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# **The Independent**

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Color Country's Complete Guide To **L** Arts ~ Music ~ Entertainment ~ Culture & More

**THE FIFTH ANNUAL  
ARTS TO ZION  
ART AND STUDIO TOUR**  
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DISCUSSES "BLU UNK" EP**  
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**ON THE COVER: THE FIFTH ARTS TO ZION ART AND STUDIO TOUR. SEE STORY ON PG 10. PAINTING BY ROLAND LEE**

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Color Country's Complete Guide To Arts, Music, Entertainment, Culture & More

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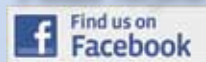
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## EDITORIAL

### PUBLISHER'S PERSPECTIVE by Josh Warburton

If you have read my Publisher's Perspectives for a while, you may have noticed a theme lately. Or maybe a trend. Since moving to Springdale at the end of September, I feel I've been reinventing myself at almost every turn, and it feels amazing.

Immediately after arriving in Zion Canyon, I started working on new projects. I wanted to turn my love for veganism into some positive community outreach, and I figured potlucks were the obvious way to do it. So each Wednesday, starting the week of Thanksgiving, we've had a potluck at different residences in Zion Canyon, mostly

mine. It has caught fire already, and we've been packing our host locations each week. It's open to everyone, so if you're interested, please join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/zionvegans/> to keep tabs on the locations and weekly themes.

I was also hoping to figure out a way to give to some of the needy in the Zion Canyon area; believe me, for all the affluence here, there's definitely a need. So as a natural extension to the potlucks, we've been gifting out plates and containers of the extra food each week to families and individuals who could use an extra meal. I'd like to personally thank Max and Julie at Sol Foods for food and container donations, as well as April Gates and the teachers at the Springdale Elementary School for helping with the gifting.

I've also just started songwriting again. This is a big deal for me, as I'd taken a bit of a musical hiatus and have been awaiting inspiration. I've also been shooting a lot more photographs, including the shot accompanying this article. Watch for more from me in both of those areas coming soon.

Happy reading.



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## A YEAR-END RECAP OF SORTS

by Dallas Hyland



Greetings for the season I say to one and all. It has been customary for me this time of year to publish a year-end recap of sorts.

It is hard to believe that it's been nearly five years since I first had the honor of

taking on the charge of filling some hefty shoes. Kevin Jones, aka The Boneman, preceded me with banter and wit not to be surpassed but rather risen to and carried on. I hope I have done the job justice.

We here at the Indy saw some worthwhile growing pains and in my honest opinion quite distinguished ourselves as a force to be reckoned with in and for the community. Relentless in our pursuit of carving the niche of the independent voice here, we are fortunate to have some new talent on our roster. But more importantly than that, it should be noted that we were bold enough to bring on some folks who did not necessarily champion the perception of our rage, one of a left-leaning bend, but rather are contrary voices who found a welcome home here — not for their

inclinations but for their “independent” style of bringing them out.

Harry Truman once said that he did not give people hell but instead gave them the truth. It just felt like hell.

And the truth is that in an environment where web marketing directors accused us of confusing the market, where fundamentalists accused us of professionally egregious conduct, and where would-be writers left us — butthurt because we would not yield to their will — we have stood fast and committed to starting the much-needed conversations without fear or apology.

This very moment, as I pen this piece to you, our legislators both national and local actively pursue the diminution of your civil liberties in the name of political and financial gain as well as unaccountable power and control over the people. And they

are doing a fine job.

Congress, for the fourth year in a row, seeks to pass legislation that abdicates our privacy and our First Amendment rights through things like the Omnibus Bill and the Cyber Security Information Sharing Act.

Here locally, a justice court judge, Ron Read, let a motion to compel in the Varlo Davenport case sit on his desk for over four months. This defiance of any semblance of reasonable procedural conduct flies in the face of Brady vs. Maryland and is but another example of government out of control.

One day in December, while doing my regular guest spot on Fox News KZNU 1450 with Kate Dalley, I was talking about that case, and a caller attempted to chastise me for what he considered to be nothing more than pontificating on

something absent any action. While I will be the first to concur that the identification of a problem absent a solution is nothing more than a complaint, my retort was simply this: I did do something. I stayed on top of the development of this information and, at some risk of becoming a target of this establishment, informed you of what was going on — information that you may otherwise not have known about, let alone how it affects you. The question now is “What are you going to do?”

Yes, you. The reader. What are you going to do?

As the new year begins, I am compelled to remind you that citizenship is not a spectator sport. It requires of us something more than perhaps what we as a country have been willing to give, which has been slowly but surely diminishing.

Partisanship is par for the course. Complacency is the new tolerance. Apathy is the final nail in the coffin. But I will tell you, and you had better listen, that our privacy — and by default its association with our ability to observe, report, and hold accountable our elected and appointed officials — is more important than any gun will ever be.

The privilege of having the actions of our government reported to us so that we may take up the charge of verifying their validity and taking action is something we have had, have squandered, and are now losing — and it is now hanging by but a thread.

Ponder that and we'll see you in the new year.

See you out there.

**Find more opinions everyday at SUindependent.com**



Original cartoon by Clay Jones

## WATCH ME SALVAGE THE DSU REBRANDING SURVEY

by Jason Gottfried



DSU rebranding is a great idea. The menstrual implications of “Red Storm” should’ve been clear enough to make that a non-option. But of course, the university is not interested in changing the

worst thing about it: its name. Like a belligerent child, it is too stubborn to respond constructively to criticism and too stupid and self-righteous to understand why it should. We expect nothing less. I’m just happy not to have “Dixie State University” (ugh) on my resume. Instead, I write “yeehaw” with barbecue sauce on all job applications. Same thing.

DSU is, however, changing everything else about itself. Love Communications has come up with six hilariously bad options to choose from in a DSU rebranding survey which is too funny to miss. And I have generously attempted to salvage these six entertainingly pitiful ideas by taking their angle and improving upon the final product. Free of charge! You’re welcome.

### The Raptors

“The Utahraptor was one of the fiercest dinosaurs ever to walk the Earth,” claims Love’s campaign. What a silly claim to make. But it’s appropriate if you think about it: Here, we have a Utah-based organization — another one — making audacious claims about quasi-fictional historical “facts” that it has no way of backing up. Sound familiar?

But this is the best part about this mascot: Raptor Jesus! Yes! Pick this dismal option, and we will all be making jokes about the “velocirapture” for eternity. I actually really hope it happens. I voted!

### Solution: The T-Rexes

Does anyone mess with a Tyrannosaurus Rex? Nope. If you’re going for the dinosaur thing, stop dicking around with raptors.

### The Sun Warriors

The mascot’s name is “Apollo.” I think “Raptor Jesus” is way more badass. Placing the nude god of knowledge as the mascot of a university that is having an open relationship with the LDS Church almost seems like heresy. May as well go all out and shoot for Zeus.

This really looks like the idea of a marketing student who has spent way too much time playing online role-playing games. The mock-up looks like Gimli. The “WTF” factor is strong with this one.

### Solution: The Demogorgons

If we’re going to make a pagan god into a university mascot, make it the

Prince of Demons. Seriously. The DSU Demogorgons? Hell yeah!

### The Marshals

Mustangs? You mean the horses that the BLM chases down in helicopters and machine-guns to death? Or however they do it. You want that to be the mascot? Okay! I’d better start writing horse meat jokes. IKEA meatballs, anyone?

### Solution: The Centaurs

Of course, for this to really work, the Centaur needs to have an AK-47 or something — probably two — not a spear or a lute or whatever. And if the horse portion needs to be robotic ... so be it.

### The Blazers

Seriously? A buffalo named “Blaze”? In the mock-up, his eyes even seem a little bloodshot.

Come on, guys. The stoner reference is so obvious that it hurts. Making pot brownies for DSU games will become big business in St. George. (I mean, bigger than it already is.)

### Solution: The Drug Lords

The DSU Drug Lords won’t just win that game; they’ll blow up the opposing team’s cars, break their knees, and murder their families. Over the top? You betcha. But it wasn’t my idea to make a drug reference.

### The Wranglers

Unfortunately, “Brokeback Mountain” has permanently altered the stereotype of the rugged cowboy. See a

picture of a bearded man in chaps and a cowboy hat, and you immediately wonder if his butt cheeks are cold. This is a pretty lame idea, but it looks great compared to the others.

### Solution: The Pioneers

Whereas I think most southern Utahns would die if they had to walk instead of drive to Wal-Mart, those old pioneer dudes were tough as nails. And considering the insatiable local fetish for ancestor worship, the fact that this idea wasn’t already on the table is mind-blowing.

### The Rock Hounds

Excuse me, sir. Your mascot is humping my leg. Is that thing potty trained?

You’d think that a marketing firm based out of Utah would know that a rockhound is an amateur geologist, not a dog. That actually would’ve been a fitting mascot. However, the mixed metaphor waters down the meaning, resulting in another weak, unfocused mascot idea.

### Solution: Rock Man

Yes, I’m talking about a Japanese Nintendo game from the early ‘80s. The game was called “Mega Man” in the U.S., but Rock Man was a cyborg who assimilated his opponents’ strengths after their defeat much like a warrior might eat the heart of his nemesis to gain his strength. Along those lines, The Cannibal might be an effective mascot as well. Better than a pooch.

### Conclusion

I really hope the raptor wins. But DSU’s rebranding survey is a lose-lose-lose-lose-lose situation, and we’ll have plenty to joke about no matter what the new mascot ends up being.



# THE LAKE POWELL PIPELINE, PART II: WHY THE PIPELINE IS NECESSARY

by Don Gilman

*This is the second part in a series examining the issue of the Lake Powell Pipeline. Part I was printed in December, and the follow-up articles can be found online at [suindependent.com](http://suindependent.com).*

Washington County is growing. The cities of St. George and Washington are expanding at rates that are among the fastest in the country. Growing pains are part of the equation, and one of the biggest issues for the cities of southern Utah is water.

For the leadership of Washington County, the answer is simple: The Lake Powell Pipeline must be built.

County Commissioner Alan Gardner says that with expected growth, the Lake Powell Pipeline is the only reasonable option. All other options are too expensive.

"We just have to have the water. We're paying to conserve water. It is considerably more per acre foot," Gardner

said. "Conservation is very important to us. We need to keep conserving, but the Lake Powell Pipeline was cheaper water than what we're paying. We can only conserve to a certain point. We can't come close to conserving for the amount of water we're going to need for the future."

Joshua Palmer, public information officer for the Utah Division of Water Resources, says that the Lake Powell Pipeline, while necessary, is not a magic bullet but part of a much larger, multi-layered approach to water problems in Washington County.

"Utah in general, and Washington County specifically, are experiencing significant growth," Palmer said. "Eighty percent of this growth comes from our children and grandchildren. Our kids don't bring water with them when they're born. We're looking at the doubling of the population [of St. George] by 2060 and even more significant than that in Washington County. It requires a multifaceted solution." Palmer says that conservation is

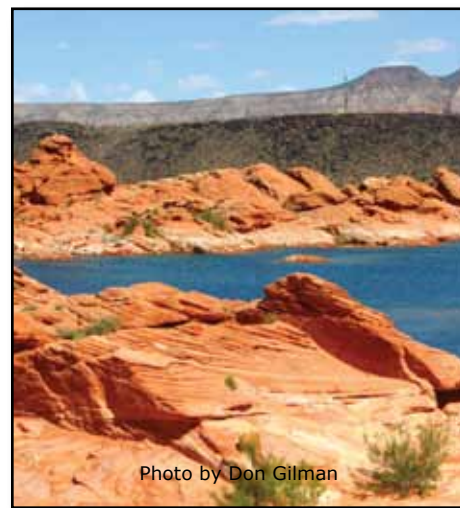


Photo by Don Gilman

one layer of the multi-faceted approach.

"We have to conserve more," Palmer said. "It's everybody's responsibility to make water-wise decisions. That is number one on the list. Second, we have to take advantage of agricultural to municipal water transfers on a free market basis. We respect and value the agricultural community. They're such an important part of the state's way of life and economy. This can't be something that we mandate. It is an important part of the solution. Third, we have to take advantage and make the best use of the water allocation we have to further meet the population demands."

Palmer emphasized that there were no quick fixes or easy solutions to the water issues Washington County is facing.

"There's no silver bullet; there's no magic wand," he said. "We really wish there was. We have to do all of these things, with conservation being number one on the list. We won't meet the demand of the double population without that multifaceted approach."

According to 2013 figures from the Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD), residents of Washington County use approximately 144 gallons per capita per day (GPCD). According to the United States Geological Survey, figures for the average water use in the United States vary but are estimated to be between 80 and 100 GPCD. This places residents of Washington County ahead of the national average. Despite that, according to the WCWCD, Washington County has decreased its water use by 26 percent between 2000 and 2010.

However, Palmer also says that when it comes to comparing water usage, it is important to take into consideration that not all water usage numbers are created equally.

"We need to compare apples to apples," Palmer said. "A lot of the eastern United States might not be running their sprinklers as much. That is because they are getting a whole lot more precipitation. Precipitation, especially in the warmer months, really does make a difference. We do need to conserve more, and that's a really big part of the solution."

The Utah Division of Water Resources states that when the Lake Powell Pipeline is fully developed, it will supply 82,000 acre feet per year to Washington County. Combined with current resources, this should supply over 110,000 acre feet of water to the county. For comparison, Albuquerque, a city of over 500,000 — roughly comparable to the projected population estimates for Washington County in 35 years — uses approximately 98,000 acre feet per year. The GPCD for Albuquerque is 148, slightly higher than that of Washington County residents.

Ron Thompson, general manager of the WCWCD, says that when considering the Lake Powell Pipeline, it is important to examine its historical context.

"In the 1970s, we were a community of 13,000 people," Thompson said. "Today we're about 150,000-160,000. We get 5.5 million tourists here every year. We're one of the fastest growing areas, in fact outstripping the state growth by two or three times. Top 10 in terms of county growth in the country. When you put that in context and you look at the state models of the governor's office planning a budget projecting a population over half a million people here, our job is to provide water for whatever that forecast is."

Thompson also said that the added constraints of conservation issues make finding enough water to satisfy the future needs of Washington County a more difficult proposition.

"When we look at our water resources of the Virgin River, it's just not going to support all of that, particularly when you put on top of that all the environmental issues that we deal with in

this river system."

According to Thompson, the worries about the project being too expensive are largely overblown. However, both Thompson and Palmer agree that attaching any price tag to the Lake Powell Pipeline is premature since much study and analysis remains.

"One thing that is very important is that we are very early in the process," Palmer said. "Multiple, different alternatives will be evaluated in an environmental process. The final cost will be dependent on which alternative is selected at the end of the process. ... We feel like it's important to trust the process."

Thompson echoed that sentiment. He said that a recent report by 21 economists criticizing the plan was flawed in its analysis. Thompson also pointed out that the basis for the financing was legislated into law.

"The statute, which is the current law for financing it, has a finance plan laid out in it. That was passed by a unanimous vote in the Senate, and one dissenting vote in the House and signed by the governor," he said. "That's the current law for how that project will be financed and paid for. Assuming we follow that, and [the economists] chose not to in their analysis, the economic impact is not too serious. Frankly, when you look at theirs, if you look at the price they're talking about, you're talking some increase of less than a penny per gallon to pay for that project."

When it comes to the overall cost, Thompson stated that southern Utah has historically had some of the lowest water rates in the nation, and in order to guarantee future water supplies, those rates would inevitably be raised. He also said that the alternative was a much worse option.

"There's no question it's a big project," he said. "There's no question that water's going to cost significantly more. In Utah, we're used to cheap water. When you look at big metropolitan areas of the West, our water rates are less than two dollars a thousand [gallons], and their water rates are closer to 10. The fact that our water is going to cost slightly more in the future I don't think is a deal killer. Running out of water's the deal killer."



Photo by Pegasus2 - CC BY 3.0

Unlike other counties and metropolitan areas, Washington County does not have a diverse source of water, and building the Lake Powell Pipeline would ensure that it has enough water to see it through tough times.

"We're just coming through the fourth year of a significant drought. As you move from 150,000 people to 500,000, you've got have a more diverse water resource, and Lake Powell provides that," Thompson said. "In water, we're planning decades in advance. It takes so long to put them online, get them ready, get them permitted, go through agencies. We're not developing a water supply for the next 10 years; we're really developing a water supply for the 30-40 years beyond that."

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## IS "GOLF" JUST ANOTHER NAME FOR "EXPENSIVE THERAPY?"

by Scott Dunford



It's true, golf is exceptionally one of the more expensive sports and hobbies to maintain. First, you've got to purchase the equipment. With technology continually improving, it's wise to stay fairly current with your equipment, at least within seven years. If you're someone who understands that this game can take up all of your spare time to learn and improve, you've got the cost of professional lessons to help speed up the learning curve as well. Then there are range balls, green fees of \$50 to \$100 or more, GPS gadgets, gloves that wear out quickly, shoes, golf apparel (if you're a fashion plate), and travel costs from time to time. You could compare it to skiing, I guess. That, too, can be an expensive hobby.



Here's the bottom line, however. These hobbies are why we work so hard! Sure, we work to provide for ourselves, families, and loved ones. But let's be honest here! It's about our need to reconnect with our inner self in a sport that frustrates, eradicates negative thoughts, perpetuates physical and mental excellence, and just plain gets in our blood when we pull off a good shot. Even the worst golfer can hit a great shot or putt once in a while! Does all that expense warrant the cost?

