weekender

BLUES CITY JOURNAL



Hard Rock

SIOUX CIT

Everything you need to know about SITP

MANY EVENTS THIS WEEK

SIOUX CITY'S FREE READ | JUNE 23-29, 2022 | VOL. 23 ISSUE 31 | AT WWW.SIOUXLAND.NET: EVENTS, MOVIE LISTINGS, BANDS & MORE

Who would your dream Saturday in the Park act be and why?



Chad Pauling
Publisher
cpauling
@siouxcityjournal.com
"Right now, seeing Post
Malone in a festival venue
would be great."



Earl Horlyk
Staff Writer
earl.horlyk@lee.net
"For some reason, I've been
listening to a lot of 90's
music lately. I'd love to see
Stephen Malkmus &
Pavement or Stephen
Malkmus & the Jicks or
Stephen Malkmus playing
with anybody."



Mason Dockter
Staff Writer
mdockter@
siouxcityjournal.com
"I saw Billie Eilish performing on 'SNL' a few months
back. It was a good performance. So I'll say her."

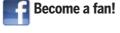
Have a question you'd like us to answer? Send it to events@ siouxland.net and it may end up on this page.

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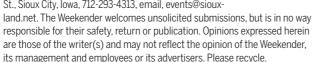




@SCWeekender



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



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

CALENDAR

MUSIC

The Drifters, Cornell Gunter's Coasters, The Platters, 7:30 p.m., June 23; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Glam Slam Metal Jam, 8 p.m., June 25; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7625.

Byron Kuehl, 8 p.m., June 29; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www. vangardearts.com/events.

Chris O'Leary Band, 8 p.m., July 6; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www.vangardearts.com/events.

Frankie Ballard, 8 p.m., July 8; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7625.

Gary and Dani at 4 Brothers Grill and Bar, 6 p.m., July 9; 4 Brothers Bar and Grill, 3322 Singing Hills Blvd. Information: gary@guitarmans.com

RetroTWEED Live @ Vangarde Arts, 8 p.m., July 9; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: 712-251-6432

Jake Stringer & Better Than Nothin', 8 p.m., July 13; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www.vangardearts.com/

Trace Adkins with Eddie Montgomery, 7 p.m., July 15; Battery Park, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7625.

Surfin' Safari at Storm'n Norman's, 7 p.m., July 16; Storm'n Norman's, 500 Logan St., Waterbury, Neb. Information: 712-251-3196.

Katy Guillen & The Drive, 8 p.m., July 16; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: http://www. vangardearts.com/events.

ART

Sioux City Art Center: Briar Cliff Review Exhibition, April 21 to July 17; Towers of Tomorrow, May 7 to Aug. 7; Siouxland Artists, Inc. Annual Competition 2022, May 7 to Aug. 7; Grant Wood's Corn Room mural, ongoing: Earth-Water-Light, ongoing.

OUTDOORS

Outdoor Yoga Class, 5:30 p.m., June 23; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Zen in Nature, 7 a.m., June

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).

25; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Forest Bathing, 9:15 a.m., June 25; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Pond Study, 10 a.m., June 28; Little Sioux Park, 1746 O'Brien Ave., Correctionville, Iowa. Information: 712-258-0838.

Meet the Animals, 10 a.m., July 1; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Open Canoe, 10 a.m., 1 p.m., July 5; Little Sioux Park, 1746 O'Brien Ave., Correctionville. Information: 712-258-0838.

Yoga Class, 5:30 p.m., July 7; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Nature Tales - Fish, 10 a.m., July 12; Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Information: 712-258-0838.

Open Kayak, 1 p.m., July 12; Southwood Conservation Area, 3402 330th St., Smithland, Iowa. Information: 712-258-0838.

Youth Fishing Program, 10 a.m., July 19; Brown's Lake-Bigelow Park, 722 Bigelow Park Road, Salix, Iowa. Information: 712-258-0838

COMMUNITY

Sioux City Summer Fest, June 23-July 1; Tyson Event Center Parking Lot, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

Pop Up Shops @ The Expansion Center, 11 a.m., June 25; The Expansion Center, 1119 4th St. Information: 605-232-8888

True Stories + Poetry • Love is..., 7 p.m., June 25; Design West, 1014 Design Place. Information: info@allykarsyn.

Old Fashioned Wednesday Night - Cruise into Cushing, 6:30 p.m., June 29; Main St, Cushing, Iowa. Information: 712-384-2716.

Mardi Gras Parade, 6 p.m., July 1; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

The Difference is Dialogue Series- Accessibility, 5 p.m., July 6; Sioux City Public Library, 529 Pierce Street. Information: 712-203-7738.

Inclusive Sioux City Advisory
Committee Meeting, 4:30
p.m., July 13; Sioux City City Hall,
405 6th St. Information: 712203-7738.

SPORTING

6th Annual Health Center

Open, 12 p.m., July 11; Sioux City Country Club, Country Club Blvd. Information: 712-252-2477.

CONTINUING EVENTS

Motorcycle Ride Night, 5:30 p.m., June 23, July 14; Casey's, 4727 Southern Hills Drive. Information: 712-574-0934.

Sioux City Farmer's Market, 8 a.m., June 25, 29, July 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20; Tyson Events Center Parking Lot, Corner of TriView Ave. and Pearl St. Information: 712-279-4850

Siouxland Discovery
Barbershop Chorus, 7 p.m.,
June 27, July 4, 11, 18; Friendship
Community Church, 305
Sergeant Square Drive, Sergeant
Bluff. Information: 712-212-3633.

Tangled Yarns, 6 p.m., June 28, July 5, 12; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.

Memory in Poetry with Matt Mason, 6:30 p.m. June 28, July 12; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.

Foodie Friends, 6:30 p.m., June 29, July 13; South Sioux City Public Library, 2121 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City. Information: 402-494-7545.



JESSE BROTHERS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

Mark Koenigs aka Protige performs in the hip-hop duo DAD on the Abe Stage during Saturday in the Park at Grandview Park in Sioux City, Iowa, Saturday, July 3, 2021.



People line up at the food vendors late in the day during Saturday in the Park at Grandview Park in Sioux City, Iowa, Saturday, July 3, 2021.

Get a sneak peek at SITP with the Blues City Journal

BY EARL HORLYK

Holy crap, you may have noticed that the Weekender is hella huge!

That's because this is the special Blues City Journal edition where we partner up with the 32nd Saturday in the Park (SITP) for blanket coverage of Siouxland's premier music festival.

This year's event – taking place on July 2 at Grandview Park promises to be amazing.

First of all, headliners Avett Brothers, the North Carolina-based band best known for its Americana roots sound, will be making a return engagement. The band previously headlined SITP in 2014.

Similarly, legendary bluesman Buddy Guy, the 85-year-old National Medal of Arts and Kennedy Center honoree, is playing SITP for the unheard of third time.

Guy previously played SITP in

1993 and 2004.

Along with such critically acclaimed up-and-comers like award-winning recording artist Elle King, indie rock duo Daisy the Great and folk rockers Doc Robinson, the main stage will be full of talent.

But get there early to see some terrific local bands on the sharing space with the A-Listers.

This includes high energy blues band Servant Shop as well as Artificial Stars, a Sioux City-based group with a new bassist (former Weekender writer Ari Lebowitz)

Hip-hopper Fetty Wap will bring his distinctively melodic rapsing style of music to headline the Abe Stage.

Adding some ammunition to the Abe will be Austin, Texas-based rockers Black Pistol Fire.

Bookending those acts, Abe

Stagers will include local rappers, rocker and EDMers.

That's to say nothing of the Kids' and a new album dues out in the fall. Zone, Arts Alley, and one fantastic food vendor after another. You'll be able to get a sneak peak in this Blues City Journal as well.

Phew, that is a lot of stuff to pack into one mega-issue!

Take a gander through these pages and we'll see you at Grandview Park!



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Know before you go: Ride the bus section

We try to think of everything to make your SITP experience the best. One of the ways we do this is to offer you a hasslefree way to attend without dealing with the frustration of finding a parking spot within a square-mile of the beautiful Grandview Park.

Feel spoiled by being chauffeured to the event by a nice driver in a very nice Sioux City bus as you and yours are comfortably swaying back and forth in the bus singing "The Wheels on the Bus" in eight-part harmony.

Park at the Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive, and get picked up at the fountain area. You can even get a ride back after having more fun than any of us deserves to have.

