Your Brush with greatness

ROCHESTER’S WEEKLY WHAT-TO-DO GUIDE
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7-13, 2019

SHOP LOCAL FROM RITZ CRAFTERS

RCTC theater takes on religious schism
When was the last time you took a good, long look in the mirror? How about taking a moment to stare at your desk, or page through your social media presence?

This issue has me thinking about self-presentation – the many ways in which we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work to the general public.

First off: the selfie. Love them or hate them, you can hardly escape them. Which is why “Spitting Image,” the self-portrait show opening at Lanesboro Arts this weekend, is such a refreshing change. Interestingly, one local artist informed us that self-portraits have a long, historied tradition in art for a few reasons: they’re accessible, work across mediums, and often reveal more about the artist’s values and self than you’d see in a piece focusing on another person. Check it out this weekend!

Maybe you order your beers without paying much attention to the name of each brew. Or maybe, like us, you’re intrigued by the monikers brewers give their creations. Columnist Louis Livingston-Garcia talked to locals about some of the names they’ve given beers, and what those reveal about their histories, political leanings, and more. Finally, do you see yourself as an artist (and want other people to agree)? Check out some fantastic local art classes (featured on our cover) and get started on your path to painterly glory.

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Cover photo by Elizabeth Nida Obert
Hillbilly rock busts out of Rochester

by JOHN SIEVERS

If there’s a country rock version of “The Wheels on the Bus,” you might hear local music heads singing it when they take their coolers and red Solo cups on a musical sojourn with JT & the Gunslingers, and special guest Kurt Vatland. This pair of acts have booked a two-bus caravan to take their fans to a private concert at A440 Studios this weekend.

A440 Studios—a broadcasting, media, and music production company and performance venue—bills itself as having “Minneapolis Minnesota’s largest music production sound stage.” The studio has worked with a who’s-who of musicians, from Bonnie Raitt to Alicia Keys. Now, Rochester music-makers will be added to the studio’s roster of clients.

For the last 10 years, local musician Kurt Vatland has been friends with Tony Wilson at A440. After recently returning to Rochester from a “three-year hiatus in the Rocky Mountains,” Vatland ran into his old friend JT, and the two had a late-night jam session that turned into an early-morning conversation. Vatland says the discussion centered on getting JT on the road, and a solid electronic press kit (EPK) seemed to be preventing that goal. Vatland suggested that his friend Tony at A440 Studios might be the answer; thus, the bus brigade and private concert was conceived.

“The show will be recorded live for sound and video,” explains JT, “so not only do our fans get to see the future of our show, but also be a part of it.”

For JT, the show is an opportunity for longtime fans to preview the next chapter of his band’s performance trajectory, “which will be comprised of mostly original music.” JT says that in 2020, the band hopes to play tours with bigger-name acts and at smaller venues that will include opening bands before the Gunslingers give their best-of-the-best 90-minute set.

“There is so much amazing music out there that people never hear because the radio has told them what is good for so long that they often forget about literally millions of artists,” says JT.

The bus convoy will depart from Rochester around 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9, for the 7-10 p.m. concert at A440. There will also be a pre-party and after-party at Fusion Lounge, which will include some special Gunslinger-inspired beverages concocted by mixologist Chuck Hessel. JT says they’ll feature one of his favorite ingredients: Maker’s Mark bourbon. The after-party when the buses return to Rochester late on Saturday will also include another set of music from JT and his bandmate Todd Owen.

“Any excuse to raise hell and play together isn’t taken lightly,” says Vatland, who was tapped to play an opening set at the show. He’s been busy recording material for an album entitled “Dive Bar Darling” that he’s planning to release in 2019. He also teased some big announcements involving national tours, multiple singles, videos, and a potential record deal he’s getting excited to reveal.

Vatland’s thrilled to play for a sold-out audience; seats on the two chartered buses sold out in eight days, though JT hints, “there may be a couple tickets becoming available.” “Something is happening here,” says Vatland. “People are catching on.” Not only are they catching on, they are getting on the bus. The band on the bus goes ‘party, party, party,’ all the way to ‘cool.

If you go

What
JT & The Gunslingers with Kurt Vatland

When
7-10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9

Where
A440 Studios, 4630 Quebec Ave. N, New Hope

Cost
This show is sold out, but stay up to date on any new tickets released at eventbrite.com.
ROCHESTER MICROBREWERY TROLLEY TOUR!

We’ll visit THREE of Rochester’s Five Microbreweries on Each Tour!
1:00pm-5:30pm! 4.5 Hours Roundtrip!

WINTER-SPRING 2019 SCHEDULE:
- Saturdays Feb 16 & 23
- Saturdays March 2, 16, May 11 & 25
- Saturdays May 25 & 30

Tickets ONLY $59!
Includes craft beer flights & fun at each microbrewery!

Valentine’s Day & Weekend 2019 Romantic City Lights & Water Trolley Tour!
Blufftop Skyline Views, Night-time Landmarks, Historic Pill Hill, Romantic River Stretches & Classic Love Songs!

Thurs Feb 14, Fri Feb 15, Sat Feb 16 — 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Only $18! per seat!

