TAING PRIDE

SUX Pride plans big activities with educational focus

weekender

INSIDE Cook and cookin'

MANY EVENTS THIS WEEK

SIOUX CITY'S FREE READ | MAY 25-31, 2023 | VOL. 24 ISSUE 16 | AT WWW.SIOUXLAND.NET: EVENTS, MOVIE LISTINGS, BANDS & MORE

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What is the best thing and what is the worst thing about summer?



Chad Pauling Publisher cpauling @siouxcityjournal.com "I love everything about summer. Golf, boating, fishing, everything. I could live without the wasps and mosquitos though!"



Earl Horlyk Staff Writer earl.horlyk@lee.net "Hot temps to warm you up and air conditioning to cool you off. I can't think of a single bad thing about summer."



Mason Dockter Staff Writer mdockter@ siouxcityjournal.com "Hot temps and too many mosquitoes. I can't think of a single good thing about summer."

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





@SCWeekender



The Weekender is published every Thursday by Sioux City Journal Communications, P.O. Box 118, 515 Pavonia St., Sioux City, Iowa, 712-293-4313, email, events@sioux-

land.net. The Weekender welcomes unsolicited submissions, but is in no way responsible for their safety, return or publication. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect the opinion of the Weekender, its management and employees or its advertisers. Please recycle.

Your comments welcome

Have something to say? We'd like to hear it. Seriously. Call 712-293-4229 or email events@siouxland.net

Contributors

Tim Hynds and Jesse Brothers

display LGBTO pride flags during an interview. The sixth annual festival will be held June 3 at the Sioux City Convention Center, with events also set for June 2 and 4. (Tim Hynds, The Weekender)

ON THE COVER: SUX Pride board members, from left, Jenna Baugous, Valeo Khan-Snyder and Alessandra Mata

CALENDAR

MUSIC

- Erik Koskinen, 8 p.m., May 26; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www.vangardearts.com/events.
- Elaine Peacock & Friends, 7 p.m., May 27; Gayville Hall, 502 Washington St., Gayville, S.D. Information: 605-267-2859
- Rusty Wright Band, 8 p.m., June 2; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www.vangardearts.com/
- **Southern Accents: The Ultimate Tom Petty** Experience, 8 p.m., June 3; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Drag Me to Brunch, 11 a.m., June 4; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- NMM Live! Paul Imholte, 12 p.m. June 16; National Music Museum, 414 Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.
- The Expressions at Storm'n Norman's, 7 p.m., June 17; Storm'n Norman's, 301 4th St., Waterbury, Neb. Information: 712-251-3196.
- The Doobie Brothers: 50th Anniversary Tour, 8 p.m., June 17; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.
- Wood Belly, 8 p.m., June 21; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www.vangardearts.com/events.
- NMM Live! Lynx Lynx, 12 p.m. June 23; National Music Museum, 414 Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.
- Back in Black: AC/DC Tribute, 8 p.m., June 24; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Hinder, 8 p.m., July 7; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- **John Conlee: Live in Concert,** 8 p.m., July 7; WinnaVegas Casino, 1500 330 St., Sloan, Iowa. Information: 800-468-9466 x6128.
- Trey Lewis, 8 p.m., July 8; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- CJ Ryder & The Pastmasters at Storm'n Norman's, 7 p.m., July 15; Storm'n Norman's, 301 4th St., Waterbury, Neb. Information: 712-251-3196.
- George Thorogood and the Destroyers, 7:30 p.m., July 19; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.
- Maddie Poppe, 8 p.m., July 22; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Volbeat with Special Guest Halestorm, 7 p.m., July 29; Battery Park, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Lainey Wilson, 7 p.m., Aug. 10; Battery Park, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Ludacris, 7 p.m., Aug. 12; Battery Park, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Mogen's Herors at Storm'n Norman's, 7 p.m., Aug. 12; Storm'n Norman's, 301 4th St., Waterbury, Neb. Information: 712-251-3196.
- The Wallflowers, 8 p.m., Aug. 19; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.
- Galaxy at Storm'n Norman's, 7 p.m., Oct. 14; Storm'n Norman's, 301 4th St., Waterbury, Neb. Information: 712-251-3196.
- Killer Queen A Tribute to Queen, 7 p.m., Oct. 15; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-

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. siouxland.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).

