

W
weekender

INSIDE
All the winners



WEATHERING THE STORM

Jacob Howard blows into town, wins Sioux-lebrity honors

MANY EVENTS THIS WEEK

SIoux CITY'S FREE READ | FEBRUARY 22-28, 2024 | VOL. 25 ISSUE 2 | AT WWW.SIOUXLAND.NET: EVENTS, MOVIE LISTINGS, BANDS & MORE

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

If you could add one more Siouxland's Choice category, what would it be?



Jared McNett
Online editor/Reporter
mcnett@
siouxcityjournal.com
"Best fries."



Earl Horlyk
Staff Writer
earl.horlyk@lee.net
"Maybe it's because I've
been watching too many
food shows on Netflix but
why can't we have a
Siouxland's Choice for
Spiciest Food, Coldest Beer
or Over-the-Top cocktail?"



Mason Dockter
Staff Writer
mdockter@
siouxcityjournal.com
"It'd have to be something
I could - would - win. 'Best
Weekender Question of the
Week answerer,' maybe."

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



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The Weekender is published every Thursday by Sioux City Journal Communications, 2802 Castles Gate Drive, Sioux City, Iowa, 712-293-4313, email, events@siouxland.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



ON THE COVER: Jacob Howard, morning meteorologist for KTIV, follows in the footsteps of co-workers Al Joens and Ron Demars as Siouxland Choice's Sioux-lebrity. Photo by Tim Hynds

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CALENDAR

MUSIC

Hill Country Funk with Wain McFarlane & Friends, 8 p.m., Feb. 23; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: <http://www.vangardearts.com/events>.

Free Show: Seriously Shirley 8 p.m., Feb. 23; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

Bywater Call - Seven Piece Soulful Blues, 8 p.m., Feb. 27; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: <http://www.vangardearts.com/events>.

Journey, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

NMM Live - Humbletown, 12 p.m., March 1; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

That Arena Rock Show, 8 p.m., March 1; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

Avey Grouws Band, 8 p.m., March 1; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: <http://www.vangardearts.com/events>.

Sam Hunt Outskirts Tour 2024, 7:30 p.m., March 14; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

NMM Live - Molly Haddad & Logan Wadley, 12 p.m., March 15; National Music Museum, 414 East

Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

Sioux City Symphony Orchestra Windborne's Music Of Led Zeppelin, 7:30 p.m., March 16; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-277-2111.

GhostShip at Doxx, 8 p.m., March 23; Doxx Bar, 1219 5th St. Information: 712-204-9861.

NMM Live - Jason Laczkoski & Brett Cooper, 12 p.m., March 29; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

Mania - The ABBA Tribute, 7 p.m., March 30; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Sioux City Symphony Orchestra Sarah Change And Copland, 7:30 p.m., April 20; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-277-2111.

Smells Like Nirvana, 8 p.m., May 4; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

Hairball, 7 p.m., May 17; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

Clutch: New World Samurai Tour 2024, 8 p.m., May 17; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 3

CARTOON



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Calendar

FROM PAGE 2

ART

Sioux City Art Center: Therman Statom: Novella, Feb. 1 to July 14; Youth Art Month Exhibition: Elementary School Students, Feb. 24 to April 21; ARTcetera 2024, March 22 to April 12; Tim Olson: The Notable Iowans & Other Midwestern Oddities, May 9 to Sept. 15; Grant Wood's Corn Room mural, ongoing; Earth-Water-Light, ongoing.

OUTDOORS

Feature of Creatures Series: Talkin' Tails, 5 p.m., Feb. 22; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Owl Program & Hike, 6:30 p.m., Feb. 23; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

THEATER

Spiderwoman Theater: Misdemeanor Dream, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 23; Warren M. Lee

Center for the Fine Arts, 788 N University St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3484.

Charlie Behrens: Good Old Fashioned Tour, 8 p.m., Feb. 23; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

The Book of Mormon, 7:30 p.m., March 27, 28; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour, 6 p.m., April 5; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Come From Away, 7:30 p.m., April 24; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

The Cher Show, 7 p.m., June 3; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

COMMUNITY

Ann Rehan Goebel Foundation Winter Gala, 6 p.m., Feb. 24; South Sioux City Marriott Riverfront, 385 East 4th St., South Sioux City. Information: 712-898-1043.

Sunrise Senior Prom "Dancing Away the Winter Blues", 6 p.m., March 8; The Pointe At Sunrise, 36 Eastview Drive.

Information: 712-276-3821.

Starry Night Adult Prom, 7 p.m., March 9; Sioux City Convention Center, 801 4th St. Information: kmkellen18@gmail.com.

13th Annual Siouxland Community Health Foundation's Dinner & Silent Auction, 5 p.m., March 23; South Sioux City Marriott Riverfront, 385 E 4th St., South Sioux City. Information: 712-226-9020.

INFORMATIONAL

The 16 Laws of Communication: 8-Week Program, 12 p.m., Feb. 27, March 5; 1119 4th St. Suite 218. Information: 712-540-5721.

African American Health Panel Discussion, 5:30 p.m., Feb. 22; Siouxland Community Health Center, 1021 Nebraska St. Information: 712-226-9450.

SPORTING

Harlem Globetrotters, 7 p.m., March 28; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

Hot Wheels Monster Trucks, 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., May 11;

Time, the 4006 Morningside Ave. restaurant he runs with Carnes.

"Our customers had been clamoring for breakfast items and Horizon had the best breakfast menu in town," Carnes explained. "Now, you can get Horizon's breakfast specialties on the Westside of Sioux City as well as in Morningside."

Which is good news for Carnes, who has, literally, worked in restaurant for most of his life.

Beginning his career as a busboy at the iconic Harvey's, Carnes was eventually promoted to a line cook at the Riverside diner. After that, he helped open Greek to Me, which specialized in creative Grecian cuisine like gyros, pastichio and spicy Greek nachos.

Yet the ambitious Carnes always wanted to own his own restaurant.

Partnering with Sajid, an old family friend, he opened Sarg's Philly Time in 2023.

The restaurant is best

known for being the home of "Build Your Own Philly."

In case you didn't know, the classic Cheesesteak – chopped steak, cooked onions and plenty of gooey cheese – was immortalized by Italian immigrants in Philadelphia during the first half of the 20th century.

At Sarg's Philly Time, you can build your Philly with steak and chicken, along with a multitude of cheese and veggie options.

The restaurant also serves plenty of wraps, sandwiches and burgers in addition to Midwestern faves like chicken fried steak and pork tenderloin. Shortly after opening Philly Time, Carnes noticed regular customers considered the restaurant to be part of the neighborhood.

"Morningside has plenty of chain restaurants," he said. "But Philly Time was locally-owned and they liked it."

Carnes also discovered that his regular customers also liked his made-from-scratch meals.

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).

CONTINUING EVENTS

Pierce St. Information: 712-279-6580.

Breathe Yoga & Meditation Class, 5:30 p.m., Feb. 26, 28; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Breathe Yoga & Meditation Center, 1551 Indian Hills Dr. Building C. Information: 712-293-4900.

Siouxland Discovery Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Feb. 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25; St. Mark Lutheran Church, ELCA, 5200 Glenn Ave. Information: 712-212-3633.

Saturday Art Lesson, 10:30 a.m., Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24; Gilchrist Learning Center, 220 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-6580.

Saturday Crafting in the Studio, 1 p.m. Feb. 24, March 23; Gilchrist Learning Center, 220 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-6580.

Imagination Station Open Studio, 10 a.m. Feb. 26, March 25, April 29; Gilchrist Learning Center, 220 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-6580.

A.M. Eats

Sarg's Philly Time to serve breakfast faves from iconic Sioux City eatery

BY EARL HORLYK

In the kitchen of a Morningside restaurant, Dustin Carnes grills up a slice of ham, strips of bacon, a sausage link and an over-easy egg for the perfectly-named "Hungry Man" breakfast.

If that name and that meal sounds familiar to you, it is because the "Hungry Man" is a menu mainstay at Horizon Family Restaurant, which has been a popular 1220 Tri View Ave. eatery for more than 30 years.

In October, Muhammad "Sarg" Sajid purchased Horizon, which has always been known for its all-day breakfast plates as well as for



TIM HYNDS, SIOUX CITY JOURNAL
A strawberry waffle is shown at Sarg's Philly Time, 4006 Morningside Ave.

its stick-to-your-ribs All-American meals.

While Sajid plans on keeping Horizon's menu intact, the Sioux City-based businessman is bringing many of Horizon's breakfast favorites to Sarg's Philly



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SUX 6

THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN SIOUXLAND



2

Cheesehead warning!