Shuttle buses will begin 11 a.m. on Saturday. They will run throughout the day and evening until the festival ends. Shuttle costs each way are: Adult Cash Fare \$1.80, Senior Citizen/ Medicare Cardholder/ Disability Cash Fare 90 cents, Youth Cash Fare \$1.55 and Children under 5 Free (Accompanied by an adult).

Have fun, ride the bus, be safe, be thankful and may peace be on your journey.

Phyl Claeys, The Keeper of the Gates SITP

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN AT SITP:

While your neighbor one blanket over may seem a little trashy, that is still no **excuse** to throw your garbage in their direction. Take the time to dispose of it properly. Help out the small army of volunteers who clean the park after the festival by throwing your trash away in the appropriate recycling and garbage bins throughout the park. You

won't have any trouble finding them as there are about **350** trash containers and 50 recycling bins that can be found around the park. Thank you for your earthly consideration.

REFILL YOUR WATER BOTTLE AT SITP

The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Saturday in the Park festival will this year feature water bottle refilling stations.

The stations will eliminate plastic bottle waste, and encourage hydration, giving patrons a healthy, environmentally-friendly way to enjoy this year's festival. Event-goers are invited to bring their own water bottles to the park.

CASH FOR THE DAY SECTION:

If you were silly enough to forget your wad o' cash at home, then the ATMs will surely quell your worries of having to leave the park (say sayonara to your parking spot). Machines will be located in the Merchandise tent and in the ABE STAGE area, so don't think for a second that we don't have you covered.

Of course we recommend you bring cash to the event, but then we couldn't collect the convenience fee. We're trying to keep you prepared – especially since an ATM will be located next to the merchandise tent. Plus, you never know what you may find from the vendors in Arts Alley!

BEER BREAKDOWN

Grab a cold one and enjoy the SITP Festival in style. Here's what you need to know about the beer this year.

No BYOB. Please respect that this is a free festival made possible in part by the beer sales. No alcoholic

beverages are allowed to be brought into the park. Supporting the sales provides a lineup like we have this year!

The price is right. Buy 5 tickets for \$25. Individual tickets cost \$6.

What's brewing. We will have a beer to suit almost every taste profile for your enjoyment. It isn't often that a festival offers a selection of over a dozen brands and styles from highend and craft choices to the most popular domestic brews. All beers will be sold as packaged beers (cans). Brands available will be Budweiser, Bud Light, Busch Light, Michelob Ultra, Bud Light Seltzer Mango, Bud Light Seltzer Black Cherry, Goose Lemon Shandy, Goose IPA, Golden Road Mango Cart. Ready to drink Liquor - (Cutwater) Tequila Margarita 13% ABV, Tequila Mango

Margarita 13% ABV, Vodka Soda Lime 5% ABV, Vodka Mule 7% ABV, Rum & Cola 7% ABV. Local Offerings will also be available from Sioux City's local brew pubs.

Make sure you had at least 21 birthdays. Why is that? Because only then will you be able to drink all those adult beverages. No exceptions, you must be 21!

Again this year. The park will be totally fenced in with 3 entrances, so there will not be fenced in Beer Gardens. Beer will be able to be consumed throughout the park (excluding the Kid's Zone and the family friendly area). There will be 4 beer stations available to purchase adult beverages. These beverage stations will be named for their location. Earle's (Main trailer near water tower) Abe's (Near Abe's stage), Bob's (North side of bandshell), and Pete's (South side of bandshell).



Tyson

It's time to kick off those dancing shoes.

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learn more at tysonfoods.com

A conversation with SITP cofounder Dave Bernstein

BY EARL HORLYK

A few days ago, a buddy sent Saturday in the Park cofounder Dave Bernstein a YouTube version of "Paradise Theatre," the tenth

album by the rock band Stvx.

The 1981 concept album was presented as a fictional account of Chicago's Paradise Theatre from its heyday in 1920 to

its eventual closing decades later.

Bernstein

Best of Times," "Too Much Time on My Hands" and "Nothing Ever Goes As Planned."

Watching the "Paradise Theatre" video brought back a lot

of memories for Bernstein, whose first concert was, in fact, Styx when successful two-day Saturday in they played in Omaha.

"I was 15 years old at the time of the concert and probably shouldn't have been there," he said.

Yet the concert concept of a decaying theater as depicted in songs like "Half Penny Two Penny" and "A.D. 1958" stuck with Bernstein.

In fact, it helped in his future efforts to restore Sioux City's legendary Orpheum Theatre.

It was also a motivation when Bernstein cofounded Saturday in Featuring classic tracks like "The the Park with his friend Adam Feiges more than 30 years ago.

> "Is SITP 32 years old now or is it 33 years now?" Bernstein asked himself. "Due to COVID, who can do the math anymore."

Coming off of 2021's wildly the Park, featuring AJR and John Fogerty, Bernstein said this year's show snuck up on him.

"2021 was so refreshing. everyone was ready to get outside and enjoy everything, especially a free music festival where everything just jelled," he said. "This year, it seems a bit different, there seems to be a lot of angst and, maybe, some hopelessness in the air with everyone still scrambling."

Nevertheless, it seemed like a good time for a free festival with a full lineup of amazing performers.

Looking through this year's slate of performers, Bernstein mentioned the return of The Avett Brothers

"The Avetts gave one of the best volunteers. SITP shows of all time," he said.

Bernstein also praises legendary guitarist Buddy Guy who will be making his third SITP appearance.

"You can't get any better than Buddy Guy," he said.

Plus Bernstein said when singer Elle King hits Grandview Park's Main Stage, she will knock everyone's socks off.

"Elle's going to be awesome," he

A few weeks before SITP, Bernstein continued to work on many of the behind the scenes details.

Yet, he said the festival wouldn't be possible without the support of its sponsors or without the hard work of SITP's committee members and countless numbers of

Some years, things jell. While other years, things drag until the last minute.

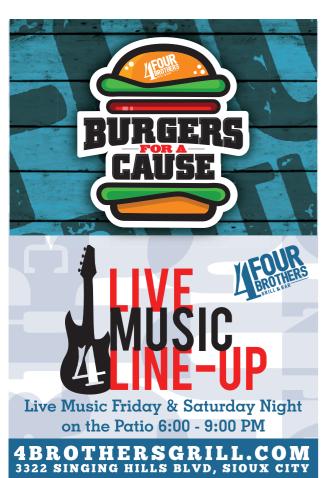
However, by the time the Saturday nearest to the Fourth of Iuly rolls around, everything seems to work out.

After all, everyone knows that Saturday in the Park will always represent a good time for a free festival with amazing performers giving terrific shows.

Watching a YouTube video of Styx from their "Paradise Theatre" tour, Bernstein noted the visual quality was grainy but the music was shockingly excellent."

"Paradise Theatre" has withstood the test of time.

The same can be said of Saturday in the Park.





JESSE BROTHERS. THE WEEKENDER

People line up at the food vendors late in the day during Saturday in the Park at Grandview Park in Sioux City, Iowa, Saturday, July 3, 2021.

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Saturday in the Park

Sioux City Main Office 522 4th Street | (712) 293-2265

Hamilton Branch

2906 Hamilton Blvd | (712) 233-2929

Morningside Branch 4201 S. Lakeport | (712) 276-3135

Dakota Dunes Main Office 400 Gold Circle, Suite 100 | (605) 540-4333





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Food Vendor List

PAPA JOHN'S

• Pizza Slice (pepperoni, sausage & cheese)

STAPLETON'S TORNADO FUNNEL CAKES

- Cheese Curds
- Corn Dogs
- Funnel Cakes
- Jumbo Pretzel & Cheese
- Chips & Cheese
- Jumbo Freezies
- Lemonade & Flavored Lemonade

WELLS BLUE BUNNY

- Chips Galore
- Bomb Pop
- Vanilla Sandwich
- Caramel Corn
- Vanilla Crunch Bar

TORNADO FUNNEL CAKES

- Funnel Cakes
- Hand Dipped Corn Dogs
- Fresh Battered Cheese Curds
- Ribbon Fries
- Fresh Squeezed Lemonade

LEOS MOTIE FLAVOR SNOW CONES

- Snow Cones
- Hot Dogs
- Nachos

GYROS & MORE

- Gyros
- Chicken Pita
- Combo Pita
- Veggie Pita
- Salads
- Lemonade

J & J OLD FASHION KETTLE KORN

- Regular Kettle Corn (with white sugar)
- Caramel Kettle Corn

MARCO'S

- Indian Tacos
- Walking Tacos
- Super Nachos
- Taco Blizzard
- Burritos

THE PARTHENON

- Gyros
- Chicken Gyros
- Hot & Spicy Chicken Gyros
- Greek Salads
- Veggie Pitas