If you look at "expensive" as a verb, an overworked professional working 60 hours a week — neglecting his wife, kids, and friends in the pursuit of the almighty dollar — is just as bad as one who neglects his or her need to recharge in a setting conducive to making life more fulfilled and enjoyable: spending time in a less structured environment, breathing fresh air, getting exercise, continually improving your hand-eye coordination, and doing it with good friends and — if you're lucky — your family members. What could be better or healthier than that? Professional therapy comes with a very hefty price tag and doesn't always work, nor is it always available when you need it.

Golf, on the other hand, is available when ever your time permits and the weather holds. There is the problem of overdoing anything that removes you

from taking care of the necessities in life: paying your bills, tending to your family's personal and temporal needs, etc. Golf can become that mistress just as easily as working too much can. So where's the happy medium, and should we view playing golf as therapy well spent?

I figure I spend an average of \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year on golf. That's more than most but not as much as some. If you play two to three times a year, you really can't consider golf a hobby, and you more than likely suck at it. But you still have fun, because you're having a good time with your buds.

If you're like me, however, it's much more than that. I look at golf like I look at a cold, clear glass of half-full water. It's just enough to satisfy my thirst yet never leaves me feeling half-empty. I've never had a bad day on the golf course! I've had bad days at work, driving in traffic, losing money gambling, breaking up with someone, or getting seriously hurt from an accident, but never a bad day on the golf course! Constructive therapy doesn't hurt; it cures what ails you. Look at it as a way to grow old gracefully, mentally and physically. It's a game you can play well into your 70s and 80s.

I have a message for young people who haven't figured out that it's more fun experiencing life than digitally imitating it: Get out and play! Get off that couch and start focusing on your mind, body, and spirit in Mother Nature's best-manicured parks in the world: your nearest golf course. Leave your smartphone home unless it's performing as your GPS on the course. The apps are usually free, by the way. Take advantage of the discount tee-time sites, and make a commitment to play at least twice a month. You'll never get better if you don't practice, so make time for that before your game. Turn practicing into a game in itself. Otherwise, you'll get bored. It's like anything of value. It takes time and patience to improve. Enjoy the journey, and appreciate and monitor your scores by establishing a handicap. When you see improvement from year to year, you strive to improve, and that can be very rewarding. Just remember, you'll never be as good as you want to be. It's a game of endless improving. One day, you'll shoot lights out. Next week, it's like someone else has entered your body and you're a beginner again looking for answers! No one ever reaches perfection, but that's why we love the game so much. It teaches us, frustrates us, rewards us, humbles us, and gives back so much more than we can imagine: memories with great friends, time spent with the people you love and care about, and let's not forget the 19<sup>th</sup> hole.

Golf is the perfect therapy at a cost you simply can't afford not to spend.

See ya on the links.

## YOUR MONTHLY GOLF TIP FROST IN THE DESERT?

by Adam Schwartz



As the fall season gives way to winter conditions in Utah's Dixie and the desert southwest, it is not uncommon for winter golfers to experience frost delays. Golf courses will declare frost delays to protect the course from certain turf damage done by players both walking and driving their carts while they are venturing out to the fairways, tee boxes, and greens.

It is critical to remember, though, that just because there is frost doesn't mean it's necessarily uncomfortable to play in. Since it's sunny almost 330 days a year in this region, the desert does warm up quickly by mid-morning.

Frost can do critical damage to a golf course, which is important for golfers to understand. During my first job as a teenager at West Bend Country Club in Wisconsin, my job consisted of setting out practice balls for members to hit in the morning. Unknowingly to my immature considerations, I walked one frosty morning in September onto the range and was almost fired that morning by laying down about 60 footprints on white frosted grass. Luckily, I kept my position long enough to see that the footprints never disappeared until the snow fell that winter. Obviously I learned my lesson, but it is important to understand what frost is.

According to USGA's Charles White:

*"Frost on the grass blades tells us that the water inside the leaves is frozen. Remember that water is the primary component of plant tissue. When this water is frozen, traffic on the turf causes the ice crystals in the cells to puncture through the cell walls, killing the plant tissue. Little damage is done to the crowns (growing points) or roots if only a light frost appears;*

*however, when the frost is heavy, cell disruption may occur at the crown, thus killing the entire plant. Frost damage symptoms include white to light tan leaves where traffic has passed."*

Frost delays are an annoyance, not only for golfers but also for the turf grass management team or grounds crew. If the grounds crew is typically preparing the course an hour ahead of the first tee-time by mowing, setting new pin placements, address daily details critical to the aesthetics of the golf course, etc., the entire process gets suffocated for time to accommodate golfers' getting out to play. The critical point is that golfers may not see frost on their patio view of the golf course or even when they arrive to the driving range, but the consideration golfers need to understand is there are trees, canyons, and other flora that inhibits sunlight to turf that isn't necessarily on the first hole. Frost patterns will vary throughout the entire property of the golf course.

The best part about playing golf is to be able to play on great turf conditions that can handle the pressure of foot, golf cart, and mower traffic because of its elasticity. When frost hits, the elasticity of the blades of grass is vulnerable because they will not bend and give way to the pressure of any traffic. They will simply snap off. The consequential part of a broken blade of grass is that during the winter, grass doesn't grow at all. So to have damaged grass by allowing players to drive their carts everywhere and walk before the frost lifts simply means the golf course will have a lot of dirt spots on their course by springtime.

As a fellow golfer, I am very lucky and privileged to play golf all year in such a scenic environment. It is important that we do not ignore considerations such as frost and cart path restrictions when playing during the winter season.

Adam Schwartz is a class A PGA professional and pro of the Oasis Golf Club in Mesquite.





## EVENTS

### ARROWHEAD GALLERY ETC OPENS IN ST. GEORGE

On Tuesday, Dec. 15, the Southern Utah Art Guild proudly opened Arrowhead Gallery ETC in the newly renovated Electric Theater Center at 68 E. Tabernacle St., and on Friday, Jan. 15, they will be hosting their official opening reception from 5-9 p.m. The gallery is named after the prior tenant of the building, the Arrowhead Department Store, with "ETC" standing for "Electric Theater Center."

Arrowhead Gallery ETC plans to have over 30 artists showcasing original



artwork. Michael Zabriskie, member of the board of directors for the Southern Utah Art Guild and the organizing committee, said they will feature all types of artistic media.

"We have photography. We have oil. We have realist paintings, watercolor, abstract, three-dimensional, potters, and metal sculptors," Zabriskie said. "We have a really nice mix of art."

Zabriskie said all the artists are local members of the Southern Utah Art Guild. He also said that while most spaces are filled, they are still accepting applications, but to showcase work in Arrowhead Gallery ETC, an artist needs to already be a member of the Guild or apply for membership.

"It's an amazing group and some amazing art," Zabriskie said. "A few people that have come through already have said that this is a really professional gallery. It's a great asset for art in southern Utah."

The opening reception on Jan. 15 will coincide with Arts to Zion, the art community's equivalent of the Parade of Homes, offering visitors a chance to see artists working in their home studios and galleries, giving participants a glimpse into what inspires the artists' imaginations. Arts to Zion is a self-guided adventure through beautiful, mountainous, breathtaking countryside. More than 72 artists will be participating in 2016, many from Washington County as well as several notable visiting artists who are represented in local galleries. Participating artists will have original pieces of art on display at a silent auction held at the Arts to Zion Showcase.

Arrowhead Gallery ETC will be open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. beginning Dec. 15. For more information or to join the gallery as an artist or volunteer, please contact Michael Zabriskie at ArrowheadGalleryetc@yahoo.com.

## THEATER

### DSU'S CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES FEATURES CHILD PRODIGY AND BRASS IN JANUARY

The Celebrity Concert Series presents two amazing artists in January. Ethan Bortnick will perform on Jan. 5, and Presidio Brass will take the stage on Jan. 26. Each show will be at DSU's Cox Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m.

Ethan Bortnick is recognized by the Guinness World Records as "The World's Youngest Solo Musician to Headline His Own Concert Tour." Fourteen-year-old Bortnick has been performing around the world, raising over \$40 million for charities across the globe.

When he was just three years old, the Hollywood, Fla., native asked his parents for piano lessons and discovered an uncanny ability to hear a song once and play it back note for note, the musical equivalent of a photographic memory. Bortnick soaked up the music of such diverse artists and composers as Beethoven, Mozart, jazz

pianist Bill Evans, Little Richard, Billy Joel, and Elton John, and he began creating original compositions at age five. A few years later, he began making television appearances and touring, connecting with audiences in countries such as Japan, Brazil, Canada, South Africa, and Australia.

Bortnick has performed at charity functions, performing arts centers, and large arenas across the world. For him, the most fulfilling aspect of success is bringing people joy.

"When I perform at someone's home or in a huge arena, I just love every moment of it!" he says. "When I see the audience enjoying the music, having fun, smiling and dancing, there's just nothing better than that!"

San Diego's Presidio Brass formed in 2006 and has since rocketed to success as the face of a bold new generation in brass entertainment. By combining brass, piano, and percussion with fresh, original arrangements, their unique sound has become a trademark, captivating audiences the world over.

Through their hit touring show of Hollywood's greatest hits, "Sounds of the Cinema," these five young men present film music with a good dose of wit and humor that together have become hallmarks of every Presidio Brass performance. They have performed and provided educational outreach in over 40 states and across the globe, conducted master classes at many of America's finest colleges and universities, and been featured on National Public Radio.

Please visit [www.celebrityconcertseries.com](http://www.celebrityconcertseries.com) for information on all the performers that will be a part of the 2015-16 season. Concert tickets are available at the DSU box office, [www.dsutix.com](http://www.dsutix.com), or by calling (435) 652-7800.

**Find more at [SUIindependent.com](http://SUIindependent.com)**

## EVENTS

### WHY I TRAVEL by Gary Sorensen, CTC

When I was a teenager, I had the opportunity to live in Brazil. I was immersed in an incredibly different culture, a language I didn't understand, and an environment that was totally foreign to me.

After the initial shock, I started to open my eyes to what was around me. I saw incredible jungles, over 50 different types of bananas, tropical temperatures, and warm, genuine people. I experienced things that my teenage friends at home could only dream about. My eyes were filled with beautiful beaches, steep and jungle-covered peaks, and the most amazing waterfall I have ever seen. I learned Portuguese, which made it easier to communicate with the wonderful Brazilian people. I traveled to the nearby countries of Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay, each country with its unique charm and personality.

Without my knowledge, I was getting hooked on exploring and discovering all that this beautiful world had to offer. I



couldn't wait for the next adventure.

I found my self studying places I would like to travel to, and my career path was formulating. Upon my return to the U.S., I delivered airline tickets for a small travel agency and then began working for a major airline. I had the opportunity to relax on the beaches in Hawaii, climb the Eiffel Tower in Paris, cruise the warm Caribbean waters, explore the Mayan ruins in the jungles of Guatemala, view the majestic Mount McKinley, and more.

I love to travel! As my passion for traveling has continued, I have visited so many other wonderful places. I recently returned from Turkey and Greece where I visited the incredible ruins at Ephesus, Athens, Delos and more, and in February, I will be escorting a group of 96 from St George to the Panama Canal.

Traveling has given me knowledge, taught me history, let me see beautiful places, and helped me meet interesting people from around the world. When someone talks about a destination, I immediately recreate my memories of that place in my mind. I quickly remember the smells, the beauty, the tastes, the scenery, and the sounds of that amazing trip. It is almost like I am reliving the experience in my mind. Of course, it makes me want to take more trips, both to places I have been and to discover new destinations I have yet to experience.

A great opportunity for you to discover where you want to go is the Morris Murdock Travel Expo on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at the Dixie Center in St. George. Morris Murdock Travel is bringing over 40 travel companies from around the world, including Princess Cruise Lines, Delta Vacations, FunJet Vacations, Holland America Line, AMA Waterways River Cruises, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Pleasant Holidays, Viking River Cruises and so many more. There will be amazing travel prizes awarded!

The Morris Murdock Travel Expo starts at noon and runs until 7 p.m. with the On Stage Alaska Production at 1 and 3 p.m. Every year, there is standing room only for this fun, entertaining, and informational program on Alaska.

There is no charge to attend The Morris Murdock Travel Expo or for the brochures and information available. Each

travel company has a specific special deal or discount at the expo. Morris Murdock Travel will also give you a \$50 discount on your next cruise or vacation package seven days or longer. As the vice president of Morris Murdock Travel, I will be at the Travel Expo, so make sure to find me and tell me where you will be going on your next adventure. Call Morris Murdock Travel at (435) 628-3633 for more information.



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## TOUR OF UTAH WILL START AT ZION CANYON VILLAGE

by Dan Mabbutt



On Thursday, Dec. 10, Larry H. Miller officials announced the 2016 Tour of Utah will start at Zion Canyon Village in Springdale and then proceed up Zion Canyon through some of the most scenic landscapes on Earth. The Tour of Utah is a seven-day professional bicycle race sanctioned by the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI), the same organization that sanctions the Tour de France. Due to its altitude, distance, and weather conditions, the Tour of Utah is nicknamed “America’s Toughest Stage Race.” At the Dec. 10 announcement, Joe Dombrowski, the defending champion of the Tour said that he thought that nickname was “pretty accurate.”

As far as the Town of Springdale is concerned, the road to this 2016 Tour of Utah announcement has been marked with controversy. The Town Council has declined proposals for Springdale to be the official host city, but Zion Canyon Village — along with three partners in Springdale — agreed to be the official hosts instead to keep the Tour’s starting point at the entrance to Zion National Park. Zion Canyon Village, which includes Cable Mountain Lodge, the Giant Screen Theater, and several other businesses, has sufficient parking by itself to meet the Tour’s requirements.

This isn’t the first time professional bike racing has run into problems routing races through national parks. According to a Dec. 11 article in National Parks Traveler:

“Years ago Yosemite National Park officials declined a request to run a race through Yosemite Valley, and more recently the Park Service declined a request for a pro bike race to weave through Colorado National Monument.”

However, the Tour of Utah

gained powerful support in the state early on. All four Utah representatives and both senators signed a letter supporting the Tour in Utah. Zion National Park will allow the race to proceed up the switchbacks to the east entrance of the park and then on to Cedar City in Stage 1 of the race. After the start at Zion Canyon Village, Tour riders will take a “neutral pace” of about 25 miles an hour through the park.

Nathan Wells, manager at Zion Canyon Village, was enthusiastic about welcoming the 2016 Tour of Utah and said that it was a great place to start the Tour.

“We’re honored and thrilled that the Tour of Utah would consider having it here at our location,” Wells said.

He added that Zion Canyon Village would do its best to preserve the charm of Springdale while hosting the Tour and that it would benefit the entire area.

“Many see the Tour coming to Springdale and Zion Canyon Village as an opportunity to highlight the different ways that you can see Zion,” Wells said.

**The seven stages of the 2016 Tour of Utah are:**

- Zion Canyon Village to Cedar City
- Escalante to Torrey
- Richfield to Payson
- Lehi to Kearns
- Antelope Island to Bountiful
- Snowbasin to Snowbird
- Park City to Park City

**Find more about visiting springdale at [SIndependent.com](http://SIndependent.com)**

## SPRINGDALE AND ROCKVILLE WILL BECOME CONSTRUCTION ZONES IN 2016

by Dan Mabbutt

If you’re planning a vacation to Zion National Park next year, you should be aware that the only route through the park will be more difficult. The gateway communities of Springdale and Rockville will become construction zones in 2016. The project will start at the entrance to Rockville and go all the way through Springdale to the entrance of Zion National Park. The roadway will be reconstructed at a current estimate of \$10 million, all of which is federal money. However, this figure is subject to change as a design consultant hasn’t been selected yet, and the work to be done is still in the planning stage. The Utah Department of Transportation’s (UDOT) current schedule calls for a consultant to be selected during the first week of January.



In a recent Springdale community meeting, Mayor Stan Smith called the project “a huge nightmare.”

“This is frank and honest,” Smith said. “It’s not going to be pretty. ... Traffic is going to be horrible. But we all have to look at it and say, ‘We deal with it during those four months, because afterwards we’ll have something that will last fifty years.’”



Smith said that the current estimate for a start date is sometime in September. The project is planned to be finished by May of 2017.

Many residents of Springdale and Rockville have been concerned about protecting the historic irrigation ditches in both towns. Lined with sandstone slabs, these ditches are some of the few reminders in modern-day Springdale and Rockville of the agricultural past of the towns. Both have gone to great lengths to preserve what they still have. Rockville just completed a \$110,000 project to

rehabilitate their ditches last year that was funded by UDOT. Smith said that Springdale plans on saving what they can but that not all of the ditches will be preserved.

Springdale’s official Historic Preservation Commission discussed what to do with the ditches in two successive meetings in July and August. UDOT program manager Dana Meier told the commission that from a transportation perspective, the best outcome would be to eliminate the ditches, but commissioner Jack Burns said that would be a “tough sell.”

“They are character-defining,” Burns said, “and currently the town is struggling to maintain what character remains.”

