

W
weekender



INSIDE
Make it, take it

BOOMING BIZ

Students learn how to make films

111 EVENTS THIS WEEK

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

"If you choose any director, who would make the movie version of your life?"



Chad Pauling

Publisher
cpauling@siouxcityjournal.com

"This is easy. Martin Scorsese. He's a great story teller and he could probably even make my life seem cool."



Earl Horlyk

Staff Writer
earl.horlyk@lee.net

"The only person who could do justice to my crazy life is John Waters of 'Polyester' and 'Cecil B. Demented' fame."



Mason Dockter

Staff Writer
mdockter@siouxcityjournal.com

"Alfred Hitchcock. He would also need to do a short prologue and an epilogue with the warped moral of my story – a lesson the viewer should learn from my misdeeds."



Patrick Rooney

Account Executive
prooney@siouxcityjournal.com

"Hmmm, Frank Capra is deceased, but he would have been my choice. Peter Jackson, Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese would also be great."



Diane Dykes

Staff Writer
ddykes@siouxcityjournal.com

"Honestly I have no clue. How about a book about my life first and see who picks it up after I'm long gone?"



Nikki Ahlquist

Graphic Designer
Nikki.Ahlquist@lee.net

"Tim Burton, because I like his movies and I think he would create an interesting twist to my otherwise pretty normal boring life."

Have a question you'd like us to answer? Send it to events@siouxland.net and it may end up on this page.



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Your comments welcome

Have something to say? We'd like to hear it. Seriously. Call 712-293-4313 or email events@siouxland.net

Contributors

Tim Hynds, Jesse Brothers



ON THE COVER: Brendan Smyth speaks into a microphone while students Rowan Risdal, left, Grace Emory, and Sofia Hegstorn, right, monitor the audio levels on a camera during filmmaking class at the Sioux City Conservatory of Music. The 1309 Pierce St. school began offering the film class in February. Photo by Jesse Brothers, The Weekender

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Sioux City Journal

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Game for fun? New business offers lots to play

BY DIANE DYKES

Fancy a game of Monopoly?

So Many Boards Games has that and more, including Dungeons and Dragons campaigns.

So Many Board Games Cafe started in June of last year and currently resides in the Brightside Cafe in downtown Sioux City. Rachel Tudehope, one of the founders, said that when the Brightside Cafe closes at 3 p.m., SMBG goes in and opens at 5 p.m. in the space.

Tudehope said that anyone could play a board game, and that's the beauty of this place. There's something for everyone, whether it's teens, adults or families.

"We've got a rack of kids games, party games that big groups can play, and the super heavy, ultra nerdy games. We even have a couple that easily take four hours," Tudehope said. "Then there are the easy ones that take five minutes to figure out."

"We have the classics if that's what you desire," Drew Parvu, the other founder of SMBG, said. "We have over 160 unique games right now."

The two are hoping to get their own space in the future and expand their number of games.

Tudehope said Thursdays are Dungeons and Dragons nights.

"We've got at least one campaign running right now," Tudehope said. "We're hoping to get another one going soon."

Parvu said that players are welcome, even if they don't have experience. Players will teach newcomers how to create a character and play.

"In the evenings, pretty much in Sioux City, (residents) go to a bar. I feel like we offer more value than just drinking," Parvu said.

"Board games by themselves are



JESSE BROTHERS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER
Rachel Tudehope brings a pizza to Jessica Sievers, left, Kelly Guy, Jose Serrato, and Justin Hill, right, while they play "Wingspan."



Kelly Guy, right, takes his turn as he plays "Wingspan" with Jessica Sievers, left, on game night hosted by So Many Board Games at Brightside Café.



Donna Habinck moves her game piece on the board while she plays "Pandemic" with Erica Young, left, Aly McKinley, and Jeff Baumgardner.

very exciting," Tudehope added. "They're puzzles and they challenge your brain, bring you together with other people and create a social structure."

"It's a social experience," Parvu interjected. "You can come in and make a mess at our place and we'll clean up after you. We'll teach you how to play the games, so you don't have to spend forever reading the instructions."

The two managers also coordinate events for the community. These events are on their Facebook page.



Jessica Sievers, left, helps Justin Hill with the rules of "Wingspan."

"We're doing pop-ups as a way to get more exposure, to introduce

people who otherwise would not find us through our normal

Facebook pages and everything else," Parvu said.

SUX 4

THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN SIOUXLAND

1

Ladies Night

Get together with your girlfriends for a fun night of games and karaoke. The Sioux City Elks Lodge is hosting a Ladies Night Saturday, March 21st at 6 p.m. at 1001 Tri View Ave.



Strawberry Fruit Truck Tour

Grab some fresh strawberries! Strawberry Fruit Truck tour will be located in Best Buy Parking lot, Saturday March 21st, 1:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m at 4730 Sergeant Rd.

2

Casey Muessigmann

3

Season 3 contestant from The Voice Casey Muessigmann will play at Beer Can Alley March 20 and 21 9:30 p.m. -11:59 p.m. at 1109 Fourth St.



PROVIDED

Casey Muessigmann competed on season 3 of "The Voice." Since then his country music career has prospered.

First Day of Spring

4

So the First Day of Spring is supposed to be March 19, shall we see if that proves true? So please, try not to anger Elsa we don't need any more snow!



Device is right

Reviews of some of the best computers on the market

CNET.COM

There are a dizzying number of laptops to choose from — convertibles, two-in-ones, gaming machines — and it only gets more confusing. Cut through the clutter with this list of CNET's top recommendations so you can get the right one for you.

Lenovo Yoga C930

- **The good:** Lenovo's Yoga C930 puts its 360-degree hinges to work as the two-in-one's speaker system. The included active pen is discreetly housed and charged in the C930's body, and its webcam has a physical slider to block it when not in use. Performance and battery life are excellent for its class.
- **The bad:** The included pen is a little small for extended use, and there's no option for discrete graphics, but no real deal breakers unless you object to its price.
- **CNET rating:** 4.5 stars out of 5 (Outstanding)
- **The cost:** \$1,099.99 to \$1,104.99
- **The bottom line:** Excellent performance and a stylish and functional design make the Lenovo Yoga C930 simply one of the best two-in-one laptops available.



Dell XPS 13 (2019)

- **The good:** Dell has fixed this laptop's only remaining serious flaw, designing a super-slim 2mm webcam to fit into the thin screen bezel. Optional colors look great, as does the 4K touchscreen. Excellent keyboard, and decent battery life for a 4K laptop.
- **The bad:** The entry-level configuration, while well-priced, cuts too many corners. We don't love the woven texture on the wrist rest.
- **CNET rating:** 4.5 stars out of 5 (Outstanding)
- **The cost:** \$1,699.87
- **The bottom line:** It's nearly impossible to find anything to dislike about this 13-inch slim powerhouse, at least in the pricey high-end configuration tested here.