GODFATHER'S PIZZA

- Pizza By The Slice
- Whole Pizzas

- Monkey Bread
- Soft Beverages and Bottled Water

MADE IT MYSELF SHAVED ICE (@ 3 LOCATIONS!!! MAIN STAGE, KIDS ZONE & ABE STAGE)

- Shaved Ice
- Wild Island Lemonade
- Cotton Candy

BRIGHTSIDE CAFÉ & DELI

- Burgers
- Nachos
- Burritos
- Chicken Tenders
- Fries, Onion Rings, Cheeseballs
- Churros, Cheesecake Chimis
- Fresh Aqua Frescas
- Lemonade
- Plant-Based Energy Drinks

SMOKIN R'S BBQ

- Pulled Pork Sandwich
- BBQ Sampler
- Homemade Sausage
- Brisket
- Ribs
- Sweet Tea

BURRITO ISLAND

- Island Drink Smoothies
- Fresh Squeezed Flavored Lemonade
- Meat Nachos
- Mini Donuts

SMASH (@ THE ABE STAGE)

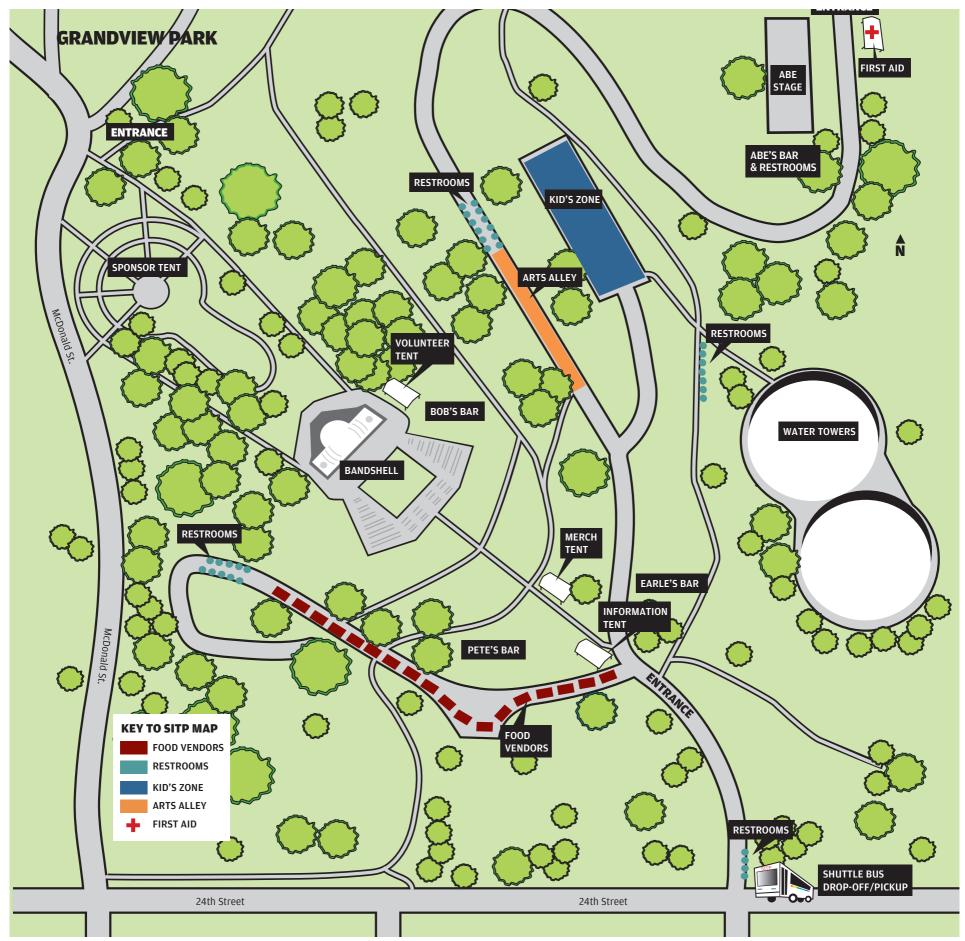
- Fat Boy Burger
- · Cracklin' Burger
- Island Burger
- Hot Cheeto Burger
- Gyro
- Cubano
- Banh Mi
- Pork Rinds, Garlic Pork Rinds
- Smash Fries, Garlic Fries

GOBBLESTOP TURKEY SHOP

- Turkey Legs
- Steak Sandwich
- Philly Sandwich
- Hamburger
- Hot Dog & Bratz
- Pork Chop
- Chicken Strips
- Fires & Ribbon Fries
- Cheeseballs
- Lemonade



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Kid's Zone 2022

Kid's Zone Hours

Noon – 7 p.m.

Kid's Zone Wristband Pricing Saturday In The Park All Day Wristband = \$15

*Wristband is for inflatables only: it is not valid on Pony Rides. Eurobungy or Carnival Rides.

Kid's Zone Ticket Pricing

Tickets are \$1/each

*Eurobungy and Carnival Rides require multiple tickets.

All Wristband and Ticket Sales

Don't forget to have your kiddos wear socks because the inflatables can get hot on the bottoms of their little feet!

** No refunds, exchanges or rain checks.

This year's Kid's Zone will be packed full of inflatables, entertainers, food vendors and activities to keep kids of all ages busy all day long!

Inflatables

This year's Kid's Zone will feature inflatables to entertain kids of all ages all day long. There will be old favorites such as the Eurobungy, the Rock Wall and a bounce cuddly farm friends. house. Be sure to stop up to the Kid's Zone to check out all of the mrtwister.org) attractions!

ting Zoo (https://www.facebook. year, Mr. Twister is back once again com/pixiesponytales/)

New this year, in the Kid's Zone, is Pixie's Pony Tales and Petting Zoo! Give your kids the time of their life by getting up close with exotic farm animals...like a alpaca, pot belly pig and many other cute and adorable animals. Then, ride a balloon sculpture! pony!! Pony rides are \$5 and they



PROVIDED PHOTOS

take cash, venmo, debit and credit card payments. Don't miss out on your chance to get up close and personal to some very cute and

Mr. Twister (http://www.

A popular performer in the Riv-Pixie's Pony Tales and Pet- ercade/KCAU Kid's Zone each armed with fun and balloons! For the past 19 years, Mr. Twister has entertained children at Saturday In The Park with his wacky assortment of balloons. Make sure to bring the young ones up to visit Mr. Twister and ask for a FREE crazy





launchpadmuseum.com/)

LaunchPAD Children's Museum is excited to bring hands-on FUN and DISCOVERY to Saturday in the Park! Featuring bike spin art, squirt gun painting, and even a community mural, there is a great time to be had for all ages! We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Saturday in the Park Kid's Zone! Please stop by and say, "Hello!" and explore the many creative and **The LaunchPad** (https:// imaginative programs and benefits



LaunchPAD has to offer.

Norm Waitt Sr. YMCA (https://www.nwsymca.org/)

Whales Tales Fishing for Safety is the American Red Cross's water safety program. Educational focus is drowning prevention, self saving skills and sun safety. YMCA lifeguards will have some Whales

curriculum and posters to quiz the kids on water safety. Once they become 'Water Smart' they can the bubbles.





fish for a prize!

Special K'z the Clown (https:// www.facebook.com/specialkzthe-

Don't miss the bubbles! Special K'z the Clown will be demonstrating her talent with bubbles this year in Kid's Zone. Special K'z the Clown is a very accomplished bubblier and will amaze everyone with her bubbling fun!! Stop and say hello and let the kids dance in



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Legal stuff

1. NO GUNS, NO FIREWORKS, NO WEAPONS OR FIREARMS ALLOWED (EVEN WITH A LICENSE TO CARRY OR A CONCEAL CARRY PERMIT). A City of Sioux City ordinance prohibits possession both inside city parks, and we prohibit them at this festival event.

2. No PETS except as needed for Disability purposes WITH CREDENTIALS, such as a doctor's letter. We still recommend that you leave such pets at home anyway if at all possible.

The large crowds and heat that we frequently have at the festival are not good for your pet, who might suffer from heat stress or even get stepped on at the festival (That's not mentioning the stuff your pet may leave behind for others to sit on). If you leave your TV set tuned to Animal Planet and plenty of animal beverages around, your pets should do fine on their own. Of course, with any adult doggie beverages, make sure that your dog is at least 3 years old (21 in dog years).

