

A chef, Kelly Bunkers, is shown from the chest up, wearing a white chef's coat, a white baseball cap with the 'Hard Rock' logo, black-rimmed glasses, and a white surgical mask. He is holding two white plates of food. The plate in his left hand features a large piece of roasted meat, possibly turkey, garnished with green beans. The plate in his right hand contains a variety of items including roasted carrots, a small bowl of dark sauce, and other cooked meats. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a restaurant or hotel interior.

W
weekender

INSIDE
Christmas cheer

Kelly Bunkers
Chef De Cuisine

Hard Rock
HOTEL & CASINO
SIOUX CITY

EAT WELL

There's more than one way to
make Thanksgiving work

MANY EVENTS THIS WEEK

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which Thanksgiving food do you love? Which Thanksgiving food do you hate?



Chad Pauling
Retail and Digital
Advertising Director
cpauling@siouxcityjournal.com
"I love a good turkey with gravy and mashed potatoes. I hate yams!"



Earl Horlyk
Staff Writer
earl.horlyk@lee.net
"Growing up with a Japanese mom meant no turkey for us. Sorry, Asian cuisine seldom involved turkey as a protein. Steak was always a fave as was pumpkin pie. Sweet potatoes? Nope, not on our 'turkey day' table."



Mason Dockter
Staff Writer
mdockter@siouxcityjournal.com
"I do love gravy very much. I don't want to say there's any Thanksgiving foods I 'hate.' Can't say as I've ever eaten cranberry sauce, though that doesn't mean I hate it."



Nikki Ahlquist
Graphic Designer
Nikki.Ahlquist@lee.net
"Turkey? I could gobble that up all day long. The green bean casserole with the disappointing dried onions, not so much. Also, why cover up scrumptious turkey and mashed potatoes with what they call gravy?"

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



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@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



ON THE COVER: Kelly Bunkers, chef de cuisine at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino's Main+Abbey restaurant, holds a M+A turkey dinner, left, and carved bone in spiral ham. The restaurant will serve a prix fixe menu for Thanksgiving. Photo by Tim Hynds, The Weekender

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CALENDAR

AUCTIONS

DECEMBER 12
85th Annual Little Yellow Dog Auction, The Warrior, 521 Sixth St., Sioux City. Make plans to attend the 85th Annual Little Yellow Dog Auction! All proceeds from the auction are used to purchase Christmas toys and books for local children in need. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

COMEDY

DECEMBER 5
Siouxland Showcase, Marty's Tavern, 1306 Court St., Sioux City. Sioux City's own comedy scene is putting on a local Showcase of some of the best up and coming and local comedy. With Logan Hartnett, Angel Bahmer, Josh Augustine, and Drake Strong! Dec. 5h at 8pm \$10. 712-224-7827. 8-10 p.m. \$10.

DANCE

NOVEMBER 22
Free couples pattern dancing class, The Don's Sports Bar & Grill, 801 W. 13th St., S. Sioux City. Join Boots & Buckles Dance Club at The Don's in South Sioux every Sunday starting at 1 p.m. for free couples pattern dancing classes. 712-204-4500. 1-4 p.m.

NOVEMBER 29
Free couples pattern dancing class, The Don's Sports Bar & Grill, 801 W. 13th St., S. Sioux City. Join Boots & Buckles Dance Club at The Don's in South Sioux every Sunday starting at 1 p.m. for free couples pattern dancing classes. 712-204-4500. 1-4 p.m.

GIG

NOVEMBER 24
Acoustix Entertainment, The Marquee, 1225 Fourth St., Sioux City. Join DJ Diablo for a night of premium karaoke entertainment. Karaoke starts at 9 p.m. every Tuesday night at The Marquee. 1225 Fourth Street. 712-560-4288. 9 p.m.-Nov. 25, 2 a.m.

DECEMBER 1
Acoustix Entertainment, The Marquee, 1225 Fourth St., Sioux City. Join DJ Diablo for a night of premium karaoke entertainment. Karaoke starts at 9 p.m. every Tuesday night at The Marquee. 1225 Fourth Street. 712-560-4288. 9 p.m.-Dec. 2, 2 a.m.

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.sioxland.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).

LOCAL/COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 19
Board Game Night, Brightside Cafe, 525 Fourth St., Sioux City. For a \$5 cover charge you can access our ever-growing board game library. Pizza and grilled paninis are served along with snack foods like chips and muffins. 712-224-7827. 5 p.m.-Nov. 22, 12 a.m. \$5.

NOVEMBER 25
Midweek Mommy and Me Morning, St. Thomas Orthodox Church, 1100 Jones St., Sioux City. Midweek Mommy and Me Morning every Wednesday, 9-11. 712-258-7166. 9-11 a.m.

NOVEMBER 26
Board Game Night, Brightside Cafe, 525 Fourth St., Sioux City. For a \$5 cover charge you can access our ever-growing board game library. Pizza and grilled paninis are served along with snack foods like chips and muffins. 712-224-7827. 5 p.m.-Nov. 29, 12 a.m. \$5.

