

Insider  
For September 17  
By Kim Burger

Wow! Have we got stuff to do! Vicki Bailey does a fabulous job of researching events for inclusion in the Top Five Things To Do in the Cedar Valley and it's getting increasingly difficult for the selection committee to choose what to include! It used to be that five events to highlight every other week were enough, but there are times when we struggle because it's hard to leave anything out!

The next few weeks are particularly busy beginning tomorrow with the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual National Cattle Congress Fair. The fair continues through September 21<sup>st</sup> and includes a wide variety of exhibits, livestock shows, carnival rides, a rodeo, entertainers and more. Check [www.NationalCattleCongress.com](http://www.NationalCattleCongress.com) for the full schedule.

UNI's Family Weekend also takes place this weekend with a myriad of activities taking place from Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup> through Sunday. Feature events include a volleyball game in the McLeod Center on Friday at 7pm and a home football game in the Dome at 4:05pm against South Dakota State. Check out [www.uni.edu/familyweekend](http://www.uni.edu/familyweekend) for the complete schedule of events.

Pace yourself, though, because you'll want to save enough energy to get out to the Cedar Valley Arboretum and Botanical Gardens as the folks out there are holding their Fall Harvest Festival and Scarecrow Contest on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 11am to 4pm.

Things don't slow down during the week, either. The musical thriller Sweeney Todd will be performed at the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm and the Waterloo Center for the Arts will host Jazz on the Cedar on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

On Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, UNI's School of Music will host their 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert, Carnaval! in the Great Hall at the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center at 7:30pm. Also beginning on Friday, the Waterloo Center for the Arts will host a Hartian Art Conference through Tuesday, the 30<sup>th</sup>. The conference will feature exhibitions, performances, a symposium and bus tour to other area collections. Call the WCA at 319-291-4490 if you'd like to attend.

On Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, John Deere Waterloo Operations invite the public to their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration from 8am to 8pm at the brand new Waterloo Expo Grounds where 80 antique tractors will be on display as well as new products, kids' games, 17 food vendors and 2 bands. Also on Saturday, Cedar Falls Utilities hosts an Energy and Environmental Fair on the utilities' campus from 8am til 2pm, and later in the day, from 5pm to 9pm, it's back to downtown Waterloo for the Brewfest, at Soldiers and Sailors Park.

On Sunday, the 28<sup>th</sup>, Peregrine Charities will host it's first Triathlon at George Wyth State Park from 7am to 12:30pm. The public is invited to come cheer the athletes on.

Later on Sunday, at 2pm, the Voices of Hope flood relief concert featuring internationally acclaimed bass-baritone Simon Estes takes place in Neumann Auditorium at Wartburg College as the school hosts their Family Weekend festivities. Tickets for this event may be obtained by calling 319-352-8495.

See what I mean! Whew! And actually, there's more. If you'd like to see the complete listing of events, log onto [www.cedarfallstourism.org](http://www.cedarfallstourism.org) and click on our calendar of events tab. Better yet, send me an email telling me you'd like to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter and you'll receive an update every Monday morning. Either way, I suggest you rest up so you have the energy for all of this fun!