HP Spectre x360 (13-inch, 2019)

- **The good:** The HP Spectre x360 13 is one of the best ultraportable two-in-ones available with lots of component options including three display choices, multiple privacy and security features and class-leading battery life. HP includes a laptop sleeve and full-size active pen.
- **The bad:** Premium laptops come with premium prices. The low-power display is too dim for outdoor use.
- **CNET rating:** 4.5 stars out of 5 (Outstanding)
- **The cost:** \$879.00 (renewed) to \$1,062.99
- **The bottom line:** A stylish, thoughtful design, excellent component options and loooooong battery life all make the HP Spectre x360 13 one of the best premium two-in-one ultraportables around.



Microsoft Surface Pro 6

- **The good:** The Surface Pro 6's jump to new quad-core processors pays off in big performance gains. The new black color option looks cool. Still the best kickstand and keyboard for Windows tablets.
- **The bad:** Be ready to shell out extra for the keyboard cover, stylus and even for the new matte black design. CPU and color aside, it's a very minimal upgrade over the previous version.
- **CNET rating:** 4.0 stars out of 5 (Excellent)
- **The cost:** \$605.00 to \$899.99
- **The bottom line:** The latest Surface Pro tablet doesn't make any radical design changes, but the performance jump makes it viable as a mainstream performance laptop replacement.

Americans face life without the entertainment world

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Overheard as the entertainment world stalled in response to the coronavirus outbreak: “What are we gonna do now, read books?”

That’s exactly what Pamela Milam will be doing, and lots of them.

Milam is a selection reader for the Women’s National Book Association, a nonprofit established in 1917 to support, well, reading. She and her colleagues began a marathon this month to make it through as many as 100 books each as they help develop the organization’s annual Great Group Reads list for National Reading Group Month in October.

She’s also an avid theater goer. She lives in the heart of Times Square and goes to the theater about once a week, but when Broadway and many other entertainments canceled, cut back seating or postponed performances last week, Milam knew exactly how she’d fill the extra time.

“I’m happy snug on my couch. I’ll do my best to make the most of that,” she said.

Many concert tours, awards shows, festivals, museums, sporting events and more have shut down to help “flatten the curve” as the virus spreads around the globe. Bans on big and medium-size gatherings are proliferating, prompting more people to hunker down at home.

“We’re catching up on our reading. I just started ‘Love in the Time of Cholera.’ It seemed appropriate,” said Beverly Pfeiffer in Silver Spring, Maryland, of the Gabriel Garcia Marquez classic that, spoiler alert, doesn’t actually involve cholera.

Other people are working more, especially now that they’re doing it from home.

Some have upped their kitchen game by taking on fussy recipes and baking projects.

One company that offers online courses has seen a huge jump in business, as has another that sells digital photo scanning services.

Interior designer Genevieve Gorder, co-host of the Netflix



A sign announcing the suspension of all Broadway shows is posted on a door at the Minskoff Theatre in New York, where “The Lion King” had been playing.

KATHY WILLENS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

series “Stay Here,” asked followers on Instagram to share home improvement goals that had been lingering at the bottom of to-do lists. Cleaning blinds, a basement sort-out and deck repairs are now on front burners.

Nicole Schaefer in Portland, Oregon, is usually out doing something. Now, she almost feels guilty about all the free time. Almost.

“I feel like now I have time to relax, if that makes sense. With my evenings freed up, I’m learning to make my own macarons. I’m making a present for my boyfriend. I’m knitting. I’m exercising as long as I want to. There’s so many things to do without concerts and plays and shows to go to,” she said.

There’s binge-watching galore, of course, and devotees of opera

and art are being treated to special live streams and virtual tours. Museums have joined a social media movement started by the Museum of the City of New York to offer art and other imagery using the hashtag #MuseumMomentofZen.

Melanie Musson isn’t focused on any of that, and social distancing shouldn’t be a problem. She and her husband, along with their four children, love to spend time in the mountains surrounding their Belgrade, Montana, home.

“I have so many plans that I’m actually looking forward to being forced out of social gatherings,” she said. “We plan to spend time outdoors camping, hiking and fishing. The sunshine and exercise will help us be as healthy as we can be.”

While Musson and others head outdoors, some folks who are shunning or shut out of their exercise classes are working out new routines at home.

Linda Johnson Mandell in Los Angeles is going another route with her giant white Labradoodle, Frankie Feldman. The 5-year-old fur ball is a therapy dog who routinely visits patients at care centers. With new restrictions, those visits are on hold.

“So instead we’re staying home, brushing up on obedience, and I’m teaching him some new tricks to amuse folks when the quarantines are lifted,” Mandell said.

Cynthia Shaw in Brooklyn is a classical pianist and piano teacher who regularly gathers with students and friends who play for

each other. Since many in their group of eight or so are older, including some in their 80s, they’re giving up their monthly home gatherings for now, but played Sunday using a video conferencing platform instead.

“Some of the older members had a hard time figuring it out, but they did,” she said. “I had my computer set up next to the piano. I played the first movement of a Beethoven sonata. People played Chopin. There was some Gershwin. I think we’ll do it again.”

Elsewhere, the TV binge is definitely on with some new gems on offer.

The Walt Disney Co. will release “Frozen 2” on Disney-Plus several months early to give families cooped up by the coronavirus a welcome distraction, and give its streaming service a boost.

For documentary lovers, Netflix is rolling out new features and series from acclaimed creators, including “The Innocence Files” by Liz Garbus, Alex Gibney and Roger Ross Williams; “Jeffrey Epstein: Filthy Rich” by Lisa Bryant and Joe Berlinger; and “David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet.”

“We subscribe to nearly every streaming service, or so it seems. I’m hoping to find some gold in there,” said Julie Crislip in Pennington, New Jersey.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. The vast majority of people recover.

Psychotherapist Jeff Larsen in San Diego has a plan, for himself and his clients.

“It’s all about slowing down,” he said. “So absolutely pick up that book that’s been gathering dust, watch that movie or binge-watch that TV show that you haven’t had time to watch. Most importantly, it’s the mindset that we, as humans, need to have going into this time period. It’s always a good thing when we can slow down and simplify our lives.”

Making it work

MakerSpace lets newcomers test-drive their skills

BY DIANE DYKES

Want to set your creativity free while learning new skills?

MakerSpace on 1401 Tri-View Ave., is a non-profit volunteer-based organization that gives DIYers a place to work along with classes that help the community try new things from one of their many courses: cooking,

woodworking, stained glass and more.

This summer, it will also offer classes for planting and taking care of plants. Penny Guerra, one of the people behind the organization, said the facility would also have a community garden.

"We have other non-profits that come in here and use the space," Guerra said.



MakerSpace Sioux City, 1401 Tri-View Ave.

TIM HYNDY PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

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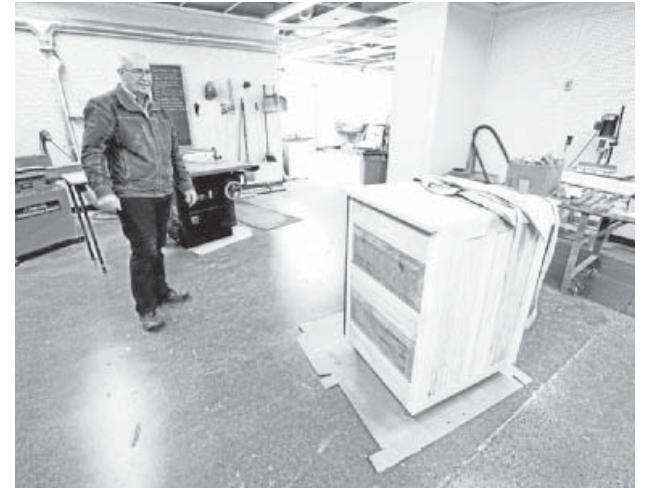
Board member Gary Turbes is shown in a room dedicated to fabrics and knitting at the MakerSpace Sioux City.