DECEMBER 2
Midweek Mommy and Me Morning, St. Thomas Orthodox Church, 1100 Jones St., Sioux City. Midweek Mommy and Me Morning every Wednesday, 9-11. 712-258-7166. 9-11 a.m.

MUSIC
DECEMBER 4
Christmas In Our Town, Sioux City Orpheum, 528 Pierce St., Sioux City. Join us for an uplifting night of your favorite Christmas songs and some new ones you will love!. 712-258-9164. 7:30-9 p.m. \$20.

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS
NOVEMBER 20
Kingdom Fit Strength & Tone, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400

Central St., Sioux City. Weight lifting class with supervision from certified instructor. 712-202-5052. 5:25-6:30 p.m. Free.

NOVEMBER 24
Kingdom Fit Strength & Tone, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central St., Sioux City. Weight lifting class with supervision from certified instructor. 712-202-5052. 5:25-6:30 p.m. Free.

NOVEMBER 27
Kingdom Fit Strength & Tone, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central St., Sioux City. Weight lifting class with supervision from certified instructor. 712-202-5052. 5:25-6:30 p.m. Free.

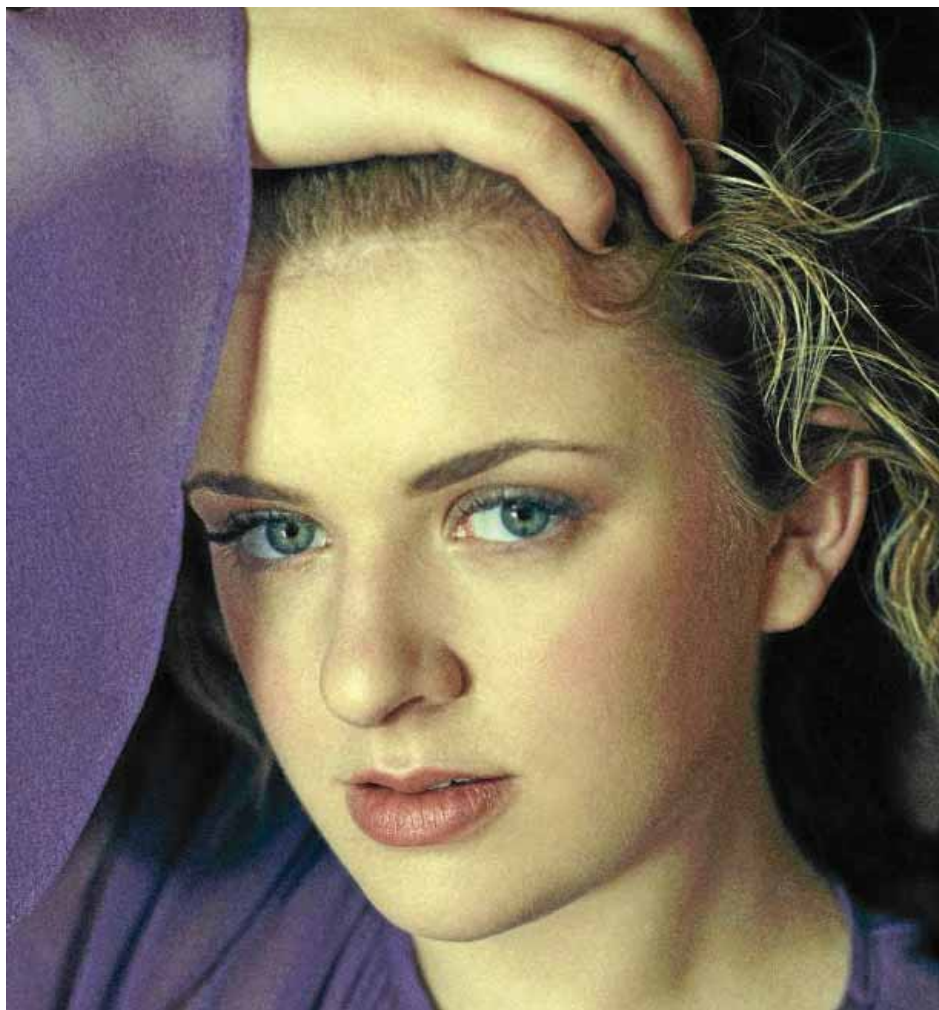
DECEMBER 1
Kingdom Fit Strength & Tone, Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central St., Sioux City. Weight lifting class with supervision from certified instructor. 712-202-5052. 5:25-6:30 p.m. Free.

SUPPORT GROUPS

DECEMBER 1
Siouxland Area Diabetes Support Group, Wilbur Aalfs Library, 529 Pierce St., Sioux City. MercyOne Siouxland Medical Center, UnityPoint Health Sioux City, Floyd Valley Healthcare and Siouxland Community Health are sponsoring a support group for people affected by diabetes. 712-279-2345. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

TALKS & LECTURES

DECEMBER 1
LSI Foster Care and Adoption Orientation, St. Mark Lutheran Church ELCA, 5200 Glenn Ave., Sioux City. Learn more about how you can make a difference for Iowa children by becoming a foster or adoptive parent!. 8664092351. 6-9 p.m.