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For more info and to book online visit RochesterMNtours.com or by phone 507-421-0573!

Rochester MN Tours on Facebook facebook.com/PostBulletin

TOM WEBER

Some plays might be too hot to touch for an audience with delicate tastes. That’s why we have collegiate theater, where a play like “The Christians,” about a schism in a mega-church, can be staged as part of the learning process. “When I first read this play about three years ago, I immediately said, ‘We have to do this play,’” said Jerry Casper, director of theater at Rochester Community & Technical College.

The play opens Feb. 14 at RCTC and continues through Feb. 23.

“It’s a good subject to explore,” said Casper. “It’s been good for the students. We’ve had great conversations. It’s been a good educational experience.”

In the play, a pastor of an evangelical church has a revelation that he reveals during a sermon. It threatens to split the congregation in two, as both the associate pastor and the pastor’s wife are caught by surprise. Not everyone in the congregation thinks the pastor’s new direction is the right one.

When talking to students about the play, Casper said, “I made it clear right off the bat it’s not an anti-religion play.” Nor is it anti-Christian. “It could be about any denomination,” he said.

Casper has cast John Arachtingi as the pastor.

“One of the things I looked for in auditions was somebody who could be natural,” Casper said. “I wanted charisma. Somebody who can make it sincere.”

Kahled Aldosari is the associate pastor and Cory Casper is the pastor’s wife. All are younger than they would be in reality, but again, that’s the nature of college theater. Casper insisted on casting only RCTC students, rather than older actors from the community, in the main roles.

There will also be a church choir, which has been organized by Mike Mangan, director of music at RCTC.

A post-play discussion with local religious leaders will be held after the Feb. 22 performance.

The play, written by Lucas Hnath, received rave reviews on Broadway. It has been greeted with curiosity and enthusiasm by the student actors, Casper said.

“Now we’ll see what the audience brings,” he said.

If you go

What
“The Christians”

When
7:30 p.m Feb. 14-16, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21-22, 2 p.m. Feb. 23

Where
Charles Hill Theatre, Rochester Community & Technical College

Cost
$10 adults, $8 senior citizens and non-RCTC students, RCTC students free with student ID; 507-285-7200

Cast members of “The Christians” include, from left, Khaled Aldosari as the associate pastor, Brian Tyrrell as the elder, John Arachtingi as the pastor, Corie Casper as the pastor’s wife and Patti Snyder as the congregant.
The 10th annual Mid West Music Fest returns in May, and the lineup has never felt fresher.

Over the course of four days (two in the first week, and two in the third), more than 100 musical acts will descend upon Winona and La Crosse.


The festival is always a mix of folk and Americana – as you’d expect from Minnesota – and urban/punk influences from the Twin Cities. And it’s everywhere – in bars, coffee shops, stages, and even religious centers in both cities.

This year, the festival was moved back a month to take advantage of the springier weather. So look out for a wider range of outdoor stages in this year’s schedule.

Here are a few acts we’re excited to see.

**Winona:**
Get excited for the first two days of the fest! SE Minnesota favorites Charlie Parr, Them Coulee Boys, and Mike Munson (in collaboration with Jimmy “Duck” Jones) will all play during the first wave of musicians. New headliners include Twin Cities soul group Nooky Jones, funk band Alex Rossi, and the indie-synth sounds of Graveyard Club.

**La Crosse:**
New headliners for the Wisconsin half of the festival really run the gamut. Keep an eye out for indie rocker Ruby Boots, funk band Luthi, and classic rock from Great American Taxi, which includes several La Crosse natives.

**New this year:** The 2019 festival will include a Women in Minnesota Music Showcase, featuring performances by Annie Mack, Humbird, and Aby Wolf. The showcase will be held at the Burke Music House in Winona, and is sponsored by The Current, Treedome, and Carpet Booth Studios. Winona will also see the First Annual Uke Fest at the Alexander Mansion on May 4.

For a full schedule, go to midwestmusicfest.org.
When it comes to beer, what it tastes like is the most important thing. But what about the names of the beer? They can be as creative and intriguing as the brews themselves. And if they have a good story behind them? Even better.

Take LTS for instance. “Most of our beers are named for concepts or ideas loosely associated with our “Life’s Too Short” motto,” LTS co-owner Brandon Schulz said. “There are a few others that have different inspiration. Our CTRL+ALT+DELETE beer name comes from the PC computer world, where that key sequence is used to break out of a misbehaving program or, in some cases, to restart the computer entirely.”

Kinney Creek founder and brewer Donovan Seitz said their offering, Sunny Days, hearkens back to his homebrew days. “It was one of my original homebrews that my wife named as we were sitting on the deck, having that beer on a sunny day,” Seitz recalled. “The name will always remind (us) of sunny days.”

Sometimes the names are a little less casual. While some people want politics to stay out of business, others realize that can’t happen, and never has. And more importantly, that it shouldn’t.

Forager’s head brewer Austin Jevne says the restaurant/brewery will name an upcoming beer Freedom of Peach to call attention to the current socio-political climate. “We live in a great country with a wonderful and beautiful spectrum of diversity, which makes America great,” Jevne says. “We are fortunate to all have a voice and I am hoping to keep it that way. I believe we as Americans should invest in children and their education, our crumbling infrastructure, the arts and sciences. I think we as a nation should tear down the walls of fear and hate before building them based off those same emotions.”

