for those wishing for a livelier evening.

Mason Dixon Saloon is a proud supporter of their Iowa sports, priding themselves on being a Hawkeye's Headquarters for Iowa football. Those passing the establishment can't miss the duo of Hawkeye flags adorning the saloon, leaving no doubt to those passing by the Mason Dixon Saloon is true Hawkeye territory. Adding to the fun is their offering of NFL Sunday Ticket, making all games available to patrons.

Of course, Hawkeye, Cyclone, and NFL games are made better with drink specials and Buckets of Beer. Other drink specials are offered each night from eight to midnight, including \$3 vodka mixers on Thursdays, \$3 Sour Patch Shots on Friday and Saturdays, and \$3 Rum Mixers on Sundays. Themed drinks are also served during graduation weekend for Loras, UD, and Clarke families looking to celebrate the occasion. milestone.

Mason Dixon is also the only bar in Iowa

to serve Pedro's Bloody Mary's. This special concoction comes from Keri's connection to Colorado, where her brother lives. His friend Pedro, who has since passed, created this special mix growing different chilis himself for the blend. His friends decided to carry on his legacy, naming it Pedro's and giving 100% of the proceeds from each bottle back to the youth sports community he so deeply loved.

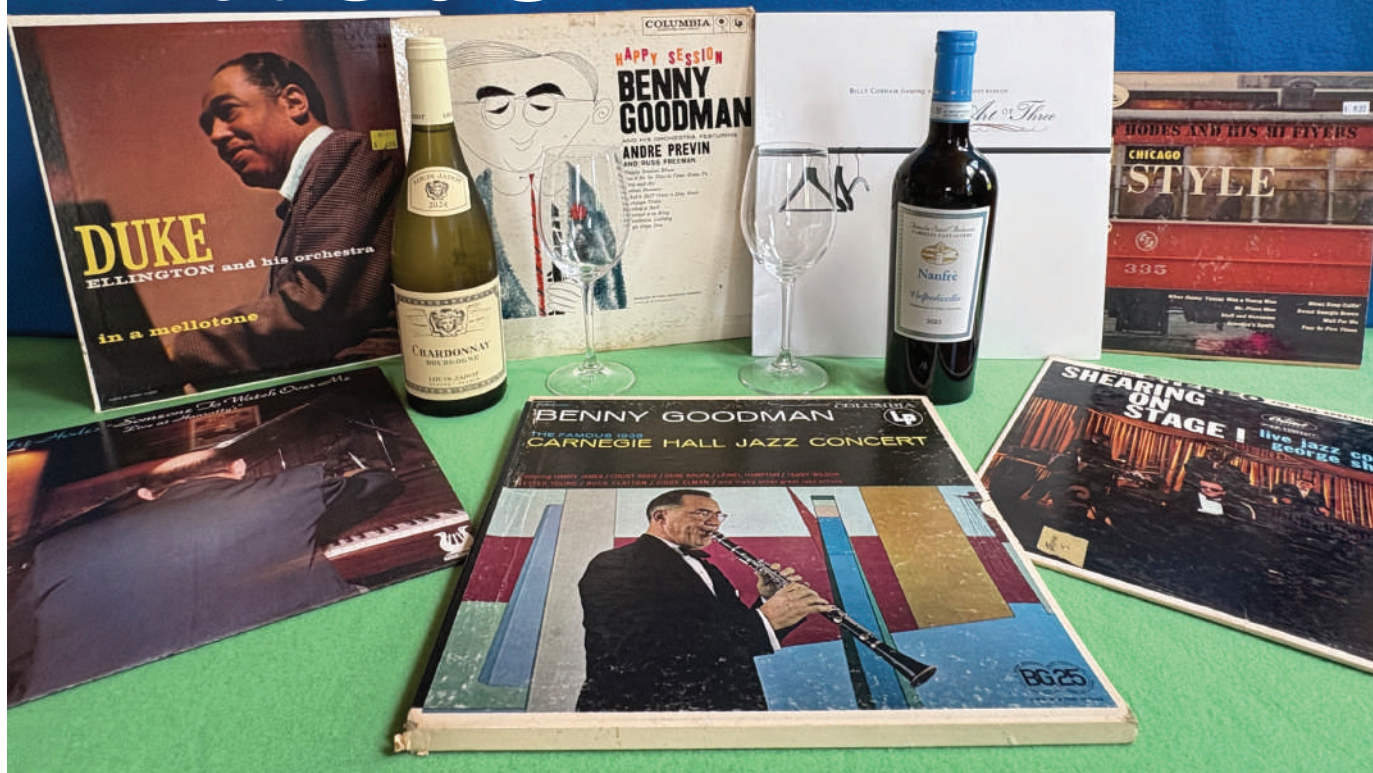
As part of the business, the lower level of Mason Dixon is available for private parties, including graduations, birthdays, reunions, wedding receptions and rehearsals, to Christmas parties, Hawkeye parties, and baby and bridal showers to name a few, no occasion is without a home. These parties are offered a buffet style menu with all the signature meats customers have come to love. Joe's pork loin and chicken on the slow cooker are second to none for these occasions.