Wisconsin is best known for beer and for beer cheese (an underrated spread) and for comedian Charlie Berens. The creator of the "Manitowoc Minute" is returning to the Orpheum Theatre, 528 Pierce St. for an 8 p.m. Friday standup show.

1

A 'Journey' Detour!

Can you believe that the rock group Journey has been around for 50 years? OK, maybe we all can. Though songs like "Any Way You Want," "Faithfully" and "Don't Stop Believin,'" remain forever young. Journey's 50th anniversary Freedom Tour is coming to the Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Bonus point: they are bringing Toto with them. Our 1980s dreams have come true.

3



Seriously free!

Are your friends at the Weekender cheapskates? Absolutely not. We're just very selective when it comes to parting with a buck. This is why we appreciate Hard Rock Hotel's Anthem putting on a free concert featuring the female-fronted metal band Seriously Shirley. The show takes place at 8 p.m. Friday at 111 Third St. Did we mention, the show's free!



4

Unicorn sighting!

A unicorn has been spotted in downtown Sioux City and it had apparently made a stop at Spencer Gifts. Hey, it's 2024! Where else can you find black lights these days. The pop party cover band Black Light Unicorn will be hitting the stage at The Marquee, 1225 Fourth St., for an 8 p.m. Saturday show.

5

Reggae that rocks!



The funky rockin' reggae sounds of Wain McFarlane will be emanating from Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St., at 8 p.m. Friday. Is it just us but Wain McFarlane doesn't sound like the name of a reggae star. It should be Ziggy McFarlane. That's better.

6

Bunnies, eggs & more!

Morningside University Professor Emeritus Dr. Bruce Forbes will discuss "Easter Surprises: Bunnies, Eggs, Lilies and Religion" at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 900 Larsen Park Road





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100 percent Taylor Swift-free zone!

The 2024 Siouxland's Choice Awards are here!

BY EARL HORLYK

Here's a shocker: Taylor Swift was not in the running for any of this year's Siouxland's Choice Award. Sorry, Tay-Tay, there's always next year.

It's seems like Taylor, that "Barbie" movie and, maybe, "Oppenheimer" have been winning everything these days.

Luckily, our Siouxland's Choice is geared toward local nominees and voted on local people.

Each year, the Weekender asks its readers to vote in a dizzying number of categories.

This year, we received more than 16,000 nominees and more than 170,000 votes.

Were any of these things remotely controversial? Probably not. Our contest is designed to answer all of life's most important questions.

For instance, we must know which building has the fanciest public restroom and which business had the best CBD supply, right?

Well, your nosy friends at the Weekender are ready to spill the beans.

Where can you get Siouxland's

best tacos, trampoline or tummy tuck? Check out the following pages and see if you agree wit your fellow readers.

More important, if you see a business, a restaurant or a service provider with a Siouxland's Choice designation, known they must be doing something right.

This is because the Siouxland's Choice is democracy in action, with no hanging chads or Cyber Ninjas. Just the voice of the people.

All right, you've been very generous with your advice. Now take some from the Weekender.

Sit back, prop up your feet, get cozy and tell the winners you saw them in The Weekender.

Here is the 2024 edition of the Siouxland's Choice Awards.

Enjoy, y'all!



Taylor Swift
MICHAEL TRAN, AFP

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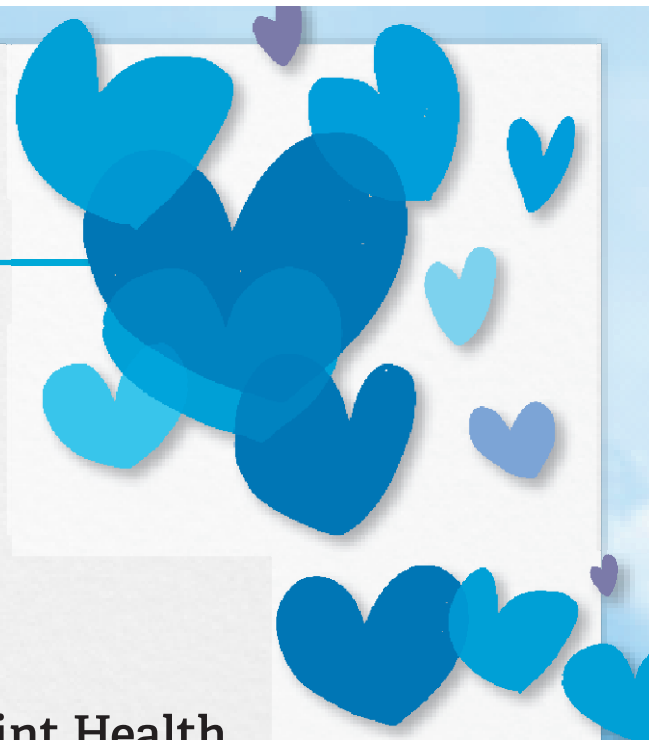
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Hawks Coffee Shop is a smoothie operator

BY EARL HORLYK

SERGEANT BLUFF – When Cyndi Nelson decided to open Hawks Coffee Shop with her husband Matt Nelson, she wanted the space to become a hub for the community.

“I wanted to be used for small gatherings like a girl’s night out or a wine sampling or, even, the site for a murder mystery party,” she said. “I envisioned it as being as much of a community center as it was a coffee shop.”

Luckily, Sergeant Bluff residents caught on to the concept of Hawks right away in spite of the fact that the 110 Gaul Drive business opened a few weeks before the COVID-19 pandemic.

“COVID could’ve killed us but, once the pandemic restrictions were loosened, customers started to come through our doors and that never stopped,” Nelson, a former social worker and sociology professor, explained.

Now four year after its grand opening, Hawks Coffee Shop has earned a Siouxland’s Choice first-place finish. However, it wasn’t in the category of coffee or for favorite party place.

Instead, Nelson’s business was being honored for its smoothies.

“Well, not what I was expecting but I’ll take it,” Nelson said, noting that the shop makes mango, peach, strawberry, strawberry-banana, wildberry and healthy green smoothies.”

That is in addition to the coffees, lattes, mochas, teas and sobas, which constitute the bulk of Hawks’ drinks menu.

“We even offer a flight, where a customer can order four drinks, hot or cold, on a flight border,” Nelson said. “That way, a customer can choose the best of everything.”

For people wanting to



Julian Jervik makes a strawberry smoothie at Hawks Coffee Shop, 110 Gaul Drive in Sergeant Bluff Iowa.



Cyndi Nelson, owner of Hawks Coffee Shop displays a strawberry smoothie.



Cyndi Nelson, owner of Hawks Coffee Shop displays a strawberry smoothie.

DETAILS

WHAT: Hawks Coffee Shop

WHEN: 6 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday; 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday and Sundays

WHERE: 110 Gaul Drive,
Sergeant Bluff

PHONE: 712-271-2007

nosh, Hawks has a limited menu of breakfast and lunch favorites.

The A.M. crowd might enjoy a choice of a fresh baked good or something more substantial, like avocado toast, a strawberry and banana quesadilla or a gourmet breakfast sandwich, which comes with a sausage

patty, egg, Muenster cheese and mayo on an Everything bagel.

The noontimers might choose anything from a turkey bacon club sandwich, a Philly Steak panini and, even, pepperoni flatbread pizza.

Nelson said she is ecstatic over her Siouxland’s Choice recognition. It is something she wants to share with both her employees as well as her regular customers.

“To be honest, we had people who tried to talk us out of opening a coffee shop in Sergeant Bluff,” she admitted. “Sergeant Bluff is too close to Sioux City, they argued.”

“Yet we proved them wrong,” Nelson continued. “If you offered great food, great drinks and great

customer service, people will support a small, locally-owned business.”



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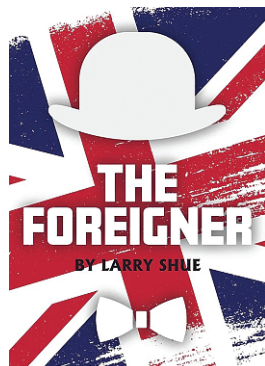
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Weekender forecast: It's super for Jacob Howard

KTIV meteorologist wins Sioux-lebrity in Siouxland's Choice awards

BY EARL HORLYK

A little bit after 11 a.m., Jacob Howard was still full of energy, pulling together a weather forecast for KTIV's noonday news show.

He had been hard at work in the Storm Team 4 office since 3 a.m.

"Weather has always been exciting for me," Howard, who joined KTIV in June 2022, explained. "I've loved it ever since I was a little kid."