Beer can be fun, political, or personal. For Little Thistle, one of its beers is an ode to the head brewer’s family.

Once upon a time, co-founder and head brewer Steve Finnie’s great-great-grandmother saved 15 sailors from a thrashing ocean during a Scottish storm. “She heard screaming and ran to the beach,” Finnie explained. “The fishermen threw her a line. She dove into the freezing cold North Sea, grabbed the line, made it back to the beach, and wrapped the line around her waist. All 15 fishermen made it to shore. One of the fishermen wrote a poem about her entitled, “A Brave Woman.” It’s also such a fitting name for the world we’re living in right now.”

Thus, the Brave Woman ale at Little Thistle – on tap now. Whatever the name or the reason behind it, chances are the brewer naming it has a story to tell.

“Naming beers is fun, but it’s actually really difficult because beer-related references for naming beers are all taken,” Little Thistle co-founder Dawn Finnie said. “We use a combination of fun names, names that relate to the beer style, and sometimes just the beer style, because we can’t come up with anything interesting.”

Labels and words help tell the story of the beer, though it is the liquid inside that finishes the journey.
Take art classes downtown

by ALAN KNUTH

Become an artist for the afternoon, then bring your artwork home to exhibit!

Opportunities to take painting and crafting lessons in Rochester have been expanding recently. Canvas and Chardonnay and SEMVA are two convenient places offering classes downtown. Both are on the same block, building a nice little arts community between 3rd and 4th St. on S. Broadway. Each makes its own unique impression and is a lot of fun.

SEMVA ART CLASSES

The SEMVA art gallery is just starting to get their classes going. They are taught by the professional artists who exhibit at the gallery. Many of these lessons are in-depth and span out over several sessions, intending to teach the techniques of the trade.

Each artist teaches from their own specialty: painting landscapes, wheat weaving, drawing made easy, jewelry 101, photography, and landscape painting are just a few of the upcoming offerings taking place from February through May. The “classes” section of the website lists the lineup for each season.

Web: semva.com
Phone: 507-281-4920

Canvas and Chardonnay is a cozy studio with an energetic atmosphere. They put on a wide variety of classes: painting, weaving arts, making handmade jewelry, and more. The materials are provided and step-by-step lessons from a professional artist make the session fun, creative, and productive. The quality of work that even beginners can take home with them is impressive, and an ego-boost. Canvas and Chardonnay lessons make a good present for your creative friends and family.

They also offer wine, beer, soda, water, and juice for you to enjoy during the session.

Web: canvasandchardonnay.com
Phone: 507-319-0117

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CANVAS AND CHARDONNAY AND SEMVA

Feb. 7 – Golden MN painting at Canvas and Chardonnay, 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 8 – Winter Sun Glow painting at Canvas and Chardonnay, 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 – Straw Paper Roses crafting at SEMVA, 1:00 p.m.
Ritz Crafters macrame events at Canvas and Chardonnay, 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 10 – Beach Vibes painting at Canvas and Chardonnay, 2:30 p.m.

Check online for class pricing and registration.
Explore self-portraiture in “Spitting Image”

by ANNE HALLIWELL

Take a break from Instagram and check out some analog self-portraits this weekend.

Rochester-based Katie Schmitt is one of forty-one artists featured in "Spitting Image," a juried exhibition of self-portraits in a wide range of mediums – from painting and drawing to mixed media.

The exhibit will open with a reception Saturday night, and runs through April 6. The reception will have wine, hors-d’oeuvres, and live music by Mandy LaBarge-Mathis.

And, of course, you’ll get to meet the artists – many of whom should look very familiar after a quick glance around the gallery.

“I thought, ‘what a great idea,’” Schmitt said. “What a good chance to slow down and explore techniques through a self-portrait.”

Selfies are ubiquitous in the 21st century, but self-portraits have been around much, much longer, she said.

“Historically, artists would use themselves as models because they couldn’t afford to pay someone else,” Lanesboro Arts Gallery director Robbie Brokken said in a press release. “This tradition has given us a glimpse into the past and continues to provide insight into the mind of the artist and how they see themselves.”

Self-portraits are a great tool for artists, Schmitt said, since they tend to know their subject well, can study them easily, and it lends itself to a diversity of art styles.

“This region has a really, really strong arts culture,” Schmitt said. “To see all of that through a common theme … is really interesting to me.”

And yes – looking at these pieces will let you get to know the artists better.

“What you present about yourself to the world and what you value tends to come out in this pictorial form,” Schmitt said.

Midsummer Kate

Katie Schmitt’s self-portrait was created using a computer software program to cut a relief onto a panel, which was hand-painted and finished. "Midsummer Kate" pays homage to her Scandinavian-American heritage. Schmitt’s family is Norwegian and Sweden, and one of her sisters lives in Norway, giving her strong ties to the culture. In this portrait, Schmitt wears a costume appropriate for the Swedish Midsummer festival that celebrates the solstice in June.