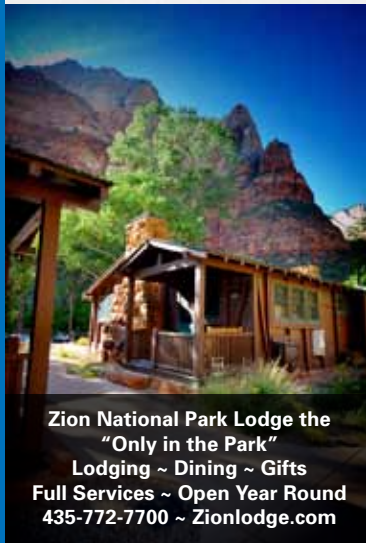
Eric Hansen from UDOT said the ditches have already been determined eligible for the National Historic Registry. Some Springdale residents want State Route 9 to remain a two-lane road and like the fact that the historic ditches will make it impossible for UDOT to turn the road into a four-lane highway, which they feel would destroy any “village atmosphere” left.

While UDOT is tearing up Springdale’s main street, the town will use the opportunity to replace 35 “cobra head” street lights to come into compliance with a “dark sky” ordinance that was passed in 2009. A six-year transition period was part of the ordinance, and everyone in Springdale will be required to have outdoor lights that satisfy the ordinance. Smith said that combining the two construction projects would save the town a lot of money.

Additionally, Smith said they might be able to improve a problematic

intersection at Paradise Road, but he couldn’t promise anything yet. He said that Springdale was still planning on remaining a community with no traffic lights.

The road through Rockville will not be completely torn up and replaced, since UDOT has concluded that it’s in better shape. In Springdale, however, a “full depth reconstruction” will be done starting approximately at the location of the Majestic Hotel. For more information on the project, visit <http://uplan.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries>.



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# THE BIT & SPUR IN SPRINGDALE UNDERGOING MAJOR RENOVATIONS

by Don Gilman



The Bit & Spur Restaurant and Saloon in Springdale has been an iconic watering hole in Zion Canyon since the 1950s (with a hiatus in the '70s). It has undergone multiple changes—new owners, construction, and upgrades—but it is unlikely that it has ever gone through as an extensive a remodel as it is undergoing now.

Co-owner Alex Pelton closed the Bit & Spur on Nov. 1 after a grand sendoff on Halloween night, and since then walls have come down, furnishings and decorations have been packed away in three shipping containers, and a bulldozer has reworked the landscape outside.

Pelton says the need for a major remodel was overdue. When the restaurant began its present incarnation in the 1980s, they were cooking 100 dinners a night, and now that number is closer to 300.

"We've outgrown our infrastructure," he said. "We're making the kitchen much larger, with a separate prep kitchen so we're able to do more catering and weddings. That's the big emphasis. We're also expanding and rebuilding the dining areas. We're doing an 850-square-foot covered patio off the back. It will be covered but open air, with beautiful views of the West Temple and the mountains. There will be great rock work by the local rock guys and fountains and things like that."

Pelton says that 75 percent of the existing building has been torn down, along with the trailer in the back. He said that there were some sections of the building that were not slated for demolition but were found to be falling apart and needed

to come down.

"It's continually morphing," Pelton said.

The pool room, bar, and original bathrooms remain standing, but virtually everything else has been gutted, Pelton added.

"The demolition is done, and now we're into the construction part of it. They're pouring cement in the next couple days, and hopefully walls will start going up," he said.

If all goes according to plan, the Bit & Spur will reopen sometime in mid-March of 2016.



"We're hoping to have construction done by the beginning of March and then give us a couple of weeks to put everything back together. There's a lot of things to line up. We need to order new walk-in fridges and freezers, hood systems. There's a lot of great upgrades."

Pelton stated that the residents of Springdale have had a difficult time adjusting to life without the Bit & Spur.

"All the locals are kind of freaking out," Pelton stated. He added that while it may be difficult for locals to accept it being closed for half a year, the wait will be worth it.

"We're still going to be the same place; we'll just be functioning a little bit better. We'll still have the fun party nights. We'll still be that place. The vibe will still be there. It will just be a little cleaner and bigger. It's going to be awesome."

# ZION CANYON BREW PUB OFFERS JANUARY MUSICAL LINEUP, LOCALS DISCOUNT

The Zion Canyon Brew Pub recently announced its musical lineup for January. All shows run from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturdays unless otherwise noted. In addition to the great music, Washington County residents enjoy a 20 percent discount on food year round. As winter settles into the canyon, all shows will be inside the Brew Pub; however, given the Brew Pub's proximity to the Virgin River, it's a great spot to bundle up and take in the beauty of Zion Canyon.

On Saturday, Jan. 2, West Coast Jazz Players will play, featuring Las Vegas rap/hip-hop octet Rhyme and Rhythm. RNR has performed up and down the Las Vegas strip and have opened for acts like Snoop Dogg and LL Cool J. The following



weekend, Jan 9, St. George alternative rock band Wirelefant will play at the Brew Pub.

On Saturday, Jan. 16, in conjunction with the fifth annual Arts to Zion studio tour, the Zion Canyon Brew

Pub will host an afterparty featuring Soul What?! from 7:30

10:30 p.m.

St. George rock band Many Miles will play Jan. 23. Fronted by Victoria Lagerstrom, the band is a collaboration of St. George studio musicians like Ryan Tilby and Steve Lemmon of Spiral Recording Studio and Dave Tate of Red Earth Recording Studio.

Salt Lake City's Tom Bennett Band, fronted by Sweet Salt Records founder and blues man Tom Bennett, will play on Jan. 30.



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## ZION-SPRINGDALE DINING GUIDE "LOW SEASON" OPEN DAYS & HOURS

Restaurant	Address	Phone	Drinks	Hours	Closing Period	Menu on Springdale.co	Wifi
<i>(Listed by address from ZNP Entrance)</i>							
Red Rock Grill	1 Zion Lodge	435-772-7760	W, B, M, E	7am-8pm daily	No	Yes	Yes
Zion Canyon Brew Pub	95 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0336	W, B	Noon-9pm daily	No		Yes
Happy Camper Market	95 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-7805	B	8am-8pm daily	No		Yes
Thai Sapa	145 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0510	W, B, E	11:30am-9pm Thurs-Mon, 4pm-9pm Tues-Wed, Open holidays	Call ahead for mid Jan-Feb	Yes	Yes
Perks Coffee Shop	147 Zion Park Blvd	435-668-0446	E	7am-4pm daily, 7am-1pm Nov 26	Dec 25, Call ahead for Jan 1		No
Café Soleil	205 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0505	E	7am-4pm daily	Nov 26, Dec 25, Jan 1-10	Yes	No
Cliffrose Café	281 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3234	E	5-11pm daily	No	Yes	Yes
Spotted Dog Cafe Restaurant	428 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0700	W, B, M, E	5pm-9pm daily	Dec 12-Feb 11	Yes	Yes
Whiptail Grill	445 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0283	W, B	Noon-8pm Fri-Mon	Jan 1-Feb 13	Yes	Yes
Blondie's Diner	736 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0595	None	11am-8:30pm Mon-Sat, Open Nov 26	No	Yes	Yes
Baby Sumo	792 Zion Park Blvd	435-233-2103	W, B, M	4:30-9:30pm Thurs-Sat, 4:30-8:30pm Sun	Nov 30-March 1		No
Casa de Amigo's	805 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0422	W, B, M	11:30am-10pm daily	No		Yes
Pioneer Restaurant	838 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3009	None	7:30am-3pm daily, Open holidays	No		Yes
Zion Park Gift & Deli	866 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3843	E	10am-5:30pm Mon-Sat	Nov 26, Dec 24-26		Yes
Zion Pizza Noodle	868 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3815	W, B	4pm-9pm daily	Nov 26, Nov 30-mid Feb	Yes	No
Wildcat Willie's	897 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0115	W, B, M, E	8am-8pm Sun-Thurs, 8am-9pm Fri-Sat	Jan 21-Feb 10		Yes
Deep Creek Coffee	932 Zion Park Blvd	435-767-0272	E	6:30am-2pm daily, 6:30am-Noon Nov 26, Dec 25	Jan 1-10		Yes
Oscar's Cafe	948 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3232	W, B, E	7am-9pm daily	Dec 1-15		No
Flying Monkey	961 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3333	W, B	11:30am-8pm daily	Nov 26, Dec 25, Jan 1	Yes	Yes
Meme's Cafe	975 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0114	W, B, E	7am-9pm daily, Open Nov 26	Call ahead for Dec 25, Jan 1		No
Sol Foods Deli & Market	995 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3100	B	7am-11pm daily	No		Yes
Switchback Grille Restaurant	1149 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3700	W, B, M, E	5-9pm daily	Dec-Feb		No
Jack's Sports Grill Restaurant	1149 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3700	W, B, M	Noon-8pm daily	No		No
Bit & Spur Restaurant	1212 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3498	W, B, M, E	5-11pm daily	Nov 1- March		Yes
Park House Café	1880 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0100	W, B	8am-2pm daily	Nov 26, Dec 25	Yes	Yes
Arkansas Al's Restaurant	2400 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0665	W, B	Noon-8pm Mon-Fri, 8am-8pm Sat-Sun	No		Yes

If you have corrections/additions to this guide please email [flori@suindependent.com](mailto:flori@suindependent.com) or call 435-656-1555. See menus at [Springdale.co](http://Springdale.co).

### THE FIFTH ARTS TO ZION ART AND STUDIO TOUR by George Scott

The fifth annual Arts to Zion Art and Studio tour will begin on Jan. 14 and continue through Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (Jan. 18) in Washington County. It is expected to draw more than 5,000 visitors to Washington County.

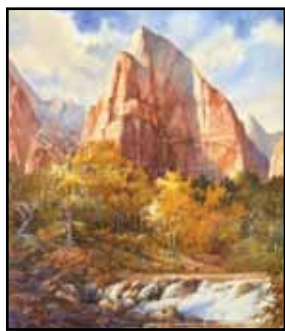
As in past years, Arts to Zion is the arts community's equivalent of the Parade of Homes, offering visitors a chance to see artists working in their home studios and in their galleries, by purchasing a \$10 ticket that includes a map of all tour locations. More than 72 artists will be participating in 2016. Many are from Washington County, and several are notable visiting artists who are represented in local galleries. The day tour is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Watch for yellow Arts to Zion signage and balloons, and use the map to guide you to their locations. By visiting multiple studios, attendees are also eligible for prize drawings, including three overnight stays at local hotels.

Participating artists will also have work on display at a silent auction held at the Arts to Zion Showcase. See [www.ArtstoZion.net](http://www.ArtstoZion.net) for details.

The silent auction opens Jan. 11 and ends at noon on Jan. 18. All operations, administration, and supplies for Arts to Zion are supported by ticket sales and a portion of the silent auction proceeds. Any

surplus of funds is used to promote the event throughout the year.

New features this year include a plein air event at the Silver Reef ghost town in Leeds, a student exhibit at the DiFiore Art Center, and the Grand Opening of the Southern Utah Art Guild's Cooperative at the new Electric Theater Center in St. George.



On Jan. 15, the Art on Main gallery stroll is free to the public from 5 to 8 p.m.

On Jan. 17, artists and musicians will be present at the Kayenta Art Village from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Jan. 18, a plein air event featuring Mary Jabens, Valerie Orlemann, and artists from the Dixie Watercolor Society and Southern Utah Art Guild will be held at the Silver Reef Museum from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will also be book signings at this location involving the local history of the region.

A full list of participating artists can be found at [www.ArtstoZion.net](http://www.ArtstoZion.net). The participants include artists who have won prestigious national awards for their work and who have been given the highest honor for an artist by the state of Utah.

Tickets may be purchased at the Arts to Zion Showcase, The Electric Theater Center, and online at [www.ArtstoZion.net](http://www.ArtstoZion.net) after Jan. 4.

### VIRTUOSO PIANIST JAMES D'LEON PERFORMS IN SPRINGDALE

Pianist James D'León will perform classical and contemporary works for solo piano on Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Canyon Community Center in Springdale.

D'León began piano study when he was four years old and gave his first recital at age five. He won both the San Francisco Symphony and Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra concerto competitions at age 12 and performed Rachmaninoff's second piano concerto with the Philadelphia Philharmonics at age 14. He is a graduate of prestigious music schools such as Temple University's Esther Boyer College of Music, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music (on full scholarship), and the Eastman School of Music where he received his doctorate degree in piano performance and literature. He has toured across the world as an International Steinway Artist and performed at the world's finest venues, including Carnegie Hall.

The program on Jan. 15 comprises classical works like the Prelude, Fugue, and Variation Op. 18 by Cesar Franck and Franz Liszt's Ballade No. 2 in B Minor. D'León will perform modern composer

Stephen Montague's "Southern Lament," "Fur Alina" by Estonian minimalist Arvo Part, and Winnsboro Cotton Mill Blues

(1978-79) by contemporary American composer and virtuoso pianist Frederic Rzewski. Jazz works include "Blue in Green" and "When I Fall In Love" by Bill Evans, as well as Evans' arrangement of Duke Ellington's "Reflections in D." He will also present "Adios Nonino - A Tango Rhapsody" by famed Argentinean tango composer Astor Pizzolla.

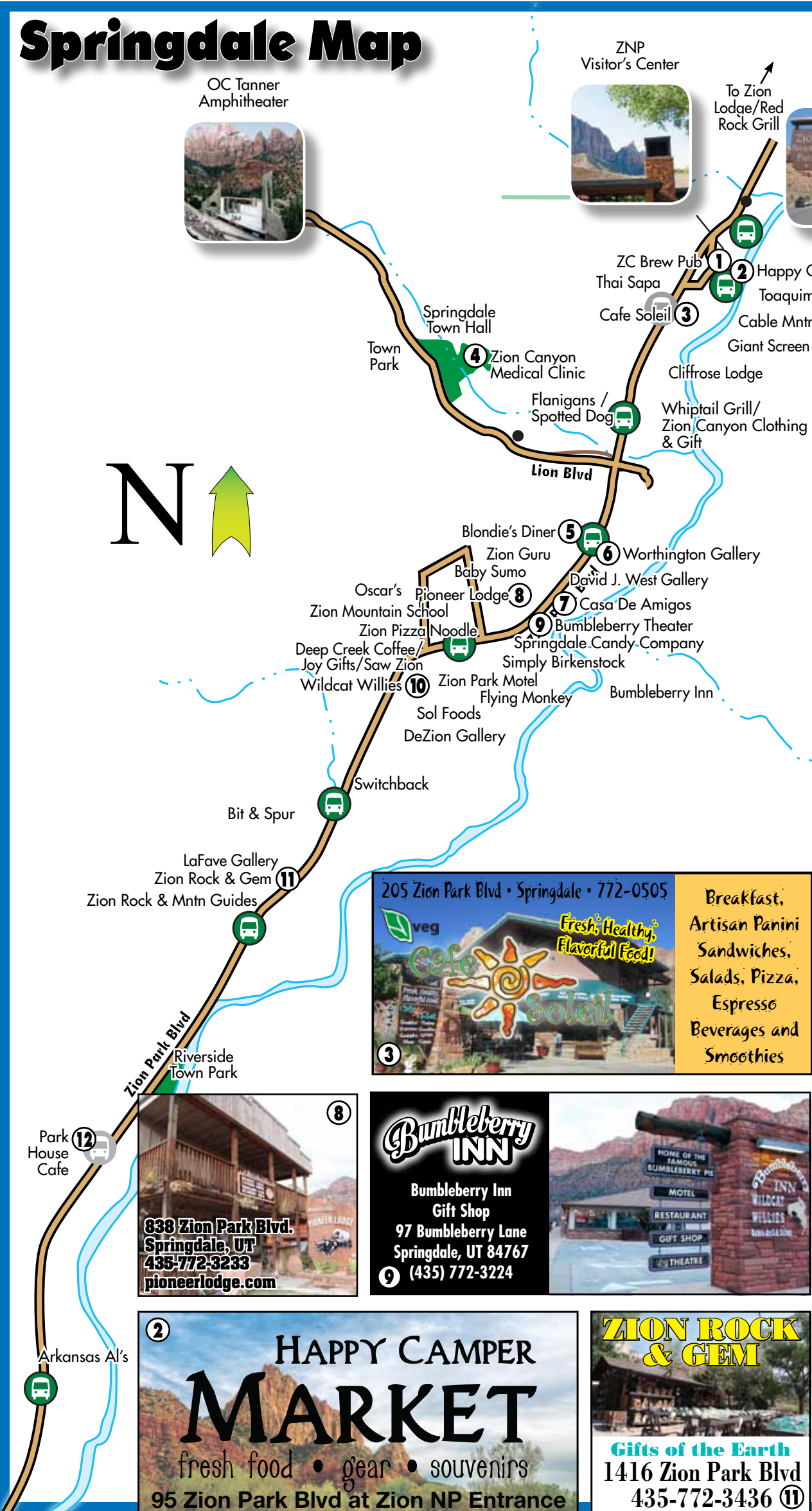
The Canyon Community Center is located beside the Springdale Town Hall at 126 Lion Blvd. in Springdale. Admission is \$15 for general admission and \$10 for Z-Arts members. Only cash or checks will be accepted at the door.

For more information, visit <http://zarts.org/wp/dleon>, or contact Joyce Hartless at [joycehartless@gmail.com](mailto:joycehartless@gmail.com) or (970) 291-9289.