Mason Dixon proudly continues to be family owned, with Joe working hands on as the manager and Keri helping behind the scenes when she is not working her oncology nursing job.

Whatever the task, they make it work and continue to provide exceptional food in a fun-loving atmosphere.

Mason Dixon Saloon is located at 163 Main Street in Dubuque and is open Thursday and Friday from 3 PM to 2 AM and Saturday and Sunday from 11 AM to 2 AM. You can visit their website at MasonDixondbq.com. ❖

SIPS & TIPS Taste



Article & Photo by John B. Donovan

TWO WINES FOR A SEPTEMBER AFTERNOON

"Jazz is like Wine. When it is new, it is only for the experts, but when it gets older, everybody wants it." — Steve Lacy

TeamWine usually has music going in the background when we gather to taste. The jazz tunes of Bill Evans Trio rarely disappoints as we sniff, swirl and sip our wines. And for this month we have a couple wines that thrilled us all. They are reasonably priced, both went well with most of our food, and they were purchased just on the other side of the Julien Dubuque Bridge. We hope you'll try and like them!

SIPS

Our white was a **2024 Louis Jadot Bour-**

gogne Chardonnay (12.5% abv, \$19.99). This wine is 100% Chardonnay from two different vineyards in northeast France. The color was a very light lemon yellow with excellent clarity. Aromas of grapefruit, citrus pith, honeydew melon and one member of TeamWine picked up sea salt and ocean breeze (isn't wine wonderful!) The wine was full-bodied but contained no heavy oak essence. The body is likely evidence of malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged in stainless for a year prior to bottling. There was a sweetness on the palate with flavors of pineapple, honey,

some citrus and apricot being present. The mouthfeel and finish were smooth and drew you to want the next sip. This wine paired well with all we served, from the cheeses, spinach tortellini, and tinned fish. We also felt this would be perfect when it was well-chilled and should be enjoyed on its own for one of the warm days still left in September. We all enjoyed this wine!

Our red was an Italian **2022 Nanfre' Valpolicella by Tenuta Sant Antonio** (12.5%, \$14.99). This wine was comprised of 70% Corvina and 30% Rondinella grapes from Verona region of northern Italy, due west of Venice. I was surprised when we poured this wine as the color was a light brick-red hue, which made me think it might have been oxidized a bit, but it tasted fine. I

was also surprised (pleasantly) of the low alcohol level as it seems to me that most Valpolicella's are closer to 13.5 – 14%. TeamWine found aromas of cigar box, cherry cola, cooking spices and cranberry. It is light-bodied with slight tannins, which became more pronounced after pairing with the chimichurri. The wine changed to a bit sweeter on the finish with notes of cherry and brown sugar. It paired

well with the salmon, the pork and the spinach tortellini. Like the Chardonnay, this wine also paired well with nearly all the food we served. Sadly, no one brought chocolate, but we assured ourselves, it would pair nicely with chocolate.

