

Super Bowl Fan Fare

By Susie Iventosch



Chicken Philly Cheese(steak) sandwiches

Photos Susie Iventosch

We used to have season tickets to the Cal games some 20 years ago, and I just loved the smell of the Philly Cheesesteaks cooking on the grills in the concession stands! Though I usually never bought one, because I've never really eaten much beef, the aroma was out of this world!

Fast forward to this week, and my boys were talking about Chicken Philly Cheese(steak) sandwiches and my ears perked up. Why, I'd never thought of this, I don't know. Of course, I immediately decided to make a batch for dinner and real-

ized what a great dish this would be for a Super Bowl party.

While on the subject of Super Bowl parties, another recipe comes to mind. My son's friend, Theresa, brought this amazing Buffalo Chicken Dip to our house over Labor Day weekend. It is absolutely delicious and really easy to make.

Since Super Bowl is just a few weeks away, these might give you some fun new ideas to try on your family and friends while you root for your favorite team.

Susie Iventosch is the author of *Tax Bites* and *Tasty Morsels*, which can be found at Across the Way in Moraga, www.amazon.com, and www.taxbites.net. Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com. **This recipe can be found on our website:** www.lamorindaweekly.com. If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.



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Chicken Philly Cheese(steaks)

(Serves 4)

INGREDIENTS

4 hoagie rolls, or a nice rustic baguette, cut into four sandwich-sized pieces
3 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into thin strips
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon Johnny's seasoning salt (or your favorite seasoning salt)
1 red bell pepper, cut into julienne strips
1 yellow or orange bell pepper, cut into julienne strips
1 red or yellow onion, halved and thinly sliced
8 slices provolone cheese, (4 cut into strips, and 4 kept whole)

DIRECTIONS

In a large skillet, heat olive oil and place chicken strips in pan. Season with Johnny's and cook over medium heat until cooked through. Remove chicken from pan.

In the same pan, add onions and bell peppers and cook until tender and just beginning to caramelize. Add chicken back into pan along with the strips of provolone. Heat until cheese is melted through and chicken is hot. Lay the remaining slices of cheese on top and cook until melted.

Meanwhile, toast or heat rolls. When ready to serve, spoon a healthy portion of the Philly chicken mixture over the bottom of each roll, trying to keep the melted cheese on top, and close up the sandwich with the other half of the roll. Enjoy!

Buffalo Chicken Dip

INGREDIENTS

1 8-ounce package cream cheese (I used light cream cheese)
1 cup of Ranch dressing (I used Lighthouse's OPA Greek Yogurt Ranch)
¾ to 1 cup of Frank's RedHot Buffalo Wing Sauce (medium temp)
1 cup cooked, shredded chicken
1 bag of your favorite dipping chips (Doritos, Fritos, Tortilla chips, etc.)

DIRECTIONS

Place all ingredients in an oven-safe dish. Bake at 350F for approximately 20 minutes, or until bubbly and heated all the way through. Remove from oven and dip away!



Buffalo Chicken Dip

'Charlotte's Web' at Saint Mary's College a Pure Delight

By Sophie Braccini



Saint Mary's College students rehearse "Charlotte's Web" with director Will Huddleston

Photo Sophie Braccini

The graceful Charlotte the spider, a cutesy Wilbur the pig, a crafty Templeton the rat, and an innocent little girl, Fern, will be waiting for you at the Saint Mary's College Lefevre Theatre the end of this month as part of the college's winter children's play program. The play, directed by Will Huddleston, is sure to delight children of all ages – and parents, too.

Everyone knows the story by E.B. White of friendship and salvation set on a farm in the '50s. The children's classic "Charlotte's Web" was adapted to the theater in 1972 and has been produced numerous times, including many times by Huddleston, the San Francisco-based director who produced "Pinocchio" last year for the college. "This is one of the best American novels for young people," says Huddleston. "Most of the children have already read it and will have high expectations coming to the theater." As the students rehearsed under Huddleston's direction, it was obvious that the audience will not be disappointed.

Charlotte the spider is a graceful dancer

who spins her web with lightness and grace, singing along as needed. Wilbur in his pen is certainly the cutest pig one ever saw, buttermilk bathed or not. Templeton looks like a quite dangerous and selfish rat, and Fern has a heart of gold. None of the performers involved in the show are drama students, but their youthful energy, well directed by Huddleston, produces a very fresh and spontaneous rendition of the play.

"This is such a rich piece of work for all ages," says Huddleston. "We're aware that the story concerns natural death, which is a big heavy message. It is an animal show that children love." Huddleston points out that E.B. White was a professional writer who expansively revised the 1958 edition of the American English writing style guide, "The Elements Of Style," with William Strunk. "He loved words," says Huddleston. "What he also says in 'Charlotte's Web' is that what makes you a great writer is your choice of words. Charlotte only writes four words, but it saves someone's life."

The story encompasses many different universal issues including friendship and nature taking its course.

"I see this as a wonderful opportunity to expose children to live theater at a young age," adds Huddleston. "There is something very unique and real about sharing an emotion with someone on stage, as well as with the people around you. It is amplified. Something happens in the room that cannot be reproduced on a screen. It's unique and it is very old!"

Since 1991, the Saint Mary's College has been producing a children's play during its month-long January Term. The program is so popular that local schools book seats ahead of time and by the beginning of January, the morning shows were almost completely sold out, and the afternoon and evening shows were 50 percent sold. The play will run Jan. 26-29. Show times are at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., depending on the days. More information and reservations can be found at <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/charlottes-web>.

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