The Senders at Storm'n Norman's, 7 p.m., Oct. 28; Storm'n Norman's, 301 4th St., Waterbury, Neb. Information: 712-251-3196.

ART

Sioux City Art Center: Facing a Changed World, March 16 to July 30; Briar Cliff Review Exhibition, April 20 to Sept. 3; Siouxland Artists: Annual Exhibition, May 4 to Aug. 6; Grant Wood's Corn Room mural, ongoing; Earth-Water-Light, ongoing.

OUTDOORS

- **Evening Campfire,** 7 p.m., June 9; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road, Information: 712-258-0838
- Nature Tales. 10 a.m.. June 13: Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road, Information: 712-258-
- Outdoor Yoga Class, 5:30 p.m., June 14; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838
- **Pond Study,** 10 a.m., June 17; Southwood Conservation Area, 3402 330th St., Smithland, Iowa, Information: 712-258-0838
- Coffee & Conservation, 10 a.m., June 21; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.
- Archery in the Park, 10 a.m., June 24; Snyder Bend Park, 2924 Snyder Bend Road, Salix, Iowa. Information: 712-258-0838.
- Youth Fishing Program, 10 a.m., June 29; Brown's Lake-Bigelow Park, 722 Bigelow Park Road, Salix, Iowa. Information: 712-258-0838.

THEATER

- Bluey's Big Play, 6 p.m., June 13; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.
- Nate Bargatze: The Be Funny Tour, 7 p.m., June 15; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-
- **Jerry Seinfeld,** 7 p.m., July 13; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.
- Reza, 6 p.m., 9 p.m., Sept. 22; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 5

MOVIES

THURSDAY, MAY 25 - WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

'KANDAHAR'

(Rated R for violence and language)

A CIA operative and his translator flee from special forces in Afghanistan after exposing a covert mission.

'THE MACHINE'

(Rated R for strong violence, pervasive language, drug use and some sexual material)

Bert's drunken past catches up with him 20 years down the road when he and his father are kidnapped by those Bert wronged 20 years ago while drunk on a college semester abroad in Russia.

'ABOUT MY FATHER'

(Rated PG-13 for suggestive material, language and partial nudity)

When Sebastian tells his oldschool Italian immigrant father Salvo that he is going to propose to his all-American girlfriend, Salvo insists on crashing a weekend with her tony parents.

'THE LITTLE MERMAID' (Rated PG

for some action/peril and some scary images)

A young mermaid makes a deal with a sea witch to trade her beautiful voice for human legs so she can discover the world above water and impress a prince.

NEW DVD RELEASES FOR THE

WEEK

'Creed III'
'Shazam! Fury of the Gods'
'A Thousand One'
'The Quiet Girl'
'Seal Team: Season 6

SHOWTIMES

LOCAL THEATERS

Promenade 14

 $924 \, Fourth \, St., 712\text{-}277\text{-}8300$ $\textbf{Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3} \, 3\text{:}15$

3:45 4:15 4:45 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:00 9:25 **Love Again** 4:30 7:10 9:45

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret 4:10 6:45 9:20 Big George Foreman 6:50 Evil Dead Rise 4:45 7:30 9:55 Guy Ritchie's The Covenant 4:05

6:55 9:45 **Sisu** 4:45 7:25 9:40 **Air** 4:15 7:15 9:55

The Super Mario Bros Movie 3:15 4:00 6:50 9:20

Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves 3:50 9:50

www.acxcinema.com

AMC Southern Hills 12

4400 Sergeant Road, 712-276-3062 **Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3** 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 6:00 6:15 7:00 7:30 8:00

Book Club: The Next Chapter 5:00 7:45

Love Again 7:45 Hypnotic 6:00 Roll With It 7:00 www.amctheatres.com

NEARBY THEATERS

Royal 3 Cinema

33 Central Ave SW., Le Mars, Iowa 712-564-1778

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 7:00 Guy Ritchie's The Covenant 7:20 Evil Dead Rise 7:10

www.acxcinemas.com Pioneer 3 Theater 110 S. 11th St., Nebraska City, NE 402-873-6487