If you go

What
"Spitting Image" reception

When
6-8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9

Where
Lanesboro Arts Gallery, 103 Parkway Ave. N, Lanesboro

Cost
Free. Visit the exhibit through April 6 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.
Ritz Crafters: An indie craft show comes to Rochester

by MATTHEW STOLLE

Ritz Crafters, an indie craft show, will make its debut in Rochester on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the 4-H Building on the Olmsted County Fairgrounds.

The event brings together 40 vendors from Minnesota and Wisconsin specializing in a variety of crafts, from woodworking and footwear to jewelry and printmaking.

Why is it called Ritz Crafters? We have the answer to that and more in our interview with the event organizer, Danni Trester.

HOW DID RITZ CRAFTERS GET ITS START?
Ritz Crafters began in Madison, Wis., to both give makers a selling opportunity during a usually slow time of year, and to offer folks in the community a fun event when not much else is going on in the dead of winter. The name is a play on words. It’s meant to be funny because it sounds like Ritz Crackers, but it’s really meant to highlight the mission of the show: Showcasing makers who have really honed their skillset and transformed their materials into unique, useful goods that anyone can use in their everyday life.

YOU FIRST HELD RITZ CRAFTERS IN 2012, BUT THEN PAUSED IT A COUPLE OF YEARS AFTER YOU MOVED. WHY DID YOU THINK ROCHESTER WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE TO START IT UP AGAIN?
Rochester is in the process of transforming itself. There are so many people moving to the city that there is a demand for arts and culture events, especially during the worst part of winter. While Rochester may not be totally familiar with indie craft and how much fun it can be, it’s a place that is ripe to embrace new talent and try new experiences.

HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER CRAFT SHOWS?
Ritz Crafters is indie craft. That means our makers are using old-school techniques, but in a fresh, more updated way. There’s usually some humor involved, and of course excellent craftsmanship. We’ll have a vendor who is upcycling old T-shirts into crocheted rugs that are in the shape of a giant piece of bacon or an avocado. Or we have jewelers who are forging their own metals or using a little, tiny jewelers’ saw to make beautiful earrings. Ritz Crafters is really about connecting shoppers with the people who are putting their thoughts, time, and hearts into what they’re making.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE BESIDE SHOPPING?
There will be a little something for everyone at the show. For those that are hungry, we’ll have a food truck from the cities called Eastern Promises providing lunch. Café Steam and Drift Dough will be on site with delightful coffee and donuts. We’ll also have a full bar in operation that will be serving Bloody Marys and mimosas. If anyone wants to get crafty, Canvas and Chardonnay will also be hosting two sessions on macramé. We hope that whatever you delight in, you have fun and maybe get a little inspired to make something yourself.

If you go

What
Ritz Crafters

When
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9

Where
Olmsted Fairgrounds 4H Building, 1508 Aune Dr. SE, Rochester

Cost
Free
“Serenity”  
(Thriller, R, 106 minutes)  
★★★★
In this challenging, entertaining, neo-noir mystery, a perfectly cast Matthew McConaughey plays a down-and-out fishing boat captain enticed by his ex-wife (Anne Hathaway) to kill her abusive husband. I can’t wait to see it again.

“Can You Ever Forgive Me?”  
(Biography, R, 107 minutes)  
★★★★☆
In the performance of her career, Melissa McCarthy plays a washed-up, desperate celebrity biographer who resorts to forging letters “written” by famous authors and selling them to collectors for cash. She’s aided by a nomination-worthy script, vibrant cinematography and memorable supporting performances.

“Glass”  
(Sci-fi thriller, PG-13, 129 minutes)  
★★★★
M. Night Shyamalan’s jigsaw puzzle of a trilogy that began with “Unbreakable” and “Split” ends in disappointment with this underwhelming, half-baked, slightly sour, and even off-putting finale. Despite the game efforts of Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson and James McAvoy, the plot begins to crack early in the first act and shatters to pieces in the last moments.

“The Favourite”  
(Comedy biography, R, 121 minutes)  
★★★★
During the 18th-century reign of Queen Anne (Olivia Colman), her longtime friend (Rachel Weisz) and a new servant (Emma Stone) vie for the monarch’s affections. The three stars bring out the best in each other in a bawdy, darkly funny, sharp-edged, foul-mouthed comedy of very bad manners.

“The Upside”  
(Comedy, PG-13, 125 minutes)  
★★★★☆
Kevin Hart delivers a sincere and relatively low-key performance as a former convict hired to assist a billionaire business genius (Bryan Cranston) paralyzed from the neck down. He and Cranston mesh well together, but the overlong story is stuffed with unnecessary and momentum-blocking detours.

“Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse”  
(Superhero action, PG, 117 minutes)  
★★★★☆
The best “Spider-Man” movie yet – and one of the best 2018 films of any kind – is peppered with clever visual touches and cracking good inside jokes. The story about a new Spidey meeting versions of the character from alternate universes is a brilliant, exuberant, soaring adventure.

“Aquaman”  
(Superhero action, PG-13, 143 minutes)  
★★★★
The saving grace of this reasonably entertaining and sometimes truly ridiculous origin story is that everyone seems to get the sheer, waterlogged lunacy of the concept. So why not have fun with it? As the fish-man, Jason Momoa has physicality and willingness to make himself look silly, and the natural charisma of Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson.