Board member Gary Turbes inspects a branch that had been created with a laser cutter.



A nearly completed statue is shown on a 3D printer Thursday afternoon, March 12, 2020, at the MakerSpace Sioux City, 1401 Tri-View Ave. The non-profit, membership-based organization, provides tools, equipment and space for people to pursue hobbies ranging from knitting to welding.



Board member Gary Turbes looks over a cabinet being made in a woodshop.



A host of items can be created at the MakerSpace.

"The Sioux City School system is going to bring all the fourth graders here and do a wind tunnel project," Gary Turbes, one of the board members, added. "Cub Scouts have come in to do their derby cars."

Turbes said that all the equipment at MakerSpace come with instructors.

Among that equipment: a table saw, a laser cutter and 3D printers.

Guerra said the members of MakerSpace can focus on one thing or expand and try other things. Classes are open for both members and non-members.

"A lot of our classes are entry-level," Guerra said.

Turbes said the classes also give people a chance to decide if they like something. That way, they're not investing heavily in equipment or supplies.

"There are people who would like to do

woodworking, but it's an expensive hobby," he said.

Guerra said that their most popular classes cover cooking, welding, stained glass and woodworking. There is a fee for non-members.

"A membership gives you 24/7 access to the building and access to the equipment," Guerra said.

Guerra said that it is open to setting up new things, all it takes is a request.

"We're in the works of setting up something for a small photography studio," Guerra said.

Guerra said that MakerSpace is an excellent place for everyone; it allows people to work independently or in a group.

Guerra said the facility also gives people a chance to network, learn and create.

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Coffee Coffee Coffee (A Story for Coffee Addicts)

BY DIANE DYKES

"I need coffee!"

Seriously it's the drink that makes me tolerate mornings, but there's so much more to that. While I don't notice with the mountains of flavored cream I usually put in my coffee, there is a difference in how the beans taste. From the roast level to the region it comes from, different types and brands of coffee won't taste the same. There is an interesting reason behind that.

When he first started, Brad Lepper, the owner of Stone Bru coffee, said he didn't know much about coffee. In the last few years, he has become well-versed in the workflow, equipment, and other fun details that go into making good coffee.

Stone Bru coffee first opened its doors in 2015.

"That first location was on Gordan Drive, right in front of Rollerama," Lepper said. "That's where it got its name – it's on Stone Avenue."

The second shop opened two years later in Dakota Dunes. Now there are five Stone Bru coffee shops.

Lepper said that all of Stone Bru's coffee is specialty grade organic.

"Specialty grade coffee is the top 1% of the coffee harvest in the world," Lepper said. "That provides more consistency in the bean, which gives us a cleaner flavor from our coffee."

He said there are several "waves" of coffee.

First-wave coffee is the more traditional coffee one can buy in the store, like Folgers. Lepper said that it's an inexpensive coffee and that they tend to roast it darker to cover up impurities in the taste.

"It's not that it's bad, there's plenty of people... there's a lot of my family that still buy it," Lepper said. "My grandparents love



JUSTIN WAN, THE WEEKENDER

Brad Lepper, owner of Stone Bru, serves, what else? coffee at one of his locations.

their three pots of Folgers in the morning, so there's nothing wrong with it. But it's just very simple coffee."

Lepper explained that the second wave can be found at convenience stores and gas stations. Third-wave is found at stores that are devoted to coffee, like Starbucks.

"A lot of the credit needs to be given to Starbucks," Lepper said. "Because of what they did

with specialty coffee in their early years, allowed for all of us local and micro roasters to really be able to do what we do by bringing awareness of espresso and lattes to the United States."

Coffee in its grain form is lighter in color than beans you can buy at the store and smells a little like grain. Lepper said that you want to roast it long enough to get rid of the grain flavor without sacrificing the different flavors

that coffee can have. Stone Bru optimizes its roast level to help show that there are inherent notes in the coffee.

"For instance, coffee that's coming from Africa where there's a lot of citrus that maybe be grown in those mountains around that it will have a sweeter, more fruity flavor," Lepper said

Lepper said each region in the world has its own flavor of coffee. That's what Stone Bru is looking

for: high-quality beans with good consistency. When you have that, he added, you can roast in smaller batches and get the flavor just right.

"That's what we do," Lepper said. "That's why in our community, we're starting to get the reputation we're the coffee lovers coffee shop. We don't put as much sugar or flavoring in our drinks. We focus more on the coffee."

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Film School 101

Students get a behind the scenes look at moviemaking

BY EARL HORLYK

Inside a side classroom at the Sioux City Conservatory of Music, Brendan Smyth was teaching some curious kids.

Was he showing the students how to play an instrument or ways to write a song?

Nope, Smyth was giving a lesson on the perfect placement of a boom mic.

Wait, boom mics? Aren't those the long, funky-looking microphones that are used to pick up sound in movies and TV show? Yup, those are the ones.

"You have to be close enough to pick up sound," Smyth explained. "But you have to be far enough that boom isn't in your camera frame."

MUSIC & MOVIES

Since February, the 1309 Pierce St. music conservatory has been offering weekly film classes.

From 6 to 7 p.m. every Wednesday, Smyth, a recent Wayne State College communication arts graduate, gives hands-on training, on filmmaking.

Beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, movie fan Gia Emory hosts a discussion on prominent movie directors.

APPRECIATING 'BLUE VELVET': THE SONG AS WELL AS THE FILM

"For the month of March, we're focusing our attention on David Lynch," she said of the cult director, best known for such off-beat offerings as "Blue Velvet," "Twin Peaks" and "Eraserhead." "The early classes are for younger people while the later film discussions are meant for older movie fans."

Think a film appreciation program is far afield for a nonprofit music school? Well, not when you think about how often the music world connects with cinema.

Remember, the first "talking" motion picture – 1927's "The Jazz Singer" – was, indeed, a musical.

Plus, the "MTV Generation" grew up, watching hours and hours of music videos in the comfort of their own homes.



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER

Brendan Smyth explains the audio levels on a camera screen to students Rowan Risdal, left, Grace Emory, and Sofia Hegstorm, right, while a microphone picks up sound in filmmaking class at the Sioux City Conservatory of Music.

Emory, who co-founded the conservatory with her musician-husband Ron Emory, was part of the generation who came of age during the heady "Video Killed the Radio Star" 1980s.

THE MTV GENERATION MEETS GEN Z-ERS ... AND BEYOND

Beyond that, the music school recently opened a "demo" studio – for audio

recordings and podcasts – in addition to KXSC – a TV station – that will give music students a chance to run cameras and edit video.