3. No COOLERS except for health needs such as diabetics conditions. All coolers and containers subject to search and all beverages and outside food may be confiscated.

Coolers simply take up too much valuable sitting space at Saturday in the Park, not to mention the negative impact it has on beverage and food sales that are needed to help make the event happen for free each year. Plus, we often end up picking up stray coolers Sunday morning. Please leave your own beverages at home.

4. SATURDAY IN THE PARK IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS OR DAMAGED PROPERTY OF ANY KIND

You should turn in your any lost people and lost personal possessions at the Information Booth. Although we're told the Info Booth has a person who is able to figure out the owner's phone number for practically any cell phone, we cannot guarantee your lost phone (or any other item) will be returned to you. We can only guarantee that we might find one and use it to call or text your girlfriend or boyfriend.

5. ALL BAGS SUBJECT TO SEARCH

6. CLEAR BAGS REQUESTED

7. NO SMOKING IN DESIGNATED AREAS – especially in the seating areas close to the Band Shell. If we see any smoke coming from you, we will assume that you are on fire and promptly put you out!

8. PARENTS PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR CHILDREN AS LOST CHILDREN ARE GENERALLY VERY SCARED AT AN EVENT LIKE SITP.

Please keep track of your kids. If for some reason you lose track of them, contact the Review & Information Booth for "Lost People".

9. PLEASE STAY OUT OF THE ROSES IN THE ROSE GARDEN, ONLY ADMIRE THEM. PLEASE STAY OUT OF THE WATER FOUNTAIN, ONLY ADMIRE IT.

You should be aware that the ROSES BITE!!!

10. USE THAT BLANKET OR LOOSE IT

In an effort to make the Saturday in the Park festival a fantastic experience for as many people as we possibly can, this year we ask you to once again abide by our policy regarding tents, umbrellas and blankets/tarps. The policy is:

- No tents or awnings
- No shade umbrellas larger than a standard rain or golf umbrella
- No unoccupied or under-occupied supersized blankets or tarps reserving space for later visitors

We intend to gather any rule-breaking items and store them for you at the Saturday in the Park Information Booth. They can be picked up when you head home for the night.

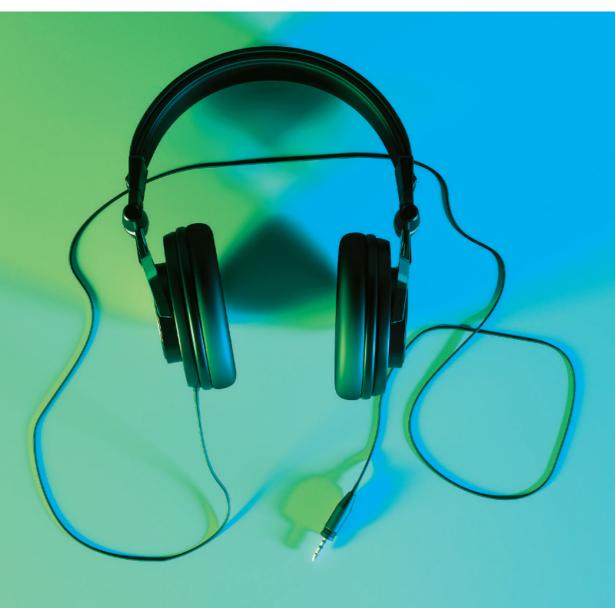
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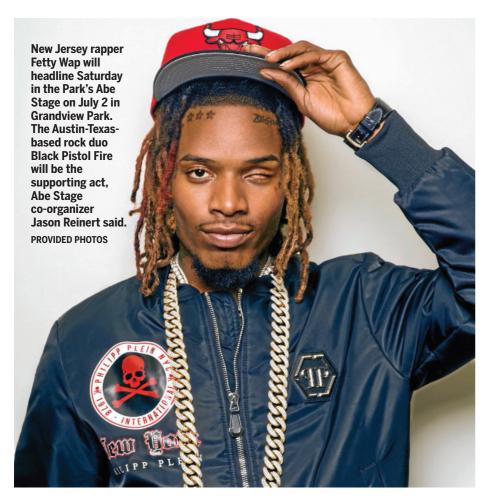
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ABE STAGE LINEUP

MIL MUZIQ/C NOTE

Born in Miami and now living in Sioux City, Richard Miller is an entrepreneur, musician and founder of MIL MUZIQ GROUP (MIL NATION), a music company, record label and clothing line. Developing a passion of music and performing at an early

age, he gained the nickname "Baby Usher" at age 8.

FALL OF KINGS

2:00

Fall of Kings is an alternative groove metal band based out of Sioux City.





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ABE STAGE LINEUP

IOHNNY MARZ

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BLACK PISTOL FIRE

This rock duo is made up of Kevin McKeown and Eric Owen, who met each other in kindergarten. Born in Canada, they now live in Austin, Texas.

RENO

3:50

5:00

6:15

Reno is an alternative rapper, singer and songwriter from Sioux City. He straddles the lines between alternative. indie, pop, r&b and hip-hop.

Johnny Marz a lot of free time to devour

comic books and hip-hop. Now in his 20s,

he uses his music to cope with childhood

demons and as a way to inspire others.

THE IMPULSIVE

Hailing from Omaha, The Impulsive is a hard rock band with a new lineup of musicians. Its cover of "Rock You Like a Hurricane" has received more than 1 million streams and views.

GHETTOSOCKS

Darren Pyper (AKA Ghettosocks) is a Juno-nominated hip-hop artist from Toronto, Canada.

FETTY WAP

Born Willie Junior Maxwell II, hip-hop Fetty Wap is known for his melodic, rap-sing style that is influenced by Southern hiphoppers.

THE SOUND INSURGENT 10:15

The Sound Insurgent (or TSI) combines more than 20 years of experience on the decks. He has a knack for reading his crowds that makes every performance a unique and energetic experience.







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SIOUX CITY

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PLEASE SEE ARTS PAGE 20



JESSE BROTHERS THE WEEKENDER

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Hip-hop entrepreneur

Music is life for Sioux City-based rapper

BY OWEN ZILIAK

Richard Miller, also known as MIL Muziq, is a hip hop and rap artist based in Sioux City. Miller is the founder of MIL MUZIQ GROUP, a music company and record label, as well as MIL, a clothing line. In this Q&A, Miller describes his musical upbringing and what he thinks he brings to the table in Sioux City.

Miller will be one of the acts on Saturday in the Park's Abe Stage on July 2.

Q: What is your connection to Sioux City?

A: I came in 2008 on a football scholarship to Briar Cliff University, studying marketing and business administration. I'm originally from Miami, Florida. After high school I took a globe, spun it while covering my eyes, and wherever my finger lands, that's where I'm going. I landed in Iowa. I Googled cool cities in Iowa, Sioux City

was one of them.

Q: How did you get in to making music?

A: I come from a family of music. My dad is a minister of music in Miami, so I grew up around it. My parents met in a church – my mom was a singer and my dad was the organist. I was born into music.

Q: What does "MIL" stand for?

A: MIL stands for "Music is Life." I was introduced to the movement by a friend of mine. He gave me the concept of music being therapy, and helping people get through tough times in life. He originally let me become a partner with that movement, so I created a brand that represented that.

Q: What inspires you to make music?

A: People. I am such a people person, it's ridiculous. Love people, love talking, love conversating, love communicating.

PLEASE SEE HIP-HOP, PAGE 24



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Hip-Hop

FROM 22

I'm a happy guy all the time, always bubbly and having a great time. Once I started talking about this "Music is Life" concept, I started talking to people with similar stories.

Q: What has been the most difficult part of your career so far?

A: You want the truth? Balancing doing rap and hip-hop while also being a Christian. That is the biggest challenge that I have faced and am currently facing. Again, I grew up in the church. Going from the heavy, southern gospel to doing hip-hop, the church frowns on those kind of things.

Q: What sets you apart from other musicians?

A: My marketing. Because I went to school for marketing and business, I am able to do a lot of things that the average artist is not able to do because they haven't had the training.

Q: Is there a certain sound that is identifiable with Sioux City?

A: There is not a specific sound for Sioux City. Sioux City is a melting pot when it comes to musicians and artists. There's such a wide range of art that comes out of Sioux City. The issue has been the marketing aspect of it.

Q: You're performing on the same stage as Fetty Wap, who was hiphop royalty. What does that mean to you?