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 7:00 Pretty in Pink 7:00

www.acxcinemas.com

Legacy 3 Theater

712 W Sheridan Ave, Shenandoah, IA 712-246-2245

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 7:00 Guy Ritchie's The Covenant 7:20 Evil Dead Rise 7:10

www.acxcinemas.com

Main Street 7

866 E. 23rd St., Fremont, NE 402-727-8986 www.acxcinemas.com See website for showtimes

Majestic Theatre

310 Main St., Wayne, NE 402-833-1833 www.majesticonmain.org See website for showtimes

Covote Twin

10 E Main St., Vermillion, SD 605-624-3331 vermilliontheaters.com See website for showtimes

Holland Plaza Theater

717 Eighth St. SE Orange City, IA 712-737-8866

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 7:15 7:30

Big George Foreman 7:15 Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret 7:25

Super Mario Bros Movie 7:30 krullcinemas.com

Main St. 3

401 Ninth St., Sheldon, IA

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 7:30 **Pope's Exorcist** 7:40

The Super Mario Bros Movie 7:20 krullcinemas.com



ADVICE.

WOES YOUR ALL ANSWERS



TWEEN 12 AND 20 ROBERT WALLACE

My Little Sister Clings to Me for Everything

R. WALLACE: I'm a busy 17-year-old junior female high school student and I have two younger siblings, a 13-yearold sister and an 11-year-old brother. My little brother is a joy. He's very funny and very much a team player with everyone in the family. He keeps us constantly amused with his antics, but he never gets into any real trouble. My mom and I think that he's going to grow to be a comedian someday.

But my little sister has quite the opposite personality. She's very clingy and needy, and she can't seem to make any sort of decision without consulting me first. For example, she won't go shopping for clothes or shoes with our mother unless I attend the shopping trip with her. She constantly asks me about what clothes to wear. how to act and what classes she should take in school. And of course, she wants to learn all she can about dating and socializing, so she's constantly quizzing me about that topic as well.

I love her, so I don't mind spending time with her, but I'm worried that once I go away to college in two years she'll be lost without my guidance! It's not that I know anything more than anyone else, but I guess she leans on me so much because I'm four

years older than she is and I have much more experience in many areas of life.

How can I get her weaned off me within the next year or so? I'd like to be able to go off to my preferred college in the next state from here with a clear conscience. — She Leans on Me for Everything, via email

SHE LEANS ON ME FOR EVERYTHING: It's

natural for a younger sister to consult with an older sister about many things in life, particularly clothing, fashion and makeup. But your case does sound a bit extreme compared to the usual stories I've heard over the years.

I suggest that in the next year you praise her for her progress in many areas, and tell her that if she truly wants to be like you are, she needs to slowly but surely begin paving her own road in life. the way you did. Explain that you had no older sister to help you, so you've forged ahead the best you could, and things turned out well for you. Then tell her she has the advantage of all of your insights and coaching, and she's more than well prepared to begin making her own decisions and finding her own way in

The good news is she's 13 now and will be nearly 15 or so by the time you head off to college. There

is usually a big difference in the level of maturity in teenage girls between the ages of 13 and 15, so I trust your sister will be much more mentally prepared as that time approaches, especially given the outstanding counseling and guidance you will continue to provide her until then.

I Think All of The 'Age **Rules' Are Stupid**

DR. WALLACE: What's so magical about turning any particular age? I think our society is crazy to say that a young person who is 20 years, 364 days old can't drink or purchase alcohol, but magically, on the very next day they can buy as much or drink as much as they would

The same goes for purchasing cigarettes, and also for 18-year-olds who can magically vote in elections. Why does our country do this? Everyone knows nothing magical happens overnight between the day before turning a "magical age" and the day the "magical age" actually arrives.

I think this is dumb and makes our country and the people making all the laws look stupid and ignorant. Do you agree that nothing special happens after waking up from a night's sleep to turn a big,



lt's natural for a younger sister to consult with an older sister about many things in life.