# Springdale Map



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Story by Scott Dunford,  
Photos by Josh Segovia



Only 3.5 hours from Las Vegas and Salt Lake City and just two hours from St. George lies a skier's paradise, Eagle Point Resort. When you exit Interstate 15 at Beaver, you're not going to see a bustling ski town with a lively night life, restaurants, and bars — but not to worry. Once you drive the short 18 miles up the canyon, it begins to resemble everything you look for in a ski resort: great weekend entertainment, several dining options, hot tubs, and of course the best skiing and snowboarding within 200 miles of Vegas! This mountain is



blessed with a total of 12,000 vertical acres to work with and 600 acres of skiable terrain. Eagle Point has by far the steepest slopes of any resort in southern Utah, bar none. Top that off with the smallest lift lines — they're practically non-existent — and best value anywhere and you've got to consider making Eagle Point Resort your home away from home.



Photographer and graphic designer for The Independent Josh Segovia and I were treated to a wonderful weekend of skiing, snowboarding, and great food. The locals and staff topped it off with their own style of hospitality and generous smiles. We had a weekend of first-class friendliness with a dose of high-quality comfort in our condo with separate bedrooms, a huge private loft, and king-sized beds. Opening day was Dec. 19 and started our weekend off with well-groomed, snow-packed runs. The next day, however, we received an extra 2-4 inches of fresh powder that made for epic conditions on an already great base.

Ski-and-stay rates start as low as \$50 per person when four or more elect to make it a weekend to remember. You'll have several condominium options to consider, so make it a romantic weekend for two couples, or bring the whole family. Guests are treated to the convenience and privacy of separate one- or two-bedroom suites with lofts, full kitchens, flat-screen TVs, real fireplaces, and everything you'll need to cook a home-cooked meal. It's just another way to save those vacation dollars while enjoying all that this year-round resort has to offer.

Make 2016 your year to experience Eagle Point Resort. El Nino is upon us, and it looks to be a fabulous ski season, so get those boards and skis tuned up for perfectly-groomed runs and loads of untouched Utah powder! It's close enough to make it a day trip but priced right to make it a fun weekend adventure in the peaks of Fishlake National Forest in the Tushar Mountains.

Visit [www.eaglepointresort.com](http://www.eaglepointresort.com) for all the details and money-saving options for home sites and accommodations. You'll also want to check their website for upcoming specials, year-round activities, and snow conditions, and be sure to follow them on Instagram at [instagram.com/skieaglepoint](https://www.instagram.com/skieaglepoint).

See ya on the slopes!

# HIKING SOUTHERN UTAH: PICTOGRAPH MOUNTAIN

by Don Gilman

**Trail name:** Three Ponds Trail

**Difficulty:** Strenuous

**Length:** 4 miles round-trip

**Elevation Gain:** approximately 800 feet; with Amphitheater Mountain, 1,000 feet

**Family-friendly:** Older kids only

**Dog-friendly:** No

Pictograph Mountain is the large, colorful dome located in the southwestern portion of Snow Canyon State Park. As one of the dominant features in the park, this eye-catching peak seems like it would be impossible to climb without technical rock gear, but several devious, enjoyable scramble routes exist that lead adventurers to the summit of this beautiful formation. As an added bonus, a nearby sub-peak, Amphitheater Mountain (my name for it), can easily be added to the ascent.

**Access:** From the junction of Bluff Street and St. George Boulevard, drive north on Bluff Street for 1.7 miles, then turn left on Snow Canyon Parkway. Drive west for 3.2 miles to the second traffic circle. Take the first right onto Snow Canyon Drive. Continue north for one mile to the south entrance station. Pay the entrance fees, and continue into the park, driving for a little over a mile and a half to the Hidden Pinyon trailhead on the left.

Follow the Hidden Pinyon trail through sandy and occasionally rocky terrain as it contours around several rock formations. The Hidden Pinyon trail also links up with the Three Ponds Trail, and eventually this latter trail is the one you want to continue on. A map of Snow Canyon is helpful. Continue in a northwest direction for a little over half a mile until the trail begins heading almost due west. Shortly after this direction change, look for a sign for the Hidden Pinyon overlook. This short trail jogs to the southwest toward a nice vista atop a sandstone rise. It is worth the time to make this diversion. Awesome views of Pictograph await.

Get back on the Three Ponds trail, and continue heading west. The trail drops down into a wash. Walk a short distance north in this wash, and reconnect with the trail. Shortly after that, the trail passes the West Canyon Road. Cross the road and continue on the trail. At this point the trail becomes very sandy and follows a wide wash into the deep canyon below Pictograph and Amphitheater Mountains. Follow this wash for approximately a quarter mile until it makes a northern bend. Look for a well-defined trail that leads out of the wash and heads southwest. This trail leads to the toe of a ridge heading south. Look for cairns leading up a narrow gully. This is the escalator route.

From here the route will follow

a steep, loose, narrow gully for several hundred feet. While steep, the difficulty never exceeds class 2 or 3. Cairns appear regularly to keep one on track. Initially the route sticks to the gully, but after several hundred feet of elevation gain, it diverts to the east. From here the route will climb, cross over to another rib, climb, cross another rib, etc. Soon the summit should appear as the highest dome to the southeast. Follow the path of least resistance until the highest point is gained. The views are nothing short of spectacular. When ready, return the way you came, taking extra care on the descent.

**Extra Credit:** Amphitheater Mountain, a smaller peak to the north (but part of the same formation), is easily climbed by following ribs from the summit of Pictograph to a saddle and then picking your way through slot canyons, ribs, and faces to the summit. It only adds a short distance and time to the overall trip and is well worth the effort. In order to get back to the Escalator route, re-climb the rib used to arrive at the base of Amphitheater Mountain, then cross over to the western rib needed to descend back to the valley floor.

**Further Options:** There are two more routes that lead to the summit of Pictograph Mountain. One follows the canyon on the southwest side of the mountain (known as the Tuacahn Chimney route). If taking this option, make sure you take the side canyon branching to the southwest, which shouldn't exceed class 3. This is an interesting and beautiful route through a surprisingly lush canyon. Another option is to take the ridge heading east from the Tuacahn Saddle, which should also remain around class 3.





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# WELLNESS

## PEACE ON PAPER: PEACE IS A CHALLENGE WHEN PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED

by Lisa Rutherford

Peace is much easier on paper than in real life. Yet as this year begins and after just celebrating the birth of Jesus, called the Prince of Peace, we must renew our vision for peace not only worldwide but in our own individual lives. But that's often a real challenge. Having lived here for 15 years, I've found that many in our community work to create an environment of peace and support. I admire those in our community who head organizations that work to create a community where citizens can celebrate their relationships with others, feel trust and harmony, and develop their spiritual natures. However, I've also found, living in an area where trust and some naivety exists, that there are those who will take advantage of that trust to satisfy their own selfish needs.

I've always wanted to be a person who is trusting and approaches others with open arms and an open heart. That's why I admire those who do so easily, because I know how difficult it is for me to do it. During my life, however, I've learned that some healthy skepticism is not necessarily a bad thing. I've witnessed situations in which groups

and organizations have been demolished by individuals who are more interested in their own futures than the future of the organization of which they are a member. Instead of buying into the vision of the organization, they are working on their own vision and have their own well-being and success in mind. I know what it's like not to have the same goals as an organization, and when that happens, the peace and harmony that exist are challenged. But with me, when that happens, it's time to leave the situation, not force myself on others and make it worse.

I'm not sure how valuable my advice is, but given what I've witnessed — how lives can be turned upside down when too much trust is offered too quickly — I would advise people as they begin this new year not to approach it with negativity or pessimism but to just have a healthy dose of questioning when things don't seem quite right. Our senses can be very useful, and we should pay attention to those "gut" feelings. If new people come on the scene and they seem too sweet, too cooperative, too engaging, too helpful, or too aggressive, take a minute, step back, and give the relationship with these new folks time to develop more completely so their true selves become apparent. Interestingly, these are things we often advise our children as they are growing up and gaining independence, since we are concerned about their becoming involved with the wrong people. Somehow, we have a tendency to forget this as adults and become even more vulnerable than we would like our children to be.

So peace to all as 2016 begins. Enjoy others, and seek peace in this life while being careful, too. In the end, it may be better and develop into a more peaceful situation.

*The "Peace on Paper" column is managed and provided as a public service by Daniel L Pettegrew, founder of the former World Peace Gardens Foundation and creator of the Doors of Hope collection for the Erin Kimball Foundation.*

## ONLINE FAMILY THERAPY: FIVE REASONS TO TRY IT

by Jonathan Decker

In the age of social media and smartphones, so much in our lives revolves around technology. Marriage and family therapy has never been a field which lags behind. Online webcam sessions are increasingly common. Many people enjoy meeting with their counselor from the comfort of their own home or office.

The Online Center for Couples and Families, of which I am the clinical director, launched in November. My team and I offer therapy via webcam at [netfamilytherapy.com](http://netfamilytherapy.com). Here are five reasons why you should consider doing individual or family counseling online.

Instead of driving all the way to the therapist's office and back, you can stay put at your home or office. It'll save you gas money and travel time! You're not limited to therapists who live in your city. You have counselors in your entire state to choose from, and sometimes more. What's more, online therapy platforms are very user-friendly and take you step-by-step through the process.

Some people worry that a therapy session via webcam would lack the immediacy and intimacy of a face-to-face meeting, but my online clients find the opposite to be true. They say that sitting in their own home, on their own couch, puts them at ease. When they invite me into their space (in a manner of speaking), I find that we bond all the quicker.

The platform that my team and I use, eTherapi, is HIPAA-approved and secured by firewalls. While there is inherent risk to anything you do online, if you're comfortable sending emails, using

Skype, and banking or shopping online, you just may feel comfortable doing therapy that way.

Most therapists, myself included, allow you to set your own appointments online in advance, choosing a time that works for you from a selection of available slots or requesting a different time altogether.



While I have toys in my office for your children to play with while we talk, you may want privacy to speak freely, away from little ears. If finding a sitter is inconvenient, you can put the kids down for a nap (or to bed), close the door, and meet with me after they're asleep. Also, if you're one of those people who doesn't like waiting rooms, you can avoid them altogether!

For more information about online family therapy, visit [www.netfamilytherapy.com](http://www.netfamilytherapy.com) and follow on Twitter @OnlineCCF or the Online Center for Couples and Families Facebook page.



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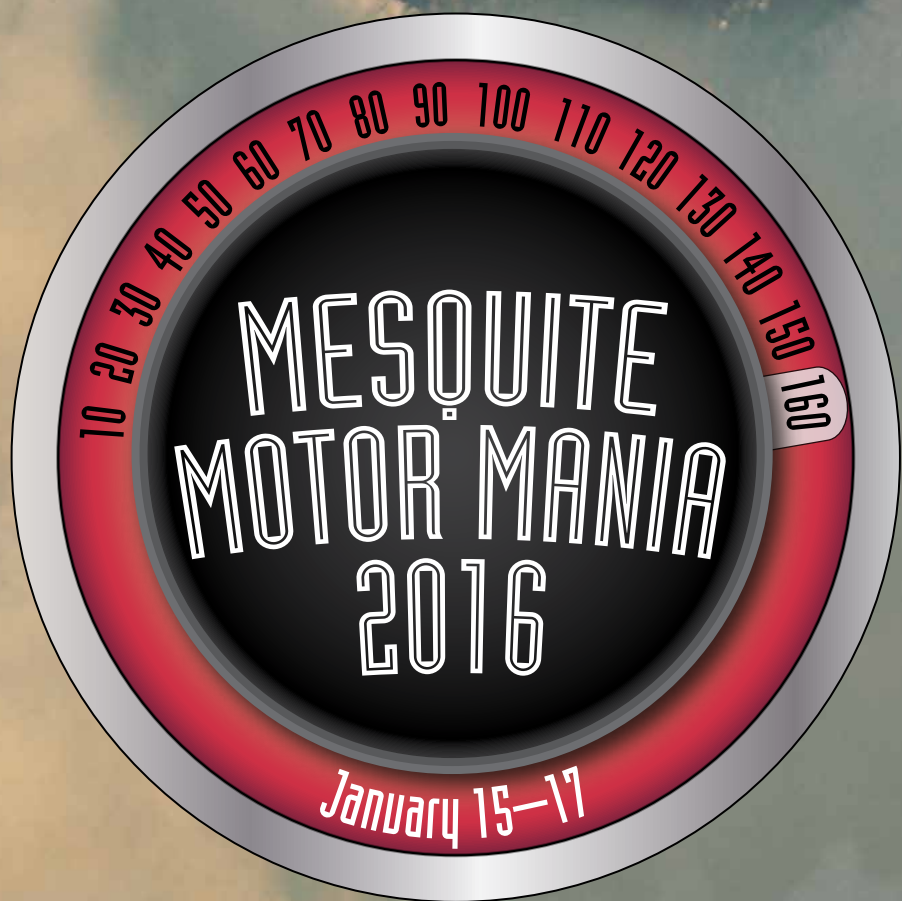
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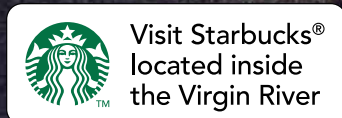
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# DOWNTOWN ST. GEORGE 2016 AND NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS WORTH MAKING

by George Scott



Wow! Time just feels like it's accelerating at an ever-increasing rate. I mean, 60 seconds still make up a minute, but time seems to be moving more quickly, just the same. Another festive season is behind us, and another calendar year has turned. With a fresh calendar before us, it is open to all sorts of possibilities. What resolutions will you be setting? What will you be scheduling time for participating in?

For me, I have concluded to continue pursuing a life of adventure. One filled with joy and experiences. To make time count. Resolutions that revolve around participating in activities that make life more joyful. I look forward to engaging in many of the opportunities, events, and happenings downtown.

George Streetfest has proven to be the area's most entertaining monthly celebration. Each month, the best of southern Utah is showcased in festival style. It's great fun for people of all ages and walks of life. The live music, both on the main stage and in the Jazz Garden, is always energetic, interactive, and entertaining. Walking down the street amongst the vendors and finding more music and buskers adds to the festive feel of the community's largest monthly party. The art booths are beautifully creative as well as inspiring. A youth DJ dance party and George Jr. Village add a host of activities for kids to enjoy. An entire lineup of food offerings in the Food Truck Village always offers plenty of tasty food. Free photos to commemorate the night are filled with props and fun. Each month, the party gets bigger and adds more events and activities to the celebration. It truly is nightlife you

can get excited about! Every first Friday from 6 to 10 p.m. More information can be found at [georgestreetfest.com](http://georgestreetfest.com).

The grand opening of Arrowhead Gallery ETC, next to The Electric Theater, will add additional culture to the growing art center of downtown. Named after the prior tenant of the building, Arrowhead Department Store, the gallery is presented by The Southern Utah Art Guild. The doors opened on Dec. 15, and operating hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. However, an opening reception is scheduled for Jan. 15 from 5 to 9 p.m. coinciding with Arts to Zion. Plans include having over thirty artists on hand showcasing their original artwork in all types of mediums.

Arts to Zion is the art community's equivalent to the Parade of Homes and offers visitors the chance to see artists working in their home studios and galleries. This allows attendees the opportunity to visit the artists in their environment and see what inspires their imagination. The self-guided tour includes over 72 artists and runs Jan 14 through 18. A display and silent auction of original pieces will be held at the Arts to Zion Showcase. Find more information at [www.artstozion.com](http://www.artstozion.com).

Art Around The Corner's Outdoor Sculpture Gallery continues to grace the streets of downtown. It is easy to miss while driving along. For those wanting a real treat, grabbing a map and taking a stroll will provide a memorable outing. With over 60 pieces between the permanent sculpture collection and the temporary exhibit, viewers will find a diverse range of subjects and styles. While they are open to viewing throughout the year, the pieces in the temporary exhibit will only be available until March, which is when the new exhibit pieces are placed.

St. George Musical Theater continues to play quality shows and raise

the bar on theater in the community. Housed downtown in the Old Opera House, exceptional performances and an intimate environment makes every seat a great seat. "The Wedding Singer" is the next up to run and plays Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from Jan. 21 to Feb. 20. Tickets can be purchased online at [sgmusicaltheater.com](http://sgmusicaltheater.com), by phone at (435) 628-8755, or in person at the box office from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. each performance night.

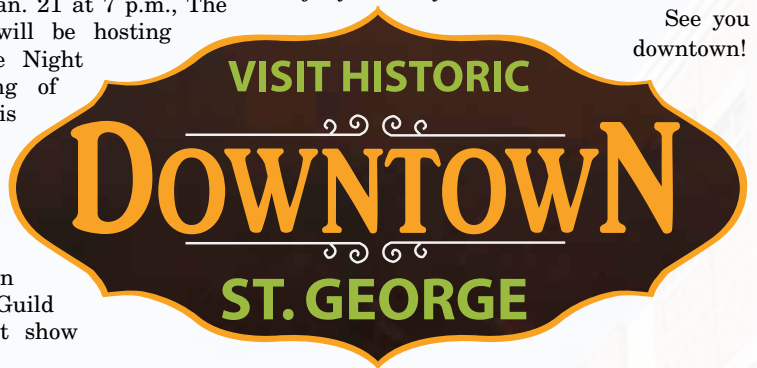
The DiFiore Center will be hosting numerous events in January. A few of them are included in the Arts to Zion Tour. The DiFiore Center will feature artists Mari Lopez, Joseph Carter, Susan Grove, Elyn Gonzales-Astudillo, and students from Vista school. The DiFiore Center will also host "Flamenco Dance For Children" with Pamela Asquith as the instructor. The classes are for ages 6 to 12 and will be held on Wednesdays from 5 to 5:45 p.m. from Jan 6 to Feb 10. There is a \$15 fee. Another outstanding and fun art gallery show, "Hollywoodland," featuring the art of Matthew Jacobson, will run through January, viewable Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jacobson's "pop-centric" art stands in stark contrast to the usual desert art. He utilizes oil and acrylic in his portraits. His pop flair offers distinctive art that is fun, stylish, and classic. On Jan. 21 at 7 p.m., The DiFiore Center will be hosting Black and White Night with the showing of "Dead Ringer." This is an opportunity to celebrate old Hollywood with a true classic movie. On Jan. 23, The Southern Utah Puppetry Guild will hold its first show

of the new year at 10 a.m. at The DiFiore Center. This entertaining event offers a fun way to promote human connections. February will showcase the Carlyle Potter Gallery Show. The Gallery Show opening and jazz concert will take place Jan. 30 from 6 to 9 p.m. More information on these events and others can be found at [www.difiorecenter.org](http://www.difiorecenter.org).