PROVIDED

Poppe sets holiday concert in Sioux City

BY BRET HAYWORTH

SIOUX CITY – Maddie Poppe, winner of the 2018 “American Idol” music contest, is making several appearances in her home state of Iowa for a holiday tour and will have a concert in Sioux City on Dec. 17.

In addition, Poppe will have another holiday concert in Siouxland on Dec. 15, at the Arnolds Park Roof Garden, in Arnolds Park.

Poppe has a new EP, “Christmas From Home,” which features interpretations of such classics as “I’ll Be Home For Christmas,” “Sleigh Ride” and “Jingle Bell Rock.” She will also play her original songs.

Tickets for the socially distanced Orpheum show are available online at

OrpheumLive.com, by calling 712-279-4850 or by visiting the Primebank Box Office at the Tyson Events Center.

Poppe, 22, is a native of Clarksville, Iowa, and was the Season 16 winner of “American Idol.” She plays guitar, ukulele and piano, and released her debut album, “Songs from the Basement,” in 2016.

Since her “Idol” victory, Poppe has been on such shows as “Jimmy Kimmel Live” and “Live! With Kelly & Ryan,” and performed at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles and CMA Fest in Nashville.

Poppe’s sophomore album “Whirlwind” reached No. 2 on the iTunes Pop chart and her single “Made You Miss” reached No. 19 on the Hot Adult Contemporary Radio chart.



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SUX 6

THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN SIOUXLAND



Shredding for a Good Cause

For the past four years, musician Nick Carter has been hosting a “Did You Play Your Guitar Today?” fundraiser, giving away guitars to underprivileged kids. This year’s fundraiser will occur at 7:30 p.m. Friday at The Marquee, 1225 Fourth St. Will you be helping out the next Eddie Van Halen? Maybe.

Tour of Homes becomes Tour of Suites?

2 Due to COVID concerns, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Siouxland may not be as far-flung this year. Instead, the popular event has invited top designers to decorate suites at Warrior Hotel, 525 Sixth St. Call 712-204-4998 or go to bigbrothersbigsisters.com to reserve your first-come, first serve spot during this event that starts Thursday and ends Saturday.



Be artsy and crafty

3 Get inspired and/or pick up a one-of-a-kind gift at the 2020 Holiday Collection Craft Fair, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at the Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Go to TysonCenter.com to reserve a time, since scheduling will be staggered due to coronavirus.



Drive-by parading

4 Yeah, we think this will be a pattern. Because of the pandemic, this year’s Downtown Holiday Lighted Parade will be a drive-by outing. Instead of people standing on the street, the parade will be stationary. Starting at Third Street from Virginia to Nebraska streets up to Fourth Street from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, drive your car and see some pretty floats. Look at it this way, you won’t have to freeze by being out in the cold.

Too flattered to be plattered?

5 Pickled Palette, 4014 Morningside Ave., is holding an art class in which you can learn how to make a Christmas platter. The class takes place at 6 p.m. Friday. Since they will also serve wine, you can also get plastered while making your very own platters. Though that is not advised.



Is your pet model-worthy?

6 Is Fido or Kitty especially photogenic? Of course! Then, go to the Siouxland Humane Society’s “Paws and Claws” fundraiser. If you shell out \$35, a professional photographic will snap pictures of your favorite four-legged companion, now through Sunday at 823 Gordon Drive. Here’s an extra incentive: you can get your picture immediately! Um ... that is, if your pet doesn’t mind.

MOVIES

Thursday, Nov. 19 - Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2020

New Movies

'THE PRINCESS SWITCH: SWITCHED AGAIN' (Unrated)

When Duchess Margaret unexpectedly inherits the throne to Montenegro and hits a rough patch with Kevin, it's up to her double Stacy to save the day before a new lookalike, party girl Fiona foils their plans.

'JIU JITSU' (Rated R for violence throughout) An ancient order of

Jiu Jitsu fighters faces a vicious race of alien invaders in an epic battle for the survival of Earth.

'BUDDY GAMES'

(Rated R for strong crude sexual content and language throughout, some graphic nudity, drug use and brief violence)



A group of friends reunite to play The Buddy Games, a wild assortment of absurd physical and mental challenges. In the process, they'll heal old wounds, right past wrongs and figure out the true meaning of friendship...or die trying.

'IRON MASK'

(Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence/action, and some suggestive elements) English traveler Jonathan Green receives



New DVD release for the week

'The New Mutants'
'Unhinged'
'The Broken Hearts Gallery'
'Summerland'
'Death of Me'

from Peter the Great an order to map the Russian Far East. Once again he sets out for a long journey full of incredible adventures that will eventually lead him to China.