"special" age? Something tells me that you won't agree with me, however. — I Don't Get It. via email

I DON'T GET IT: You may be surprised for me to tell you that I agree with you, at least partially. I agree that nothing special happens overnight before a teen turns

18 on the nose or a young adult turns exactly 21 to the day. But from there, we will have to agree to disagree.

The reason our society does this is because we have to make a general rule that can be applied to everybody equally based upon a specific biological age. In reality,

some 17-year-olds are mature enough and informed enough to vote, and some 22-yearolds should be nowhere near alcohol, but it's impossible for our society to make individual judgment calls on each of the millions of people who turn 18 and 21 in our nation each

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CalendarFROM PAGE 2

COMMUNITY

South Sioux City Public Library Book Sale, 1 p.m., May 27; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.

SUX Pride 2023, 11 a.m., June 3, 4; Sioux City Convention Center, 801 4th St.

Rent-A-Space, 9 a.m., June 10; Riverside Lutheran Church, 1817 Riverside Blvd. Information: 712-233-1491.

Simple Sewing, 5 p.m., June 14; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.

Goodwill of the Great Plains 100-Year & Customer Appreciation Celebration, 11 a.m., June 15; Goodwill of the Great Plains, 1116 Holton Dr., Le Mars, Iowa. Information: 712-258-4511.

South Sioux City Public Library Book Sale, 1 p.m., June 24; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.

South Sioux City Public Library Book Sale, 1 p.m., July 29; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.

INFORMATIONAL

Drop Spindle Workshop, 1 p.m., April 1, 8; Growing Up Lulu Fiber Arts, 116 Gaul Drive, Sergeant Bluff. Information: 712-635-7409.

SPORTING

Way of the Warrior 7: A Night to Remember, 6 p.m., April 8; Long Lines Family Rec Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-204-7084.

16th Annual Tee for TeamMates, 1 p.m., May 6; Covington Links Golf Course, 497 Golf Road, South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7581

Siouxland Y Scramble, 10 a.m., May 12; Whispering Creek Golf Club, 6500 Whispering Creek Drive. Information: 402-404-8439.

Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow Party, 10 a.m., (Crash Zone), 12:30 p.m. (Main Show), 5 p.m. (Crash Zone), 7:30 p.m., May 13; 12 p.m. (Crash Zone), 2:30 p.m., (Main Show), May 14; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

Young Leaders 11th Annual Caddyshack Golf Scramble, 12:30 p.m., June 16; Two Rivers Golf Club, 1250 Oak Tree Lane, North Sioux City. Information: 712-255-3551.

HISTORICAL

NMM Special Exhibition "As Good As Gold: The First 50 Years," Jan. 20 to Dec. 30; National Music Museum, 414 E. Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

CONTINUING EVENTS

Sioux City Farmer's Market, 8 a.m., May 27, 31, June 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, July 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29, Aug. 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 23, 26, 30, Sept. 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30, Oct. 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28; Tyson Event Center Parking Lot, Corner of TriView Ave. and Pearl St.

Breathe Yoga & Meditation Class, 5:30 p.m., May 25, 30, June 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29; 9 a.m. May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24; Breathe Yoga & Meditation Center, 1551 Indian Hills Dr. Building C. Information: 712-293-4900.

Siouxland Discovery Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m., May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26; Elevate Sergeant Bluff, 305 Sergeant Square Drive, Sergeant Bluff. Information: 712-212-3633.

Motorcycle Ride Night, 5:30 p.m., May 25, June 8, 22, July 13, 27, Aug. 20, 24, Sept. 14, 28; Casey's Convenience Store, 4727 Southern Hills Drive. Information: 712-574-0934.

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THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN SIOUXLAND



Celebrating culture

Siouxland's Asian culture will be celebrated with food, music and games at the 11th annual Siouxland Asian Festival, taking place from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday at Yummi Blox, 700 W. Seventh St. Organizer Peggy La said food from nine different food vendors will be available at this popular event.

Erik the Eclectic!



A brilliant blend of Americana, folk and good ol' rock and roll, Erik Koskinen will be kicking it on the stage of Vangarde Arts, 416

Pierce St. at 8 p.m. Friday.



Bargain books



Who couldn't use a good beach read this summer? The South Sioux City Public Library will certainly have some primo page

turners at its Book Sale at 1 p.m. Saturday at 2121 Dakota Ave.