A: First of all, I need to produce for Fetty Wap. That is a big goal of mine, to produce for a major artist. But it is a huge opportunity. Not only to open for Fetty Wap but to simply be on the stage at Saturday in the Park. You have to remember the history of Saturday in the Park; that puts my brand and my company in an elite category of local artists that have been able to reach that level.



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'Top Guns'

Black Pistol Fire bringing heat to the Abe Stage

BY EARL HORLYK

We may have inadvertently punk'd Eric Owens during a phone interview with the Black Pistol Fire drummer.

You see, the Toronto, Canada native, was saying how Sault Saint Marie, a city on the U.S.-Canada border was often referred to as "The Sault" – or, pronounced phonetically, as "The Soo."

"Is Sioux City ever called 'the Soo?" the inquisitive musician asked a few weeks before the rocking blues duo's Abe Stage gig. "When we come to Sioux City, should we say 'it's great to be in the Soo?"

In case Owen is reading this, we felt bad that we said, "Sure, why not?"

What we should've said, "No, nobody calls Sioux City 'the Soo.' So, please don't do that."

Anyway, Owen and his Black Pistol Fire bandmate, guitarist-lead singer Kevin McKeown have literally been tight since the two were tykes.

"We first became friends in kindergarten,"

"As we got older, music become more of a component in our lives and our friendship.

Eventually, we started writing songs and playing small gigs together."

ERIC OWEN,
ON BANDMATE KEVIN MCKEOWN

Owen explained. "My family lived on in a house on one side of a big field while Kevin's family lived in a house on the other side of the field."

Once, the two best friends became teenagers, they became obsessed with rock and roll.

PLEASE SEE BLACK PISTOL FIRE, PAGE 28



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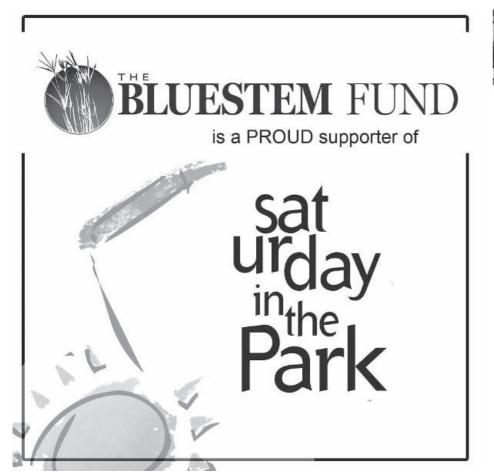
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Black Pistol Fire

FROM 26

"We started going to concerts and buying music," Owen said, namechecking bands like Green Day, The Offspring and Nirvana as early inspiration.

Both boys entertained thoughts of becoming rock musicians.

"As we got older, music become more of a component in our lives and our friendship," Owen said. "Eventually, we started writing songs and playing small gigs together."

Eventually, the two Canadians moved down south to Austin, Texas, the Indie music capital of the world.

"Everybody we knew said music was fine as a sideline but don't do it for a living," Owen said. "Luckily, we didn't listen to any of them."

Indeed, Black Pistol Fire has had six acclaimed albums, including 2021's "Look Alive." to their name.

Plus the duo is known for its raucous, high-energy live shows where McKeown gets to be a thrashing front man while Owen remains a maniac behind a drum kit.

Yet Owen is quick to credit McKeown's

contribution.

Kevin's always working on new material," Owen said. "He is the hardest-working man in show business and I'm happy to be his copilot."

While he's willing to jam as hard as any rock and roll drummer, Owen largely avoids extended drum solos.

"Drum solos are usually a cue to take a bathroom break," he noted. "I can say because I'm a drummer."

Still, Owen said each gig is a workout and he stays in safe by swimming.

"If there's a body of water, I'll be in it," he said.

While Black Pistol Fire has a busy summer of concerts ahead of them, Owen will be taking time off in September to get married.

"I figure between now and then I'll be able to buy my first suit," he said. "When you're long and lean like I am, everything will be an awkward fit."

Nevertheless, Owen is excited about coming to Saturday in the Park.

"It will be a groovy show with plenty of jumping and moshing," he said. "By the audience and by us."

We're keeping our fingers crossed that he doesn't refer Sioux City as "The Soo."



JESSE BROTHERS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER

Above, below: Black Pistol Fire will play the Abe Stage on July 2. Mr. Bomb performed on the Abe Stage during Saturday in the Park at Grandview Park in 2021.



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Noon National Anthem with Phil Claeys
12:05 Servant Shop
12:45 Artificial Stars
1:45 Doc Robinson
3:00 Daisy the Great
4:30 Elle King
6:15 Buddy King
8:15 Avett Brothers



Avett Brothers

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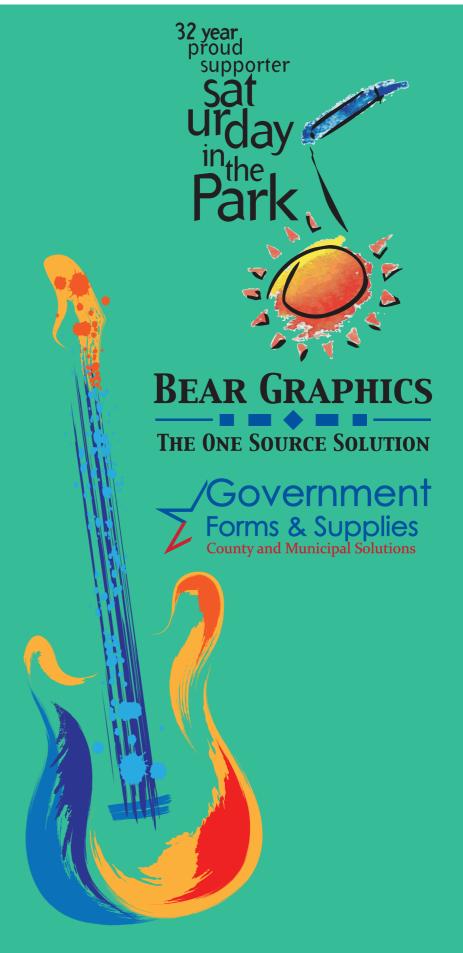
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Fans dance while AJR performs on the Main Stage during Saturday in the Park at Grandview Park in Sioux City, Iowa,

Friday, July 2, 2021.
JESSE BROTHERS THE WEEKENDER





From twisting wrenches to playing axes

Service techs by trade, Servant Shop to open at SITP

BY EARL HORLYK

Jason Lindberg doesn't mind it if you know he's a fan boy when it comes to Buddy Guy.

"Buddy's the man." he said at a table, inside Hardline Coffee Co. on a Friday morning. "Buddy's an absolute legend."

The 85-year-old Guy has influenced a generation of guitarists like Keith Richards, Gary Clark Jr. and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

If truth be told, Guy - an eighttime Grammy Award winner - has also influenced Lindberg, who is part of Servant Shop, the blues rock enjoyed a more eclectic mix of duo which will open this year's Saturday in the Park on July 2.

"We'll open the show around noon and Buddy will be on later that night," Lindberg said. "Just being on the same bill as Buddy Guy really blows my mind."

Servant Shop, which Lindberg helped to found with drummer

Corey Freese in 2015, has played gigs in Sioux City, Omaha and everyplace in between.

'We're a high-energy blues rock duo who creates a lot of noise," Lindberg said, describing Servant Shop's style. "There may be only two of us but we create a wall of

Growing up in rural Nebraska. Lindberg said he was initially drawn to rockers like Stone Temple Pilots and Red Hot Chili Peppers before developing an appreciation for a bluesier sound.

Freese, on the other hand, artists.

"When I was younger, I was into rap and hip-hop," he explained. "But I also loved Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison."

While Lindberg is a veteran of previous bands, Freese has only been a member of Servant Shop.

"I call Jason my rock and

roll Sherpa because he's taught me everything I know about performing," he said with a laugh.

Apparently, Lindberg is a man of many talents.

Indeed, both met while they were working in the service department of Scheels.

'That's where we got the name for the band," Freese explained, "If we answered the phone quickly at Scheels, service shop sounds an awful like Servant Shop."

"By the way, Corey doesn't work at Scheels anymore," Lindberg said.

Still not too many Servant Shops – or service shop employees - can say they're opening for a legend like Buddy Guy.

"We're gonna have to figure out to how to take up more space," Lindberg admitted with a smile. "The Grandview Park Bandshell is a pretty big stage for just me and Corey."