Apparently, audiences have also taken a shine to Howard. He was selected Siouxland's Choice for Local Sioux-lebrity, following in the footsteps of such KTIVers like Al Joens and Ron Demers.

Born and raised in the small town of Raleigh, Mississippi, Howard had seen how destructive weather could be in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"I was only 3 or 4 at the time but I could see what was happening," he said.

After graduating from Mississippi State University, Howard jumped at the chance to move to Siouxland, where weather can change at a moment's notice.

"To be honest, I had only seen snow fewer than 10 times in my life," he said. "After our last blizzard, people asked me if I was sick of snow. I had to answer no I wasn't."

During his off time, Howard enjoys spending time with his dog Daisy, going to garage sales and collecting cookbooks.

"I love cooking and southern cuisine has always been close to my heart," he said.

Maps are another thing that Howard loves.

"That's how I decorate my apartment," he said. "Instead of putting up art, I'd put up a map."

Less than half hour before the start of KTIV's Noon News, Howard reflects on what it means to be

"People think they know me because I'm on TV every day. I like that they feel comfortable with me."

JACOB HOWARD

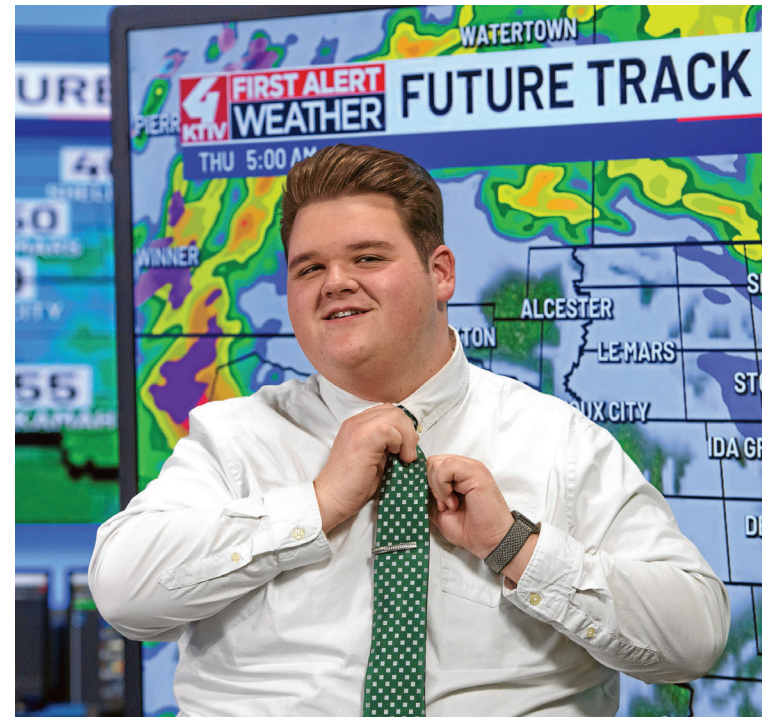
a Sioux-lebrity.

"I've never really thought I was a Sioux-lebrity or any type of celebrity," he said. "People think they know me because I'm on TV every day. I like that they feel comfortable with me."

"I guess the thing I always tell people is to always be yourself," Howard continued. "If you're on TV on a daily basis, audiences demand authenticity."

This is especially true for a television meteorologist.

"Thankfully, we don't have severe weather all the time," Howard said. "When it does, it impacts everyone."



TIM HYNDS, THE WEEKENDER

Jacob Howard, KTIV's morning meteorologist, is shown on set at the television station's Sioux City studios.

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Best bartender likes work any hour of the day

BY EARL HORLYK

Nick Long is a friendly presence at Work & Church Booze Parlor, whether he's working at the 2 a.m. closing time or opening up the 215 Fourth St. bar at 6 a.m.

Wait, isn't 6 a.m. too early in the day for a bottle of beer or a shot of whiskey?

"Not if you're working the night shift at the hospital or at a meatpacking plant," Long explained while waiting on a customer. "Their 6 a.m. is like other people's 6 p.m."

"In fact, I have a regular customer who must be in his 80s," he said. "The man will come in first thing in the morning, order a beer and, then, continue on with the rest of his day."

A former salesman, Long usually has a smile on his face as well as a story to tell.

"I love my customers and I love my crew," he said. "Most people hate going to work. I look forward to it because I'll always be surrounded by friends."

Apparently, Long has many friends. He has been selected Siouxland's Choice for Best Bartender at Work & Church as well as at the adjacent Crash! Boom! Bang! Whiskey Hole, 213 Fourth St.

Indeed, this has been a banner year for both bars, which are owned by businessman Mac Dolan.

Work & Church is taking home top honors for best Happy Hour and Siouxland's Choice in Favorite Fourth Street Bar. Crash! Boom! Bang! is the top pick for mixed drinks for Siouxland's Choice voters.

"We take such recognition seriously," Dolan said. "It means so much because it is coming from our customers."

Dolan opened Work & Church more than 10 years as a friendly, unpretentious working class bar.

"They're was so much activity going on in the opposite side of Fourth Street," he explained. "We wanted to keep the action going on the west end of Fourth."

About seven years ago, Dolan opened Crash! Boom! Bang! as a whiskey bar that would attract a different type of clientele.



Bartender Nick Long, left, and owner Mac Dolan are shown behind the bar at Crash! Boom! Bang! Whiskey Hole in Sioux City, Iowa.

JESSE BROTHERS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

DETAILS

What: Work & Church Booze Parlor and Crash! Boom! Bang! Whiskey Hole

Where: 215 Fourth St. and 213 Fourth St.

Phone: 712-224-3600 and 712-560-1627

"Work & Church is a place where you can hang out with your buddies," he noted. "Crash! Boom! Bang! is where you can have a nice mixed drink and relax for an hour or two."

While at Crash! Boom! Bang!, a patron can get a smoked Old Fashioned, which is a drink that Long enjoys making.

"I don't really have a preference when it comes to which bar I prefer," he said. "The only difference is I get to show off my drink-making skills more at Crash! Boom! Bang!"

When asked what it takes to be Siouxland's Choice for Best



Bartender Nick Long pours a shot of Jameson Orange at Work and Church Booze Parlor.

Bartender, Long said an outgoing personality certainly helps.

"The old stories are all true," he said. "People do tell bartenders stuff they wouldn't tell anybody else. And I'm OK with that."

Plus it doesn't matter if it's

closing time at 2 a.m. or if it's a 6 a.m. early shift, Long will greet his customers with a smile on his face.

"Work doesn't feel like work when you're enjoying yourself," he said.

Siouxland's Choice: Drinks

It's always 5 o'clock somewhere, right? Drink up with these 2024 Siouxland's Choice Awards honorees.

BARTENDER

First place: Nick Long - Work n Church and Crash Boom Bang

Favorite: Ben Manning - Prince's Tavern

Favorite: Veronica Johnson - Buffalo Wild Wings

BREWERY

First place: Marto Brewing Co.

Favorite: Jefferson Beer Supply

Favorite: Jackson Street Brewing

COFFEE

First place: Movillatte

Favorite: Hawks Coffee Shop

Favorite: Scooter's Coffee

DOWNTOWN FOURTH ST. BAR

First place: Work and Church Booze Parlor

Favorite: Marto Brewing Co.

Favorite: Buffalo Alice

HAPPY HOUR

First place: Work and Church Booze Parlor

Favorite: Prince's Tavern Inc.

Favorite: Pub 52

MARTINI

First place: Table 32

Favorite: The Diving Elk

Favorite: Minervas Food & Cocktails

MIXED DRINKS

First place: Crash Boom Bang Whiskey Hole

Favorite: The Diving Elk

Favorite: Pub 52

NONHISTORIC FOURTH ST. BAR

First place: Miles Inn

Favorite: Prince's Tavern Inc.

Favorite: Pub 52

SMOOTHIE SHOP

First place: Hawks

Favorite: Daily Spot

Favorite: Best Day Ever Nutrition 4 You

WINE/LIQUOR STORE

First place: Beer on Floyd

Favorite: Callahan's Liquor Store

Favorite: Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits

WINE LIST

First place: Oscar Carl Vineyards

Favorite: Archie's Waeside

Favorite: CRAVE American Kitchen & Sushi Bar

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Burger a smash with Siouxland residents

BY EARL HORLYK

In case you've never had one, a smash burger is a burger that is made by smashing ground beef onto a grill or griddle with a spatula.

Smashing the patty locks in all of the juices and flavor while giving the meat a nice, crisp exterior.

Smash burgers are the star of the show at the Smash Food Truck, which is owned by veteran chef Clay Lillie.