This is where a Gen Z-er like Smyth comes in handy.

A self-admitted "movie nerd" he's already worked as a crew member for such film festival faves as Michael White's "The Ghost in Her."

BEHIND THE LENS OF FILMMAKING

Nowadays, Smyth is also giving wannabe filmmakers the lowdown on mics as well as scripts.

"People have no idea how movies are actually made," he said before one of his classes. "They also have no idea how many different skills are required behind the



scenes of a movie.”

Rowan Risdal is well aware of the intricacies of film.

“I used to just like scary movies,” the 10-year-old explained. “Now, I enjoy Hollywood blockbusters.”

That puts Rowan on the same page as fellow film student Sofia Egstrom.

“I like big movies,” the 14-year-old said with a shrug. “Do I have a favorite movie? No, it changes all the time.”

While Sofia’s friend Grace Emory has some experience as a performer, the 16-year-old recognized that some behind-the-scene cred

will put her into double-hyphen territory. You know, as in writer-director-star.

“The more you know, the further you’ll get,” Grace said as Smyth nodded.

“Technology has changed so much that you don’t need a big studio backing your film,” he said. “A movie no longer needs to be made in Hollywood any more.”

Indeed, the next David Lynch may come out of a tiny classroom of a Sioux City music conservatory.

“Wouldn’t that be nice?” Emory asked with a smile. “That would be so cool.”



ABOVE: Brendan Smyth demonstrates how to hold a boom microphone to students Rowan Risdal, left, Grace Emory, and Sofia Hegstorm, right, during filmmaking class at the Sioux City Conservatory of Music.

LEFT: Brendan Smyth demonstrates how audio sounds from different microphone positions while Rowan Risdal, left, Grace Emory, and Sofia Hegstorm, right, listen to his advice during filmmaking class at the Sioux City Conservatory of Music.

JESSE BROTHERS PHOTOS,
THE WEEKENDER

CALENDAR

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

APRIL 3

David Allan Coe, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 111 Third St. Sioux City, 8 p.m.

APRIL 22

Women's Power Lunch 2020, Marriott Center (formerly the Delta Hotels Center), 385 E 4th Street, South Sioux City. 20th Annual United Way of Siouxland's Women's Power Lunch featuring keynote speaker Erin Gruwell teacher, author and founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation. United Way of Siouxland's Women's Power Lunch is an event where women can be nurtured through education, strengthened through empowerment, and valued through friendship. Women's Power Lunch provides the opportunity for women to unify their resources and take the lead in focusing on issues that impact their lives. TICKETS: WPL2020.

eventbrite.com or call 712-255-3551. 10 a.m. -1 p.m. \$55-130. United Way of Siouxland, info@UnitedWaySiouxland.com, 712-255-3551. WPL2020. eventbrite.com.

JUNE 6

Bike SUX, Caribou Coffee, 2939 Hamilton Blvd. We ride as a fundraiser for Journal Goodfellow Charities, Inc, a non-profit that distributes toys to Siouxland's less fortunate children during Christmas. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. Ride begins at Caribou Coffee at 9:00 a.m. The cost of your registration includes a T-Shirt and meal at One-Eyed Jacks. 8 a.m. -2 p.m. \$25 Early Bird Registration until May 23. Cynthia Donovan, 712-293-4331. www.bikesux.com.

CLASSES AND LECTURES

MARCH 19

Mock Interview, Iowa Workforce Development, 2508 Fourth St.

Sioux City. Contact us to make an appointment for this dynamic mock interview. 712-233-9030. midnight

MARCH 19

Rosetta stone, Iowa Workforce Development, 2508 Fourth St. Sioux City. Stop in and explore the program and work at your own pace! Learn English, Spanish, French, Chinese-Mandarin, Hindi, Arabic or Vietnamese at no cost. Aprende ingles y otros lenguajes a tua paso sin costo. 8:30 a.m.

MARCH 19

English as a Second Language (ESL), Iowa Workforce Development, 2508 Fourth St. Sioux City. Learn basic English skills: speaking, reading, listening and writing. Please ask for information on current sessions. 712-233-9030. 8:30 a.m.

MARCH 19

High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) Classes, Iowa Workforce Development, 2508 Fourth St. Sioux City.

Complete your high school education in order to have better employment opportunities! Please ask for information on current sessions. 712-233-9030. 8:30 a.m.

MARCH 19

Free couples pattern dancing class, The Don's Sports Bar & Grill, 801 W 13th St. South Sioux City, Nebraska. Join Boots & Buckles Dance Club at The Don's in South Sioux every Sunday starting at 1 p.m. for free couples pattern dancing classes. For more information, call 712-204-4500. 1 p.m.

MARCH 20

Kingdom Fit Strength & Tone, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central St. Sioux City. Weight lifting class with supervision from certified instructor. Each class includes 10 minute warm-up followed by varying exercises targeting entire body and concludes with stretching. Must bring own weights and mat. Weights are optional. Always call 712-202-5052 or check website for possible changes in venue before dropping in on a class. 5:25 p.m. -6:30 p.m. Donations. Johnell Peterson, info@kingdomfitliving.com, 7122025052. www.kingdomfitliving.com/strength-tone.

COMEDY

MARCH 28

Bert Kreischer, Orpheum Theatre, 528 Pierce St. The Berty Boy Tour comes to Sioux City. 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY

MARCH 19

Board Game Night, Brightside Cafe, 525 4th St. For a \$5 cover charge you can access our ever-growing board game library. Pizza and grilled paninis are served along with snack foods like chips and muffins. 5 p.m. 5. 00.

Submit an event: Do you have an event you'd like to submit to our calendar? Call 712-293-4313, e-mail events@siouxland.net or enter online at www.siuoxland.net. Include event date, time, event name, contact name and phone number.

Deadline: Noon the Friday prior to publication. (Early deadlines in effect the week before holidays).

MARCH 25

The Harlem Globetrotters, Tyson Events Center / Fleet Farm Arena, 401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City. The Harlem Globetrotters roster showcases some of the most thrilling athletes in the world, including Big Easy Lofton, Hi-Lite Bruton, Hammer Harrison, Thunder Law, Bull Bullard, and Cheese Chisholm plus female stars TNT Lister, Torch George and more. 7 p.m.

MARCH 27

Sioux City Musketeers vs. Madison Capitols, Tyson Events Center / Fleet Farm Arena, 401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City. The Sioux City Musketeers face off against the Madison Capitols for the first game of the weekend. Doors open at 6 p.m. 7:05 p.m.

MARCH 28

Sioux City Musketeers vs. Des Moines Buccaneers, Tyson Events Center / Fleet Farm Arena, 401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City. The Sioux City Musketeers face off against the Des Moines Buccaneers. There will be a live auction following the game, featuring the dark jerseys, worn during the season. The first 1,500 fans through the doors will receive the second set of eight-player trading cards sponsored by Anderson Brothers Printing. Doors open at 6 p.m. 7:05 p.m.

