

EDITOR'S LETTER



DALENE ROVENTINE
EDITOR

Anyone who knows me can confirm that I have an addiction to television. I consume ridiculous amounts of it. I'm often asked how I am able to get things done, watch all my shows and still have time to sleep. To be honest, I'm not sure either, but any extra time I have is devoted to Hulu, Netflix or whatever is on cable.

I'll watch nearly anything, except when it comes to reality shows. I like reality game shows such as *Survivor* or *Amazing Race*, and I like semi-reality dramas such as *Real Housewives*. I draw the line with "real" reality shows such as *Storage Wars*. However, a new show on the Travel Channel is causing me to cross the line into "real" reality show territory.

On August 3, I will be tuning into Travel Channel to watch the premiere of *Truck Stop Missouri*. The program shows what life is like at Boone County's own Midway Auto Truck Plaza, located three minutes west of Columbia. It's always fun to see places you know on TV, and I'm excited because I have an affinity for truck stops.

When I'm traveling long distances, I make many detours, and the best places are always truck stops. I like the large selection of candy and fountain drink machines, people-watching at the cafe and the cleaner-than-average bathrooms.

Truck stops have an interesting appeal because of the opportunity to see colorful characters. Midway truck stop is no different. Our feature (Page 10) explores the truck stop through the eyes of its employees. They have witnessed a car crashing into the wall, a woman insisting Indiana is west of Missouri and even a Jesus look-alike. Although watching the show isn't the same as being there, I can't wait to tune in and see the reality show version of Midway.

DEPARTMENTS

INSIGHT • 3

When it comes to wildfires, Boone County firefighters are regular smoke busters.

SCENE • 4

At the Boone County Fair's Judging of Hams event, the competitors are dead meat. Literally.

MUSIC • 6

DJ Nick Meyer, aka Dr. Awkward, turns out dubstep beats that are anything but awkward.

ARTS • 7

PACE's kids and young adults take on *Les Misérables*, the famous musical full of action, romance and social injustice.

BOOKS • 14

Author Molly Birnbaum, an aspiring chef, lost her sense of smell. Read a review of her memoir, *Season to Taste*, which chronicles her experience.

ENDNOTES • 17

Alison Caselman is a champion trap shooter, but when she's not working on her aim, she's studying to be an art education teacher.

CALENDAR • 18

FILM FARE • 19



on the cover
DESIGN BY
Stefanie Kienstra
PHOTOGRAPH BY
Christopher Parks

FEA
TURE

GET YOUR "OM" ON **8**

If you're in the mood for a little tranquility, check out Vox's guide to yoga studios.

KEEP ON TRUCKIN' **10**

Midway Auto Truck Plaza is the subject of Travel Channel's new show *Truck Stop Missouri*.

Photograph by CHRISTOPHER PARKS

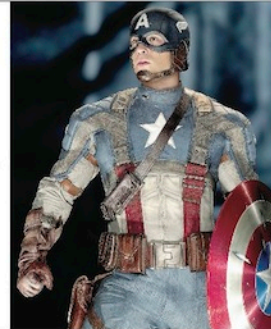
VOXMAGAZINE.COM

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

A Fugue good books
Scott Meiner, general manager at The Blue Fugue, tells Vox about his literary favorites.

Hamming it up
The Judging of Hams is not a super-preentious novel; it's exactly what it sounds like. See the event online in a photo gallery.

Movie review: Captain America: The First Avenger
Chris Evans plays a man who becomes part of an experiment that turns him into a super soldier.



Weigh in on our poll. Visit VoxMagazine.com to vote.

Who is your favorite fictional pig?

VOX

MAGAZINE

THE VOICE OF COLUMBIA

July 21, 2011 | Volume 14, Issue 29
Published by the COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

VOXMAGAZINE.COM
VOXMAGAZINE.COM/BLOG
TWITTER.COM/VOXMAG
FACEBOOK.COM/VOXMAGAZINE

EDITOR

Dalene Roventine
DEPUTY EDITOR
Zoey Larsen
MANAGING EDITOR
Caitlin Carter
ART DIRECTORS
Tova Diamond
Stefanie Kienstra
ONLINE EDITOR
Anna Moeslein
PHOTO EDITOR
Andrew Williams
CALENDAR EDITOR
Anna Moeslein

ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR
Genevieve Conti
FEATURE EDITOR
Dayne Logan
FEATURE DESIGNER
Stefanie Kienstra

INSIGHT EDITORS
Genevieve Conti
Kurt Wood
SCENE/FILM FARE EDITORS

Jen Apolian
Emily Becker
MUSIC EDITORS
Kara W. Miller
Rachel Post
ARTS/BOOKS/ENDNOTES EDITORS
Katelyn Amen
Dayne Logan

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Sydney Berry, David Cawthon, Ted Hart,
Alecia Lassing, Melanie Loth,
Raven S. Maragh, Nicole Oran
CONTRIBUTING DESIGNER
Chen Yao

EXECUTIVE EDITORS
Rhonda Prast
Rob Weir
ONLINE EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Rhonda Prast
DIGITAL EDITOR
Kristin Kellogg
OFFICE MANAGER
Kim Towlain

CONTACT | vox@missouri.edu
(Phone) 884.6432 (Fax) 884.1870
320 Lee Hills Hall | Columbia, MO 65211
ADVERTISING | 882.5714