SHOWTIMES

Promenade 14

924 Fourth St
712-277-8300

Buddy Games 4:45 7:20 9:35

Vanguard 4:20 7:00 8:50 9:30

The Climb 4:05 6:30

Fatman 4:35 7:10 9:35

Freaky 4:30 7:00 8:45 9:35

Let Him Go 4:10 6:50 9:25

Come Play 4:50 7:15 9:35

The War with Grandpa 4:00 6:35 9:00

The Santa Clause 4:00 6:30

www.acxcinemas.com

AMC Southern Hills 12

4400 Sergeant Rd
712-276-3062

A Christmas Story 4:45 7:15

Come Play 5:00 7:30

Freaky 5:00 6:45 7:45

Guardians of the Galaxy 6:30

Let Him Go 4:05 7:00

The Santa Clause 4:30 7:00

Vanguard 5:15 8:00

The War with Grandpa 5:15 7:45

www.amctheatres.com

Royal Cinema

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

See website for showtimes
www.acxcinemas.com

Pioneer 3 Theater

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

Buddy Games 7:30

Freaky 7:15

The War with Grandpa 7:00

Legacy 3 Theater

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

www.acxcinemas.com
See website for showtimes

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.majesticmain.org
See website for showtimes

Coyote Twin

10 E Main St, Vermillion, SD
605-624-3331

vermilliontheaters.com
See website for showtimes

Holland Plaza Theatre

717 8th St SE Orange City, IA
712-737-8866

Let Him Go 7:15

The War with Grandpa 7:20

Come Play 7:25

Toy Story 7:25

Freaky 7:30

krullcinemas.com

Main St. 3

401 9th St, Sheldon, Iowa
(712-342-2344)

The War with Grandpa 7:15

Let Him Go 7:30

Freaky 7:30

krullcinemas.com

MUSKETEERS

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Sioux City Symphony unveils 2020-21 season

WEEKENDER STAFF

SIOUX CITY – The Sioux City Symphony Orchestra said its 2020-2021 season – with in-person concerts as well as exclusive streaming programming – will be different from anything else in the past 105 years.

The season begins, Dec. 19, with Christmas with the Symphony. An annual tradition, this year's offering will include a performance from the Hegg Brothers' Holiday Jam, a multi-piece band that plays holiday classics as well as contemporary new arrangements.



Ryan Haskins,
music
director

On March 20, Symphonic Strings will allow the Symphony to pay tribute to string instruments in a program featuring works by Greig, Hanson, Vaughn Williams and Grainger.

Simple Gifts, a performance taking place on April 24, gives the symphony a chance to present a classic ode to the American frontier, "Appalachian Spring." It's set beneath vistas and wide-open spaces and depicts a pioneering spirit through its iconic variations on the folk song "simple gifts."

Glorious Brass, on June 12, gives audiences the experience of enjoying the orchestra's brass and percussion sections.

Exclusive streaming



Opera star John Osborn, a Sioux City native, performed with the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra via remote technology during a 2020 concert.

TIM HYNDS, WEEKENDER

programming will include Beethoven 250, Dvorak String Quartet, Nielsen

Wind Quintet and Trailblazers Forging New Paths will be available at SCSO,

the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra's new streaming service and on-demand

app.

Visit siouxcitysymphony.org for more information on

the upcoming season as well as information on exclusive streaming programming.

'Twas a (virtual) night before Christmas

A classic poem gets a musical Facebook makeover in time for the holidays

BY EARL HORLYK

Dressed in a festive, Christmas-inspired suit jacket and bedazzled, blue tie probably wouldn't earn him any "Best Dressed" plaudits, but it will certainly put Donny Short in a festive mood.

Which is good, since the veteran director will soon be presenting "A Visit from St. Nicholas" – a new holiday production that presents Clement Moore's classic poem and setting it to popular seasonal carols as a virtual offering.

The show will be accessible at the Betty Strong Encounter Center's Facebook page (Facebook.com/sclandc) beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday.

"We would ordinarily do this as a regular show," Short, who has been a director, music director and choreographer for LAMB Arts Regional Theatre for nearly 20 years, explained. "Now with COVID, it will be online only."

Luckily, Short is becoming an old hand when it comes to adapting with new media. After all, he is also a fifth grade "virtual teacher" with the Sioux City Community School District.

"If I can communicate with elementary school kids, I think I can handle theater folk," he said.

Indeed, Short enlisted the help of many of his theater friends to participate in "A Visit from St. Nicholas."

These performers included Brian Hamman, the Rixner family, Angela Iversen, Wayne and Onnastasia Blum,

Matt Cihak, Leslie Werden, Jen Parra, Ian Curtis, Josie Kasik and Allysa Collett.

"Each person contributed a video of their song and I'll edit it into a package," he said.

Easy-peasy, right? Well, not exactly.

"Everybody wasn't as comfortable with video as me," Short allowed. "Some of them needed help."

Luckily, Short already had a good relationship with Tracy Bennett, the assistant director with the Encounter Center.

"When I first moved to Sioux City, I danced with Ballet Sioux, which Tracy was also involved," he explained. "As soon as I said this show would be like the old 'Holiday Spectaculars' that Ballet Sioux used to be, Tracy immediately got it."