TIPS

Fall is a wonderful time of year for road

trips. You can find several travel guides for artists, visiting state or local parks, several museums are easily done in a day, and of course, there are wineries.

Within an easy days drive there is American Wine Project (Mineral Point), Park Farm Winery (Bankston, IA), Barrelhead Winery (Dubuque), Tabor Home Winery (Baldwin, IA), Stone Cliff Winery (Dubuque), Bishop Winery (Sherrill, IA), Whispering Bluffs Winery (Potosi, WI), Galena Cellars Winery (Galena, IL), Fergedaboutit Winery (Hanover, IL), PromiseLand Winery (Guttenberg, IA), Massbach Ridge Winery (Galena, IL), Eagles Landing Winery (Marquette, IA), TYCOGA Winery (DeWitt, IA), Wide River Winery, (Clinton, IA), and O So Good Winery (Dyersville, IA).

Among these wineries, you are sure to find wines that will please your palate. And, better yet, any of these will welcome you at their winery and tasting room for a pleasant afternoon. Many of them will have live music on weekends. Many will allow you to bring your own food but call ahead to confirm this as many now offer food. Get a small group together and head out and enjoy a leisurely afternoon.

If you go, please designate someone as a non-drinking driver for the trip home. Take and drink water to stay hydrated. Have Fun!

Salut!

Comments on this article can be sent to comments@juliensjournal.com. ❖





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**Tuesday, September 15, 2026
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All events are subject to change. Visit the website for the most up-to-date information.

Foundations for Bone Health

Saturday, September 12 @ 9 AM-12 PM

Three-hour educational workshop for individuals with osteoporosis, osteopenia, or those looking to support long-term bone health and prevent bone loss.

No Limb-its Amputee Social & Support Gatherings

Monday, September 14 @ 4-5:30 PM

A monthly gathering where individuals living with limb loss can meet others with similar experiences and struggles.

Community Acupuncture

Thursday, September 17 @ 5-7 PM

Community acupuncture allows for individualized treatment in a common treatment area.

SHALOM SPIRITUALITY CENTER SHALOMRETREATS.ORG

All events are subject to change. Visit the website for the most up-to-date information.

Silent Book Club

Tuesday, September 8 @ 6-7:30 PM

Participants gather to share the same space while reading in silence, without the traditional book club's pressure of having to finish a book on time. RSVP.

Nurturing Peace Through the Arts

Tuesday, September 15 @ 6:30-8 PM

This evening of participatory song, story, movement, and reflection invites you to explore how creativity and shared ritual can become pathways toward peace. RSVP.

Lunch & Renew: Chair Yoga

Wednesday, September 16 @ 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Registration required.

Stargazing

Saturday, September 19 @ 7-10 PM

Check out the stars and night objects with a telescope, away from the city lights and on the edge of Mount Saint Francis Prairie. RSVP.

Meditation & Music

Monday, September 21 @ 6:30-7:30 PM

Wear comfortable clothing. Feel free to bring a pillow or blanket. Registration required.

Zentangle® Workshop

Monday, September 28 @ 9 AM-3 PM

The Zentangle® Art Method is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create



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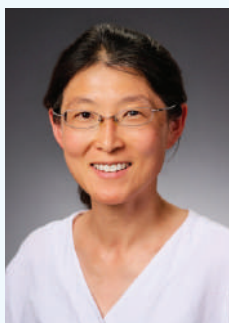


Diabetes Prevention & Management Program**Thursday, September 17 @ 5:30-7:30 PM**

This three-month program supports individuals with diabetes or pre-diabetes and combines expert guidance, practical tools, and a supportive community.