The other white meat



We've never understood why the Pork Tornadoes settled on that name for their band. But this group which defies genre will be at the Marquee, 1225 Fourth St. for a 7 p.m. Saturday show.



Country with a Midwest twist



Ben Grillet --a perennial Siouxland's Choice country music fave – is playing a 9 p.m. Thursday show at Beer Can Alley, 1109 Fourth St. This veteran singersongwriter never disappoints in a can't miss show.

True meaning of Memorial Day



For many, Memorial Day is simply a day off from work. Historian Russ Gifford will present the real story behind the holiday in "Memories, Memorials & Decoration Day:

How Memorial Day Began," a 2 p.m. Sunday program at the Betty Strong Encounter Center, 900 Larsen Park Road.

6. Weekender. 05.25.2023. www.siouxland.net

ADVICE

WOES YOUR ANSWERS FOR



DEAR ANNIE LANE

Dear Annie: I suspect my son may be gay. He is a gorgeous, smart, successful young man in his mid-20s, who has really never shown interest in girls. I am perfectly fine with him being gay, and I hope he would realize that. I wish he would just tell me if that was the case. I'm really not sure if he is because he seems very masculine. But so did Rock Hudson.

I would love your gay readers' opinions. Do they wish their parents would have brought up the subject or just let them come out when they were ready? Is there a good way to ease into the topic? I would hate for him to feel the need to hide it from me for whatever reason. Maybe I've said stupid gay remarks in the past? ("Oh, that's so gay," or whatever.) I might have, but I can't remember specifically. I am very ashamed of myself if I did.

Is that the reason he feels he can't wrong about everything? Is it normal for a man in his mid-20s to show no interest in girls and not be gay? I feel like I have a lot to learn! — Loving Mom consider having a coffee with her and

Dear Loving Mom: As more people have come out of the closet as gay, you should know that you are not alone in asking these questions. I welcome my readers to write in with suggestions for this mother and answers to her questions.

Dear Annie: I own a seafood retail business, and we have a customer every Sunday who is hearing impaired and a little slow at the same time. She is very nice and spends a good amount

of money every week. Our issue is that we are very busy on Sundays with long lines, and she will take up 15 to 20 minutes of one of my worker's time while other people are in line behind her.

After she finally chooses what she wants, she will then stand and start talking about other topics. We have tried asking the next customer in line what we can help them with, but she will still stand there and continue to talk while being in the way. We don't want to hurt her feelings, but other customers behind her get agitated waiting for her and don't understand that she is a little

Our employees have tried telling her that they have to help the next customer, but that doesn't work either. Any suggestions on how to possibly rectify the situation? — Confused on What to Do

Dear Confused: This is a tough one. Since this happens every week, you have time to experiment and come up with a game plan. For starters, you might think about assigning one employee to come around from behind the counter and gently lead her away from the line. The open up to me? Or maybe I'm just totally employee can have a short conversation, make her feel special and thank her for buying the seafood.

> If that doesn't work, you might explaining the problem from your perspective, all the while telling her how much you like her and appreciate her business. She is lonely and will look to you as a friend, and, hopefully, be more sensitive of the other customers. Another approach would be to put up balloons and a welcome sign one week, letting her know how important she is, and giving you permission to be firm in moving her out of the other customers' way.

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





Line Classifieds Rates: \$5.00 a week for 3 lines, 50¢ for each line after that,

To Advertise Phone: 712-293-4330 Mail or Walk-in: Sioux City Journal, 515 Pavonia St., Sioux City, IA 51101.

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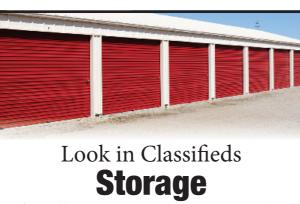


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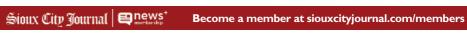


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Not just fun & games

SUX Pride to celebrate LGBTQ community with greater emphasis on education

BY EARL HORLYK

Which of the following statements are true?

1. Characterized by parades, drag shows and campy entertainment, LGBTQ Pride events are fun, positive activities that designed to increase the visibility and acceptance of people in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender queer communities.