For instance, when the poem started: "'Twas the night before Christmas,



PROVIDED

Veteran theater director Donny Short enlisted a bevy of theater vets for "A Visit From St. Nicholas," a streaming show that may be accessed on the Betty Strong Encounter Center's Facebook page, beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday.

when all through the house; Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse" would be a perfect spot to plug in a performance of "Silent Night."

"It was just a matter of going through every part of the poem and segue into a song that would set the appropriate mood," Strong said.

So, what part will Short play? He'll be both a narrator

as well as Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

Um...does Rudolph actually make an appearance in "A Visit from St. Nicholas?"

"Well, an assortment of reindeer do make it into the poem," Short said. "So, Rudolph will be there as one of Santa's team."

Plus Short will be adding his own favorite Christmas carol to the playlist.

"I've loved the song, 'Here

DETAILS

WHAT: Streamed version of "A Visit from St. Nicholas," a retelling for Clement Moore's poem set to popular Christmas carols.

WHO'S IN IT: A cast of experienced singers and theater vets under the direction of Donny Short
WHEN: 2 p.m. Sunday
WHERE: Online at Facebook.com/sclandc

continued. "Especially this year."

He ain't kidding. With coronavirus keeping everybody at a safe social distance, it is hard to get in the proper festive mood.

Short hopes shows like "A Visit from St. Nicholas" will bring a bit of normalcy during a decidedly less-than-normal time.

"It's hard to be sad when you hear 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' set to your favorite carols," he said. "This may be considered an early Christmas gift."

Perhaps, this may become an annual tradition at the Encounter Center?

"Only next year, let's hope we can do it in person and not virtually," Short said. "Wouldn't that be nice?"

Comes Santa Claus' since I was a little boy," he said. "It is a peppy number number that adds to the anxious drama of St. Nick's inevitable arrival."

"Everybody needs Santa Claus in their lives," Short

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TIM HYNDS, THE WEEKENDER

Kelly Bunkers, chef de cuisine at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino's Main+Abbey restaurant, flambes green beans, a side dish to the restaurant's bone in spiral ham.. The restaurant will serve a prix fixe menu for Thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING ROCK 'N ROLL!

Hard Rock's Main + Abbey brings plenty of gobble-gobble to a five-course Turkey Day feast

BY EARL HORLYK

When Hard Rock Hotel + Casino Chef de Cuisine Kelly Bunkers thinks of past Thanksgivings, he recalls the holidays spent with cousins at his grandmother's westside Sioux City home.

Of course, he also remembers
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the food.

Specifically, Bunkers' thoughts are drawn to the succulent turkey dinners and the traditional slice - or two - of pumpkin pie that finish off such a feast.

Fast forward a few decades and see what he has in store for Main + Abbey's Thanksgiving Prix Fixe menu.

Simply put, this five-course, Turkey Day feast ain't no trip to Grandma's house!

THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH A ROCK & ROLL ATTITUDE!

"Actually, Main + Abbey's Thanksgiving menu takes what is traditional and elevates it,"

Bunkers explained. "Or we go in another direction by adding items you'd ordinarily never see at Thanksgiving."

In other words, he wants to be a bit of a rock and roll renegade when it comes to holiday fine dining.

"Yeah, you could say that," Bunkers said while offering a sneak peek at the Nov. 26 menu.

FIVE-COURSE TURKEY DAY FEAST WITH PLENTY O' GOBBLE-GOBBLE!

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., M+A guests will be gobbling up an

"Amuse Bouche" bounty that includes appetizers like deviled eggs (complete with avocado, feta and bagel seasoning) and mini tarts topped with a cranberry compote and baked brie.

For appetizers, guests can choose from such options, as a Bavarian soft pretzel, crispy flatbread and stuffed mushrooms. For the next course, you can choose either a crispy Brussel Sprouts Caesar Salad, a baby beet salad or a butternut squash soup.

OK, when it comes to M+A entrees, things do get a bit more interesting.

DETAILS

WHAT: Main + Abbey's five-course Thanksgiving Feast, complete with starter, soup, salad, entree and dessert

HOW MUCH: \$39 per person, reservations highly recommended

WHERE: Hard Rock Hotel + Casino, 111 Third St., Sioux City
PHONE: 712-226-7600

While a guest can order turkey, Bunkers will rev up the flavor profile by making it apple-smoked, creating a zesty cranberry sauce, smothering it with herbs and cramming the birdie with plenty o' brioche and pecan stuffing. Add a pile of gouda mashed potatoes and prepare for maximum Tryptophan action.

SOME HIGH-ROLLING FAVES, PLUS A FEW LIGHTER OPTIONS

While Hard Rock high rollers can get such casino staples as carved, bone-in spiral ham, a six-ounce filet and 16-ounce slow-roasted prime rib, Bunkers has something unusual cooking up in the M+A kitchen.