A mainstay at the Sioux City Farmer's Market and Food Truck Friday, the food truck is becoming a ubiquitous site at many area community events and social gatherings.

So it shouldn't come as much of a surprise that Smash was named Siouxland's Choice for best burger and that the Smash Food Truck was selected as Siouxland's Choice for best food truck.

It is also a testament to Lillie, who uses the best and freshest ingredients for his burgers.

"You make think we're cutting corners when making burgers in a food truck," Lillie said, shaking his head. "Instead, we're giving customers a gourmet burger in the casual setting."

It all starts with the meat.

"I use ground chuck with 80 percent lean meat to 20 percent fat," Lillie said. "You need that fat to produce the taste of a smash burger."

In addition, Lillie will use fresh produce that he'll purchase at the Farmer's Market. He's even been known to make his own ketchup.

That shouldn't come as much of a surprise since he started his culinary career at upscale restaurants like Bev's on the River, Clyde's, 1008 Key Club and Dagas on Broadway.

Lillie, along with his wife Cherry, opened The Shack, a small standalone eatery at 211 Fourth St. in 2021.

"Cherry and I both dreamed of being our own bosses," Lillie explained. "When we got the chance to start the Shack, we jumped at the chance."

Specializing in Chili Cheese Sliders, Taco Meat Slider and the Ye Olde Tavern-inspired loosemeat



TIM HYNDY PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

Clay Lillie, chef-owner of the SMASH food trailer and The Shack spreads an aioli on buns while making some of the trailer's signature SMASH burgers.



Three smash burgers.



Clay Lillie, chef-owner of the SMASH food trailer and The Shack smashes a ball of burger onto the flattop.

Sioux City Slider, The Shack is often the domain of Cherry Lillie.

During at least 7 to 8 months out of the year, Lillie can be found in the Smash Food Truck, making such seminal Smash Burgers like the Hot Cheetos Burger, which has a smashed patty, hot Cheetos,

grilled onions, Sriracha, sour cream and cheddar jack cheese on a Brioche bun, or the Onion Burger, which comes with more than one-quarter pounds of onions.

If you're more adventurous, try the Smackle Burger, which contains a smashed patty, grilled

onions and cheddar jack cheese on a toasted bun that has been spread with peanut butter and jelly.

Or if you're normally a fan of a join that has golden arches, please consider his Mac Daddy, which has a smashed patty, a secret sauce, onions, pickles, cheddar jack

cheese on a Brioche bun.

However, don't forget to finish your order with some super-garlic-y fries.

"That's what I've been told," Lillie said. "People do love our garlic fries. They're almost as popular as our burgers."

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2024

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Sioux City Symphony Orchestra announces its 2024-25 season

BY EARL HORLYK

The 2024-2025 season of the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra (SCSO) will begin with a gladiator during the Roman Empire and end with a spirited gypsy in southern Spain.

But in the middle, don't be surprised by a detour to Nutbush City Limits for an all-star salute to the "Queen of Rock and Roll."

"Our new season will have something for everyone," musical director Ryan Haskins said during a news conference at the Orpheum Theatre, the longtime home of the symphony.

The season opener will take place on Sept. 28 when the SCSO will play composer Hans Zimmer's iconic score live to a showing of Ridley's epic historical movie "Gladiator,"

starring Russell Crowe and Joaquin Phoenix.

On Oct. 19, the symphony will take on Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, a timeless work that will take listeners on a mesmerizing journey through nature.

Speaking of forces of nature, the music of Tina Turner will be celebrated on Nov. 16, with an evening of classic hits performed by "American Idol" finalist LaKisha Jones and Helen Hayes Award-winning entertainer Nova Y. Payton.

A special add-on concert will take place when the SCSO will accompany the Missouri River Choral Society in a production of Handel's "Messiah," which is taking place at Sioux City's Cathedral of Epiphany. SCSO's annual Home for the Holidays show is being performed on Dec. 15, featuring the dynamic voices of the MLK

Community Gospel Choir as well as the sounds of three local church bell choirs.

On Feb. 8, 2025, Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition winner Olga Kern will perform Dmitri Shostakovich's riveting 1st Piano Concerto, which is considered to be one of the Russian composer's finest works.

The work of women in the world of choral, chamber and symphonic music will be in the spotlight during "Her Story in Music: A Celebration of Women in the Arts," that takes place March 22, 2025.

A semi-staged production of Georges Bizet's classic opera "Carmen," will close out the season with mezzo-soprano Audrey Babcock in the title role for the May 4, 2025 show.

Haskins said he is excited over the variety

of next season's lineup of concerts.

"I'm especially looking forward to our tribute to Tina Turner," he said. "There will be plenty of dancing in the aisles at the the Orpheum for that show."

Haskins said is also looking forward to the symphony's two holiday season production, which will both feature local talent and musicians, as well as "Her Story in Music," which is a collaborative effort between SCSO, the Sioux City Art Center, the Sioux City Public Museum and a number of local art galleries.

"A symphony is a reflection of its community," he said. "We're lucky that Sioux City has an appreciation for the arts."

Ticket information can be found at siouxcitysymphony.org or by calling 712-277-2111.



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER

Ghost Ship band members Dan Loofe on vocals, front, Chuck Woll on the guitar, right, Barry Hodges on the bass, behind right, Dan Wozny on vocals, left, Jarrod Paulsen on the drums, behind, and Rick Moore on the guitar, left, play in their rehearsal studio in Sioux City, Iowa.

GhostShip continues sailing to the top after all these years

BY EARL HORLYK

The space that GhostShip uses for band practice seems more like clubhouse than it does a rehearsal hall.

Located in a nondescript building on Lower Fourth Street, the practice area has all of the things you'd expect to see, like mics, amps and stuff.

Plus you will notice a few quirkier items like a "Baywatch"-era poster of Pamela Anderson that occupies an accent wall.

Snoop around even closer and you'll discover a stash of past Siouxland's Choice Awards for Best Rock Band, which GhostShip has won over the years.

"I think we've either been the winner or the runner-up for Siouxland Choice's Awards at least 18 times," lead vocalist Dan Loofe said.

Well, make that 19 times!

GhostShip is the 2023's Siouxland's Choice for Favorite Band. As illustrious as that sounds, the Sioux City-based band will also be inducted into the Iowa Rock 'n

Roll Music Association's Hall of Fame in ceremonies taking place in Arnolds Park, Iowa over Labor Day weekend.

"Isn't that crazy?" Loofe said, chuckling at the thought. "Who would've predicted we'd be in the Hall of Fame?"

"Who could've predicted we'd still be playing together after all this time?" guitarist Rick Moore said with a shrug.

It was Moore who founded GhostShip with his friend and drummer Jarrod Paulsen in 1998.

While the band has gone through changes over the years, GhostShip's current lineup of Paulsen on drums, Moore and Chuck Woll on guitar, Barry Hodges playing bass, with Loofe and Dan Wozny sharing vocal duties has been around for several years.

"I think this combination works because we all either went to high school together, worked in the same place or played in the same band," Hodges said. "We know what everybody's strengths and weaknesses are."

"Just like an old married couple would,"

suggested Moore.

"Then, we'll exploit all of those strengths and weaknesses," interjected Loofe.

"Yeah, just like an old married couple would," Moore said.

Over the past 25 years, GhostShip has played shows throughout the upper Midwest and opened for such A-List acts as Jackyl, Great White and Quiet Riot.

Plus they've even gone viral on TikTok.

"Guess our song 'Volleyball Shorts' has become a thing on TikTok," Loofe said. "What kind of thing that is we have no idea."

More important, GhostShip is currently working on songs for its third album.

When rehearsal was slated to start, Moore began to reflect for a moment.

"One thing we would like to do is offer a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has voted for us, came to a show or bought a shirt or CD over the past 25 years," he said. "We appreciate you and will continue to rock."

Siouxland's Choice: Entertainment

Hello, all of you party people! Meet 2024's Siouxland's Choice Winners in Entertainment.