“The Mule”  
(Crime comedy/drama, R, 116 minutes)  
★★★★☆
Clint Eastwood directs and stars as a 90-ish horticulturalist who takes a delivery job and later learns what he’s hauling is drugs. This isn’t close to being on par with Eastwood’s past triumphs, but it’s an entertaining enough, offbeat crime story featuring an amazing cast.

NOW THRU SUNDAY!  
La Crosse Center  
★★★ FISHING AND ★★ HUNTING SEMINARS  
Bring in your mounts and have the experts measure them for FREE

“PARAKEET LANDING”  
Interact with Hundreds of Parakeets!

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Visit the Turtle Stack Lounges at the show

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“LaCrosse”  
42nd Annual  
BOAT, SPORTS, TRAVEL, RV & HUNTING SHOW  
La Crosse, WI

FEB. 7-10  
2019

FISH FOR LIVE TROUT

“THE FAVOURITE”  
February 8th & 9th
Details at sportshowwi.com

“Predator and Prey Display”

“PARAKEET LANDING”
Interact with Hundreds of Parakeets!

“The Mule”  
(Crime comedy/drama, R, 116 minutes)  
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Take Our Car-Quiz & Win

1 GRAND PRIZE WINNER:
Set of 4 Continental or General Tires
$1,000 VALUE (Includes Automotive Procare All-inclusive Tire Package – available on all new tire purchases. Package includes, mounting, balancing, rotations, repairs and insurance ALL AT NO ADDITIONAL COST)

5 SECOND PRIZE WINNERS:
4 standard oil changes from Automotive Procare $120 VALUE! (includes up to 5 qts of oil, full synthetic additional charge)

Enter at
www.postbulletin.com/contests/autoprocare
Contest Ends on Monday, February 18

Minnesota Black Fine Art Show, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 N Main St., Austin. 10:00 a.m. Austin is hosting this first-ever exhibit of Minnesota artists who identify as Black, African, or African-American, in collaboration with Obsidian Arts out of Minneapolis. After showing for nine weeks in Austin, the show will continue around the state and be on view in Duluth, St. Cloud, Mankato and Minneapolis. Free and open to the public. Show goes until Mar 23. For more information, go to www.austinareaarts.org or call 507-434-0934.

Staying STEADI, 125 LIVE Center for Active Adults, 125 Elton Hills Dr. NW, Rochester. 1 in 4 people 65 years of age and older fall each year (CDC 2017). Learn how you can improve your odds of staying safe and avoiding injury. Your “Staying STEADI” appointment includes a supervised falls assessment, a self-assessment, and a brief consultation to discuss how to modify some risk factors for falling. This 15-minute appointment is free and open to the public for adults over the age of 65 years. To schedule your appointment, contact the 125 LIVE Fitness desk (507) 361-1734. Jan. 16-Feb. 20. 507-287-1404.
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

**Music**

**Open Mic, High Court Pub.** 109 Parkway Ave. N, Lanesboro. 7:30 p.m. Come join us for a night of acoustic music, stories, poems, or other art forms. Open to all experience levels and instruments. 507-467-2782.

**Senior Chorus.** Lake City Area Arts Center, 220 E Chestnut St., Lake City. 7:00 p.m. If you enjoy singing or know someone who does, join in the fun. No auditions needed. calen@euforfer@gmail.com.

**Chatfield Brass (and WW) Band Rehearsal, 71555 Hillside Dr. SE, Chatfield.** 7:00 p.m. If you play an instrument and would like to join a thriving community band, please join us for the winter season of rehearsals. The band is a traditional concert band with woodwinds, brass and percussion. New members are encouraged to join any time. See our website for more details.

**If you go**

**WHEN**

10 a.m. Thursday, February 7

**WHERE**

Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester

**Cost**

Free

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**BABY TIME**

Bring in your baby for rhymes, songs and stories just right for the little ones (birth to 18 months).

**If you go**

**WHEN**

10 a.m. Thursday, February 7

**WHERE**

Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester
**FERNANDO UFRET**

Performing a wide variety of acoustic pop and rock live.

**If you go**

**WHEN**
7 p.m. Saturday, February 9

**WHERE**
Canadian Honker Restaurant & Catering,
1203 2nd St. SW, Rochester

**COST**
Free

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**Saturday, February 10**

**Music**


**Festivals and Markets**

Slatterly Winterfest, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 869 7th Ave. SE, Rochester. 10:00 a.m. Join us for some pre-Valentines Day fun! Event is free and open to the public. Hosted by the Slatterly Park Neighborhood Association. Come make handmade valentines and other winter-themed crafts. slatterlypark.org, 507-261-5785.

**Community**

Dodge County Youth Hockey Benefit, Manitowoke Saloon, 501 N Main St., Manitowolle. 3:00 p.m. Due to the theft of the DCHT charitable funds, Manitowoke Saloon is hosting a benefit to replace the lost funds that will enable future investments in our youth hockey programs. 507-251-9017.