Nearly all resolutions include a determination for better health. Downtown Yoga has ongoing classes and several events throughout the month. The most exciting of all is the hosting of founding staff member Elise Mitchell's 200-hour Yoga Alliance Certified Teacher training. This is an opportunity to deepen yoga studies and even become a certified instructor. Mitchell is a revered yogi and travels throughout the U.S. presenting on the benefits of yoga in mental and physical health.

Resolutions worth making are easily followed through on with all the happenings downtown. Being able to pursue the enjoyment of life in art, theater, music, relationships, community, and even physical fitness are available in abundance in 2016. Start your new year right and make resolutions worth making that add joy to your life.

See you downtown!



## COMING DOWN THE PIKE by St. George Mayor Jon Pike



Here it is: it's 2016 already! I know it's typically the time for goals and resolutions in our lives. This year, I want to really make an effort to take greater advantage of the many outdoor opportunities in St.

George and Washington County.

I've been told by fitness experts that walking is perhaps the best exercise we can do throughout our lifetimes. It's something we can do now and keep doing into old age, and if we walk far enough and frequently enough, it will certainly help us feel better and live longer! With forty miles of paved trails in St. George alone plus the many other natural trails, there are so many safe and fun places to walk, run, hike, and ride.

Which brings me to cycling. St. George is making a real effort to focus more on active transportation. Our Active

Transportation Committee is meeting regularly and bringing forward ideas to help us plan better in the future and make incremental improvements now! We've engaged a consultant to drill down in this area and give us ideas of what will work best in St. George in conjunction with the trails and streets we have. We also want to do more in the area of safety when it comes to pedestrians and cyclists in relation to cars. We can all work together to share the roads and get to where we're going safely! I rode my bike to work several times last May during Bike to Work Month. I want to ride a lot more in 2016. It takes some extra time and planning to ride to work, but let's see what we can do at least once in a while!

We have so many hiking and mountain-biking trails in our city and county! I haven't gone on enough of them and plan to do more this year. There are trails for all skill levels right in our backyard. Information is available from a number of sources, including at [sgcity.org](http://sgcity.org). Take a hike or ride with a friend, your spouse, or your children! Many do this

already and have a great time being active together.

Our nearby reservoirs are great for things like motor boating, waterskiing, wake boarding, and surfing. They're also great for swimming, kayaking, canoeing, and more.

Bottom line: so many people love to come visit our area because of all the activities that are available. It's why many of us live here. Let's take even greater advantage of what we have in 2016 and make it a happier, healthier year!





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## ART AROUND THE CORNER FEATURED PIECE: "FISH TANK" BY JACK MORFORD

by George Scott

Jack Morford's "Fish Tank" is a piece that stops you in your tracks. It is whimsical, sarcastic, and deeply meaningful all at once. The abstract nature combines different thoughts and themes to create a unique sculpture which allows the viewer to ponder the simplicity of life while also considering the more complex intertwining of life's multiple components.

"Fish Tank" is a newly added piece in a line of sculptures by Morford. Previous pieces have included "Nautical Hullabaloo," "Admiral Jack," "Nymph Foolery," and "Jonah's Dilemma." With "Fish Tank," Morford has created the perfect solution to every boy's dream, combining one of the child's pets with his favorite toy. Perhaps he has also solved every parent's dilemma when it comes to gifts for a child: batteries are neither included nor even needed, you don't have to feed it, and you don't have to clean the tank.

Morford grew up in Saginaw, Mich., the third child of four. He attended The Art Institute of Chicago and later returned to academia once again to study art, this time at Ricks College in Rexburg, Id. Continuing his passion, he went on to complete a Master of Fine Arts Degree at the Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles. Morford had a lifelong art career, with "Fish Tank" being his final piece before passing away in February 2015 at age 75.

He describes his art in his own words:

"My works are primarily figurative and whimsical with some playing on a subtle scene of sarcasm. My ideas are sparked simply by a nuance, by how a person is standing, or by a gesture that someone makes. I am able to build from that one instance a more elaborate image. As I form the piece, I add to it ideas that grow out of a process of free thinking, dredging up goo from my subconscious, but it always begins with the intrigue of the form."

"Over the years, as I have sharpened my own artistic voice, I have learned to see how it connects with the viewer. At art fairs, as crowds of people pass by booth after booth with stony, expressionless faces, I witness a countenance change when they approach my booth. Their expressions transform to a lighter mood; an act of engagement. What's different about mine? Perhaps they recognize their own experience or perspective on life. Perhaps they see something entirely new and appreciate the out-of-the-box view I lend them. That's why I enjoy creating whimsically abstract pieces, to give a touch of the real world, while at the same time taking them out of it and into their imagination and dreams."



Jack Morford's "Fish Tank" can be viewed as part of the Art Around the Corner Outdoor Sculpture Gallery. This sculpture is located on Main Street just north of St. George Boulevard outside of George's Corner.

For expanded articles see feature online at [suindependent.com](http://suindependent.com)

## LIVE MUSIC AT GEORGE'S CORNER IN JANUARY



"Fish Tank" by Jack Morford as part of the "Art Around The Corner" pieces.



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George's Corner Restaurant in downtown St. George is pleased to announce its musical lineup for January. Wednesday shows run from 7 to 10 p.m., and Friday and Saturday shows run from 8 to 11 p.m. January's lineup includes the return of the regular "Jazz on The Corner" series on the third Saturday of the month and "Funky Friday" featuring Soul What!?. Additionally, George's will feature Greg Blake on Jan. 6 as part of their "Touring Artist" series. George's Corner music promoter Gordon

Friday, Jan. 1: Harry O, R&B  
Saturday, Jan. 2: Johnny Van and Gary Huff, contemporary rock  
Wednesday Jan. 6: Greg Blake, bluegrass  
Friday, Jan. 8: Gunlock County, country  
Saturday, Jan. 9: Dulcie, contemporary rock  
Wednesday, Jan. 13: Jerry Allen, contemporary rock  
Friday, Jan. 15: Funky Friday with Soul What!?  
Saturday, Jan. 16: Jazz on the Corner featuring The West Coast Jazz Players  
Wednesday, Jan. 20: Lisa Mac, contemporary rock  
Friday, Jan. 22: Jeff Orr and friends, '70s rock  
Wednesday, Jan. 27: Devon Archer, alternative rock  
Friday, Jan. 29: Whiskey Tooth Revival, Americana  
Saturday, Jan. 30: Branson Anderson, folk

Strang said that the "Touring Artist" series is something of a departure from George's mission to normally have a local influence and keep George's music geared toward local artists, but he feels that it makes a nice addition to the lineup.

"About every six or eight weeks, I'll book somebody coming through on the road that is a unique talent," Strang said. "Greg Blake is an extremely good name in the bluegrass field."



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- Art and Soul Gallery & Gift
- Art Around the Corner
- Authentic Gallery
- Bedard Fine Art Gallery
- Brigham Young Home
- Children's Museum
- Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum
- DiFiore Center
- Main Street Gallery by Fibonacci
- Pioneer Courthouse
- Roland Lee Gallery
- Split Rock Art & Design Gallery
- St. George Art Museum
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# MOVIES

- ★★★★★ - Amazing!
- ★★★★ - Good
- ★★★ - Decent
- ★★ - Poor
- ★ - Terrible

## THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE GUIDE by Adam Mast

**STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS**  
(PG-13)  
★★★★½

Recently, the experience of viewing the entire “Star Wars” saga from beginning to end in a theater — one of the ultimate thrills of my adult movie-going life — put a lot of things into perspective. Firstly, news flash: The prequels aren’t very good. And it goes far beyond their plodding nature, stilted dialogue, and Hayden Christiansen’s wooden performance as Mannequin Skywalker. No, the prequels are really dull because they simply aren’t any fun. True, Episodes I, II, and III are about Anakin’s fall from grace, but that’s no excuse. “The Empire Strikes Back” is plenty dark, but it still emerges as the definitive “Star Wars” movie (debatable, I know) because despite the darker elements

of the plot, it’s a rip-roaring good time at the movies.

Thirty-two years following the events in “Return of the Jedi,” we finally get to find out what comes next in a galaxy far, far away, courtesy of fanboy filmmaker J.J. Abrams, new Lucasfilm head Kathleen Kennedy and a team of extremely passionate storytellers. The end result is “Star Wars: The Force Awakens,” a movie in which pure, unbridled joy and reverence trumps imperfection.

Going into “The Force Awakens” without delving into spoiler territory would be next to impossible. Since this film’s secrets have been mostly concealed by way of Abrams’ almighty “Mystery Box,” anything that might be written about it could be construed as a spoiler. In this review, I’ll avoid revealing the bigger surprises, but there will obviously be plot elements touched upon, so if you want to go into the film completely blind, stop reading now.

The events in “The Force Awakens” take place in real time in terms of the “Star Wars” timeline. In other words, just over 30 years have passed since the Jedi have defeated the Empire. As “The Force Awakens” begins, the heart of the mystery at the center of this picture is established by way of text during the film’s legendary opening crawl. I’ll refrain from going into the mystery further only to say that “The Force Awakens” offers up a most intriguing McGuffin.

Following the opening crawl, we are witness to an assault on the desert planet of Jakku. Ace X-Wing pilot and freedom fighter Poe Dameron (Oscar Isaac) stashes a mysterious item within the console of his lovable droid, BB8, just before The First Order — a fierce new foe born

out of the ashes of the Empire — arrives to exterminate members of The Resistance.

Led by the evil, mask-wearing Kylo Ren (Adam Driver), The First Order — a sort of galactic Nazi regime — show no mercy in their assault. Ultimately, Dameron is captured and interrogated aboard an enemy starship until he is aided by Finn (John Boyega) — a Stormtrooper with a conscience — in a daring escape.

Meanwhile, back on Jakku, young Rey (Daisy Ridley) lives a solitary life. She spends her days scavenging for supplies and doing whatever she can to survive. After eventually crossing paths with BB8 and a completely lost Finn, the adventure really begins, an adventure that will unite Rey and her newfound friends with the likes of legendary heroes Han Solo, Chewbacca, and Leia.



Where to begin? Firstly, nostalgia quite obviously plays an important role in “The Force Awakens.” As expected, there are plenty of echoes and call backs in this picture. Some have been quick to point out that the majority of the plot is a retread of the events that took place in “A New Hope.” True, Abrams uses the more memorable elements of the saga as comfort food, but he puts his own spin on the proceedings. This time around, it’s a pilot who hides secret

plans in a droid, a young woman leading a mundane life on a desert planet, and a villain who wears a sinister-looking mask because he wants to, not because he has to. And it’s now a weapon of mass destruction that can destroy several planets at once. Get the picture?

Beyond that, Abrams the writer — with iconic screenwriter Lawrence Kasdan by his side — makes a handful of missteps here. “The Force Awakens” isn’t perfect. There are structural issues. Things of striking coincidence abound. Furthermore, the film would have greatly benefited from expanding upon both Finn’s and Rey’s individual struggles before they are brought together. There is also a source of contention in this picture that isn’t really fleshed out, and while the characters at the center of this contention play their most important scene like seasoned pros, a little more backstory would have made said scene all the more powerful.

It comes to reason that some of this stuff could be elaborated on in Rian Johnson’s “Episode VIII,” but I would have preferred that “The Force Awakens” simply tell its own story. “A New Hope” played perfectly as a standalone film even though it was part of a bigger arc. Perhaps that’s because there was no guarantee at the time that there would be an “Empire Strikes Back,” therefore “Star Wars” creator George Lucas simply put everything into that first entry.

Abrams, Kasdan, and crew knew from the get-go that this would be a new series of films, so unanswered questions and ambiguous threads have been built into “The Force Awakens” by choice. Beyond that, there are smaller elements that most fans will be willing to let slide. For instance,

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**BH  
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disarming a weapon of mass destruction is a hell of a lot easier than it used to be.

Abrams the director is firing on all cylinders. There is fan service, yes, but what imperfections the script might have to offer, Abrams more than makes up for by way of absolute joy, unlimited energy, and a childlike sense of exuberance. "The Force Awakens" moves at a very quick clip. It is nothing short of entertaining, and his tactile approach is beyond welcome.

However, where Abrams truly nails it with "The Force Awakens" is in the character beats and casting. Old favorites like Han Solo (Harrison Ford) and Chewbacca (Peter Mayhew) play off of each other beautifully, and the choice to turn Chewie into a full-on ladies' man is an absolute stroke of genius. Carrie Fisher returns as Leia, and while I'm reluctant to say where her relationship rests with the old scoundrel Han, I will say that their moments together in "The Force Awakens" reminded me a bit of Indy's connection with Marion in the disappointment that was "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull." It should be noted, though, that the connection here works far better than it did in "Crystal Skull" because as a whole, "The Force Awakens" is vastly superior movie. It should also be noted that for those of you worrying that Ford was going to phone in the performance, rest assured, he doesn't. He's fantastic.

While our returning favorites obviously give our nostalgia-loving hearts the comfort food they need, it's the newbies that are truly worth noting in "The Force Awakens."

Ridley is absolutely outstanding as Rey. Aside from her resemblance to Keira Knightley (who, ironically, appeared in "The Phantom Menace"), you'll find that this lovely young actress is an absolute natural. She's tough, spunky, vulnerable, and positively adorable in this picture, and I can't wait to see this character grow in future entries.

As deserting Trooper Finn, Boyega ("Attack the Block") is a bundle of blazing energy in this picture. It doesn't take long for this charismatic performer to find what's "worth fighting for." There is no doubt that Boyega's energy is infectious, and as a result, he makes those around him even better. What's more, his chemistry with Ridley is spot on.

Isaac ("Ex Machina") is the very personification of heroism in "The Force Awakens." In fact, heroism is a prominent theme in this picture, and no one displays it in grander fashion than Isaac. He simply has a twinkle in his eye, and just like Boyega, Ridley, and the rest of the cast, you can feel how excited he is to be a part of this universe.

Driver ("Girls") is a compelling force to be reckoned with as the villainous Kylo Ren, and one of the things that's so fascinating about him as a character is that he seems like everything Lucas wanted Anakin to be in the prequels, only Driver nails it by bringing a real sense of pathos to the role. Kylo Ren is essentially a fanboy with a big chip on his shoulder. Intimidating and powerful to be sure, but prone to childlike temper tantrums when he doesn't get what he wants. Driver is excellent as a baddie who is scary, unpredictable, and tragic, and his

jaggedly lightsaber is a perfect fit for his volatile behavior.

There are other noteworthy characters to be found in "The Force Awakens," including mystical Maz Kanata (voiced by Lupita Nyong'o), a 900-year-old Force expert whose intellectual status is only rivaled by her fondness for Chewie. Nyong'o is incredibly likable in this role, and it is my hope that she will one day get her groove on with Chewbacca.

Unfortunately, there are characters who don't fair as well. Gwendoline Christie of "Game of Thrones" fame looks amazing as Captain Phasma, a lead trooper decked out in shiny chrome, but those expecting a character of Boba Fett-caliber "badassery" are bound to be disappointed. Unfortunately, Phasma doesn't get to do much in this picture, and worse still, there's a sense throughout the film that she initially did have more to do that was ultimately left on the cutting room floor. Here's hoping Phasma gets to show off some real personality in "Episode VIII."

Sadly, the great Max Von Sydow clocks in about three minutes of screen time as an ally who assists Dameron in his heroic crusade. Who exactly is Von Sydow's Lor San Tekka? We may never know.

Finally, the much talked about Supreme Leader Snoke (played by the great Andy Serkis) is shown only in holographic form. He's treated much like the Emperor in "The Empire Strikes Back," so it's safe to say that we'll be seeing more of him in the future.

Note of interest: "The Force Awakens" offers up a handful of entertaining cameos, including Simon Pegg and Daniel Craig, so be on the lookout.

"The Force Awakens" is surprisingly intimate for a movie of this size. In fact, this is every bit a story of family (some of it of the dysfunctional variety) as it is an operatic sci-fi adventure. Sure, there are battles, lightsaber duels, explosions, and talk of the all-powerful Force, but at the end of the day, "The Force Awakens" is about heroism and the importance of family.

Despite the flaws, there is no doubt that Abrams has risen to the challenge. I'm not going to sit here and tell you that "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" is the best picture of the year, but with all due respect to "Return of the Jedi," this is the most entertaining chapter in the saga since 1980's "The Empire Strikes Back," and as was the case with the ending of that picture, the final moments of "The Force Awakens" have me anxiously and enthusiastically counting the days until "Episode VIII."