CAMPGROUND

First place: Stone Park

Favorite: Le Mars Willow Creek Campground

Favorite: The Lazy H Campground

CASINO

First place: Hard Rock Hotel & Casino - Sioux City

Favorite: Beano & Sherry's Casinos

Favorite: WinnaVegas Casino Resort

DANCE STUDIO

First Place: Just for Kix

Favorite: Central Dance Academy

Favorite: 5678! Dance Studio

ENTERTAINMENT/SPORTS VENUE

First place: Orpheum Theatre

Favorite: Tyson Events Center

Favorite: Anthem/Battery Park

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

First place: LaunchPAD Children's Museum

Favorite: Iowa Theater, Onawa, Iowa

Favorite: Drop Zone Family Fun Center

GOLF COURSE

First place: Sun Valley Golf Course

Favorite: Whispering Creek Golf Club

Favorite: Willow Creek Golf Course

LIVE THEATER

First place: Orpheum Theatre

Favorite: Sioux City Community Theatre

Favorite: New Stage Players

MUSEUM/ART GALLERY

First place: Sioux City Railroad Museum

Favorite: Sioux City Public Museum

Favorite: LaunchPAD Children's Museum

OUTDOOR FESTIVAL/LIVE MUSIC EVENT

First place: Saturday in the Park Festivals

Favorite: Battery Park Concert Series

Favorite: Kingdom of Riverssance

REC LEAGUE

First place: The Arena Sports Academy

Favorite: Floyd Slow Pitch Association

Favorite: Norm Waitt Sr. YMCA

RESIDENTIAL HOLIDAY DISPLAY

First place: Christmas Acres

Favorite: Barnes Family, South Sioux City

Favorite: Gene Watchorn, Ponca, Neb.

SPORTS BAR

First place: Bob Roe's Point After

Favorite: The Wheelhouse Grill

Favorite: One Eye'd Jack's

TOURIST DESTINATION

First place: Palmer's Olde Tyme Candy Shoppe

Favorite: Wells Visitor Center and Ice Cream Parlor

Favorite: Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center

WATER PARK

First place: Siouxnami Waterpark

Favorite: King's Pointe Resort

Favorite: Wild Water West Waterpark and Flamingo Falls Campground

Morningside University woos the votes

BY EARL HORLYK

Mia Wenzel could barely speak above a hoarse whisper the day after the Kansas City Chiefs beat the San Francisco 49ers during Super Bowl LVIII.

Despite that, the Luverne, Minnesota, native could still sing the praises of Morningside University.

A counseling major as well as a member of the Mustangs tennis team, Wenzel is also a member of Morningside's WOO Crew.

OK, we'll bite. What the heck is a "WOO Crew?"

Established in 2020, Morningside's WOO (an acronym for welcome orientation organizers) Crew is a student-based group that helps first-year students and their families become acquainted with the university.

"Faculty and administrators can talk all day about how great the university is," Dr. Albert Mosley, president of Morningside, said. "But our best representatives are our students and the WOO Crew is a big part of that."

Wenzel nodded her head in agreement.

"Coming to a new school in intimidating," she said. "You're on a strange campus, away from many of your family and friends for the first time."

"The first people I met at Morningside was the WOO Crew and it made me feel accepted," Wenzel continued. "When I was offering the chance to be a part of the welcoming committee, I jumped at the chance."

Perhaps due to such innovative outreach programs as the WOO Crew, Morningside University was selected as Siouxland's Choice for Higher Education.

Psychology major Taylor Cole credited Wenzel's enthusiasm as one of the reasons she chose Morningside.

"Mia was so nice and helpful that she immediately won over me and my parents," the Clarinda, Iowa native said.

With her freshman year almost over, Cole is convinced she made the right decision.

"Morningside is different than



Dr. Albert Mosley, president of Morningside University, talks with students Araceli Salas of Denison, left front, and Walter Campos of Fremont, Nebraska, in the Sioux City university's Hickman-Johnson-Furrow Learning Center.



Dr. Albert Mosley, right, president of Morningside University, talks with students in the Sioux City university's Krone Center.

bigger schools," she acknowledged. "At other schools, you feel like a number. At Morningside, you feel like you're part of a community."

Like Wenzel, Cole is on the Mustangs tennis team.

"I love it that you'll see Dr. Mosley and other members of the administration at tennis matches or just around campus," Cole explained. "That says a lot."

Similar to Wenzel, Cole is now on the WOO Crew as is ag education

freshman Alec McEntaffer.

"We noticed Alec was hanging around the Krone Advising Center a lot," Morningside's vice president for university engagement Erin Edlund said. "We got him involved in the welcoming program as well."

"Actually, I'd go to Krone in order to see Bette (the 2-year-old golden retriever who serves as Morningside's first-ever animal ambassador)," McEntaffer said. "But I'm also happy to recruit future Morningside students."

Which is important to the university, Mosley said.

"We want students to come to Morningside, stay here and graduate from here," he said. "Morningside has a great reputation for excellence and we want that to continue for many years to come."

Siouxland's Choice: Health & Wellness

Here's how to stay healthy, courtesy of this year's Siouxland's Choice Award winners.

ASSISTED LIVING/SENIOR LIVING

First Place: Sunrise Retirement Community

Favorite: The Heritage at Northern Hills
Favorite: Whispering Creek Senior Living

CHIROPRACTOR

First place: Ruehle Family Chiropractic

Favorite: Heartland Chiropractic Associates - Dr. Wyatt Hagan
Favorite: Inside-Out Family Chiropractic

DENTIST/ORTHODONTIST

First place: Elite Dentistry

Favorite: Sunnybrook Dental
Favorite: Lohr Family Dentistry

DERMATOLOGY

First place: CNOS Dermatology - Alyssa Mrsny/Dr. Daffer

Favorite: Dunes Dermatology
Favorite: Dermatology Associates of Siouxland, PC

DOCTOR'S OFFICE

First place: Siouxland Women's Health Care

Favorite: Family Health Care of Siouxland
Favorite: UnityPoint Clinic Family Medicine

HOSPITAL

First place: UnityPoint Health - St. Luke's

Favorite: Dunes Surgical Hospital
Favorite: MercyOne Hospital

IN-HOME CARE

First place: Hospice of Siouxland

Favorite: Live Well Home Care
Favorite: St. Croix Hospice

MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE

First Place: Mental Health Matters

Favorite: Siouxland Mental Health Center
Favorite: Family Health Care of Siouxland

PHYSICAL THERAPY

First place: Impact Physical Therapy and Wellness, LLC

Favorite: CNOS Dakota Dunes
Favorite: Physical Therapy Specialists @ Dakota Dunes

VISION CARE

First place: Korver Eyecare Center

Favorite: Hedquist Eye Care
Favorite: Sergeant Bluff EyeCare

WALK-IN CLINIC

First place: Family Health Care of Siouxland

Favorite: Sunnybrook Urgent Care
Favorite: UnityPoint Clinic Urgent Care



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Garie Lewis continues to bring the laughs

BY EARL HORLYK

Garie Lewis knows how to draw attention.

Indeed, that's been the Sioux City-based standup comic's calling card for more than 40 years.

Whether it was wearing long underwear and a sandwich board to draw a crowd to one of his shows or trading jokes – among other things – with Cheech & Chong's Tommy Chong, Lewis has been witness to the rise and fall of the comedy club circuit.

He's even been an early adaptor of comedy migrating to on-line sites, via his own YouTube "Teatime of the Socially Distant Soul" videos.

So it shouldn't be too surprising that Lewis has been voted Siouxland's Choice for Best Standup Comic.

Yet if truth be told, he would've prefer to have been an actor.

"When I was younger, I was pretty," Lewis said with a smile. "In a Dollar General Store Johnny

"When I was younger, I was pretty. In a Dollar General Store Johnny Depp sort of way."

GARIE LEWIS

Depp sort of way."

We don't know about that but we could picture him on shows like "Caroline's Comedy Hour" or "An Evening at the Improv," that were popular cable TV fare in the 1980s and '90s.

"Those were the years it really paid to be in standup comedy," Lewis said. "Work was plentiful and complete strangers would buy you a drink before and after your set."

This was certainly a heady time for a kid who grew up in Rock Rapids, Iowa.

"I'd watched all of the great standup comics, like Pryor and Carlin, on the 'Sullivan' show or the 'Tonight Show,'" Lewis said.

"I'd think to myself that this would be a good way to make a living."

To be fair, Lewis has been making his living by making people laugh, whether in clubs across the country or in and around his adopted hometown of Sioux City.

In fact, Lewis emcees an annual Christmas show, where he invites singers, dancers and fellow comics for a night that benefits nonprofit organizations like the Warming Shelter and the Soup Kitchen.

During the course of his career, Lewis has acted in community theater productions, booked acts for local comedy nights, and isn't afraid to get dirty appearing as the Mudman every year at the Kingdom of Riverssance Renaissance Fair.

But nothing beats going out on stage as a standup.

"It's still fun working for that laugh," Lewis said.



TIM HYNDS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

Garie Lewis talks about life as a stand up comedian during an interview at Pierce Street Coffee Work in Sioux City.



Garie Lewis talks about life as a stand up comedian at Pierce Street Coffee Work in Sioux City.