APRIL 7

Senior Living Fair: Spring Into Wellness, Siouxland Center for Active Generations, 313 Cook St. The annual fair is an informative day geared at enriching the lives of older adults. It will feature many exhibit booths, health screenings, educational information, giveaways and more. Don't miss your chance to

find out about all the goods and services available to seniors. 1 p.m. -3 p.m.

APRIL 10

Sioux City Musketeers vs. Sioux Falls Stampede, Tyson Events Center / Fleet Farm Arena, 401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City. The Sioux City Musketeers have their final home regular season game against the Sioux Falls Stampede on Fan Appreciation Night. The final night of the remaining players trading card giveaway will complete the set of the 2019-20 Sioux City Musketeers. After the conclusion of the game the game worn white jerseys will be raffled off from the ice. Doors open 6 p.m. 7:05 p.m.

APRIL 10

Matt Wilson and His Orchestra, Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Sioux City. 8 p.m. -11 p.m.

APRIL 22

Women's Power Lunch 2020, Marriott Center (formerly the Delta Hotels Center), 385 E 4th Street, South Sioux City. 20th Annual United Way of Siouxland's Women's Power Lunch featuring keynote speaker Erin Gruwell teacher, author and founder of the Freedom Writers Foundation. United Way of Siouxland's Women's Power Lunch is an event where women can be nurtured through education, strengthened through empowerment, and valued through friendship. Women's Power Lunch provides the opportunity for women to unify their resources and take the lead in focusing on issues that impact their lives. TICKETS: WPL2020. eventbrite.com or call 712-255-3551. 10 a.m. -1 p.m. \$55-130. United Way of Siouxland, info@

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Our calendar and the coronavirus

Many events are being canceled or postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak, and at this time we cannot guarantee that events listed on our calendar are still set to occur. Be sure to contact the organization or venue to find out the status of the event.

CALENDAR

UnitedWaySiouxland.com, 712-255-3551. WPL2020. eventbrite.com.

JUNE 24

Cushing Old Fashioned Wednesday Night- Cruise into Cushing, Cushing Main Street, Cushing, Iowa. Please come join us for an evening of old fashioned fun. Spend the evening on Cushing's main street looking at cars, trucks, and tractors from past years. Enjoy the music of the Anthon City Band as you walk our main street. Eat hot dogs, chips, and homemade pie topped off with ice cream (Free-will donation). In case of rain, please come to the Fire Station for the meal and band. 6:30 p.m. -9 p.m. Free Will Donation. Sheila O'Connell, Cushing-OFWN@outlook.com, 712-384-2716. www.facebook.com/oldfashionedwednesdaynight.

DANCE

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KARAOKE

MARCH 24

Acoustix Entertainment, Join DJ Diablo for a night of premium karaoke entertainment. Karaoke starts at 9 p.m. every Tuesday night at The Marquee. 1225 Fourth Street. 9 p.m.

MUSIC

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APRIL 3

David Allan Coe, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 111 Third St. Sioux City. 8 p.m.

APRIL 24

Everclear, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 111 Third St. Sioux City. 8 p.m.

AUG. 12

The Doobie Brothers, Tyson Events Center / Fleet Farm Arena, 401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City. 50th Anniversary Tour. 7:30 p.m.

SPORTS AND REC

MARCH 25

The Harlem Globetrotters, Tyson Events Center / Fleet Farm Arena, 401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City. The Harlem Globetrotters roster showcases some of the most thrilling athletes in the world, including Big Easy Lofton, Hi-Lite Bruton, Hammer Harrison, Thunder Law, Bull Bullard, and Cheese Chisholm plus female stars TNT Lister, Torch George and more. 7 p.m.

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SIoux CITY

HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO

MAR. 27 SHANNON CURFMAN
MAR. 28 HEAD EAST
APR. 3 DAVID ALLAN COE
APR. 10 BOY BAND NIGHT
APR. 18 ROB SCHNEIDER
APR. 24 EVERCLEAR
APR. 25 PORK TORNADO

TYSON EVENTS CENTER

AUG. 12 THE DOOBIE BROTHERS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

ORPHEUM THEATRE

MAR. 28 BERT KREISCHER - THE BERTIE BOY TOUR
APR. 18 MARTINA MCBRIDE
APR. 26 BEAUTIFUL - THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL
MAY 7 JERRY SEINFELD

VANGARDE ARTS

APR. 10 MATT WILSON & HIS ORCHESTRA

THE MARQUEE

APR. 9 ZOO BAR

WHISKEY DICK'S

MAR. 20 OLD COUCH TOUR
MAR. 26 SANKARE/ BANE BLADE/
WHITEPHOSPORUS
MAR. 27 OPEN WOUND TOUR

WINNAVEGAS CASINO RESORT

APR. 3 URBAN COWBOY TOUR: MICKEY GILLEY AND JOHNNY LEE
APR. 18 SHEENA EASTON AND TIFFANY

DOXX BAR

MAR. 20 IV PLAY
MAR. 21 RED DIRT ROAD

BLACKBIRD BEND CASINO

APR. 18 THE EVERLY BROTHERS EXPERIENCE
MAY 23 EXILE

Area Concerts



APRIL 26 - REBA MCINTIRE

TICKET INFO

Orpheum Theatre, 528 Pierce St. 712-252-3434. www.orpheumlive.com

Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. 712-279-4850. www.tysoncenter.com

Etix, Tyson Events Center Box Office. 1-800-514-3849 (ETIX).



MAY 7 - JERRY SEINFELD

GRAND FALLS CASINO & GOLF RESORT

MAR. 20 A TRIBUTE TO THE KINGS: ELVIS & GEORGE STRAIT
MAR. 21 THE GUESS WHO
APR. 11 MICHAEL CARBONARO
MAY 9 WAYNE NEWTON: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

SIoux FALLS DENNY SANFORD PREMIER CENTER

MAR. 28 MERCYME & JEREMY CAMP

APR. 15 ZAC BROWN BAND: THE OWL TOUR
APR. 26 REBA LIVE IN CONCERT
MAY 1 BRANTLEY GILBERT'S FIRE'T UP TOUR
MAY 16 LAUREN DAIGLE WORLD TOUR
MAY 16 JOHNNYSWIM
JUN. 9 JOURNEY W/ PRETENDERS
JUN. 20 THE DUDE PERFECT 2020 TOUR

OMAHA

CHI CENTER

MAR. 29 BILLIE EILISH - WHERE DO WE GO? WORLD TOUR
APR. 6 JEFF DUNHAM: SERIOUSLY!
APR. 18 DAN + SHAY THE (ARENA) TOUR
MAY 14 LAUREN DAIGLE WORLD TOUR
AUG. 28 THE BLACK CROWES PRESENT: SHAKE YOUR MONEY MAKER

MANY CONCERTS ARE BEING CANCELED OR POSTPONED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK. BE SURE TO CONTACT THE ORGANIZATION OR VENUE TO FIND OUT THE STATUS OF THE EVENT.

trading card giveaway will complete the set of the 2019-20 Sioux City Musketeers. After the conclusion of the game the game worn white jerseys will be raffled off from the ice. Doors open 6

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Charities, Inc. a non-profit that distributes toys to Siouxland's less fortunate children during Christmas. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. Ride begins at Caribou Coffee at 9:00 a.m. The cost

of your registration includes a T-Shirt and meal at One-Eyed Jacks. 8 a.m. -2 p.m. \$25 Early Bird Registration until May 23. Cynthia Donovan, 712-293-4331. www.bikesux.com.