### SPOTLIGHT (R) ★★★★½

"Spotlight" might just be one of the strongest movies ever made about investigative journalism. It's an understated kindred spirit to "All the President's Men." With its rather dark subject matter regarding a religious institution, it also offers up moments that might remind one of "Sleepers" and "Doubt."

Keep in mind, as impactful as "Spotlight" is, it isn't exactly the feel good movie of the holiday season. Still, for those of you looking for a provocative film with stellar performances and impeccable writing, this one is well worth checking out.

"Spotlight" is the true story of the Boston Globe's legendary Spotlight team and how their delving into disturbing allegations involving the Catholic Church in 2001 would reveal a decades-long cover

up. With new Globe editor-in-chief Marty Baron (played by Liev Schrieber) and Spotlight editor Walter "Robby" Robinson (played by Michael Keaton) leading the charge, a team of reporters would ultimately make a startling discovery after conducting a follow-up in a case involving a priest accused of child molestation.



"Spotlight" was written and directed by the great Tom McCarthy ("The Visitor," "The Station Agent") and while the subject matter is certainly of the hot topic variety, it is handled with delicacy and class. What's more, "Spotlight" is restrained. A contingent of the Catholic Church is certainly the primary focus of the movie, and while certain members of the cloth are clearly painted in a negative light here, McCarthy is quick to point a finger at other guilty parties as well, and this gives "Spotlight" a kind of unexpected balance.

The ensemble of "Spotlight" is positively stellar. Schreiber is quietly effective as Baron. When Baron first takes on his new position at the Globe, his decisions are frowned upon by those around him until it becomes perfectly clear that he is a man of integrity. Keaton is superb as Robinson, a veteran newsman who

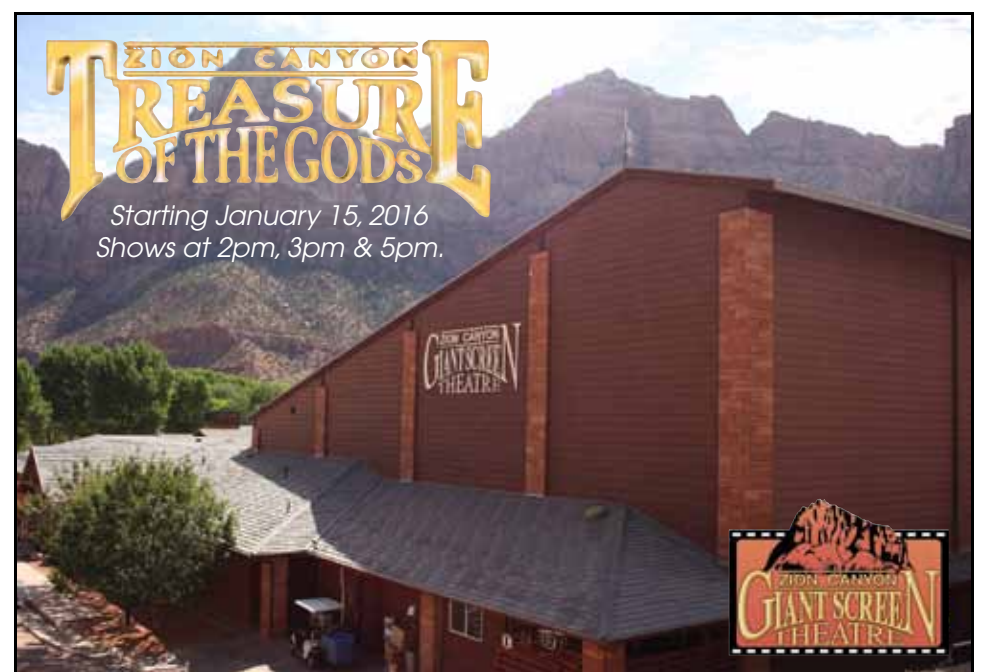
quickly realizes there's much more than just a story at play here. Rachel McAdams does some of her finest work as Spotlight reporter Sacha Pfeiffer. A moment in which she interviews a priest suspected of molestation is enough to chill you to the bone. However, of the entire ensemble, it's Mark Ruffalo who impresses the most as excitable Mike Rezendes, a passionately driven reporter who would make strides in a very controversial case mostly by way of his bond with a cautious attorney (beautifully played by Stanley Tucci).

The media is often painted the villain (in many cases, rightfully so), most notably in today's darkly lit global landscape, but "Spotlight" shows us the other side of the news, a side where integrity and doing the right thing reigns supreme and a side where individuals must hold themselves accountable for their own actions no matter what the outcome might be.

There are so many powerful moments in this picture. A scene in which Bill Crudup's shifty lawyer, Eric Macleish, opens Robinson's eyes to the realization of how blinded even he's been when it comes to the story at hand is poignant and hard-hitting.

For all its touchy subject matter and condemnation of a religious institution, this is really a story about doing the right thing and how just a few people willing to speak up can make a difference. There's no statute of limitations on the truth. "Spotlight" is one of the best films of the year.

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## BOOK REVIEWS

# AUTHOR'S ADVOCATE: PROFITABLE PUBLISHING OPTIONS FOR YOUR BOOK

by David W. Smith

As I discussed last month, there are many venues to explore in getting your writing project published. From traditional publishing to print-on-demand and self-publishing options, there are many considerations in terms of what will increase the potential success of a written project.

The truth is that in terms of traditional publishing, the chance of a legitimate publisher taking on a new



author's work — investing in the printing and distributing costs as well as some of the marketing costs — is extraordinarily slim. Consider that such renowned authors as J.K. Rowling, Margaret Mitchell, and Steven King were all rejected at least a dozen times each before getting their books published.

Today, to even consider reviewing a manuscript, most traditional publishers require prospective authors who submit query letters to describe their "author platform." This platform is the means by which an author will promote and market his or her work if published. Another truth is that eight of nine published books don't make money. Thus, most publishers, aware of the reality of these numbers, will not take on much — if any — of the expense of marketing and promoting a book, even if they like it! Most require authors to take on this burden.

Unlike a generation ago, when books were sold in brick and mortar stores, books can be sold online today by authors themselves. Thus today's authors can accomplish a great number of sales and make substantial income on self-published books if they are willing to explore these point-of-sale vehicles and invest in themselves.

Traditional publishers usually offer 8 to 10 percent royalties, usually on the *wholesale* cost of the book, which equates to about 80 cents for a \$15 retail book. A self-published author can make between \$4 and \$20 or more *net profit* on each book. Quite a difference! Most traditional authors don't make their gas money back on a book signing!

Next month, I'll talk more about the ways in which authors can make a sizable return on their self-published work.

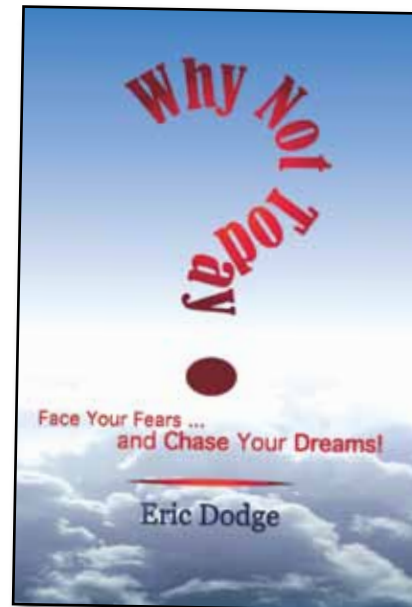
*David W. Smith is the owner of Synergy Books Publishing, USA. He can be reached at acrpres1@msn.com.*

# THE INDEPENDENT BOOK REVIEWS

by Rich Rogers

**Why Not Today?** Eric Dodge. 2015  
Eric Dodge Music. Trade Paperback and Kindle.

If you've been reading this column for many years, you may have noticed that I rarely review self-published books. The reasons are simple. Most writers who self-publish don't spend the money to get a good editor. And if they do spend the money, it seems they don't listen to what the editor has to say. In the almost 20 years I've been writing reviews, I've only read two self-published titles that were worth my time. It got so bad that I made it a personal policy to flat-out refuse to read anything self-published. It wasn't worth my time. (Ralph Rohr, a sometime contributor to the Independent, asked me to review a self-published book of his on the New Testament Book of Revelation, but time constraints wouldn't allow me to do so.) The stories I could tell.



Back in July, I noticed something from Eric Dodge, a country singer based in St. George. I really don't know why I wanted to read his book, but I decided to ask him for a review copy, which I picked up while I was visiting the States in August. I'm glad I did.

The book is part memoir, part self-help book, and part motivational book, and Dodge gets it right.

"Why Not Today" is one of the two self-published books that have been worth the time to read. Why? First, Dodge didn't try to write the Great American Novel, or Great American Confessional, and get in over his head. He wanted to share his story,

which he truly believes can help people change their lives. And secondly, he obviously spent the money for a good editor — and more importantly, he obviously listened. None of the typical mistakes of a self-published writer are found here.

So what is his story?

His story is one that goes from being a super-confident 4-year-old — daring enough to run in front of a car with a sheet tied around his neck in his Superman underwear, holding out his hand to stop an oncoming car — to deep suicidal depression, to becoming a country singer who's shared

the stage with performers such as Travis Tritt, Carrie Underwood, Chris LeDoux, and Collin Raye, to name a few, as well as becoming a motivational speaker and singer (he mixes his music in with his speeches) and a member of the National Speakers Association.

And he is a real country singer with a rich baritone voice. I've got to hunt down some of his albums. Check out "The Last Real Cowboy."

With his simple, winning approach, he shares what it was like to go out and try and stop a car in his Superman undies and then lose a beloved grandfather. One of the most powerful sections was the section about bullying. I think we've all encountered bullying to a certain degree. But his story is horrific, and I don't use that term lightly. In fact, one of the things he speaks about around the country is bullying.

And in the chapter on dating, I found myself saying "Amen, Brother!" often throughout. In my single days, people often asked about my marital status, and I would tell them my love life was so insane that if I were to tell them half of it their response would be, "That doesn't happen in a badly written Mexican soap opera, let alone real life."

The writing and voice are smooth, never trying to overwhelm but giving you a simple story with lessons from life buried in there. I will say I would have liked him to go into a little more detail about his depression. For those who struggle with it, they want to see just how dark it was for another person so they can connect better. But that's a small quibble.

I felt refreshed as I read this book, and I realize that Dodge is someone I want to really get to know, not just through books and his music. I know, I'll have to take a number.

I'm curious to see what he'll do next. Dodge is definitely someone to watch.

*Rich welcomes questions and comments from readers. You may contact him at 62rich@gmail.com.*

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# MUSIC

## BRICK WALKER DISCUSSES "BLU UNK" EP by Jason Gottfried

Self-styled as a "red rock blues band," BrickWalker is a St. George-based quintet comprising Max and Zach Wiltbank, Connor Houchen, Chase McClung, and Tyler Huff, and being managed by Alek Wiltbank. They released their debut EP, "Blu Unk," earlier this year and have been featured recently at local festivals like George Streetfest. Max set aside the time for an interview to discuss the band, their EP, and their plans.



**Jason Gottfried:** What are your primary influences? Anything specific, or do certain members have specific influences?

**Max Wiltbank:** I'm trying to think of what we listened to when we recorded this ... Led Zeppelin, The Strokes, Vulfpeck, Queens Of The Stone Age, Cage The Elephant, Jack White. Vocally, I take a lot of my influence from Julian Casablancas (The Strokes and The Voidz), Matthew Shultz (Cage The Elephant), Robert Plant (Led Zeppelin), Mick Jagger (Rolling Stones), and Keith Buckley (Every Time I Die).

**JG:** Looks like two or three of you are brothers. Any story about how the band formed and how each of you got into music?

**MW:** We have five members, plus a manager. Zach Wiltbank (drums), Alek Wiltbank (manager), and Max Wiltbank (vocals) are all brothers. Us three were all in a punk band before BrickWalker called Ex Era. I was on bass, Alek on guitar, Zach on drums. I liked playing that music, but I really wanted to play the blues, and I wanted to be a lead singer. Luckily, I went to possibly the best high school to find people like that, Tuacahn High School for the Performing Arts. I was friends with Connor, Chase and Tyler beforehand, and we all used to jam together all the time, so all I had to do was convince them to join the band.

**JG:** Are you all Utah or St. George natives?

**MW:** Four of us are alums of Tuacahn. The other two have lived here for the last five years. Chase was born in California, Tyler was born in Carson City,



and Connor was born in Milford, but they have all lived here for the majority of their lives. Zach and I both moved here five years ago.

**JG:** How long have you been together?

**MW:** Connor, Chase, and Tyler have known each other since grade school. I didn't really meet any of them until junior year.

**JG:** I'd say it's relatively uncommon for a band to have a manager, or at least not many do. Locally, most probably don't. You noted online that Alek is the only reason that the album was completed. What has Alek done specifically to help you as a band?

**MW:** Basically, Alek has booked our shows, managed our money, and pushed us into making "Blu Unk." He set up all our recording and mastering dates and basically does everything for BrickWalker except perform.

**JG:** Do you recommend that all local bands have a manager?

**MW:** Alek has helped us become a legitimate "band," and I would say that every band would benefit from having a manager. It allows the band to focus on writing and perfecting their music, not worrying about money, gigs, or other business-based responsibilities.

**JG:** Care to explain the album title?

**MW:** Blu Unk is what you feel when you listen to BrickWalker. When you feel that funkiness build up inside of you and you just gotta set it free, that's the Blu Unk.

**JG:** I don't know if you saw the piece I wrote about the music scene in southern Utah ([suindependent.com/southern-utah-music-scene](http://suindependent.com/southern-utah-music-scene)) or my interview with Lisle Crowley ([suindependent.com/interview-lisle-crowley-from-horse-head-road](http://suindependent.com/interview-lisle-crowley-from-horse-head-road)) where he talked about how he feels about it. What do you guys think about the music scene in southern Utah? Do you feel supported by the culture here?



**MW:** The music scene in southern Utah is amazing. Amazing bands, amazing artists, amazing fans, and amazing people in general are all around. The one issue is how small the scene is. We need more bands, more venues and more money flowing through the scene if we ever truly want to thrive. We need to have more nationally touring bands stop in St. George to get people excited about live music. The people are great, but there's not enough of them.

**JG:** I agree that there should be more venues. Then again, we're talking about a city that literally issues dancing permits. Have you been well paid for local shows at the few venues there are, or do you find yourselves fighting for fair compensation?

**MW:** There is not a lot of money being invested into the St. George music scene, and because of that, bands rarely get paid anything more than \$100. Even Georgefest only pays \$100 to the local bands, and that is sponsored by the city.

**JG:** Jeez, seriously? That's pathetic.

**MW:** There is not nearly enough support for the arts in St. George, and the issuing of dance permits only highlights that. The arts are completely disrespected in southern Utah, unless you are part of

the Southwest Symphony, Southern Utah Heritage Choir, or Tuacahn. There is no chance for artists to thrive.

**JG:** Are you guys trying to get signed?

**MW:** We are currently signed to Arborist Records, a local record label run by our manager, Alek Wiltbank. Our EP was the first release for Arborist, and we're pretty excited about that.

**JG:** Do you plan to release a full-length album in the future?

**MW:** That's the dream!

**JG:** Are any of you planning on pursuing music long-term individually, say, at the collegiate level?

**MW:** I am attending Dixie State University and taking music classes, and Connor is starting next semester, though we both plan to move to a different college to finish our degrees.

**JG:** What are your immediate as

well as long-term plans?

**MW:** Currently, we are on a little bit of a hiatus. We all have other "life" stuff we have to take care of right now, and we're working that out, but we all want to keep playing music together.

BrickWalker's debut EP, "Blu Unk" is out now. It's available for streaming and digital download at <https://brickwalkerband.bandcamp.com>. Support local music by purchasing "Blu Unk."

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# CALENDAR

## Multi-Day Events

To get your event in our Free Calendar of Events log on to [http://www.suindependent.com/events\\_calendar/form.php](http://www.suindependent.com/events_calendar/form.php). Limit one free listing per day or date per organization.

**YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE!  
CALL 435-656-1555**

### FEATURED EVENT

**DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE  
CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES**



A new year has begun which means new talent. This month the series will feature two great performances. The first hitting the stage will be Ethan Bortnik on January 5 at 7:30pm. Recognized as "The World's Youngest Solo Musician to Headline his own Act" by Guinness Book of World Records, 14-year-old Bortnik has raised over 40 million dollars for charity with his performances across the globe. On the 26 Presidio Brass will be on the Cox Performing Arts stage at 7:30pm. They are the face for a bold new generation in brass entertainment, combining a brass quintet, piano and percussion instruments to create their unique sound. Cox Auditorium, 225 S. 700 E, St. George.

**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE-THE MUSICAL** Dec 4-Jan 3 7:00pm Description Continuing the tradition established in 2014, Brigham's Playhouse will be bringing back It's a Wonderful Life-The Musical, for the holiday season! Based on the movie starring Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reid, this stage musical version will bring new life to the memorable story of George Bailey who wonders what the world would be like if he wasn't a part of it. Come and make Brigham's Playhouse a part of your holiday tradition with It's a Wonderful Life! Brigham's Playhouse, 25 North 300 West, Washington.

**ART CLASSES** 6:00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays. Oil Painting, Drawing, Portraits and Pastel Classes Available Desert Rose Art Studio, 225 N. Bluff St Suite #1 St. George.