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The best stuff: What the Fluff weighs in

BY EARL HORLYK

With an abundance of dense, cottony hair, Remy is in need of a professional who was able to reshape his unruly 'do.

Luckily, Remy – part Standard Poodle/part Great Pyrenees or a “Pyredoodle” – knew he was in good hands.

The oversized dog was a regular client of Tiffany Mackie at What the Fluff, 5416 Morningside Ave., which was named Siouxland's Choice for Best Dog Groomer.

Both Remy and his poodle brother Cooper have been bathed and groomed by Mackie since the two were puppies.

“I’ve known Remy when he was small,” Tiffany Mackie said with a smile. “Now, he’s about the size of a horse.”

A certified dog groomer with more than seven years of experience, Tiffany Mackie opened What the Fluff nearly six months ago with her wife Candas Mackie.

“We’ve been dog groomers together for around four years,” Candas explained. “Tiffany and I have children, wanted to make our own schedule and, finally, be our own bosses after being employees our entire professional lives.”

“Opening up What the Fluff has been a dream come true for both of us,” Tiffany said.

The business model for What the Fluff is pretty straightforward. Either Tiffany, Candas or their associate Audrey Ellis will bathe, clip and cut their hair of any dog, whether it weighs five pounds or 105 pounds.

“We like ‘em small and we like ‘em big like Remy,” Tiffany said. “We don’t discriminate.”

“We’ll even dye your dog’s hair if you want us to,” interjected Candas.

A dye job for a dog? Really?

“You’d be surprised at how popular that is,” Candas said. “During Gay Pride Month, we had a client who wanted a tied-dye dog and, for Halloween, a client wanted a dog to look like a giraffe.”

OK, we guess that makes sense. So, where did Tiffany and Candas come up with the name of the business?



Groomer Tiffany Mackie trades Remy, a pyredoodle, a treat for a handshake as groomers Audry Ellis, left, and Candas Mackie look at What the Fluff, 5416 Morningside Ave. in Sioux City. The dog grooming business has been open a little more than a year.

TIM HYNDS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

“Opening up What the Fluff has been a dream come true for both of us”

Tiffany Mackie

“We were thinking of clever dog-related names, like Oodles of Poodles, since we do have so many poodles as clients,” Candas recalled.

“Ultimately, it came down to my 10-year-old niece who came up with What the Fluff,” Tiffany said. “I thought it was both clever, funny and, most important, memorable.”

Though Candas has to be extra careful to enunciating the name of

DETAILS

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When: 10:30 a.m. - 5: p.m.
Tuesday - Saturday

Where: 5416 Morningside Ave.,
Sioux City

Phone: 712-560-3519

the business on the telephone.

“Yeah, we don’t want to offend potential clients who may not know I’m sayin’ ‘fluff’ instead of something else,” she she noted with a laugh.



Groomers Audrey Ellis, left, Candas Mackie and Tiffany Mackie play with Cooper and Remy.

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Siouxland's Choice:

Home Services

They're the people you call to make repairs to your house or to sell your house. Give a thumbs-up to the 2024 Siouxland's Choice home service top dogs.

ELECTRICIAN

First place: Ward Electric Company, Inc.

Favorite: Vakulskas Electric

Favorite: Thompson

HEATING AND COOLING COMPANY

First place: CW Suter Services

Favorite: Johnson Plumbing

Favorite: Anderson Heating and Cooling

HOME MORTGAGE

First place: Siouxland Federal Credit Union

Favorite: Security National Bank

Favorite: Availa Bank

LAWN CARE/ LANDSCAPING COMPANY

First place: Sharp Lawn Care, Inc.

Favorite: A1 Lawn Care By Cory Derby

Favorite: Jay-Lan Lawn Care

PLUMBING SERVICE

First place: Johnson Plumbing, LLC

Favorite: CW Suter Services

Favorite: Morningside Plumbing

REAL ESTATE AGENT

First place: Ashley Divis, RE/MAX

Favorite: Sheryl Ford, United Real Estate Solutions

Favorite: Jessica Shook, Realtor

REAL ESTATE COMPANY

First place: United Real Estate Solutions

Favorite: CENTURY 21 ProLink

Favorite: Keller Williams Siouxland

REAL ESTATE TEAM

First Place: Hoffert Homes Group of CENTURY 21 ProLink

Favorite: Carlson Group at RE/MAX Preferred

Favorite: Brittne Willett & Jacob Oakley

ROOFING COMPANY

First place: JC Roofing & Insulating

Favorite: Kuchel Roofing

Favorite: Casey Roofing

WINDOWS

First place: Mullins Awning & Siding

Favorite: Pella Windows & Doors of North Sioux City

Favorite: Gerkins Windows & Doors

Beauty & Fitness

They make you look good and, now, you can return the favor. Here are the 2024 Siouxland's Choice Award winners in beauty & fitness.

BARBER SHOP

First place: Rumor Haz It

Favorite: Mad Hair and Company

Favorite: Aaron's Barber Shop

FITNESS CENTER/GYM

First place: JT Training

Favorite: Jiu Jitsu and Kickboxing Unlimited

Favorite: Planet Fitness

HAIR SALON

First place: Rumor Haz It

Favorite: Mad Hair and Company

Favorite: Belle Salon & Spa

MANICURE/PEDICURE

First place: PrettyThingsEm

Favorite: Lynn Nails

Favorite: KSC Nails

MARTIAL ARTS STUDIO

First place: Jiu Jitsu and

Kickboxing Unlimited

Favorite: Tiger-Rock Martial Arts of

Sioux City

Favorite: Marshalls Taekwondo Academy

MASSAGE/SPA

First place: Skye's the Limit Massage

Favorite: Zandrea Beauty & Wax

Favorite: The Wax Room

TANNING

First place: Sun Tan City

Favorite: Reflections Hair Nails & Tanning

Favorite: JoWorks

TATTOO/PIERCING PARLOR

First place: TDF Tattoo and Body Piercing

Favorite: Thorn-Side Tattoo & Piercing

Favorite: Addictive Tattoo

TATTOO ARTIST

First place: Douglas Eyer, Thorn-Side

Favorite: Lily Michaels, TDF Tattoo and Body Piercing

Favorite: Luke Schroeder, Addictive Tattoo



EARL HORLYK, SIOUX CITY JOURNAL
Rumor Haz It stylist Nikki Guy (left) and owner Jody VanderSchaaf credited their clients for the 2501 West Fourth St. salon becoming Siouxland's Choice for favorite hair salon.

WEIGHT LOSS CENTER

First place: JT Training

Favorite: 2B Imperium

Favorite: Prosper Direct Health

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Siouxland's Choice:

Services

Live life better with the 2024 service first-place finishers and favorites of Siouxland's Choice Awards.

AG/INDUSTRIAL DEALER

First place: Bomgaars
Favorite: Westendorf Mfg Co Inc
Favorite: River Valley Ag.

APARTMENT COMPLEX

First Place: CC Properties
Favorite: The Ridge
Favorite: 48 South Apartments

ATTORNEY

First place: Goosmann Law Firm, PLC
Favorite: Buchheit Law, PLC
Favorite: Crary Huff Law Firm

BANK/CREDIT UNION

First place: Siouxland Federal Credit Union
Favorite: Security National Bank
Favorite: Telco Triad Community Credit Union

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE

First place: Chick-fil-A
Favorite: Beginner's Luck Tackle & Supply
Favorite: Security National Bank

BEST PLACE TO WORK

First place: Siouxland Federal Credit Union
Favorite: Sunrise Retirement Community
Favorite: Telco Triad Community Credit Union

BEST STAFFING AGENCY

First place: Tri State Nursing
Favorite: Aventure Staffing
Favorite: Short Staffed

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR

First place: L & L Builders Co.
Favorite: Shook Handyman, Inc.
Favorite: Vakulskas Construction

CARPET CLEANING

First place: Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning
Favorite: Harstad Carpet Cleaning
Favorite: SERVPRO of Sooland

CHARITABLE/NONPROFIT

First place: Noah's Hope Animal Rescue
Favorite: Camp High Hopes
Favorite: Hospice of Siouxland

CHILD CARE

First place: Siouxland Christian Preschool
Favorite: Rachel's Daycare
Favorite: Melissa's Daycare

DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY

First place: Davenport Cleaners
Favorite: Bush Dry Cleaners
Favorite: Pierce Street Laundry

FLORIST

First place: Hy-Vee Floral

Favorite: The Barn Loft Home Decor, Accents & Artisan Market

Favorite: Barbara's Florals & Gifts

FUNERAL HOME

First place: Meyer Brothers Funeral Homes
Favorite: Waterbury Funeral Services of Sioux City
Favorite: Goslar Funeral Home and Monument