**Food and Drink**

Local Artisan Cheese Day, Ferndale Market, 31659 Willow Trail, Cannon Falls. 10:00 a.m. Come over to our on-farm grocery store in Cannon Falls and discover some of our best local cheeses. Ferndale Market is a wide variety of cheese from Sartori, Pasture Pride, and Marieke Gouda and try delicious bread from Brick Oven Bakery. Be sure to vote for your favorite cheese while you are here and participate in our giveaway! ferndalemarketonline.com, 507-261-4556.

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**Monday, February 11**

**Music**

Wanted! Men Who Like to Sing, Masonic Center lower level, 2002 2nd St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. Rochester Barbershop Chorus meets Monday evening. Walk-ins welcome.

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**Tribute to Bruce Springsteen,** St. Cecilia Theatre, 1115 W. Broadway, Winona. 7:00 p.m. $22.50 to $39.50. Mick Sterling and band. Highway 61 Concert Series. Tickets at hurryback.org.

**Dueling Pianos,** Sobermy Clubhouse, 975 Sobermy Pkwy, Byron. 7:00 p.m. Tickets start at $40. Join us for a night of fun at this all-request piano show by Rock It Man Entertainment. Featuring interactive music, comedy, and two grand pianos. Cash bar available throughout the night including buckets of beer and bottles of wine. Dessert and snack bar included in ticket price. 507-775-7042.

**Fernando Ufret,** Canadian Honker Restaurant & Catering, 1203 2nd St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. Performing a wide variety or acoustic pop and rock live. 507-282-6572.

**CBJ Jazz Combo,** Charlie’s Eatery & Pub, 1654 Highway 52 North, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. Classic big band music by the CBJ Jazz Combo. cbbjazzcombo.com, 507-285-9229.

**Fendrick & Peck,** with Sterling and the Silver Lining, Oak Center General Store, U.S. Highway 61, Oak Center. 8:00 p.m. $15, discounts for low-income patrons. 507-735-2080.


**Festivals and Markets**

Slatterly Winterfest, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 869 7th Ave. SE, Rochester. 10:00 a.m. Join us for some pre-Valentines Day family fun. Event is free and open to the public. Hosted by the Slatterly Park Neighborhood Association. Come make handmade valentines and other winter-themed crafts. slatterlypark.org, 507-261-5785.

**Ritz Crafters craft show, 4-H Building, Olmsted County Fairgrounds, Rochester. 10:00 a.m. Forty vendors selling woodworking, footwear, jewelry, printmaking, more. Donuts, coffee, full bar, food truck. Classes. Winterfest event. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free.**

**Community**

Dodge County Youth Hockey Benefit, Manitowoke Saloon, 501 N Main St., Manitowolle. 3:00 p.m. Due to the theft of the DCHT charitable funds, Manitowoke Saloon is hosting a benefit to replace the lost funds that will enable future investments in our youth hockey programs. 507-251-9017.

**Tabletop Fun,** Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 10:30 a.m. Stop by the tabletops in the Youth Services Area for a super fun activity to start your Saturday!

**Storytime at Quarry Hill Nature Center,** 701 Silver Creek Rd. NE, Rochester. 10:00 a.m. Meet us at Quarry Hill Nature Center for songs, books, rhymes, and a whole lot of fun!

**Friends Winterfest Book Sale,** Rochester Public Library. 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 9:30 a.m. Come shop for used books at great prices! Nonfiction and fiction for all ages.

"Stories: YES Houston" premiere, Houston County Historical Museum, 104 History Ln., Caledonia. 3:00 p.m. Multi-media history projects developed by students in cooperation with Smithsonian Institution.

John Pavlovitz: Living as a Compassionate Activist, United Peace Church of Christ, 1503 2nd St. NE, Rochester. 9:00 a.m. $25. Many of us feel burdened by the suffering and injustice we see in the world, but aren’t sure how to move that feeling from heart to hand. Join pastor and author John Pavlovitz for an encouraging time of uncovering the work you are called to do in the world. 507-273-9857.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

**Music**


**MacPhail Spotlight Series - The Roaring Twenties,** Historic Paramount Theatre, 125 4th Ave. NE, Austin. 3:00 p.m. $20 adults/ $5 seniors and students. Hear iconic songs like "Hon- eyrock!" "Sweet Sue," and "Isn’t She Lovesome?" alongside instrumental selections, as this program takes you back to America’s most transformative and mystical era. Tickets are available at the Paramount box office or through www.austinareaarts.org/events beginning December 28. Free ticket vouchers must be redeemed in person. For more information, call 507-434-0934 or go to www.austinareaarts.org.

**Community**

**WINTERFEST BOOK SALE,** Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 1:30 p.m. More than 20,000 books, DVDs, and CDs for sale at discounted prices. rplml.org, 507-289-7635.

**Community Card Party,** Plum Creek Community. 346 West Broadway, Plainview. 1:00 p.m. $5. Join us for a Valentine Community Card Party Play games of 500 and enjoy a delicious potluck lunch afterwards. Prizes awarded. Hope to see you there!! 507-534-3802.