**POLE FITNESS CLASSES** 7:00pm Beginner class (Flow 1) Held Tues & Thurs nights at 7pm. \$10. Or attend the FREE Community Intro class at 7pm and 8pm on Sat. nights. Also available: Book a party for your bachelorette or birthday party. 270 N. 2940 E. St. George.

**KARAOKE AT THE STATELINE CASINO** 8:00pm Tues & Fridays. Karaoke at the Stateline. Here's your chance to be part of the show or you can just sit back and listen and have some fun. Stateline has plenty of gaming to keep you occupied or several pool tables if you like to shoot. Come on down and joint the fun, Karaoke begins at 8 p.m. and goes until we're finished. Stateline Casino 490 West Mesquite.

**MAY CAUSE DIZZINESS- RECENT PAINTINGS BY CHIP CHAPMAN** Dec 4-Jan 2 10:00am A unique, do-it-yourself visionary who was a founder of the Los Angeles Free Music Society forty years ago, Mr. Chapman now paints at his "laboratory" in Hurricane, Utah. This is his first solo exhibition and features exclusively works created in 2015. Most are available for sale from the artist. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

**THE WHITE WHALE, AN ORIGINAL STAGED ADAPTATION OF HERMN MELVILLE'S MOBY DICK** 7:30pm Description The White Whale, Jan. 28-30; February 2-6, PG DSU's Mark Houser and his Divided Theatre Production students bring Herman Melville's timeless, great American novel to the stage. Dixie State University, 225 S 700 E, St. George.

**CANYON VIEW HIGH: POPS CONCERT** 5:00pm Jan 27-29 Recruiting Concert with the Middle School CVHS, Cedar City.

## Events by Day MONDAYS

**COMMUNITY BEREAVEMENT GROUP** 3:30pm Community Bereavement Group A supportive and educational group for those experiencing grief resulting from the loss of a loved one. Co-sponsored by Virgin Valley and Mesa View Hospice Care. For more information, please call 702.346.5224. Mesquite Library, 121 West First North St. Mesquite.

**COLOR COUNTRY CAMERA CLUB** 6:00pm Color Country Camera Club meets at 6 pm on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at the St George Library (Basement meeting room). Anyone interested in photography is welcome. No dues. For more information send an email to: [meetings@colorcountrycameraclub.org](mailto:meetings@colorcountrycameraclub.org) St George Library, 88 West 100 South St. George.

**FOREIGN FILM CLUB** 5:00pm Do you love foreign films? Then join us at the Santa Clara Library as we watch and discuss foreign cinematic gems! 88 West 100 South St. George.

**FREE2FEED BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP** 9:30am at Luther Hall, 244 S. Valley View Dr. St. George. Free2Feed is a local Motherhood & Breastfeeding Support Group. We aim to support & encourage women of all ages and in all stages of motherhood by education & Love. Check out our website for upcoming events & guest speakers [www.free2feed.org](http://www.free2feed.org)

**GENTLE YOGA ZACI** Yoga 4:15pm Have you dabbled in yoga in the past and wondered "Is this for me." I hope you will return for a second slice. ZACI Yoga, 348 N Bluff #205, St. George.

**ST. GEORGE DANCE COMPANY CLASS (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)** St. George Dance Company Class (Open to the Public) Ballet Class Fall 2014 (Mondays 7:30pm-8:45 Class, 8:45-10:30pm Rehearsal) 245 N 200 W (park in Senior Center Parking Lot) St. George.

## TUESDAYS

**JAZZY'S - STORM THE MIC/POETRY OPEN MIC** Uncensored Open Mic Event For Local Writers. Come out have a drink or a meal and bring a poem, short story, or other writings, or even just listen. Very supportive, inclusive, uncensored group! 285 North Bluff Street St. George.



**OPEN ALL WINTER!**

## JANUARY LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE:

**SAT, JANUARY 2**  
West Coast Jazz Players featuring R&R (Las Vegas) 6-9 PM

**SAT, JANUARY 9**  
Wirelefant (Alternative) 6-9 PM

**SAT, JANUARY 16**  
Arts to Zion after party featuring Soul What?! 7:30 - 10:30 PM

**FRI, JANUARY 23**  
Many Miles (Contemporary Rock) 6-9 PM

**SAT, JANUARY 30**  
Tom Bennett Band (Folk/Blues) 6-9 PM



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# CALENDAR

**OLD SCHOOL SWING DANCE + LESSONS** Check us out on facebook for more info at [www.facebook.com/thefirehousebar](http://www.facebook.com/thefirehousebar). FireHouse Bar & Grill, 1476 W. Sunset Blvd., St. George.

**WOMEN'S GROUP MEETS** 7:00pm first Tuesday Each month. 259 West 200 North St. George.

**TECHART STUDIO: LEARN TO DJ** 10:00am TechArt Studio: Learn to DJ This interactive, hands-on experience will introduce and expose you to becoming a DJ. You will acquire the many skills of DJing including: scratching, mixing and lighting. After mastering the many functions of the controller and software, you will be able to create your own mix, burn it to a disc and share it with family, friends and fellow DJs. MEADOWS LIBRARY, Mesquite.

**THE GRACEFUL WOMAN** 6:30pm Tuesday nights are now open to Women of all ages for a wonderful night of specialized teachings to empower, uplift, heal, strengthen and teach. Fruit and Yogi Tea will be served after class. Bring your girlfriends, your daughters, your aunts, your mother and grandmother. By Donation \$5 - \$11. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 West Sage Hills Drive Cedar City.

**KARAOKE TUESDAYS IN MESQUITE, NV** 5:00pm Leave St. George at 5, get to Peggy Sue's at 5 for KARAOKE, Fantastic Food, Full Bar and lots of friendly people. Peggy Sue's Diner, 380 N Sandhill Blvd Mesquite, Nevada (702) 346-6747, Mesquite.

**TRIBUTE TO ELVIS** 7:00pm \* Tribute to Elvis Tribute to Elvis Time: 7:00 pm "From Memphis to Las Vegas - A Tribute to the King" starring John Brooks! 7p-11p EVERY Tuesday in the Skydome Lounge at the CasaBlanca, must be 21 or older, no cover charge. Voted Best of Las Vegas 2013 "Best Elvis Tribute Show" & "Best Lounge Performer"! CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd Mesquite.

**HERITAGE WRITERS GUILD** 6pm Second Tuesday of each month in the basement of the library. 88 W. 100 S. St. George. (435) 634-5737.

**OPEN PAINT NIGHT TUESDAY** 6:00pm Desert Rose Art Studio Invites anyone who would like to join a group of artist in an open paint night every Tuesday evening from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Bring whatever medium you want and spent an enjoyable evening. Bring a friend if you would like. The cost is a Donation of \$15.00 to help with our overhead. If you are interested in Joining us call Alice Hiatt @ (435)256-3317. 225 N. Bluff St. suite #1 St. George.

**LIBRARY ART CLUB FOR CHILDREN** 6:30pm Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Free. Register in the children's area! 88 W. 100 S. St. George.

**TRAUMA SENSITIVE YOGA** Hosted by the D.O.V.E. Center - women only class. Class by donation. 301 N. 200 E. #2C St. George.

## WEDNESDAYS

**KARAOKE WITH KJ EVAN** Call 435-867-5990 for more info, or visit MikesTavernCC.com. 90 W. Hoover Cedar City.

**OPEN MIC AT GROOVACIOUS** 7:30am Sign up at 7:30, all participants selected by random drawing. Performers limited to 10. Free. 173 N. 100 W. Cedar City.

**FREE2FEED BREASTFEEDING & MOTHERHOOD SUPPORT GROUP** 9:30am at the Bunkerville Community Center, 200 Virgin St. Mesquite. Free2Feed is a local Motherhood & Breastfeeding Support Group. We aim to support & encourage women of all ages and in all stages of motherhood by education & Love. [www.free2feed.org](http://www.free2feed.org)

**GENTLE YOGA ZACI** Yoga 4:15pm Have you dabbled in yoga in the past and wondered "Is this for me." I hope you will return for a second slice. ZACI Yoga, 348 N Bluff #205, St. George.

**BRAIN FITNESS & SOUND HEALTH RESEARCH INITIATIVE** 7:00pm Adults from 47 to 87 are invited to apply for acceptance into the program. Call 435-229-6655 and talk with Nancy or Bob, graduates of the program and now facilitators. Email BrainFitnessSoundHealth@gmail.com. Blackridge Terrace Bldg 1, 250 W & Hilton Drive, Ste 305 St. George.

**PRIVATE CORPORATION** 11:00am. Downtown Yoga, 50 East Tabernacle, St. George.

**ANIME & GAMER CLUB** 3:00pm Teens and Tweens who love Anime, gaming, or both, join us at the Santa Clara Library for book discussions, games, and great times! 88 West 100 South St. George.

**SPANISH BALLET/ FLAMENCO DANCE** 5:00pm Flamenco is an exciting and dynamic dance form from southern Spain featuring lyrical hand and arm movements and sharp percussive footwork. We will learn the correct body posture, wrist and arm positions, footwork, hand clapping patterns, and how to follow the music. Please bring supportive shoes with a chunky heel. Both boys & girls are welcome. St. George.

**OPEN MIC AT JAZZY'S** 9:00pm Come share your talents, or simply listen and have a beer! 285 North Bluff Street St. George.

**WRITERS IMPROVEMENT GROUP** Offered by Heritage Writers Guild. Meets at 2pm as well as 6pm. every wednesday. Bring eight pages of writing, (up to 5 pages, double spaced, 12 point font) for free and friendly feedback. More info, call 435-625-1743. 88 W. 100 S. St. George.

## THURSDAYS

**JOYFUL YOGA** 6:30pm Joyful Yoga! an all Levels, all Ages class for anyone and everyone! Get your Joy on with Kundalini Yoga and Meditation as taught by Yogi Bhajan. By donation. \$5 to \$11. Thank you. Sat Nam. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 West Sage Hills Drive Cedar City.

**CEDAR CITY LIBRARY BOOK CLUB** 7:00pm The Cedar City Library will be changing their monthly book club to every second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. January we will be discussing "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell and in February is "Very Valentine" by Adriana Trigiani. Cedar City Library, 303 N. 100 E, Cedar City.

**LIVE MUSIC WITH NICK ADAMS** 7:00pm Nick plays acoustic guitar every Thursday evening George's Corner Restaurant and Pub, 2 W St. George Blvd. St. George.

**SINDUSTRY** 7:00pm Free Drink & Drawing Ticket. There will be Corn Hole Tournament, Beer Pong, Jenga. Live Entertainment. \$10.00 Buckets of Beer. Every Thursday 7 PM- 3 AM No cover charge. 275 Mesa Blvd Mesquite.

**Find more at [SIndependent.com](http://SIndependent.com)**



## celebrity concert series

For tickets, please visit the DSU ticket office located inside the Cox Performing Arts Center, or call 435-652-7800. Tickets can also be purchased by visiting...[www.celebrityconcertseries.com](http://www.celebrityconcertseries.com).



January 5 at 7:30 pm  
Cox Auditorium

*Ethan Bortnick*

*Bringing the World to OUR Stage!*



January 26 at 7:30 pm  
Cox Auditorium

*Presidio Brass*



[celebrityconcertseries.com](http://celebrityconcertseries.com) | [facebook.com/DSUcelebrityconcertseries](https://facebook.com/DSUcelebrityconcertseries)



# CALENDAR

**WIDOWED AND SINGLES SUPPORT GROUP** 2:30pm Rocky Mountain Care and the Senior Citizen's Center invite you to join them for the Widowed & Singles Support Group 245 North 200 West St. George.

## FRIDAYS

**LAUNCHING PAD COMMUNITY GATHERING** 6:00pm, We are a trans-denominational spiritual community. We focus on young adults, but everyone is welcome to join! Community potluck starts at 6pm and service begins around 7, followed by a group discussion and spiritual practice. Visit [facebook.com/LaunchingPadZion](http://facebook.com/LaunchingPadZion) for more info! 908 N. 1400 W. St. George.

**FREE2FEED BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP** 11:00-1:00 at the Public Library in Hurricane. Mommy & Tot playtime, followed by group discussion at 12:00. Free2Feed is a local Motherhood & Breastfeeding Support Group. We aim to support & encourage women of all ages and in all stages of motherhood by education & Love. Check out our website for upcoming events & guest speakers [www.free2feed.org](http://www.free2feed.org)

## SATURDAYS

**NANOWRIMO WRITING TIME** 10:00am Join NANOWRIMO (National Novel Writing Month) and complete a novel by the end of November! Every Saturday in November we will offer a space for you to write your novel. Cedar City Library, 303 N. 100 E, Cedar City.

**KARAOKE SATURDAYS!** 9:00pm You're The Star! with Gayle Louise. 21 and over. Great food! 720 East 700 South St. George.

**GUIDED SATURDAY MORNING HIKE** 7:00am Venture into the stunning out-back that surrounds St. George on a guided half day hiking tour (4-5 hours). Scheduled hiking tours begin at the St. George Adventure Hub on Saturday mornings (Spring and Fall months). Your guide is a local expert who is also specially trained as a Wilderness First Responder (WFR). Adventure Hub St. George, 128 North 100 West Suite 124, St. George. [stgeorgehub.com](http://stgeorgehub.com), 435-673-7246.

**UNITY CENTER OF POSITIVE LIVING GATHERING** providing a learning environment on how positive affirmations, or prayer works. Explaining how super-natural healing occurs whether physically, or spiritually, when you believe. People of all beliefs are welcome. For more info visit [stgrgeunity@gmail.com](mailto:stgrgeunity@gmail.com) or call 435-817-1746 1072 E. 900 S St. George.

**TOP 40/DANCE/HOUSE TOP 40/DANCE/HOUSE** and various themed events TBA. Saturday nights at Envy Nightclub & Lounge, 792 W. Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite. [www.facebook.com/envynevada](http://www.facebook.com/envynevada). 792 W. Pioneer Blvd. Mesquite.

**TUACAHN SATURDAY MARKET** 9:00am Pancake breakfast 9-11 a.m. Vendor applications: (435) 652-3218, [tuacahn.org](http://tuacahn.org). 1100 Tuacahn Dr Ivins.

**SATURDAY MOVIE MATINEE @ ST. GEORGE LIBRARY** 2:00pm Washington County Library System, 88 West 100 South St. George.

**YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE! CALL 435-656-1555**

## SUNDAYS

**D.R.I.F.T.: DIXIE REASON INQUIRY AND FREE THOUGHT:** Group meets at Jazzy Java, 285 N. Bluff, St. George, Sundays from 2 p.m. till close. An open place where people can meet to talk about religion, atheism, life, death and an unlimited number of other topics. All are welcome.

**THE NARROWS CHURCH VERSE-BY-VERSE BIBLE STUDIES** Sunday mornings, 10:45 a.m. at Panorama Elementary School, 301 N. 2200 East, St. George. FREE. [thenarrowschurch@gmail.com](mailto:thenarrowschurch@gmail.com), [thenarrowschurch.org](http://thenarrowschurch.org), (435) 592-2605. 301 N. 2200 East St. George.

**UNITY CENTER OF POSITIVE LIVING GATHERING** providing a learning environment on how positive affirmations, or prayer works. Explaining how super-natural healing occurs whether physically, or spiritually, when you believe. People of all beliefs are welcome. For more info visit [stgrgeunity@gmail.com](mailto:stgrgeunity@gmail.com) or call 435-817-1746 1072 E. 900 S St. George.

## Events by Date

### Fri, Jan 1

**THE COMEDY MACHINE** 8:30pm See The Comedy Machine at the CasaBlanca Resort in Mesquite. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8:30 p.m. This show is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**SEASON'S ULTRA LOUNGE** 8:00pm Go Big! & DJ Mikey VIP are turning it up in Season's Lounge from 8pm-3am! Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

**GEORGE STREETFEST ON MAIN** 6:00pm Enjoy a New Year's Masquerade celebration with George Streetfest on Main. Featuring dance party music, local vendors and food trucks, this is a party you don't want to miss. The Zion Canyon Brew Pub Jazz Garden at Ancestor Square will be playing New Orleans Jazz. Downtown St. George, Main Street, St. George.

**HARRY O. LIVE** See Harry O. perform live R&B at George's Corner in Ancestor Square. Enjoy good music, good food and good times. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**ULTIMATE OUTDOOR EXPO** Start your new year off right! The Ultimate Outdoor Expo is sure to please, showcasing the latest in outdoor enjoyment. All Ticket sold at the door inside the Dixie Center Contact Contact Info: Sylvia Anderson 801-571-9012 Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George.

### Sat, Jan 2

**BOBBY MEADER MUSIC** 7:00pm Jazzy's, 285 N Bluff St, St. George.

**SEASON'S ULTRA LOUNGE** 8:00pm Go Big! & DJ Mikey VIP are turning it up in Season's Lounge from 8pm-3am! Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd, Mesquite.