HIGHER EDUCATION

First place: Morningside University
Favorite: Briar Cliff University
Favorite: Western Iowa Tech Community College

HOTEL

First place: The Warrior Hotel, Autograph Collection
Favorite: Stoney Creek Hotel Sioux City
Favorite: Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Sioux City

INSURANCE AGENCY

First place: State Farm Insurance
Favorite: Samaniego & Associates
Favorite: Health Markets - Shannon Stewart

INSURANCE AGENT

First place: Jen Stilwell & Associates - American Family Insurance
Favorite: Jill Willmott - Farm Bureau
Favorite: Shannon Stewart - Health Markets

INVESTMENT/FINANCIAL FIRM

First place: Security National Bank
Favorite: Janssen Financial
Favorite: Stifel
Favorite: Primebank

PET BOARDING

First place: Morningside Happy Trails
Favorite: Dogwood
Favorite: Grooming by Emilee

PET GROOMING

First place: What The Fluff
Favorite: The Dogwood Pet Hotel & Day Spa
Favorite: Grooming by Emilee

PHOTOGRAPHER

First place: Britton Hacke Photography
Favorite: Amy Cloud Photography
Favorite: Mandi Hersom Essence Photography LLC

PUBLIC BATHROOM

First place: The Warrior Hotel, Autograph Collection
Favorite: Orpheum Theatre
Favorite: Scheels

VETERINARIAN

First place: Siouxland Animal Hospital
Favorite: Elk Creek Animal Hospital
Favorite: Dakota Dunes Animal Hospital

Automotive

Vroom-vroom! Here's the full list of 2024's Siouxland's Choice Award winners in the automotive categories.

AUTO BODY/ REPAIR SHOP

First place: Sioux Body Shop
Favorite: Prime Performance Auto Repair
Favorite: Knoepfler Chevrolet Collision Center

AUTO DETAILING

First place: Hamilton Touchless Detail
Favorite: Brad's Detail
Favorite: Mendoza's Auto Detailing, South Sioux City

AUTOMOTIVE PARTS STORE

First place: Arnold Motor Supply
Favorite: Advance Auto Parts
Favorite: Bill's Auto Parts

Favorite: Woodhouse Chrysler of Sioux City

BOAT SALES & SERVICE

First place: Cimmarina Boats
Favorite: Boat Farm LTD.
Favorite: Two Rivers Marine

CAR WASH

First place: Hamilton Touchless
Favorite: Sunnybrook Shine
Favorite: Silverstar Car Wash

MOTORCYCLE/ATV DEALER

First Place: Salmen Cycle Solutions (SCS)
Favorite: Rooster's Harley-Davidson
Favorite: Taggart's Power Sports

NEW CAR DEALERSHIP

First place: Knoepfler Chevrolet Co.
Favorite: Woodhouse CDJR Sioux City
Favorite: Sioux City Ford Lincoln

Customer Service

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE - AUTOMOTIVE

First place: Ideal Wheels
Favorite: Fremont Tire/T&W Tire
Favorite: Salmen Cycle Solutions

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE - FINANCE & PROFESSIONAL

First place: Siouxland Federal Credit Union
Favorite: Security National Bank
Favorite: Telco Triad Community Credit Union

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE - HOME & COMMERCIAL SERVICES

First place: Security National Bank
Favorite: Builder/Contractor Nolan Shook
Favorite: Kalins Indoor Comfort

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE - MEDICAL

First place: Korver Eyecare Center
Favorite: Siouxland Women's Health Care
Favorite: Family Health Care of

Siouxland

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE - RESTAURANT

First place: Chick-fil-A Sergeant Road
Favorite: Movillatte
Favorite: Golden Bowl

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE - RETAIL

First place: Scheels
Favorite: Wilmes Hardware
Favorite: Flipping Vintage Boutiques & Thrift

Local

BEST SIOUXLAND BRAND

First Place: Palmer Candy Company
Favorite: Jolly Time Pop Corn
Favorite: Marto Brewing Co.

LOCAL COMEDIAN

First place: Garie Lewis
Favorite: John Sigmund
Favorite: Drake Strong

LOCAL HIP-HOP ARTIST OR DJ

First place: C-Note Bankin
Favorite: The Sound Insurgent
Favorite: LivOnce & Rowdy Kranz

LOCAL ROCK/METAL BAND

First place: Ghostship

Favorite: Above the Covers
Favorite: Artificial Stars

LOCAL COUNTRY OR ACOUSTIC BAND

First place: Dane Louis
Favorite: Ben Grillet & The Black Bloods
Favorite: In Due Time

LOCAL SIOUX-LEBRITY

First place: Jacob Howard - KTIV Meteorologist
Favorite: Britton Hacke
Favorite: Alex Watters - Councilman, Accessible Appetite

LOCAL SPORTS TEAM

First place: Sioux City Musketeers Hockey Team

Favorite: Morningside Mustangs
Favorite: Sioux City Explorers Baseball Club LLC

LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESS

First Place: Britton Hacke Photography
Favorite: Movillatte
Favorite: The Marquee

SOCIAL MEDIA (LOCAL)

First Place: Britton Hacke Photography
Favorite: Siouxland Severe Weather Network
Favorite: Fatboy Food Blog



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Must have reliable transportation to and from work.

Project Manager

- Individual who can coordinate and maintain Jobs out in the field.

- Insure all equipment and materials are available and located at jobs.

- Work with Supervisors and employees to insure they have what they need.

- Good organization and communication skills are a must.

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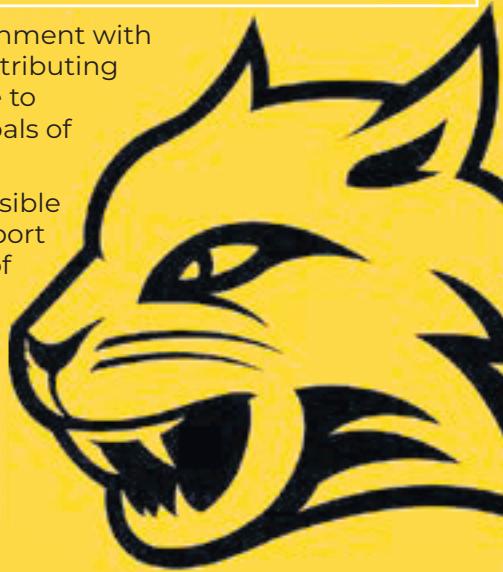
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Lead and grow a team responsible for academic technology support and service center functions of the client services unit.

Responsible for leading innovation, process improvement, and project management incorporating security best practices, user satisfaction, active collaboration with other units, and data informed decision-making.

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IT Analyst:

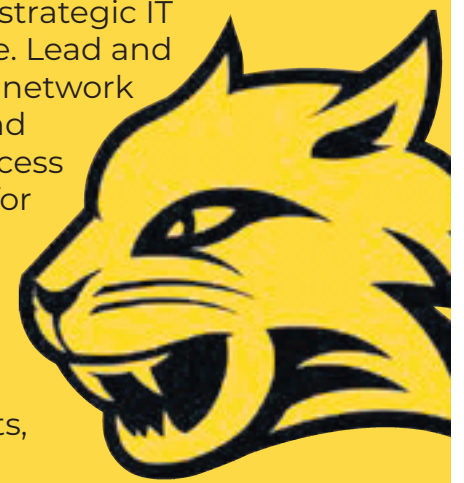
Work in a collaborative environment with a team of IT professionals, contributing your experience and expertise to accomplish the strategic IT goals of Wayne State College. Use modern tools to develop custom functionality for the WSC website, service center software, student information system portal, and other web based systems. Serve as the portal administrator for the student information system and manage the student, faculty, and staff dashboards within that system.

Director of Infrastructure & Enterprise Services:

Work in a collaborative environment with a team of IT professionals, contributing your experience and expertise to accomplish the strategic IT goals of Wayne State College. Lead and grow a team responsible for network infrastructure, operations and security, and identity and access management. Responsible for leading innovation, process improvement, and project management incorporating security best practices, user satisfaction, active collaboration with other units, and data informed decision-making.

For a complete listing of job requirements and application procedures, visit our website at www.wsc.edu/hr, call **402-375-7403**, or email hr@wsc.edu.

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MOVIES

THURSDAY, FEB. 22 - WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28



'ORDINARY ANGELS'
(Rated PG for thematic content, brief bloody images and smoking)

Inspired by the incredible true story of a hairdresser who single-handedly rallies an entire community to help a widowed father save the life of his critically ill young daughter.