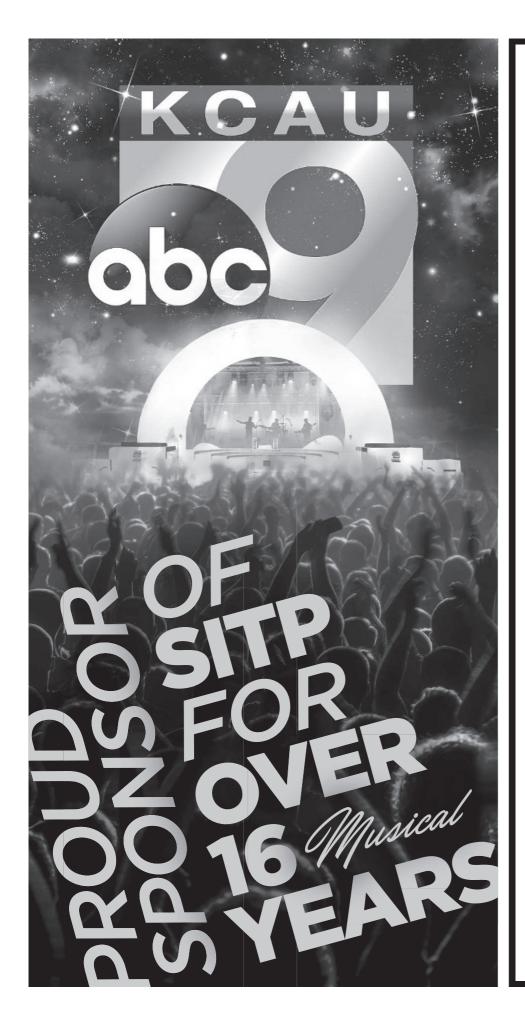


TIM HYNDS.THE WEEKENDER

Corey Freese, left, and Jason Lindberg make up the Sioux City band, Servant Shop. The two will be the Main Stage opening act at Saturday in the Park on July 2.







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A celestial comeback

Artificial Stars makes a return appearance on SITP main stage

BY EARL HORLYK

On a humid June night, Jeff Koithan was scoping out the alley art that were featured on the sides of several downtown buildings.

"Ah, this is the art of Sioux City," he said, standing in front of a large mural created by Kitty Hart (aka "Kitty Kitty Bang Bang").

Getting a whiff from a nearby dumpster, Koithan added with a grimace, "and this is the aroma of Sioux City.

A guitarist with the rock group Artificial Stars, Koithan was in the alley between Fourth and Pierce streets for an on-location photo shoot with bandmates Luke Sweeney, Neil Strub and Ari Lebowitz. Founded by Koithan and fellow guitarist Strub in 2017, the band will be playing Saturday in the Park's main stage on July 2.

This may be a bit of a comeback for Artificial Stars, according to drummer Sweeney.

"We started off really hot," he explained. "Then, our original bassist Jesus Iniguez moved away."

"Ari joined the band as our new bassist in 2021," Strub explained, continuing the story. "We played one gig and, then, life kept getting in the way of the band."

Which for Strub, Lebowitz and Koithan meant marriage.

"All three of us got married to our girlfriends in the past year," Lebowitz said.

As for Sweeney, who was already a husband, 2021 was a year reserved for some DIY.

"I renovated the attic of my house, turning it into a rehearsal for space for us," he explained. "That was my big project which ate up my time."

As its name seems to imply, Artificial Stars is an ensemble group without a front man.

"We're a rock band and our sound has evolved over time as we've matured as a group," Koithan said.

"I know we're not as angsty as we were when we started out," Strub noted.

Indeed, Artificial Stars is probably less angsty than they were when the band played Saturday in the Park's Abe Stage in 2019.

"Jesus was still our bassist at the time," Sweeney said. "That was a huge step for us."

Yet Lebowitz gets emotional at the thought of appearing with his band at Saturday in the Park's main stage.

"I've been an SITP volunteers since I was 13 years old," he said. "Over the years, I've seen performers like B.B. King, Aretha Franklin, the Avett Brothers and Buddy Guy. Knowing that Artificial Stars will be part of that history is incredible to me."

Strub nodded his head in agreement.

"The past few years have been



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER

Neil Strub, left, Jeff Koithan, Ari Lebowitz, and Luke Sweeney, right, are Artificial Stars, a Sioux City-based band that will perform on the Main Stage at July 2's Saturday in the Park.

crazy but we're back," he said.
"We're recording a new album that
will be out in the fall plus we've
booked a few festival shows this

summer."

"Saturday in the Park will remind people that were still around and ready to go again," Strub added.





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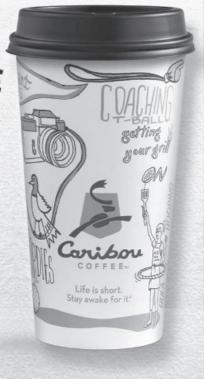
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Band of brothers

Nine things you need to know about the Avett Brothers

BY EARL HORLYK

ill the third time be the charm for the Avett Brothers?
You see, the American folk rock group was a headliner at Saturday in the Park in 2014. Plus they'll be returning to this year's festival at Grandview Park's Bandshell on July 2.

But this will actually be the Avett's third appearance in Sioux City. They performed a concert at the Orpheum Theatre back in 2015.

That got us thinking. How much do we actually know about this group from Concord, North Carolina?

1. THEY'RE NOT ALL BROTHERS

Let's get this straight. Scott Avett (banjo, guitar, piano, kick-drum and lead vocals) and Seth Avett (guitar, piano, hi-hat and lead vocals) are, in fact, brothers. Bandmembers Bob Crawford (double bass, violin and backing vocals) and Joe Kwon (cello, backing vocals) are not.

2. FINDING 'NEMO' AND LOSING HIM AGAIN

Originally, Scott and Seth Avett played in separate bands Nemo and Margo, respectively. The two brothers decided to merge in 1997, playing under the Nemo name. When did the Avett Brothers name the band after themselves? That happened around 2000.

3. JAY-Z, RUN-DMC AND THE AVETTS?

Legendary producer Rick Rubin is best known for bringing hip-hop into the mainstream. After all, the dude was the cofounder of De Jam Recordings. While Rubin was pivotal in the careers of Jay-Z, Run-DMC and the Beastie Boys, he also produced the Avett Brothers' first major label debut "I and Love and You" in 2009.

4. READY FOR THEIR CLOSE-UP

Famed moviemaker Judd Apatow ("The 40-Year-Old Virgin") is apparently a big fan of the Avetts. He used the band's "Live and Die" in his 2012 comedy "This is 40." Apatow also directed the documentary "May It Last: A Portrait of the Avett Brothers" in 2017.

5. PLATTERS THAT MATTER

The Avetts are incredibly prolific. Their discography consists of 10 studio albums, four live albums and four LPs. In addition,





JIM LEE, THE WEEKENDER

The Avett Brothers performed at the 2014 Saturday in the Park crowd. The Grammy Awardwinning group returns to this year's outdoor music festival in Sioux City.

Seth Avett has released four solo albums under the name Timothy Seth Avett as Darling. He's even teamed up with singer Jessica Lea Mayfield to record an album of covers featuring the works of the late songwriter (and Omaha native) Elliott Smith.

6. GETTING PERSONAL WITH THE AVETTS

Seth Avett is married to actress Jennifer Carpenter ("Dexter") while Scott Avett paints in free times. He even has his art gallery in Concord, North Carolina.

7. ISN'T IT ROMANTIC?

The music and lyrics of the Avetts were referenced throughout "Slammed," a 2012

New York Times best-selling book by romance novelist Colleen Hoover.

8. FROM THE CONCERT STAGE TO THE THEATRICAL STAGE

"Swept Away: A New Musical" – featuring songs from various Avett Brothers albums – premiered at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, in Berkeley, California, in 2022.

9. THE AVETTS REMAIN HOMETOWN BOYS

The Avett Brothers still live in their hometown of Concord. In fact, they live right down the road from one another. Making it ever cozier, mom and dad are just a few miles away.



JIM LEE, THE WEEKENDER

The Avett Brothers performed during the 2015 Saturday in the Park free outdoor music festival.



JIM LEE, THE WEEKENDER

The Avett Brothers perform at Saturday in the Park in 2014. The Grammy Awardwinning group returns to this year's outdoor musical festival in Grandview Park.



JUSTIN WAN, THE WEEKENDER

Scott Avett of the Avett Brothers performed at Orpheum Theatre in Sioux City, Iowa on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015.



