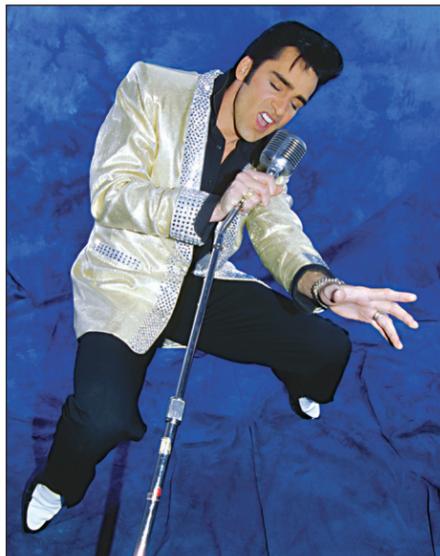


Clint Eats



By Clint Hamblin



Steve Connolly as Elvis Presley

Elvis Cooks!

Elvis has left the building. Actually, that's not true. He's in the kitchen of the Hard Rock Café cooking up one of his favorite dishes. Elvis Presley's meatloaf, maple baked ribs and fried pork chops served with mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potato casserole, glazed carrots, coleslaw and baked beans are just a sampling of recipes in *Fit for a King*. And let's not forget the biscuits, cornbread and the pecan and banana cream pies. There's no doubt, Elvis loved to eat.

Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Hard Rock Café is celebrating what would have been the king's 73rd birthday on Tuesday, January 8 by featuring several dishes high on Elvis's list of favorites. Chef Marc

Frisacano has put together a menu from the *Fit for a King* cookbook to be presented at the Hard Rock Café on January 3. A trivia contest, an Elvis favorite food dinner and a concert preview performed by Elvis impersonator, Winchester-born Steve Connolly, are on the marquee. Visit www.hardrockcafe.com for more information.

And if you want to experience Elvis in-the-flesh, order your tickets to see Connolly perform as Elvis Presley in a mini-Las Vegas revue "Spirit of the King," on Saturday, January 5 at 8 pm at the Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont Street. Visit www.spiritoftheking.com for more information.

New Chef

After a two-year stint as sous chef, Jeff Polisenio has taken over as executive chef of Vox Populi, located at 755 Boylston Street, and he has made some great menu choices.

Brunch at this upscale American bistro and martini bar features delicious lobster bisque with sherry crème fraiche and tarragon oil. Other standout items include a classic French onion soup, beef Carpaccio and tuna tartar. Polisenio's exceptional pear salad combines roasted pears, cranberries and candied walnuts, and his seared shrimp salad is loaded with diced mango, pineapples, cucumbers and feta cheese with sweet soy vinaigrette.

Imagine a baked peach and pecan pancake with amaretto butter and bourbon syrup. With excellent service provided by Sarah Baker, we were served a Drunken Southern Pancake which went very well



New Vox Populi Executive Chef Jeff Polisenio

with Steak Tips Benedict, grilled marinated steak tips with poached eggs and hollandaise sauce.

Award Winning Rum Cake

Congratulations are in order for chefs Arwi Odense and Jeremy Langemann of the Fairmont Copley Plaza, winners of the recent *Where to Eat/Bacardi Gold Rum Cake Cooking Contest* held at The



Fairmont Copley's Rum Cake is a winner

Prudential.

This absolutely sinful cake includes meringue and coconut pastry cream, Bacardi rum toffee sauce, brûlée bananas, and is garnished with walnut brittle and fresh mint. Yum!

Cruising Boston Harbor in December

If you're looking for an unusual place to have dinner and perhaps do a little dancing, don't let the occasionally harsh New England weather intimidate you from taking a cruise around Boston. Departing from Rows Wharf, Odyssey is definitely a unique way to spend a few hours cruising along Boston's historic harbor where you will enjoy the view of Boston's ever changing landscape and dinner.

After a recent \$1 million renovation, the slick-looking Odyssey is fit for action and filling the three decks with couples, family parties and small to large groups. Pass-around seasonal hors d'oeuvres, appetizers and various first and second course items are available, along with a full bar and several quality wine selections. The atmosphere is romantic, and the quality of service is tops.

How about a chocolate fountain for dipping strawberries, along with several cakes and desserts? Odyssey is a massive function facility on water. Food is cooked on board and served by a very polite and cordial waitstaff. Be sure to remember that once you're on board, you'd better be a good swimmer if you want to leave early. Patrons come aboard at 7 pm with Odyssey departing at 8 and returning at 11 pm. It's a smooth ride with live music. If you're celebrating a special occasion, Odyssey takes photographs at the beginning of your nautical adventure for a take-home memory that will last a lifetime.

Odyssey offers a New Year's dinner package with a great view of Boston Harbor's First Night fireworks. Visit www.odysseycruises.com for more information.

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