'DRIVE-AWAY DOLLS' (Rated R for crude sexual content, full nudity, language and some violent content)

Jamie regrets her breakup with her girlfriend, while Marian needs to relax. In search of a fresh start, they embark on an unexpected road trip to Tallahassee. Things quickly go awry when they cross paths with a group of inept criminals.



'MEA CULPA' (Rated R for strong sexual content, graphic nudity, some language, violence and drug use)

Follows an ambitious criminal defense attorney that, in his aspiration to be named partner, takes on a murder case of an artist.



'THE BAD SHEPHERD'
(Rated R for violence and language throughout)

A group of friends on a hunting trip accidentally run over a woman carrying a bag of money. Their loyalty is put to the test when a strange man comes knocking.



'BRING HIM TO ME'
(Rated R for violence and pervasive language)

Under orders from a ruthless crime boss, a getaway driver must battle his conscience and drive an unsuspecting crew member to an ambush execution. There is a long drive ahead.

NEW DVD RELEASES FOR THE WEEK

- 'Box: Metaphor'
- 'Carrot Cake Murder'
- 'Green Ghost and the Master of the Stone'
- 'Heroes of the Golden Mask'
- 'The Master Chief - Part One'

SHOWTIMES

Local theaters

Promenade 14

924 Fourth St., 712-277-8300

Mean Girls 1:00 1:40

4:00 4:30 :00 7:35 9:15

9:55

The Beekeeper 1:45 4:30

7:15 9:50

The Book of Clarence

1:10 4:05 7:00 9:55

Night Swim 1:55 4:40

7:15 9:40

The Boys in the Boat

12:10 3:50 6:50 9:50

Anybody But You 1:50

4:25 7:40 9:45

AMC Southern Hills 12

4400 Sergeant Road, 712-276-3062

Anyone But You 3:00

5:30 8:00

Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom 3:00 5:50

The Beekeeper 5:20 7:55

The Book of Clarence

3:25 6:20

The Boys in the Boat

3:10 6:15

Mean Girls 5:00 8:00

www.amctheatres.com

Royal 3 Cinema

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

Mean Girls 7:00

The Beekeeper 7:20

Migration 7:10

www.royal3cinema.com

Pioneer 3 Theater

110 S. 11th St., Nebraska City, NE 402-873-6487

Wonka 7:05 9:45

Migration 7:00 9:35

Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom 6:30 9:30

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

Coyote 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

Mean Girls 7:00

The Beekeeper 7:25

Night Swim 7:30

The Boys in the Boat

7:15

krulcinemas.com

Main St. 3

401 Ninth St., Sheldon, IA

Mean Girls 7:00

The Beekeeper 7:25

Night Swim 7:30

krulcinemas.com



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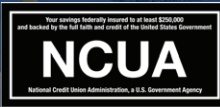
2024 weekender
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Siouxland's Choice
AWARDS
FAVORITE

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DEAR ANNIE
ANNIE LANE

Desperate to decode this dating dilemma

Dear Annie: I've found myself in a dating maze and desperately need some advice. I've been dealing with some mixed signals from the person I'm dating; he's all about making plans and being super affectionate one day, then is distant and elusive the next. I'm getting whiplash. How do I make sense of this behavior without coming off as needy or insecure? I genuinely care about the connection but could use some tips for decoding this emotional puzzle. — **Love Limbo**

Dear Love Limbo: If you haven't done so already, it's probably time for the dreaded "what are we?" conversation. It sounds like you are genuinely invested in this person, and ready for a more serious commitment. If he isn't on the same page, then you're wasting your time. The only way to find out the answer is to ask.

Dear Annie: My 93-years-young mother had a cousin she was very close with, as children and as adults. He passed away several years ago, but his second wife has kept loosely in touch and, although my mom doesn't have a lot of history with the second wife, they are on good terms.

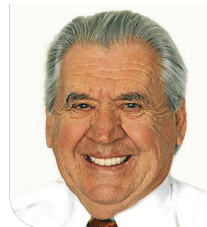
Mom received an email stating that this lady will be in our area soon and would like to stop in for a visit. My question is, would it be OK for

my mother to share the happy stories of them as kids with her cousin's widow? Or do you think it would make things awkward? Of course, Mom wouldn't want to make the woman uncomfortable, but I'm sure she'd get a kick out of sharing some of the good times they had as youngsters, and his widow might even enjoy learning a bit more about the man she was married to for a short while.

What do you think would be best: Talk about the good times, or just don't mention it? — **My Mom's Kid in Ohio**

Dear Mom's Kid: It is lovely that your mother and her cousin's widow have kept in touch with each other in the years after the death of their loved one.

Your mother can casually mention her cousin and gauge his widow's response accordingly. While there is certainly a chance that the wounds of her loss are still too fresh, it is also possible that hearing childhood stories and family anecdotes about her husband might bring his widow comfort and serve as a way to honor her late husband's memory. Best-case scenario, a walk down memory lane allows your mother and this woman to bond and grow closer in their relationship. We all grieve differently, so your mother should prepare herself for either response.



TWEEN 12 AND 20
DR. ROBERT WALLACE

I've found a great break from my affliction

DR. WALLACE: I'm a teenage guy who is 17 years old, and I have suffered being a stutterer ever since my early childhood. I won't bore you with all of the stories I could tell you about being teased endlessly and even bullied because I can't always get my thoughts out in a regular speaking rhythm.

But the reason I'm writing to you is that I do have a few good friends who treat me well and with respect. One of them has a father who is a really good musician, and he's been encouraging and working with his son on being a really good guitar player. So my friend recently said he'd like to start a band, and he recruited three others, including me, to play with him. I've been learning to play the bass guitar over the past many months, and my friend's father has given me many great tricks and pointers that I've already used to get much better.

However, my letter is not about the bass guitar! It's the fact that my friend wanted me to sing some "backup harmonies" on a few songs, and I've found that when I sing, I don't suffer through my usual stuttering. Our young band even wrote a song especially for me where I get to sing the "lead" vocal, and I can actually do it!

I've never felt better or happier than when I sing, and we even had a small show last weekend that my friend's father set up for us. My mom and some family friends went to see us play, and it was a great night all around. I even had some kids at my school come up to me afterward and tell me that they had no idea I could sing so well. My self-esteem has been boosted, and so the reason for my letter to you is to hopefully have my experience be able to reach some other kids who stutter who might want to try to sing. I know it's not for everyone, but if even a few of my fellow stutterer guys and girls out there were to feel better about themselves, even for a while, that would be my goal. — **My Experience Has Been Empowering, via email**

MY EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN

EMPOWERING: I'll do my part by including your empowering letter in this week's set of our columns here. Congratulations to you and your friends on becoming good enough to play live in public at your young ages, and especially to you for being able to step up and feel really good about yourself.

I also admire that your request was simply an effort to help others who may benefit in a similar way that you have experienced. Your letter did not provide a city, a band name or anything that

would allow any promotion for yourself, so in my book your intentions are indeed heartfelt. There's of course nothing wrong with promoting a young band at all, but I find it impressive that your focus is entirely on helping others.

She has her sights on my crush!

DR. WALLACE: I'm 13, and so is my best friend. She's interested in a boy that I've had a silent crush on for a long time now. I've never talked to this boy so far, and to make things worse, my friend does not even know I have had this crush going on for a while now.

The other day, she told me that she liked him and she was going to try to find a way to come up with something to talk to him about. Then she said her plan would be to talk to him to say hello and see if he would talk with her for a while.

Should I say anything to my friend about my long-time crush? Or should I just stand back and watch what happens? I'm pretty confused since I really like her as a friend and I don't want to root against her, but I kind of wished it was me that was going to be talking to him, not her. What can I do here? What do you think I should do in this situation? It feels so awkward. If he gets along with her, they might start dating, and I'd just be a girl sitting on the sidelines watching it all unfold right before my eyes! — **She's After My Crush, via email**

SHE'S AFTER MY CRUSH: You're learning a good lesson here! You obviously have liked this boy from afar for a while now but have taken no action to try to at least interact with him just a bit over all that time.

He may or may not be of the type or character and personality who would fit well with you, or even her for that matter. But you'd never know by simply holding a crush and never even speaking to him.

I suggest that you let your friend know about your crush. She may want to proceed on her own anyway, or she might want you to be the first one to speak to him. If, for example, there might be another boy she would have at least some interest in, the two of you girls could help each other come up with ideas on how best to approach these boys and what topics you'd like to discuss with them to "break the ice" and get to know them a bit better. Once you do start having some proactive conversations with boys you find interesting, your odds of actually spending some time getting to know them better will increase. Proactivity in most cases is a superior strategy and operating method compared to inactivity.

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