TIME FOR A BREAK

Credit card loyalty is
no virtue — a different card
may treat you better

GREGORY KARP | NerdWallet

Loyalty is often a good thing, but not in a relationship with your credit card.

It's often better to be like the "distracted boyfriend" from the internet meme and use your wandering eye to see if you can do better.

The credit card market is bubbling with useful and rewarding offers for many kinds of consumers and lifestyles. Yet, many Americans have the wrong card, and their loyalty is hurting them financially.

At least 1 in 5 credit card customers are carrying the wrong card, usually because fees or rewards are misaligned with their purchasing habits, J.D. Power said in its annual U.S. Credit Card Satisfaction Study.

They're in a dysfunctional relationship with their credit card, and it's potentially costing them hundreds of dollars.

REASONS TO DUMP IT

Changing circumstances can sour a love affair, even with a credit card.

Sometimes the card changes for the worse, with a higher annual fee or slashed benefits, for example.

Sometimes the market changes, and the old standby doesn't cut it anymore — 1% cash back is so 2013. And sometimes "it's not you, it's me."

The card is the same, but your needs and spending habits have evolved since you first hooked up. You've simply grown apart.

So, embrace credit card infidelity if you can score a better deal that either saves money — with a lower interest rate or long

0% period — or makes money with better rewards, whether that's cash back, points or airline miles.

For example, if you charge \$1,500 a month on your card, you'll earn \$540 more from a 2% cash back card than a 1% card over just three years.

Granted, some people shouldn't have a credit card at all because it encourages them to get into debt — they just aren't built for that type of commitment. But if you use cards properly, you'll be able to find a match that will complete you financially.

BREAKUP TIP

If you want out of a toxic relationship, canceling your card usually isn't the best way to do it. It's better to ghost it.

With a credit card, that means cutting everyday ties with the card, maybe sticking it in a sock drawer and using it a few times a year.

Why? The card account is part of your long credit history, which can help your credit rating.

And keeping a lot of credit open, while using little of it, helps your credit utilization ratio, another key factor in your credit scores.

Using the card a few times a year means the issuer is less likely to cancel the account for inactivity.

Granted, tenure with your issuer might mean you have leverage to talk things out, especially if you want a lower interest rate or a higher credit limit. Those are relationship issues you can overcome. You might even be able to swap partners, with an upgrade to a more lucrative card within that issuer's card family or a downgrade to a card with no annual fee.

But if you can't downgrade to avoid an annual fee, sometimes that financial baggage just isn't worth it anymore. Consider closing the account and making a clean break, even if it will ding your credit.



THE RELATIONSHIP YOU DESERVE

Before swiping right on a new credit card, think about what you really want out of a new relationship. You don't want to fall for a rebound card that flatters you with blingy names — gold, platinum, diamond — until you're certain it has the long-term qualities you need.

Be wooed by things that matter. If you'll transfer debt, you want a lengthy 0% period. If you'll travel the world, you want to be rewarded for travel spending and not be charged a fee for foreign transactions.

Besides paying attention to advertising from card issuers, you can also read credit card reviews and use interactive online tools that help you find your newest wallet partner.

And you might try a love triangle of sorts: using two cards in tandem to find chemistry. A flashier one for outsize rewards on some spending — like 5% back on gas or groceries — and a reliable one for all other spending, preferably at least 1.5% back.

There are plenty of fish in the sea and credit cards on the market. By breaking fidelity with your credit card, you might ultimately be more loyal to yourself.

What to do with underperforming cards

CANCEL: A primary reason to cancel a card is to stop paying an annual fee, but your credit scores could take a hit if you do.

RENEGOTIATE: You've decided to keep the card, but you're not thrilled with it. That might be a time to negotiate features with your card issuer.

DECOMMISSION: The card didn't make the cut, but that doesn't mean you should close the account unless it's a temptation to overspend. Again, consider the potential hit to your credit scores.

— NerdWallet

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SIouxLAND STRANGE

A roundup of
bizarre
happenings
from Siouxsland's
police logs.

A most unfortunate incident on South John Street

A Sioux City man was arrested in the early morning hours March 7 after police say he barricaded himself inside a bathroom with his children and told them that officers planned to kill them.

Joshue Tafolla also is charged with biting two officers during his arrest and smashing a mirror over an officer's head.

Tafolla, 35, was charged with three counts of assaulting an officer, two counts of child endangerment and one count of interference with official acts. All are aggravated misdemeanors. He was held in the Woodbury County Jail on \$10,000 bond.

Officers responded at about 2:22 a.m. March 7 to a report of a disturbance at a house in the 300 block of South John Street, where they encountered Tafolla, who after engaging officers outside, ran into the house and locked himself and his children, ages 11 and 4 years, inside a bathroom.

According to court documents, while officers attempted to negotiate with him, Tafolla, who they believed was under the

influence of alcohol and methamphetamine, began to destroy the bathroom and told the children the officers were going to shoot him. He later told the 11-year-old that police were going to shoot and kill them.

After officers forced their way into the bathroom, the children ran out and Tafolla broke a mirror over an officer's head, cutting him, court documents said.

Tafolla then bit the officer on the right hand, causing a severe cut on a finger. He then bit another officer on the hand, which caused swelling. After he was detained, Tafolla continued to fight and spit at officers, kicking several of them along with a jailer, and spat at a nurse at the hospital.

A "prosecutor alert" in the case noted that Tafolla "has a lengthy history of violence towards officers and family/public. Tafolla on several incidents has put his children's lives and mental wellbeing at risk and has shown time and again he will return and continue the same behavior, as soon as he is allowed."