A festival favorite, blues legend Buddy Guy returns

BY OWEN ZILIAK

oziliak@siouxcityjournal.com

uddy Guy has been a fixture in American music for decades, and will make his third appearance at Saturday in the Park this year.

Guy first performing in 1993 and again in 2004. In a review of his 2004 show, Guy "staked his claim to the 'Mr. Saturday in the Park' title," and "should have a permanent slot on the Saturday in the Park roster. He is what it's all about."

Chances are, you have heard his guitar riffs and vocals on either solo tracks or collaborations with other artists, such as Eric Clapton, Fleetwood Mac, Jeff Beck and B.B. King. But if that still doesn't ring a bell, here

is some additional background on the blues musician.

Hailing from Lettsworth, Louisiana, George "Buddy" Guy is best known for a combination of Chicago blues and rock and roll. Chicago blues uses a harmonica or electric guitar distorted through an amplifier, with drums and bass supplying the rhythm. His guitar playing has been called "ferocious" and "visceral." Legendary musicians such as Eric Clapton and Jimi Hendrix have cited 85-year-oldas an influence. In 1986, Clapton went so far as to say that Guy is "without a doubt the best guitar player alive."

It took a little over 20 years for Guy to earn his first big hit in the United States, when he released his seventh studio album, "Damn Right, I've Got the Blues," in 1991.

The album won him his first Grammy, taking home the 1992 Best Contemporary Blues Album. Since then, Guy has been nominated for six more Grammys, taking home five of them. Guy has produced 18 studio albums as well as six live albums in his career.

Six of Guy's albums have charted in the top 100 of the Billboard 200. Those albums are "Skin Deep" (2008), "Living Proof" (2011), "Rhythm and Blues" (2013), "Born-To Play Guitar" (2015) and "The Blues is Alive and Well" (2018).

Additionally, six of Guy's albums spent time as the number one Blues album on Billboard's charts. Those albums are "Sweet Tea" (2001), "Skin Deep" (2008), "Living Proof" (2011, "Rhythm and Blues" (2013,

"Born To Play Guitar" (2015) and "The Blues is Alive and Well" (2018).

Guy's "Stone Crazy," off his 1979 album "Stone Crazy!," was named the 78th-greatest guitar song of all time by Rolling Stone Magazine.

Guy is also a National-Medal of Arts and Kennedy Center honoree and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2005. The Rock Hall writes "if you cut Buddy Guy open, he would bleed blue."

Guy owns a blues club in downtown Chicago, Buddy Guy's Legends. The club, which opened in 1989, often features upand-coming blues musicians. It has also hosted-its-fair share of stars, such as Willie Dixon, B.B. King, The Rolling Stones, David Bowie and Guy himself.

www.siouxland.net . 06.23.2022 . Weekender . 37

'Ex's & Oh's' and so much more!

King talks about being a woman in the music field and finding her voice in country

BY EARL HORLYK

When people used to ask Elle King what her genre was, she'd say "I don't know? You tell me."

That's because she has a musical style that encompasses everything from rock, soul, country and blues.

Best known for her rootsy-retro Grammy-nominated debut single "Ex's & Oh's," King has even performed duets with such country music heavy hitters as Dierks Bentley and Miranda Lambert.

Which may be surprising since King, the daughter of comedian Rob Schneider ("Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo") and model London King, doesn't look like much of a country girl.

Even though she was born in Los Angeles and spent her teen years between New York and Philadelphia, King also lived in Ohio, where her stepdad gave her a record by the legendary all-female punk group The Donnas. creative. "Why it's badas answered the legendary all-female punk singer has smooth of the legendary all-female punk smooth of the legendary all-female punk group The Donnas.

By the time she turned 13, King started playing guitar while listening to everything from Aretha to Al Green to AC/DC.

"As a very little girl, I was totally into soul, hip-hop and disco," she explained. "Growing up, I appreciated any music I could get my hands on."

While her initial forays into music walked a fine line between crunchy rock and roll as well as swinging soul, King insisted country is the genre where she felt the most creative.

"Why country? Because it's badass, that's why," she answered with a husky laugh.

Having said that, King's coming out as a country singer hadn't always been a smooth one.

"My first experience in Nashville was when I was in my mid-20s," the now 32-year-old remembered. "They pretty much chewed me up and spit me out."

King said this was because producers viewed her as a "pretty girl" and not as a serious singer-songwriter and musician.

"Is it tough to be a woman in a music industry?" she asked. "Yeah, it's getting better but it can get rough when you don't fall neatly into any perceived cookie cutter category."

Still, King admitted she was the one who always stood in her way when it came to success.

"Artists are usually their own biggest hurdles," she said. "Guess I'm no different."

Yet during COVID, King did the most creative thing she could do.

PPOVIDE

Best known for her rootsy-retro hit "Exes & Ohs," singer Elle King will be on Saturday in the Park's Main Stage on July 2.

"I had a baby and he was born in September 2021," she explained. "When the music world – and everything else – came to a screeching halt, I brought a new life to my life."

Since then, King has been writing more music and

returning to touring. And, she sprained her ankle.

"I may be on crutches at Saturday in the Park but I'll be ready to rock," she said with a chuckle. "That is, if I broke anything else in the meantime."





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Now headed by founding member Jon Elliott, the Columbus, Ohio-based Doc Robinson is best known for its "backyard BBQ vibe." Encompassing everything from rock, soul and folk, they'll be on Saturday in the Park's Main Stage on July 2.

A soulful prescription

Doc Robinson creates 'backyard BBQ party vibe' at SITP

BY EARL HORLYK

When longtime friends Jon Elliott and Nick D'Andrea formed Doc Robinson in 2016, they went out of their way to recruit the finest rhythm and blues musicians that Columbus, Ohio had to offer.

After all, any group that named itself after two legendary icons (the Philadelphia-based rock band Dr. Dog and Motown's very own Smokey Robinson) needed to bring the goods.

And Doc Robinson did just that.

Describing their sound as "backyard BBQ breakup music," the band created music that was soulful and relatable.

Four records in two years, a successful series of tours plus having their song "Break My Fall" land on the cult Netflix animated series "Bojack Horseman" helped to put Doc Robinson on the map.

Then, two unexpected challenges impacted the band.

First, vocalist and guitarist D'Andrea amicably left Doc Robinson right before COVID-19 brought the music world to a standstill.

So, when Doc Robinson comes to Saturday in the Park's Main Stage on July 2, it will be after a two-year hiatus.

It will also have Elliott, the lead vocalist and harmonica player, firmly in the captain's chair.

"When Nick left, we weren't ready to see Doc Robinson end," Elliott said. "The band was too good for that to happen."

Instead, he and his bandmates continued making music which combined elements of rock and roll, soul and a modern pop beat.

"We call our sound a 'throwback to the future," Elliott explained. "Even if our tunes are made up of sad, break-up songs, they all have the melody and feel that will put you in the mood of a fun backyard BBQ party."

Unlike other performers, Elliott said his parents encouraged him to pursue music

"Both of my parents were musicians and my mom was an administrator with the Columbus Public School District," he said. "They know the importance of music."

This was especially true during the pandemic, when Elliott was able to write and record new material.

"We're living in a time when everybody has a recording studio in their bedroom," he said. "The pandemic gave us plenty of time to perfect our material."

Yet nothing will match being on the road.

"When I'm on the festival circuit, it becomes all about the music," Elliott said. "I don't want to sound too 'hippie' about it but I become one with the music when I'm on stage."

This will certainly be the case when Doc Robinson comes to Saturday in the Park

"Being on the same stage as Buddy Guy means everything to us," Elliott said in admiration. "The man is such a true legend."

"Will Doc Robinson bring our A game when we come to Sioux City?" he said. "You



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Flower power

Daisy the Great on the process of songwriting and collaborating with AJR

BY EARL HORLYK

When Kellev Nicole Dugan and Mina Walker met as students at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, both had dreams of becoming of actors.

Instead, Dugan, a native New Yorker, and Walker, originally from the Crescent City of New Orleans, decided to team up and form the indie pop group Daisy the Great.

Best known for songs like "Glitter," "Persephone" and "Cry in the Mirror," the band will be playing Saturday in the Park's Main Stage on July 2.

So, how did two acting students become musicians?

Mina Walker: "We were in the same class at NYU, studying acting and segued way into music. It naturally happened because we were both songwriters. Kelley was more serious than me (but) I discovered how much I loved writing songs."

I know you collaborate on many songs. What makes you a good team?