2. Born after decades of homophobia which culminated in 1969's Stonewall Riots, LGBTQ Pride events are educational and, at times, political by design. Modern-day Pride activities wouldn't have earned widespread acceptance if it wasn't for people who fought for gay liberation in the past.

If you answered both 1 and 2 are, in fact, true, congratulations, both are correct.

However, recent bills restricting LGBTQ rights in several states, the banning of some books containing LGBTQ subject matter and a possible ban of drag performances in certain areas have been on the increase.

Such battles are being fought in school boards and statehouses, as well as in the court of public opinion.

AN EXTRA DAY:

All of this worries Joe McCulley, who has been organizing SUX PRIDE – which is Siouxland's principal Pride event – since 2016.

"SUX Pride was based upon the simple value that love will always win," he said. "The event was founded to give queer people and their allies a space to come together and celebrate one another."

Over the past several years, the event has given drag performers, burlesque entertainers and all types of artists a safe space needed to showcase their talents.

In Sioux City, the normally two-day event - which begins with a "Pride of Fourth Street" night on June 2, a SUX Pride Diversity March, "Drag Queen Story Time," (partnering with the Sioux City Public Library), a Lip Sync Battle and a Drag Show fundraiser at the Sioux City Convention Center, 801 Fourth St., throughout June 3 – has expanded to a third day.

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Anthem venue will host SUX Pride's "Drag Me to Brunch" – a fundraiser for the Iowa Trans Mutual Aid Fund – starting at 11 a.m. June 4.

"We are so lucky that Hard Rock stepped up to the plate by helping us out," said McCulley, whose drag alter ego is "Martina Shakers." "Some other companies weren't

ACCEPTANCE. BACKLASH:

McCulley was referring to a local distributor of Anheuser-Bush, which is currently embroiled in controversy after Bud Light partnered with Dylan Mulvanev, a transgenderer influencer, on a beer can promotion.

"Anheuser-Bush had always been a sponsor for SUX Pride but, this year, they couldn't because of controversy," he said, shaking his head. "They say, 'Let things die down a bit.' Unfortunately, it reminds me of the bad old days."

A Sioux City native, McCulley struggles when coming to terms with his sexuality.

"I kept my homosexuality under wraps until I moved to Colorado as an adult," he recalled.

Even after returning to Sioux City, McCulley initially stayed in the closet.

"I was 30 before I could tell everyone I was gay," he said. "All of the people that mattered to me accepted who I was."

CREATING A NEW FAMILY:

Unfortunately, that wasn't the case for Valeo Khan-Snyder, a transgender clinical mental health counselor.

"I lost my biological family when I came out and spoke out as a transgender," said Khan-Snyder who goes by the name Leo. "I no longer have a relationship with my birth mother, but I've been able to find a mother willing to accepted as a I am."

worker, Khan-Snyder is passionate about working with marginalized population while advocating for LGBTQ rights in the Iowa Statehouse.

EDUCATION IS KEY:

"You want acceptance," Khan-Snyder said. "Often times, education needs to come first."

note of at 2023's SUX Pride.

FESTIVAL FOR ALL AGES:

"While we have all of the things that people love about SUX Pride, we've made a concerted effort to incorporate as many educational or family-friendly activities as possible," McCulley said.

This included a dance for teenagers that will coincide with the adults-only drag show taking place at the Sioux City Convention Center, Saturday night.

That comes as a relief to Khan-Snyder, who often worked with teenagers who were questioning their identity.

Alessandra Mata always felt a bit different than other people.

"Growing up in family of brothers who loved sports, I was the one who loved theater and enjoyed singing," Mata, who is transgender and performs in drag under the

As an openly queer and transgender social

Which is one of the first things to take

Go to Facebook.com/SUXPride

FOR A LIST OF ALL EVENTS:

DETAILS

WHAT: SUX Pride, a three-day celebration of the LGBTOIA+ community in Siouxland **WHEN:** A "Pride of Fourth Street" night – at various Fourth St. bars and restaurant on June

Storytime" (with assistance of the Sioux City

booths; a drag show fundraiser (for adults)

and a dance (for teens) will be held at the

Sioux City Convention Center, 801 Fourth St.