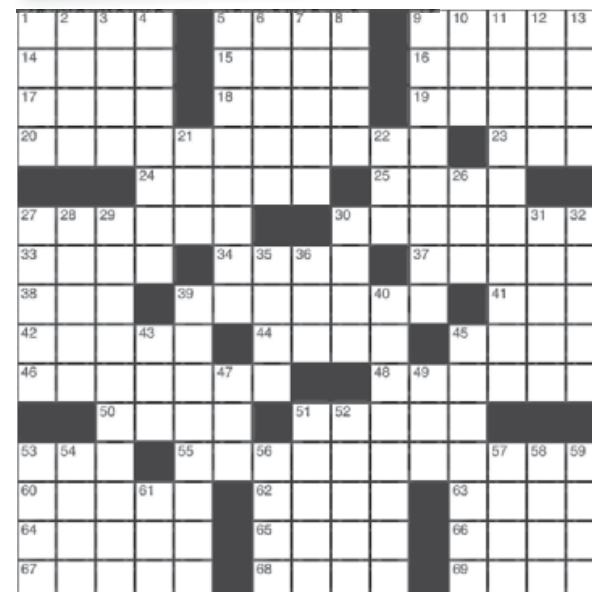
SUDOKU

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Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Working stiff
- 5 Brief timetable
- 9 Racing venue near Windsor Castle
- 14 "Beetle Bailey" dog
- 15 Greet from a distance
- 16 Waste not
- 17 Inch or foot
- 18 Actor Bana of "Closed Circuit"
- 19 Singer Haggard
- 20 *Shake off one's daydreams
- 23 Towel holder
- 24 Strokes on greens
- 25 Rap fan
- 27 Little child, in Cannes
- 30 Decanter relatives
- 33 Richly adorn
- 34 "Born Free" lioness
- 37 Carne __: Mexican dish
- 38 Old AT&T rival
- 39 *Cause of chubby cheeks, perhaps
- 41 Perp's prey, in copspeak
- 42 French floor
- 44 Like the lama, but not the llama, in a Nash poem
- 45 Foot warmer
- 46 Switches for mood lighting
- 48 Boardroom illustrations
- 50 Farmland measure
- 51 Tawdry
- 53 Trojan __
- 55 Leave hurriedly ... and, literally, what the first words of the answers to starred clues can do
- 60 Joint commonly sprained
- 62 __ facto
- 63 " __ a heart!"
- 64 Stout mug
- 65 Property claim
- 66 Biblical garden
- 67 __ four: small cake
- 68 "A __ of Two Cities"

Down

- 1 High hair style
- 2 Active European volcano
- 3 Of the ears
- 4 Tablet
- 5 Sugary brewed drink
- 6 K, to a jeweler
- 7 Lesser of two __
- 8 Metric prefix
- 9 Kid in a military family
- 10 Observe
- 11 *Ingratiate oneself (with)
- 12 Norwegian capital
- 13 Ready to be kicked off
- 21 Gallop
- 22 Ltrs. in an unfilled TV time slot
- 26 Western treaty org.
- 27 Urged (on)
- 28 Gangster Frank in "Road to Perdition"
- 29 *Bargain hunter's venue
- 30 Street eatery
- 31 Order from on high
- 32 Pink-slips
- 35 Debt-heavy corp. deals
- 36 Word in a thesaurus: Abbr.
- 39 Temporary Oktoberfest structure
- 40 "The Untouchables" gangster
- 43 Yukon automaker
- 45 Drink pourer's words
- 47 Actor Stephen
- 49 Wellness gp.
- 51 Vintage photo hue
- 52 Painter's stand
- 53 Hornet, e.g.
- 54 Poker bet that's not optional
- 56 Highland garb
- 57 Florida's Miami-__ County
- 58 Times to call, in ads
- 59 Apartment payment
- 61 52, in old Rome

If you must cheat, the answers are in the classified section on page xx

ADVICE

ANSWERS FOR ALL YOUR WOES



**SCIENCE
ADVICE
GODDESS**

AMY ALKON

Bored Walk Empire

Why am I only attracted to unattainable guys? As soon as men express interest in me, I lose interest in them. How do I break this cycle?!

— Frustrated

At the moment, the perfect love poem for you would come from a clerk at the court: “Roses are red, violets are blue; stay 500 feet away, or it’s handcuffs for you!”

Chances are you’re looking to win, not looking for love. Once you win – once you’ve landed the guy you’ve been pursuing – you’re done. However, you probably tell yourself you’re seeking romantic connection because, well, it’s more appealing than admitting you’re the human version of a dog chasing a dirty tennis ball. The point – the excitement of it – is the chasing, not the getting. (Dirty tennis balls don’t taste like bacon.)

You’re basically on an emotional crack bender. The big neurochemical player here is dopamine, a neurotransmitter, a messenger in chemical form that carries signals from brain cell to brain cell. Though it’s often called the “pleasure chemical,” that’s wrong. Giving you a buzz is opioids’ department. Getting you to the opioids is dopamine’s job. Research by neuroscientist Kent Berridge suggests dopamine drives “wanting” (as in, craving) – motivating you to pursue things that are “rewarding,” like sex, drugs, and cake.

There are some nuances to this. Dopamine is the Beverly Hills brat of neurochemicals – seriously snobby about rewards being new. In researcher-ese, it spikes at the prospect of “novel rewards”: sex, drugs, and cake you haven’t tried before. It also goes up big-time for “unpredictable rewards” – those we aren’t sure we can get – which explains the allure of the seemingly aloof himbo. However, “predictable rewards,” like the Grandma-pleaser – the nice, stable fellow you can always count on – read as a big “meh” in Dopamineville.

I’m guessing your love of the chase has a second job – as convenient cover for repairs needed in your emotional wing. Get to work on your self-worth, self-acceptance, and any other self-(s) in need of shoring up. While you’re an emotional work in progress, be honest with men you date that you have a tendency to disappear like cartoon ink.

Eventually, however, your efforts should be transformative – meaning the meme guiding your romantic life will no longer be “Look for a man who looks at you like my dog looks at the small print on the iTunes agreement

Wane’s World

I have a challenging job I love, and lately, it’s really cutting into my time with my boyfriend. I tell him how much I hate this, but he’s been very understanding. Initially, this was great, but now I’m annoyed that he seems fine with seeing less of me. Is it ridiculous I’m upset he isn’t acting more upset that I’m not around as much?

— Disturbed

Poets and lyricists often describe love as a medical issue: Love hurts! Love is blind! Love lies bleeding! It goes a little far, however, to give it a traumatic brain injury: Love is comatose.

But maybe that isn’t what’s going on for your boyfriend. Maybe you’re just prone to suspect his love is waning. Research by evolutionary psychologists Martie Haselton and David Buss suggests humans evolved to be imperfect thinkers – to have distorted perceptions when we have to make “judgments under uncertainty.” These are guesses we make when we lack access to some or all of the facts.

Haselton and Buss explain that recurring mating and survival issues over human history have led us to make protective errors – overperceiving or underperceiving elements in our physical and social environments. We err in our thinking in whichever way would be the least costly to us: overestimating or underestimating.

Because women are the babymakers of the species, it’s a big costly error for a woman to believe a man will commit – stick around and dad – when he’s really just a “sex it ‘n’ exit” cad. So, women err on side of “commitment underperception” – underestimating men’s level of commitment. Even if a man actually is committed, a woman’s going all hurt feelz that he isn’t might lead him to reassure her with increased shows of devotion: cuddling, romantic dinners, the (ethically sourced!) Hope Diamond Jr.

Consider whether there’s any real evidence your boyfriend’s love and commitment are waning or whether your emotions are playing evolutionary lap dog. When someone really loves you, they show it by making sacrifices for you – like by supporting your need for unimpeded time and energy when the job you love gets more demanding than usual. Your boyfriend seems really accommodating, so let him know if what would really make you happy is a jealous, demanding manchild who sneaks out in the middle of the night with a big tub of Crisco and greases all the rungs on the ladder of success.