**Rochester Meditation Center,** 1001 14th St. NW, Rochester. 8:00 a.m. The Rochester Meditation Center is now meeting Sunday mornings from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Assisi Heights. Starting with a half-hour silent meditation, we are currently discussing “The Issue at Hand” by Gil Frondal. Now is a great time to drop in, no prep necessary! 507-358-3031.

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**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

**Music**

Wanted! Men Who Like to Sing, Masonic Center lower level, 2002 2nd St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. Rochester Barbershop Chorus meets Monday evening. Walk-ins welcome.

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**SPORTS AND RECREATION**

**DJ Trivia,** Broadway Pub & Pizza, 4144 Hwy 52 N, Rochester. 7:30 p.m. A live DJ hosts a fun-filled, interactive on-screen trivia game! You and your team play "live" trivia against other on-site teams whose sole mission is to crush you! Okay, maybe it's not where that intense, but it's fun for everyone and every week. dj trivia.com, 507-216-8900.

**Arthritis Foundation Exercise classes,** Lake Pepin Plaza, 221 N Franklin St., Lake City. 10:00 a.m. The Arthritis Foundation exercise classes are a community-based, free-to-the-public, recreational exercise program developed by the Arthritis Foundation. Classes are held from 10 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Lake Pepin Plaza, 221 N Franklin Street in Lake City. Please call Nancy at 651-345-5797 or email mysales@hotmail.com for more information.

**Tai Chi Chih for beginners,** Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 9:00 a.m. A class learning additional basic Tai Chi Chih movements - moving meditation practice. Gentle and easy to learn. Benefits may include stress reduction, increased creativity, heightened energy and improved physical and emotional well-being. Taught by certified Tai Chi Chih instructor. Dress comfortably.

**Community**

**Toastermaster’s, Rochester Break of Day,** Dan Abraham Healthy Living Center, Room 124 B, 500 1st St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 a.m. Join us every Wednesday morning. An open meeting to check out Toastmasters, a group to improve public speaking skills. We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth. 6893.toastmasterclubs.org, 507-259-2382.

**Learning Together Rochester Homeschool Meet Up,** Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 6:30 p.m. Homeschool parents, both experienced and just curious, are invited to attend this monthly meeting of Learning Together Rochester, a secular and inclusive homeschooling group.

**WordPress for Small Business Owners and Lifestyle Bloggers,** Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 6:00 p.m. February focuses on building your business by using Facebook Ads to attract new people to your website, and to
THE SQUIRREL ASSOCIATION – RODENT ROMANCE ON THURSDAY AT PASQUALE’S

Music

Bread of Stone, State Theater, 96 E-4th St., Zumbrota. 7:00 p.m. $20. Group price available. Taking their name from a vision of their work as being ‘useless materials,’ only made a blessing to others by Christ, Sioux City-based Bread of Stone are that rare band that truly puts service and ministry before dreams of pop stardom. crossingasatime.com, 507-732-7616.

Sports and Recreation

Yoga for Beginners, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE. Rochester. 2:00 p.m. Yoga for beginners is taught by a certified instructor. The class will focus on sun salutations and meditation. Please bring your own mat.

Arthritis Foundation Exercise classes, Lake Pepin Plaza, 221 N. Franklin St., Lake City. 10:00 a.m. The Arthritis Foundation exercise classes are a community-based, free to the public, recreational exercise program developed by the Arthritis Foundation. Classes are held from 10 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Lake Pepin Plaza, 221 N. Franklin Street in Lake City. Please call Nancy at 651-345-5797 or email myers-sales@hotmail.com for more information.

Comedy

Stand-Up Comedy: Open Mic, Goonie’s Comedy Club, 2723 Commerce Dr. NW, Rochester. 7:30 p.m. Free. Each week a selected list of up-and-coming performers takes the stage. info@gooniescomedy.com.

The Squirrel Association - Rodent Romance, Pasquale’s Neighborhood Pizzeria, 130 5th St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. $15. What are you doing for Valentine’s Day? We think you’re spending it with your favorite local improv troupe - The Squirrel Association! Prepare yourself (and your date) for an evening of nonstop dancing fun! You will be regaled with improvised comedy, song and dance, and all the rodent romance your heart desires. One lucky couple will win two cards with designs ready to go and one blank for your artistic idea. All paints, canvas and supplies will be provided. Register online or by calling 507-328-2305.

Running Club, Neighborhood Pizzeria, 130 5th St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. Free. Run with others by Christ, Sioux City-based Bread of Stone are that rare band that truly puts service and ministry before dreams of pop stardom. crossingasatime.com, 507-732-7616.
### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