"We associate Thanksgiving as a meat holiday but what if our patrons prefer something lighter?" he asked.

This is why Bunkers added miso-glazed Coho salmon and a miso-glazed halibut as sea-worthy options.

Eating lighter, huh? We can dig it. That is, as long as this means we can load up on desserts.

As a meal topper, M+A will offer a choice between a chocolate chunk pecan pie, pie-spiced apple beignet and, get this, a pumpkin swirl cheesecake!

Yup, you read that right! Good gourd, Bunkers has replaced pumpkin pie with a pumpkin cheesecake. Heck, since it is a cheesecake that has a ginger snap crust, cinnamon-infused whipped cream and topped with a milk chocolate twig, we're certain even Bunkers' grandmother would approve.

CREATIVE CUISINE IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

According to Bunkers, this is the first year M+A has opened on Thanksgiving.



A M+A turkey dinner with sides of brioche and pecan stuffing, carrots, and gouda mashed potatoes is shown at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Main+Abbey restaurant. The restaurant will serve a prix fixe menu for Thanksgiving.

TIM HYNDS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

"Most years, guests would go to World Tour Buffet for the holidays," he explained. "With our buffet closed due to COVID concerns, we decided to give a special Main + Abbey menu a try."

Even then, Hard Rock is following CDC guidelines as well as limiting the number of guests at Main + Abbey. Plus making reservations is strongly encouraged for the Prix Fixe feast.

MIDWEST BRED, TRAINED IN FRENCH CUISINE

Which is fine for Bunkers, who has been working in the hospitality field since he was 16.

A culinary and restaurant management graduate from Western Iowa Community College in Council Bluffs, Bunkers was named executive chef at Omaha's French Cafe while in his early 20s.

Relocating to Las Vegas, he accepted a position as chef de partie of L'Atelier De Joël Robuchon, a French restaurant within the MGM Grand, where he served from 2006

to 2008. Bunkers was a member of the culinary team in 2008 when Robuchon captured his Michelin one-star status.

After working at various top eateries in Vegas for nine years, Bunkers relocated to Washington, D.C., to work at Le Diplomate before returning to Sioux City a few years ago.

Even now after working for Hard Rock, he still considers himself a French chef.

"No matter what cuisine you work in, everything utilizes classic French techniques," Bunkers said.

However, his Thanksgiving is anything but fusion.

"I tried to stay as close to our guest's expectations as possible," Bunkers said. "Still, don't call my menu a typical Thanksgiving spread. 'Typical' in my mind equals boring."

CRANBERRY MULES & APPLE PIE MARTINIS? WHY NOT?

M+A's food and beverage manager Zach Kreider agreed. That's why he and fellow



Carved bone in spiral ham with sides of green beans, carrots and gruyere mashed potatoes is shown at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Main+Abbey restaurant. The restaurant will serve a prix fixe menu for Thanksgiving.

mixologists will be making such unusual-but-festive drinks as cranberry mules, apple pie martinis as well as few Hot Toddlies.

"We are incorporating Thanksgiving ingredients, even with our cocktails," he said. "We all think about family meals around the holidays. At least I do."

In fact, Kreider learned how to make food with his family. Or, at least, that's where he mastered the fine art of making "Ants on a Log."

"No holiday would be complete without 'Ants on a Log,'" he said. "I loved that when I was a kid."

Indeed, Bunkers wants to recreate memories for Hard Rock guests, whether they're from the area or traveling for the holidays.

"Whether we like it or not, this will not be a typical Thanksgiving for anyone," he admitted. "That doesn't mean we can't enjoy ourselves with good food and good company."

ETC.

SIoux CITY STRANGE

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

Truck-versus-Subway crash

Why is it that every time a vehicle crashes into a storefront, no matter the speed, it goes all the way through? Are storefronts made of some sort of cardboard material?

One person was taken to the hospital for minor injuries after a truck ran through the front of a Subway restaurant in North Sioux City on Nov. 10.

At approximately 11 a.m., a truck drove through the Subway, located at 104 Marie Ave. in North Sioux City. An employee was injured in the crash.

The driver told investigators that his foot slipped off of the brake, causing the accident.

There are no estimates on the damage done to the restaurant, which had its front doors, some windows and brick facade destroyed in the crash.

Quartet jailed after pursuit

Shouldn't have been speeding. Or any of that other stuff.

After an extended pursuit over several highways in Northeast Nebraska and a rollover wreck, four people were arrested on drug and other charges by Nebraska State Patrol troopers and Dakota County Sheriff's deputies.

The incident began about 12:10 a.m. Nov. 12, when a trooper observed a car speeding on U.S. Highway 75 in South Sioux City, according to a press release. The driver refused to stop and fled southbound, and the pursuit began.

Authorities followed the vehicle westbound on 164th Street, then northbound on Nebraska Highway 110, and eventually eastbound on U.S. Highway 20. The release said the vehicle merged onto Interstate 129, crossed the median and drove eastbound in the westbound lanes, before turning back and driving westbound in the eastbound lanes.