NEW THIS YEAR: "Drag Me to Brunch," a

Fund, taking place from 12:30 - 2 p.m. June 4

at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Anthem. 111

fundraiser for the Iowa Trans Mutual Aid

2. Several events, including a SUX Pride Diversity Walk is slated for the morning of June 3. Later in the day, activities like "Drag Queen

Public Library); art fair; film fest; vendor

name Alessandra Jacobs, explained. Accepted by family members, Mata has

worked as a mentor and role model to both young entertainers as well as for youth who are struggling with their sexuality.

HISTORY AT HARD ROCK:

At Hard Rock's "Drag Me to Brunch," Mata will become the only transwoman to ever produce and direct a show at the casino.

"Drag Me to Brunch' is also the first show that Hard Rock had ever hosted inside of their casino," Mata said with a smile. "I don't mean just in Sioux City. This is the first drag show at a Hard Rock casino, anywhere in the world."

'We're making a difference in little old Sioux City, baby," Mata added.

McCulley can't help but grin at Mata's

But McCulley also admitted there were times when he couldn't go out in public with his "drag face."

"Over the years, I've become identified with 'Martina Shakers." he said. "Even when I'm not wearing a wig, people will come up and say, 'Hey, Martina."

CAN'T GO BACKWARD:

Still, McCulley worries about younger performers like Mata.

When I drive Alessandro back to her home after a show, I'll instinctively wait until she gets into a house before I leave," he said, somewhat glumly.

While he said the current political scene isn't necessarily a return to the "bad old days." McCulley prefers being safe than sorry.

"I work with local bars, restaurants, businesses, you name it," he said. "They want to be a part of SUX Pride because the LGBTO population is part of the community."

Reflecting for a moment, McCulley continued: "We can't afford to go backward. Not now, not ever."



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER

Brian Ellard, 5, hands money to "Lonika LaBelle Knight" during her performance at the 2022 SUX Pride celebration at the Sioux City Convention Center.



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Rap, now with extra sauce!

Hip-hopper C-Note Bankin's show combines music with BBQ

BY EARL HORLYK

C-Note Bankin (aka Charles Franklin III) is what you call a "triple threat."

Not only can the Sioux Citybased entertainer sing and rap, but Bankin was still in school. he can also cook.

Specifically, down-home barbecue will be on the menu for "Sauce It Up!" an outdoor concert being held in the "backyard" of the Key Club, 1008 Fourth St., on Sunday.

In addition to C-Note Bankin. who is the Siouxland's Choice for 2023's Best Hip-Hop Artist, the show will also feature an all-star lineup rappers, like The Urban

Outlaws and DJ Kid Corduroy.

"Come around for the food at 5 p.m., stick around for the show that follows immediately after that," he said.

C-Note learned all about music while growing up in Arkansas.

"My mom took me and my brothers to church," he said. "Like so many other people, we fell in love with performing at church."

Subsequently, his family formed an T&B singing group called Dynasty when C-Note

"I was all about the music," he said. "If I wasn't singing with my brothers, I was in choirs or in school musicals."

As he got older, C-Note Bankin also began rapping.

"I love reading and I love the way that words sound together," he explained. "I discovered I could rap as well as I could sing."



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER

PLEASE SEE SAUCE, PAGE 11 Rapper C-Note Bankin talks about his upcoming show here at 1008 Key Club in downtown Sioux City.



Syphilis is a sexually transmissible infection (STI) that may have no symptoms. If left untreated, it will stay in your body, and it can cause serious, long-term health problems. Syphilis can also be passed on to sexual partners or to an unborn baby during pregnancy. Thankfully, it's easy to test, treat and cure! If you're sexually active, make sure that getting tested for STIs, including syphilis, is part of your regular health routine.

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DETAILS

WHAT: "Shake It Up!"
Outdoor Music Show, featuring some of Omaha's favorite rappers as well as C-Note Bankin behind the grill and behind the mic WHERE: The Key Club, 1008 Fourth St. Sioux City WHEN: 5 p.m. Sunday (food service); 6 p.m. music

Sauce

C-Note Bankin acknowledged he was inspired by such hip-hop icons as Nipsey Hustle and Nas.