NEWS**MEDICAL ASSOCIATES EMPLOYEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Linan Bo, NP, joined their rheumatology department. She received her Master of Science in Nursing from Clarion and Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Clarion, PA, and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas, Arlington, TX. Bo also received her Bachelor of Science in



Biotechnology from Ludong University in Yantai, China.

Most recently, Bo worked as a nurse practitioner at Sunbelt Healthcare and at Signify Health, both in Omaha, NE. She assists with the diagnosis and treatment of arthritis and other diseases of the joints, muscles, and bones.

Grant Sizemore, MD, has joined the surgery department. He received his medical degree and Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science from the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL. He also completed his residency in general surgery at Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI.



Most recently, Sizemore worked as a surgeon at Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, GA, and previously at Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI. He will provide a full spectrum

of general surgery services.

Darian Curry, PA-C, has joined their cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery departments. She received her Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Dubuque, and Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Iowa.



Most recently, Curry worked as a certified physician associate at Crusader Community Health in Rockford, IL. She will prepare patients preoperatively for surgical interventions, check them during their hospital stay, and provide outpatient follow-up care after surgery. Curry also assists in the evaluation, treatment, and ongoing management of cardiovascular diseases.

Carrie Merrick, LMHC, has joined their psychiatry and psychology department. She received her Master of Arts in Clinical Counseling Psychology and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Loras College.

Most recently, Merrick worked as the manager of Medical Associates' psychiatry and psychology department and previously was a licensed mental health counselor at Hillcrest Family Services in Dubuque. She provides diagnostic assessment, counseling, and therapeutic intervention for patients 10 years of age and older.

**MEDICAL ASSOCIATES CLINIC EXPANDS ADVANCED HEART CARE**

Medical Associates Clinic is expanding advanced heart care by introducing two innovative treatment options for patients with heart failure and abnormal heart rhythms. Cardiologist Brian Loc, DO, is currently the only provider in the Tri-States offering both the CardioMEMS™ HF System and the Micra™ Leadless Pacemaker. These minimally invasive treatment options provide eligible patients with access to advanced heart care locally.

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Business & Community News



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GM NAMED FOR GRAND RIVER & FIVE FLAGS CENTERS



Oak View Group, the operators of the Grand River Center and Five Flags Center, named industry veteran **Scott Hallgren, CVE**, General Manager for the Grand River Center Convention Center

and Five Flags Center. Hallgren relocated to Dubuque from Ottumwa, IA, where he most recently served as executive director of the Bridge View Center.



DSO AUDITIONS

The Dubuque Symphony Orchestra (DSO) will be holding auditions for the following vacancies: Assistant Concertmaster (3rd Chair), AP Violin 2, Section Violin (1), AP Viola, Section Viola (1), and Principal Keyboard.

Auditions will be held Thursday, September 17, 2026, at Five Flags Theater. Application must be received by Friday, September 11 to secure an audition spot. For excerpt list and application forms, visit DubuqueSymphony.org/Auditions.

DUTRAC EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

DuTrac was recognized through the prestigious Designation of Savings Excellence (DOSE) award program, presented annually by America Saves and the Consumer Federation of America. The award honors financial institutions that go above and beyond in helping members establish healthy saving habits and achieve long-

term financial success.

FOUNDATION RECEIVES GRANT

Thanks to a \$250,000 grant from the Community Foundation Climate Collaborative and the McKnight Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque will increase its capacity for impact investing, providing financing for projects that address environmental issues in Eastern Iowa. This funding can provide low interest, reimbursable funding for projects that address some of the Dubuque region's biggest issues, including environmental sustainability.

EAGLE POINT SOLAR 2026 TOP CONTRACTOR

Solar Power World released the 15th anniversary edition of the solar industry's most recognized grouping of solar and energy storage installation companies. The 2026 Top Solar Contractors List named Eagle Point Solar in Dubuque as one of the featured companies on this special list. Eagle Point Solar has been installing solar locally since 2010.

Congratulations to these local businesses and students! Please send your upcoming business announcements to Juli@JuliensJournal.com and be included in our monthly Business and Community News.

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