The vehicle then left the 129 highway, drove into a ditch and down a steep hill, where before rolling onto its roof, at which point the four occupants fled on foot.

The four eventually apprehended and arrested for obstructing a police officer, possession of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver were Kyle Bottorff, 24, of Hawarden, Iowa; Shanelle Horn, 28, of Winnebago, Nebraska; Arden Stabler, 29, of Decatur, Nebraska; and Frederick Baxter, 48, of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Bottorff, Stabler and Baxter were held in Dakota County Jail. Horn was transported to the hospital in Sioux City for an unrelated issue. The investigation remains ongoing.

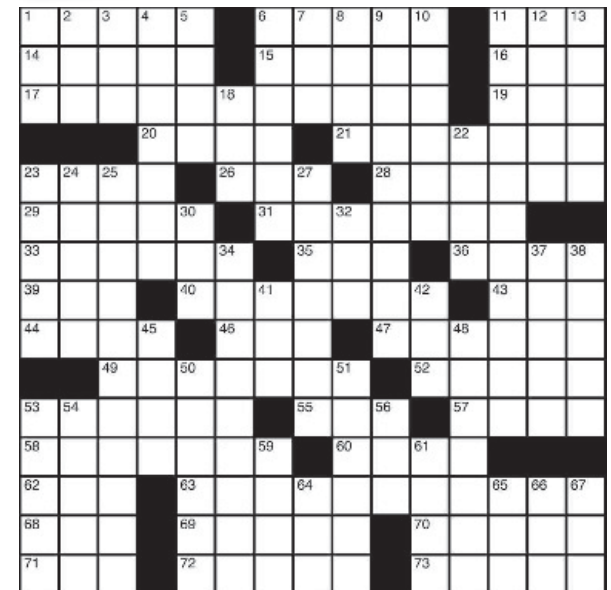


SUDOKU

DIRECTIONS: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains digits 1 to 9.

			7			4	8	
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CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Seminary book
- 6 E-cigarette output
- 11 Media-monitoring org.
- 14 ___-proof: easy to operate
- 15 How the cheese stands, in a kids' song
- 16 "___ be in touch!"
- 17 *Fruity ice cream treat
- 19 Be litigious
- 20 Grandstand group
- 21 Cough syrup, e.g.
- 23 Chad or Rob of movies
- 26 Practical joke
- 28 Lacking a downside
- 29 Immobile
- 31 Chafing result
- 33 Smart set member
- 35 "Great Leap Forward" Chinese leader
- 36 Storybook fiend
- 39 Upside-down sleeper
- 40 Fixed, like the ends of the answers to starred clues
- 43 Put a jinx on
- 44 Messy roomie
- 46 Nourished
- 47 House speaker Nancy
- 49 Luggage tie-on
- 52 Shops with slicers
- 53 Gondolier, e.g.
- 55 Deviate from a course, at sea
- 57 MASH shelter
- 58 Declares to be true
- 60 Carpentry wedge
- 62 Nautical pronoun
- 63 *Knock one out of the park
- 68 Afternoon social
- 69 Chopin piece
- 70 Marble mineral
- 71 Write "mispell," say
- 72 "Jurassic Park" critters, briefly
- 73 Well-known

DOWN

- 1 Highchair wear
- 2 Wash. neighbor
- 3 TSA checkpoint container
- 4 Shoes sans laces
- 5 Sicilian volcano
- 6 Seven Sisters college
- 7 Tyrolean peak
- 8 C-SPAN figures, informally
- 9 French crockful with a cheesy crust
- 10 Captured back
- 11 *Place for rural anglers
- 12 Crossword hints
- 13 Checkout worker
- 18 "Life of Pi" director Lee
- 22 Common jazz combo
- 23 Tree branches
- 24 Shaq of NBA fame
- 25 *Won 10 in a row, say
- 27 2/2/20, for Super Bowl LIV
- 30 Many coll. lab instructors
- 32 Roll of bills
- 34 Egyptian queen in Tut's time
- 37 Amber, for one
- 38 Be
- 41 Like fresh nail polish
- 42 __ XING: crosswalk sign
- 45 Restrain, as one's breath
- 48 Captive's plea
- 50 Worked together perfectly
- 51 Serious cuts
- 53 Keep moist, as turkey
- 54 [none of the above]
- 56 Grinch victim
- 59 Zap with a Taser
- 61 Somali-born model
- 64 Pointless bother
- 65 Squeal on the mob
- 66 Rugged vehicle, for short
- 67 "Game of Thrones" patriarch Stark

If you must cheat, the answers are in the classified section on page 12

ADVICE

ANSWERS FOR ALL YOUR WOES



**SCIENCE
ADVICE
GODDESS**

AMY ALKON

What a girl wants

Q: I'm a 29-year-old straight woman. I recently came to the odd conclusion that I have no idea what I want in a man. Over the past few years, I've been dating a variety of guys and hoping they'll be right for me, and it's not working. Some turn out to be nice guys, but some turn out to be jerks. One turned out to be a truly terrible person, but in hindsight, all were obviously wrong for me. In each case, the underlying problems were always there, but I didn't identify them until things blew up months into the relationship or even a year in. How can I get clear on what I want?