"Nas, especially, is a storyteller," he said. "(Nas) creates a world and lets you in it."

Which is exactly what C-Note Bankin wants to do with his music.

After all, he's already played (along with "Radio" Miller of MIL) at the Abe Stage during 2022's Saturday in the Park. He's even played on the same bill as R&B legend Ginuwine ("Pony," "Same Old G," "Differences) at an Aug. 2022 show at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Anthem.

If he wasn't already busy, C-Note Bankin also joined forces with the Sioux Citybased Sarffy Hot Sauce Company for an All Day Hot Sauce, bearing his name and likeness.

"I love hot sauces but I wanted to create one that won't punish me," he explained. "I can use my All Day Hot Sauce in the morning with my eggs or for dinner with my steaks. You can use it all day, any day."

Suffice it to say, family also of both. taught C-Note Bankin with everything he knows about food.

of both. Indee enterpri has a ne

"It's pretty common to learn about smoking meats at a young age down south," he



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER Rapper C-Note Bankin talks about his upcoming show here at 1008 Key Club in downtown Sioux City.



JESSE BROTHERS SIOUX CITY JOURNAL The All Day Sauce created by rapper C-NOTE BANKIN and

Sarffy Hot Sauce Company.

said. "The men in the family take care of the meat while the women are all about the sweet stuff."

Chances are good that "Sauce It Up" will have plenty of both.

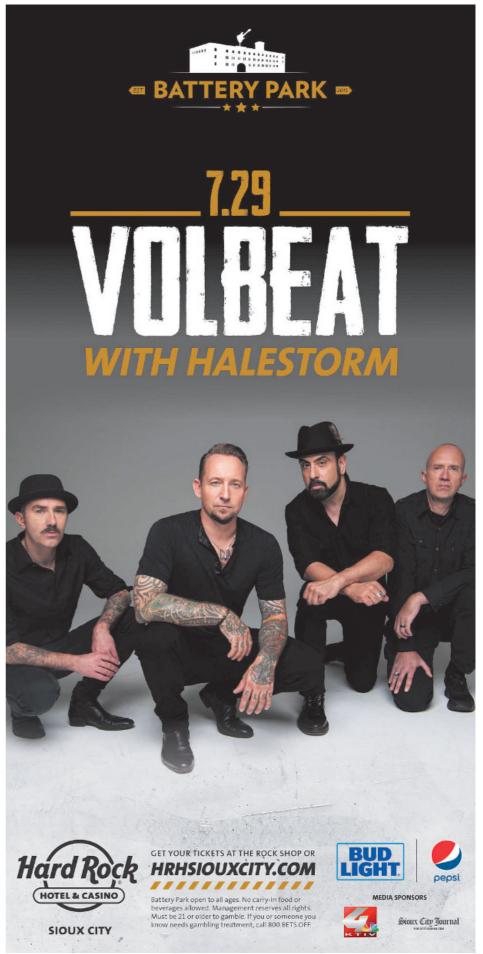
Indeed, the always enterprising C-Note Banking has a new project just waiting on the backburner.

"I'm hoping to collaborate with a local chef on a new

cookbook with nothing but soul food favorites," he said.

Well, we wouldn't put it past C-Note Bankin for creating a culinary conglomeration.

Down south, we know about good music and we know about good barbecue," he said. "It was only a matter of time before somebody found a way to combine both."



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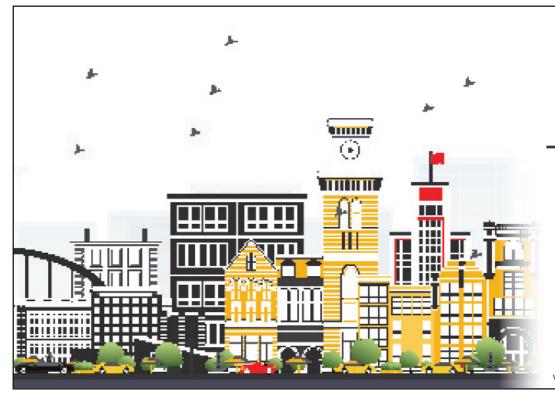
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