| **Music** | **Hite Shift**, VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars), 2775 43rd St. NW, Rochester. 8:00 p.m. Free. Classic and modern rock. 507-289-6299.  
| **Valentango**, Blue Moon Ballroom, 2030 Hwy 14 East, Rochester. 8:00 p.m. $10. Tango Society of Rochester.  
| **Coe Allen**, Canadian Honker Restaurant & Catering, 1203 2nd St. SW, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. Performing acoustic blues. 507-282-6572.  
| **Free Jam**, Peace United Church of Christ, 1503 Second Ave. NW, Rochester. 6:30 p.m. Free.  
| **Sports and Recreation** | **D & R Star 3-Man Pool Tournament**, Holiday Inn Conference Center, 1701 4th St. NW, Austin. For more information, call 507-282-0680 or 507-433-1000.  
| **Community** | **Child Passenger Car Seat Inspection Clinic**, Rochester Fire Station 82, 2183 Wheelock Dr. NE, Rochester. 4:00 p.m. Inspections are by appointment only. To schedule a free appointment, call 507-538-3740 or email traumacenter@mayo.edu. Each car seat inspection takes approximately 45 minutes. Clinics fill up fast! Reserve your spot in advance. Car seat must already be installed for inspection. 507-538-3740.  
| **English Conversation Group**, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 1:00 p.m. Practice your English skills through conversation with native English speakers. Offering writing review as well. Open to adults, non-native English speakers.  
| **Baby Time**, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 10:00 a.m. Bring in your baby for rhymes, songs and stories just right for the little ones (birth to 18 months).  
| **Toddler Time**, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 10:30 a.m. Special stories and songs for active toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years).  
| **Toddler Time**, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 11:00 a.m. Special stories and songs for active toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years).  
| **Love and Logic Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun (birth to six)**, Zumbro Lutheran Church Elca, 624 3rd Ave. SW, Rochester. 6:00 p.m. $30-$35. Jan 24: Handling Misbehavior Without Breaking a Sweat; Create the foundation by setting loving, predictable limits. Jan. 31: Teaching Kids to Listen... The First Time; Set limits without anger, lectures, threats, bribes, warnings. Feb. 7: Avoiding Power Struggles; End power struggles and get more control by giving some away Feb. 28: Limits Create the Consequences when kids drain your energy. 507-288-2649.  
| **Food Allergies Rochester MN, Autumn Ridge Church, 3611 Salem Rd. SW, Rochester. 7:30 p.m. We support, encourage, educate and advocate for people living with food allergies. We offer public support meetings once a month, the second Thursday of each month. foodallergiesrochestermn.org. 507-289-5555.  
| **Town Hall - R2X Zoning**, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester. 5:00 p.m. Learn about R2X Zoning from community planners.  
| **Second Annual Growing Acres Conference**, Riverland Community College, 1900 8th Ave. NW, Austin. Inspiring local foods and niche markets in the region! Interested in joining the planning team or looking for more information? Send an email to connect@growingacres.org. growingacres.org.  

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

| **Music** | **Blues/Folk artist Charlie Warner**, High Court Pub, 109 Parkway Ave. N, Lanesboro. 8:00 p.m. Charlie plays solo acoustic folk and blues in the tri-state area, performing cover tunes and originals on acoustic guitar, harmonica, vocals and sometimes kazoo! 507-467-2782.  
| **Katey Bellville**, Oak Center General Store, U.S. Highway 63, Oak Center. 8:00 p.m. $15 discounts for low-income patrons. Bluesgrass, old-time, modern pop. 507-753-2080.  
| **Valentine Dance Band**, Blue Moon Ballroom, 2030 Hwy 14 East, Rochester. 7:00 p.m. $10 lesson, dance is free. 7-8 p.m. beginner lesson, 8-11 p.m. dancing to live music. Bring your favorite appetizer to share. Cash bar. bluemoonballroom.com, 507-358-3484.  
| **Hormel Historic Home, 208 4th Ave. NW, Austin. 5:30 p.m. Tours are scheduled once a month to show you everything Kinney Creek Brewery is about! There is a $5 admission fee and you get a free pint! Make sure you sign up prior to the tour date! kinneycreekbrewery.com, 507-282-2739.  
| **BEYOND** | **Valentines Brunch**, Plainview Area Community & Youth Center, 346 West Broadway, Plainview. 10:30 a.m. $6. Join us for our annual Valentines Brunch. Reservation must be made by February 8, 2019 to attend the brunch. Egg bake, fruit, homemade cinnamon rolls, OJ, milk, coffee, water. Hope you can join us for this delicious brunch. 507-354-3802.  

### Music

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Time</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Cost</strong></th>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Lourdes High School Night of Jazz</strong>, 2800 19th St. NW, Rochester</td>
<td><strong>$25</strong></td>
<td>The evening will include Lourdes Hi-Lighters Jazz Band, Lourdes Center Street Singers, vocal and instrumental soloists and ensembles, the Rochester Catholic Schools Junior High Jazz Band, as well as student visual artists. Night of Jazz tickets can be reserved for $20 for adults, $10 for non-performing students, $120 for a 5-person table, or $180 for an 8-person table via email at <a href="mailto:LHSNightofJazz@gmail.com">LHSNightofJazz@gmail.com</a>. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door — $25 for adults and $10 for non-performing students. Admission price includes refreshments. All proceeds benefit the Lourdes High School music department. rcsm.org. 507-358-9147.</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Trevor Marty</strong>, Kinney Creek Brewery, 1016 7th St. NW, Rochester</td>
<td><strong>Free Jam, Peace United Church of Christ, 1503 Second Ave. NE, Rochester. 6:30 p.m. Bluegrass, country, old-time music. All acoustic. Beginner to advanced players welcome.</strong></td>
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*Some Exclusions Apply

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