—Lost

A: Looking for a boyfriend without knowing what you want in a man is like trying to order a meal without knowing what you like to eat: whether you live to put bacon on your bacon or you're a vegan who stifles a sob whenever your mom cracks an egg for your dad's omelet.

Standards are our tool for narrowing down what we want, from lunch to love. In love, it's important to shrink down your potential partner pool, but without setting such high standards (per your own mate value and the current mate "market") that the only boyfriend or girlfriend you'll ever have is the imaginary kind. Though we tend to view having *more* options — "Sky's the limit!" "The more, the merrier!" — as better than having just two or a handful to choose from, research actually finds that having numerous options is often the stuff human misery is made of.

Perhaps because the psychology currently driving us evolved in environments where situations rarely offered more than a few choices — "Bison breast or drumstick?" "Eat this bug or starve?" — research on decision-making has found we are unprepared for huge sets of options. We tend to suffer "choice overload": We get overwhelmed, choose poorly, and regret our choice afterward. However, there's a caveat. More choice *can* be better, explains

psychologist Benjamin Scheibehenne and his colleagues, when, prior to making a choice, a person has "well-defined preferences."

That's where standards come in. Our standards for what we want in another person come in large part out of our values, though personality and genetics also play a role. Values are the principles we care most about: the standards we use to guide our behavior. Though most of us probably think of ourselves as good people with good values, the truth is, if asked to quickly name our values, we'd struggle to do it. Being unable to immediately call up our guiding principles means when we need to act quickly, we're often clueless about what we should do, and we're prone to act in ways we end up regretting.

Spelling out your top eight or 10 values will give you a behavioral map: guiding principles for how you'll act and, ultimately, who you are. To write your list, you might look up "lists of values" online. Here are a few of mine (not in any order): 1. Courage. 2. Wisdom. 3. Kindness. 4. Integrity. ... 10. Seizing life (instead of blinking like a cow while it rushes by).

The person you want to be shapes the sort of person you should be with. For example, per my list of values, integrity is vitally important to me. So, when I came up with my standards for romantic partners — my "must-haves" for any man in my life — integrity was baked in: "Tall, evolved man of character who thinks for a living and cares about making a difference in the world."

Likewise spelling out your standards for a romantic partner and vowing to stick to them should help you extract yourself when you're magnetized by a Mr. Tall, Dark, and Manipulative: some hunky charismatic creep whose hotitude acts as a sort of sexual eclipse, blocking out what a terrible person he is. Assuming you include integrity in some form on your list, turning to your "must-haves" on a date forces you to look for evidence of good character, and when that's missing, you'll nix the guy and move on.

Of course, being clear on your values and narrowing down what you want in a man won't always be enough. There are some clever sociopaths out there who are pros at hiding who they really are. Coming up with standards for character might not allow you to identify all dignity-crushing exploiters immediately. However, you should be able to do it much faster than with a more "open-minded," hope-driven approach: "Sorry, but I really have to draw the line at dating a man with a tail!"



**ASTRO
ADVICE**
EUGENIA LAST

Take the initiative, and turn your thoughts into something tangible. Be the one to make the first move. Be innovative and ready to bring about change. Stop worrying about what you cannot change, and start making a difference where possible Step outside your comfort zone, and practice what you preach.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Knowledge is power. Gather information that enables you to bring about positive change. Speak freely and passionately about what you want, and live life your way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Remain focused on home improvements, keeping the peace and letting go of the past. Make personal growth, less stress and better health your priorities. Romance is featured.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Discuss your plans and get approval from those affected by the decisions you make. Letting others have a say will encourage them to help you achieve your goal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Look for better ways to handle or earn money. Address uncertainty regarding a contract, a problem you face with an institution or your health. Update your skills to suit a changing market.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Old friends will give you some valuable information. A last-minute change of plans will play in your favor. Financial gain is heading your way. Helping someone will pay off.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Avoid no-win situations. Find a way to overcome controversy and build better relationships with others. How you present who you are and what you want will be crucial.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Think your plans through, and refuse to let anyone interfere. Don't succumb to peer pressure or mind games. Follow your heart and make positive adjustments as you advance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — If you let someone get in your way, you'll fall short of your goal. Taking on someone's problems won't help them or you. Offer suggestions, but don't take charge.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Keep your cool, regardless of what others do. Focus on finding ways to handle capably your money and responsibilities. A unique approach to life, love and happiness will pay off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Do what has to be done without complaint. If you raise issues, you will meet with opposition. Get things done on time, and avoid a pointless debate. Take action instead of talking.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You've got what it takes to win. Take on a challenge, embrace competition and make adjustments if you don't like what you see. You don't need to impress anyone other than yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Change what isn't working for you. Take better care of your home, family and financial affairs. An emotional scene won't help you solve anything. Be honest, direct and willing to compromise.

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