Mina Walker: "We have a similar writing styles that are both lyrically and melodically driven. We have similar strengths as well as a few different ones. We can bounce ideas off of each other. If Kelley said this is a good idea or this is a bad idea, I can really trust her."

I imagine after working together for the past five or six years, it becomes easier, right?

Kelley Nicole Dugan: "I definitely thing we've developed a shorthand with each other over time."

There's a wistfulness about your music. Do you feel a sense of nostalgia when performing your



Headed by Mina Walker and Kelley Nicole Dugan, Daisy the Great will bring their indie pop sounds to Saturday in the Park's Main Stage on July 2.



TOBY TENENBAUM

Known for their energetic stage presence, Daisy the Great's Mina Walker and Kelley Nicole Dugan met as New York University acting students.

Kelley Nicole Dugan: "A lot of our songs are about confronting changes. Not necessarily nostalgic for the past but just interested in how you're growing and examining yourself. I think it's nice to see how a song ages. I'm like, wow, that song I wrote a long time ago applies to me more than ever."

Mina Walker: "I think that happens more and more

I know you recently collaborated with AJR, who were a big hit at 2021's Saturday in the Park. How did that come about?

Kelley Nicole Dugan: It was awesome to collaborate with AJR. We put out a new version of an older songs

("Record Player") and AJR added some new verses. That was super-fun to put together. We were very fortunate to hop on tour with them last year and, on the biggest stages we've ever seen. It was crazy."

Now, I'm going to get a bit philosophical. What advice would your future self give to the person you were in the past?

Mina Walker: "I'll write a song and, years later, discover my younger brain was smarter than I thought."

Kellev Nicole Dugan: "When we were vounger. we didn't how to do a lot of stuff. So, the way we made music was very experimental. I'd tell my younger self, you're doing great. And, also, to stay curious."

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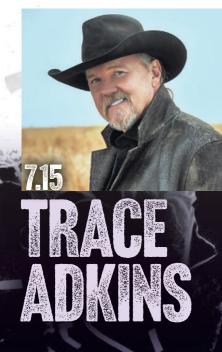
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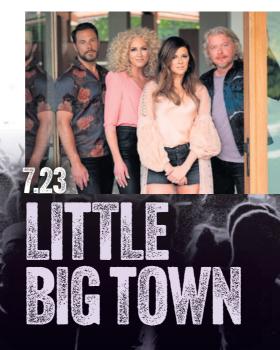


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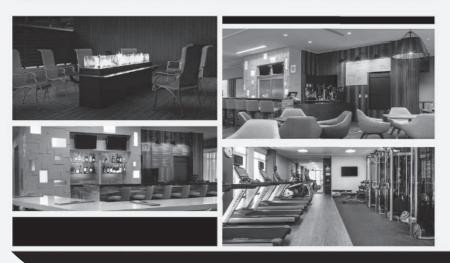


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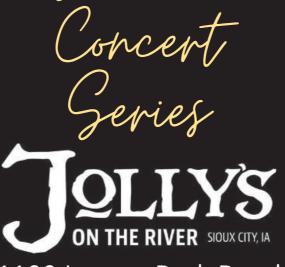


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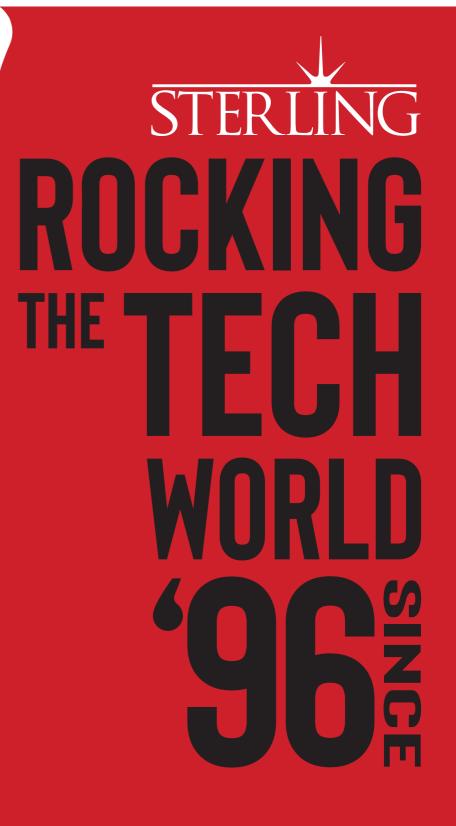
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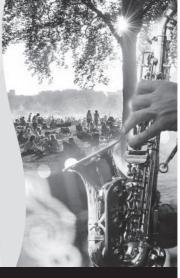


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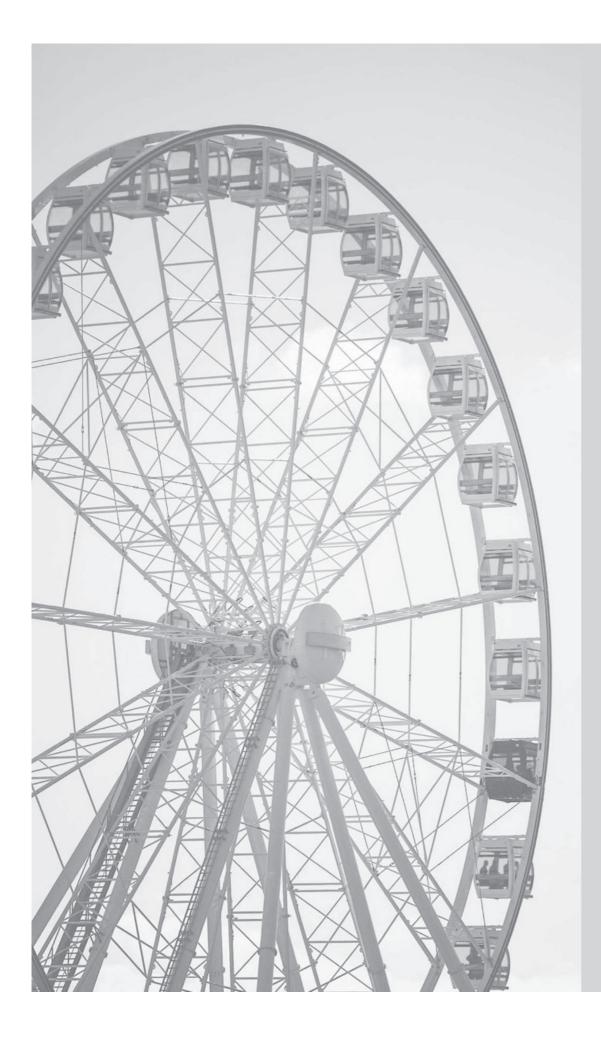
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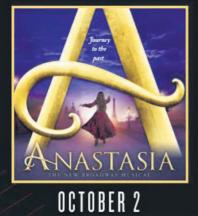


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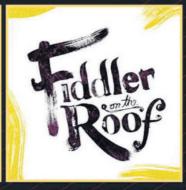




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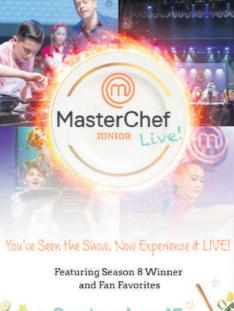
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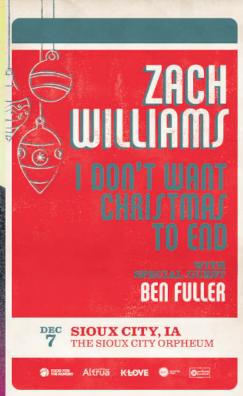














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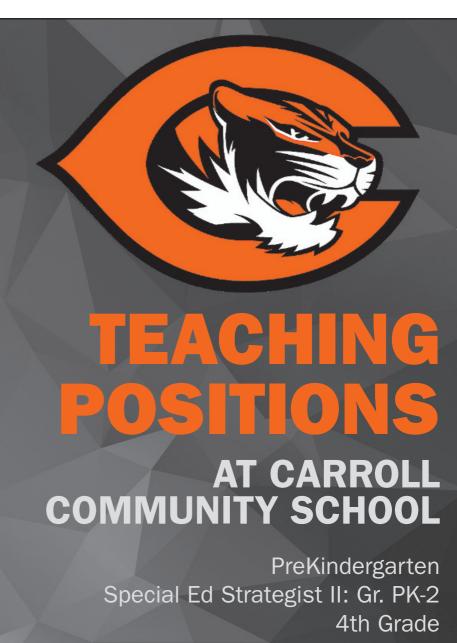
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