**ASTRO
ADVICE**
EUGENIA LAST

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Use the element of surprise when launching your plans, and you’ll have a more significant impact on the people you are trying to impress or persuade to join your cause.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Control will be required if you want to get things done. Refuse to let anyone back you into a corner or dump responsibilities that don’t belong to you in your lap.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

A new idea, plan or hobby will encourage you to change your routine. Be open to suggestions and willing to collaborate and make personal improvements that boost your confidence.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Try something new because it’s what you want, not because someone else is pressuring you to do so. You’ll make a bad choice if you act on an assumption. Listen and observe.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Focus on friendship, family and the things you enjoy doing most. Use your creative talents. Stick to the truth when it comes to expressing your feelings. Don’t mislead someone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

When in doubt, sit tight. Time is on your side. A snap decision will cause more confusion and uncertainty. Rethink your strategy and make a personal adjustment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You’ll have an eye-opening experience. A change of heart will help you make a clear-cut decision that will improve your life. Don’t worry about what might happen. Do something that lowers your stress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Acceptance is in your best interest. Once you know where you stand, you will be able to make headway. Short trips, business meetings and conferences will be entertaining and informative.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

If you share your thoughts and see who is interested in the same things you are, you will be able to bring about a positive change. Romance is in the stars.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Flush out any problems before you present what you want to pursue. If you underestimate the extent of a job, you will face criticism. Someone you least expect will lead you astray.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Take control and follow your heart. A personal change will give you an excellent opportunity to explore new territory. Share your feelings with a loved one. Romance is featured.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

You may crave adventure and greater diversity in your life, but first you have to take care of business and make sure everything is stable and secure. Be prepared to commit.

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave. #280, Santa Monica CA 90405 or email AdviceAmy@aol.com

FINAL SAY

PARTING THOUGHTS UNTIL NEXT WEEK

What Tori Spelling's toilet paper trauma taught me about surviving a worldwide pandemic

BY EARL HORLYK

I'm not proud of this but, last week, I allowed myself to get sucked into Tori Spelling's toilet paper trauma. Sick and with five children running around the house, the former "Beverly Hills, 90210" cast member made an urgent appeal to her 1.5 million Instagram followers – including, regrettably, me – to please send T.P., because 1) it was raining in California; and 2) every pack, roll and square of Charmins had been sold out at stores, due to coronavirus hoarders.

"We have seven butts to wipe and toilet paper to be found," the one-time Donna Martin explained, presumably referencing the bottoms of the kiddos, plus herself as well as husband Dean McDermott.

In other words, send toilet paper ASAP!

By the end of the day, the crisis was averted when Tori's hubby was able to secure enough bathroom tissue to satisfy Miss NoTorious' tush!

Phew, that was a close one!

Having said that, many Americans didn't take COVID-19 seriously until Oscar-winner Tom Hanks and his actress wife Rita Wilson contracted the disease, while on-location in Australia.

Probably to his annoyance, the man who played TV's Fred Rogers in "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" became the most recognizable face in a worldwide pandemic.

Don't know anyone who has coronavirus? Well, "Forrest Gump" has it, smartass!

This only goes to prove one thing: are most Americans oblivious to things that happen in the outside world? You betcha!

However, as schools and businesses and public places close in rapid succession, our nation will need to take stock in what really matters, and what



Tori Spelling and Brian Austin Green reminisce in "BH90210."

makes us truly human.

After a long day at work, writing depressing stuff for the Journal, I was ready to decompress, Monday night.

As I ate a grilled cheese sandwich – the ultimate comfort food pick-me-up – I opened up my tablet and watched a video taken from Chicago's Shedd Aquarium.

Since the aquarium was closed due to COVID-19 worries, zookeepers allowed penguins to wander around, checking out their zoo buddies.

Huh, coronavirus may suck, but I bet those tourist-y penguins sure had fun, I thought to myself.

I smiled for the first time, all day.

Then, I watched a PSA, featuring Arnold Schwarzenegger reminding

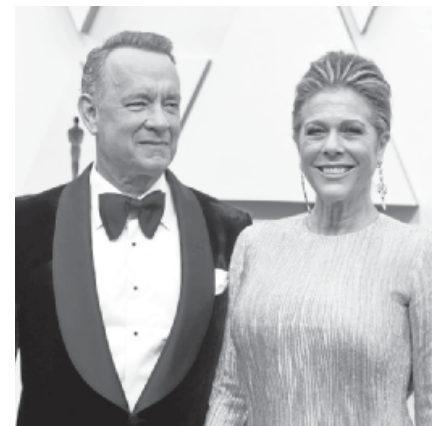
people to stay at home. Alright, here's the kicker. The former California governor was doing this while feeding his pet donkey and miniature horse.

OK, I get it. I'll listen to the "Terminator" because I wanna keep everybody safe and that includes Arnold's menagerie.

Finally, I saw a video that has writer Max Brooks promoting social distancing with his legendary dad, the 93-year-old Mel Brooks, on the other side of a glass door.

The younger Brooks said if he didn't social distance himself during the pandemic, he may jeopardized his dad's life.

And if the immune system of the



JORDAN STRAUSS, INVISION/AP, FILE
FILE - In this Feb. 9, 2020 file photo, Tom Hanks, left, and Rita Wilson arrive at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. The couple have tested positive for the coronavirus, the actor said in a statement Wednesday, March 11. The 63-year-old actor said they will be "tested, observed and isolated for as long as public health and safety requires."

FOX "Blazing Saddles" director is at risk, then so is the immune system of his buddy Carl Reiner. Who's next? Dick Van Dyke, perhaps, Max Brooks speculated.

Are you willing to risk jeopardizing the health of men who've given around 200 years of their lives to comedy? I didn't think so.

Life as we know it will certainly change in the next few days? Weeks? Months? Gulp ... years? Who knows.

But through this crisis, we cannot afford to lose either our sense of humor or our sense of humanity.

For me, that can come from a son looking out for his elderly dad, or from a retired "Kindergarten Cop" feeding his unusual housepets, or from a celebrated D-Lister on the hunt for toilet paper.

Tori Spelling, may you always have a ready supply of T.P.

PANDEMIC PANIC
BY EARL HORLYK

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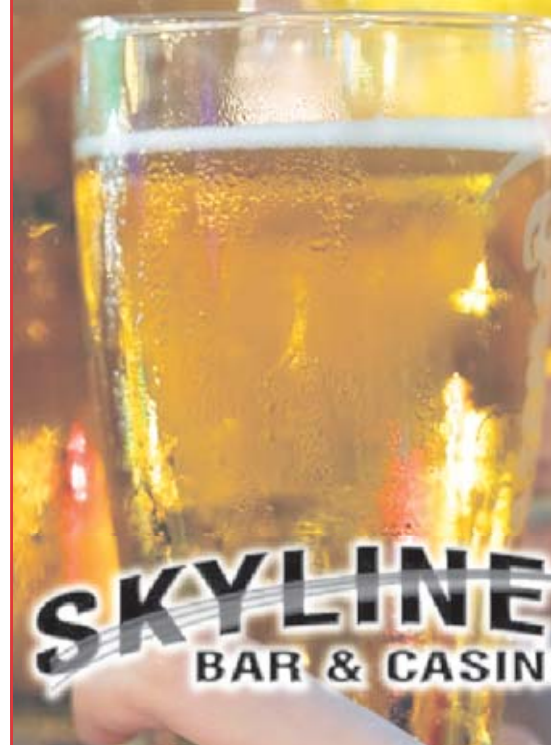
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