**ULTIMATE OUTDOOR EXPO** Start your new year off right! The Ultimate Outdoor Expo is sure to please, showcasing the latest in outdoor enjoyment. All Ticket sold at the door inside the Dixie Center Contact Contact Info: Sylvia Anderson 801-571-9012 Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George

**JOHNNY VAN AND GARY HUFF** 8:00 pm Enjoy these two artists perform live contemporary rock while enjoying tasty treats and drinks. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

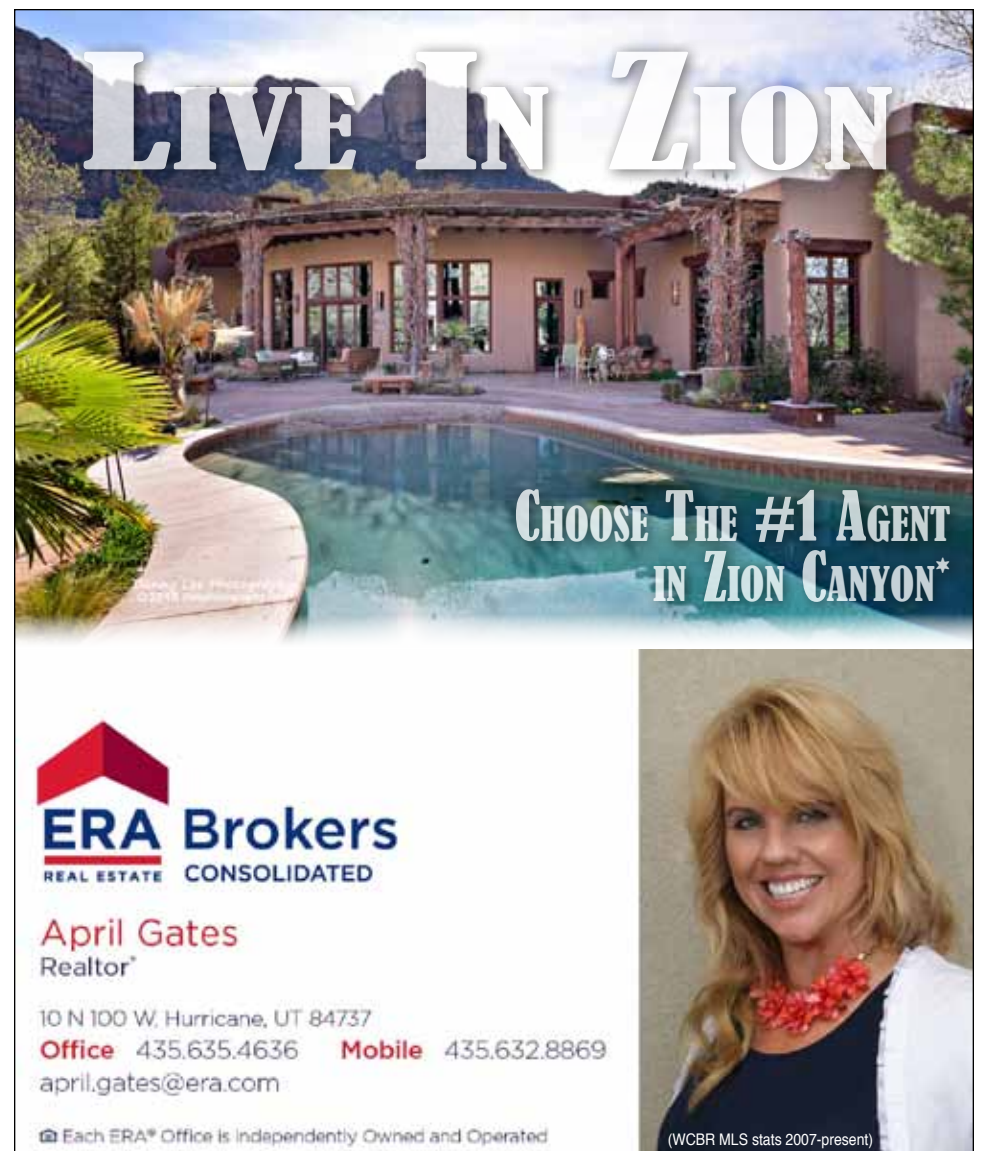


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# CALENDAR

**ELVIS LIVE FROM VEGAS** 7:30pm See Tyler James and the Memphis Experience Band live at the CasaBlanca Resort for Elvis Live from Vegas. Catch all of the class Elvis hits at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**WALK FOR LIFE** 9:00am Pro-Life leaders for the Saint George Parish Corner of Bluff Street & 600 South, St. George.

**WEST COAST JAZZ PLAYERS** 6:00pm Come out to Zion Canyon Brew Pub in Springdale, Utah to see the live performance from the West Coast Jazz Players featuring R&R from Las Vegas. Enjoy some delicious food, brews and jazz music to keep your night upbeat and full of life. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

## Wed, Jan 6

**DESERT HILLS HIGH: ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA - BAND ROOM** 7:00pm Desert Hills High School, 828 East Desert Hills Drive, St. George.

**GREGORY HAWKINS** 10:00am Estate Planning Seminars Contact Info: Gregory Hawkins 801-558-2527 Admission: Open to Public Go Back To Calendar Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George.

**GREG BLAKE LIVE** See the bluegrass style of Greg Blake while grabbing a bite to eat at George's Corner. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**KARAOKE WITH KJ EVAN** Call 435-867-5990 for more info, or visit MikesTavernCC.com. Mike's Tavern, 90 W. Hoover, Cedar City.

**OPEN MIC AT GROOVACIOUS** 7:30pm Sign up at 7:30, all participants selected by random drawing. Performers limited to 10. Free. Groovacious, 173 N. 100 W., Cedar City.

## Thurs, Jan 7

**GREGORY HAWKINS** 10:00am Estate Planning Seminars Contact Info: Gregory Hawkins 801-558-2527 Admission: Open to Public Go Back To Calendar Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George.

## Fri, Jan 8

**GUNLOCK COUNTY** Get into the country groove with Gunlock County at George's Corner in Ancestor Square. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

## Sat, Jan 9

**MICHAEL GRIMM IN CONCERT** 8:30pm See America's Got Talent winner Michael Grimm perform live at the CasaBlanca Resort. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8:30 p.m. It is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**SECOND SATURDAY SWING DANCE** 7:30pm Don't worry if you don't know how to dance there are lessons held just before the dance. Learn Lindyhop, Balboa, Charleston, etc. Lesson is from 7:30-8:30 pm (beginning and intermediate), Dance is from 8:30-10:30 pm. Washington City Community Center - Reception Center, 350 N Community Center Drive, Washington.

**DULCIE** Get into the contemporary vibe with Dulcie at George's Corner. Enjoy great food and music. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**WIRELEFANT** 6:00pm Wirelefant will be performing live at the Zion Canyon Brew Pub. Don't miss out on some cold brews and alternative rock from 6 to 9 p.m. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

## Mon, Jan 11

**CANYON VIEW HIGH: MUSICAL THEATRE REVUE CONCERT** 7:00pm Email from Holly Barrick 9/29/15 CVHS, Cedar City.

## Wed, Jan 13

**DIXIE ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY** 7:00pm The Dixie Archaeology Society meets from 7:00 to 8:30 pm the second Wednesday of the month at the Udvar-Hazy Building, Dixie State University campus, 1000E 300S, Room 121. Go to our website at <http://dixierockart.webs.com/> for membership information.

**JERRY ALLEN** Contemporary rock vibes will be at George's Corner live from Jerry Allen. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

## Thurs, Jan 14

**OPEN PRIVATE/HOME STUDIO TOURS** 10:00am Enjoy a weekend of touring local homes and private studios of artists showing off their works. You will see anything from drawing, paintings and sculptures, to photography and much more. St. George, UT.

**YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE!**  
**CALL 435-656-1555**

**ST. GEORGE GALLERIES FINE ART** 6:00pm Visit The Mission Gallery and Authentique Gallery Art & Design for the "Arts to Zion" Showcase. See various types of artistic pieces in these local St. George galleries. Authentique Gallery Art & Design, 199 N. Main Street, St. George.

**STUDENT ART EXHIBITIONS** 4:00pm See student works at The DiFiore Center, the North Plaza at Dixie State University and at the St. George Weaving Studio. Get a chance to enjoy local art from students. DiFiore Center, 307 N Main St, St. George.

## Fri, Jan 15

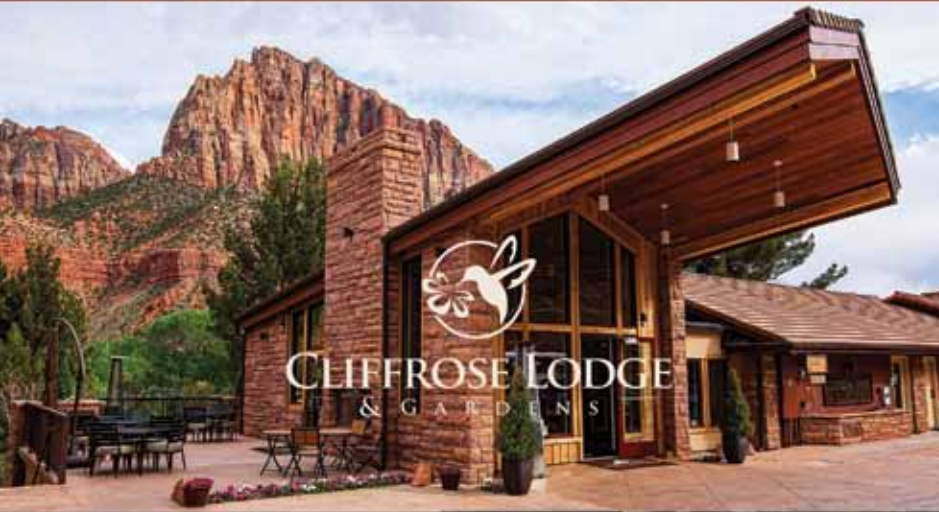


**ART ON MAIN/ST. GEORGE GALLERY STROLL** 4:00pm Have an evening tour through the Art on Main trail in downtown St. George. Visit art galleries and museums like the St. George Art Museum, Authentique Fine Art Gallery, The Mission Gallery, Split Rock Art Gallery, "Arts to Zion" Showcase and many more. St. George Art Museum, 47 East 200 North, St. George.

**FUNKY FRIDAY WITH SOUL WHAT!?** Enjoy the soul and R&B stylings of Soul What!? while grabbing a bite of yummy eats. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**PIANO CONCERT - JAMES D'LEON** 7:00pm Join Z-Arts at the Canyon Community Center in Springdale. For more information, visit <http://zarts.org/wp/dleon> Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

**TURN THE PAGE** 8:30pm See Turn the Page give a live performance of the ultimate tribute to Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8:30 p.m. This is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**RIVERSIDE LUXURY IN SPRINGDALE**


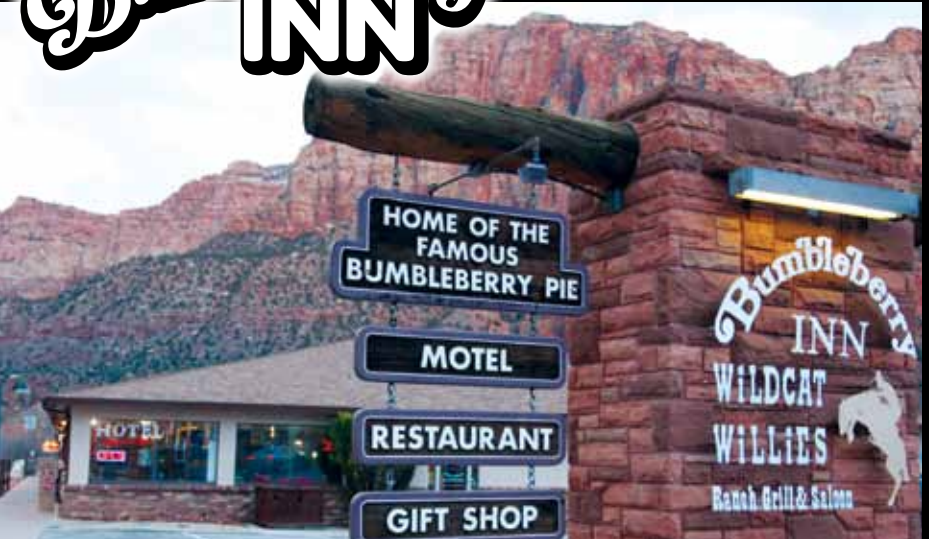







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# CALENDAR

## Sat, Jan 16

**ROLLING STONES TRIBUTE** 8:30pm See Mick Adams and the Stones give a tribute show to The Rolling Stones at the CasaBlanca Resort. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8:30 p.m. This show is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**JAZZ ON THE CORNER** Hit George's Corner in Ancestor Square for Jazz on the Corner with The West Coast Jazz Players. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**SPRINGDALE ARTISTS AFTER HOURS** 7:30pm Get ready for an after party to remember with live R&B and soul music from Soul What! Enjoy delicious food and tasty brews at Zion Canyon Brew Pub in Springdale, Utah after the walking gallery tour. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

**SPRINGDALE GALLERIES FINE ART WALK** 4:00pm Take a walking tour through some of Springdale, Utah's most well-known art galleries. You will visit DeZion Art Gallery, Worthington Art Gallery and Joy Craft & Design. This event is free with registration. DeZion Art Gallery, 1051 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

**TONE LOC LIVE AT ENVY NIGHTCLUB** 9:00pm TONE LOC Live at ENVY Nightclub & Lounge in Mesquite! This Hip Hop Legend is most known for his Platinum Hits - WILD THING & FUNKY COLD MEDINA! Envy Nightclub and Lounge, 792 west Pioneer Blvd, Mesquite.

## Sun, Jan 17

**KAYENTA ART VILLAGE FINE ART WALK** 10:00am Visit Kayenta Village and take a walking tour through the art galleries and museums. You will visit Juniper Sky Fine Art Gallery, Gallery 873, Blue Raven, Purple Sage Studios and Zia Pottery. This event is free with registration. Kayenta Village, 851 Coyote Gulch Court, Ivins.

## Mon, Jan 18

**"ARTS TO ZION" SHOWCASE SILENT AUCTION** 10:00am Be a part of a silent art auction for the "Arts to Zion" Showcase happening from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drop off your punchcards there before 3pm, for chance to win a drawing for an overnight vacation at our sponsoring hotels. Arts to Zion, 35 N. Main, St. George.

**OPEN PRIVATE/HOME STUDIO TOURS** 10:00am Enjoy a weekend of touring local homes and private studios of artists showing off their works. You will see anything from drawing, paintings and sculptures, to photography and much more. St. George, St. George.

**PLEIN AIR ARTIST SHOW & BOOK SIGNING** 10:00am See plein air artists create masterpieces at the Silver Reef Museum in Leeds, Utah. Learn how plein air art works, and artists create their pieces. Also be a part of the book signing of local photography books and history books about Silver Reef. This event is free with registration. Silver Reef Museum, 1903 Wells Fargo Road, Leeds.

**YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE!  
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## Wed, Jan 20

**LISA MAC** See Lisa Mac perform contemporary rock live at George's Corner. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

## Fri, Jan 22

**CCMA PRESENTS: NIKOLAI MASSENKOFF AND THE RUSSIAN FOLK FESTIVAL** Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N 100 E, Cedar City.

**MAN IN THE MIRROR TRIBUTE** Hear a tribute for the "King of Pop" in the Man in the Mirror Tribute to Michael Jackson. Get the chance to relive some of Michael Jackson's greatest hits. This show is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**JEFF ORR AND FRIENDS** Go back to the '70s with Jeff Orr and friends. Get a bite to eat, a tasty drink and enjoy the live music. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**MULE DEER FOUNDATION** 7:00pm Mule Deer Foundation annual banquet, Judson Tolman 435-632-8684. Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George.

**MANY MILES** 6:00pm Check out Many Miles live at Zion Canyon Brew Pub in Springdale. They'll be playing contemporary rock from 6 to 9 p.m. Grab a fresh brew, a bite to eat and enjoy a night of music. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

**MESQUITE BALLOON FESTIVAL** Enjoy a fun day high in the sky with the Mesquite Balloon Festival. Watch as hot air balloons fill the sky and maybe get the chance to ride up in one yourself! CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE** See a Neil Diamond tribute featuring Rob Garrett and the "King of Diamonds" band. Don't miss this 75th birthday tribute for Neil Diamond. The show is 21 and over. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

**SOUTHERN UTAH WEDDING SHOWCASE** 10:00am The Southern Utah Wedding Showcase will amaze you with what you can find in one special day. Admission: \$5.00 Contact Info: Christine Zollinger Zollinger Enterprises 435-668-7018 Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George.

## Sun, Jan 24

**MESQUITE BALLOON FESTIVAL** Enjoy a fun day high in the sky with the Mesquite Balloon Festival. Watch as hot air balloons fill the sky and maybe get the chance to ride up in one yourself! CasaBlanca Resort, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

## Mon, Jan 25

**THE JORDAN WORLD CIRCUS 2016** 7:30pm With three rings of affordable family fun, "The Jordan World Circus" will thrill fans of all ages. In addition to the performing acts, kids will have the unique opportunity to ride and pet different types of animals. Washington County Regional Park, 5500 West 700 South, Hurricane.

## Wed, Jan 27

**DEVON ARCHER** See Devon Archer live at George's Corner for a night of alternative rock. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.



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# CALENDAR

## Fri, Jan 29

**WHISKEY TOOTH REVIVAL** Americana is all the jam at George's Corner with Whiskey Tooth Revival. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

## Sat, Jan 30

**TOM BENNETT BAND** 6:00pm Enjoy folk and blues tunes from the Tom Bennett Band. Zion Canyon Brew Pub will feature this band from 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy hand crafted brews and a great live music set. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale.

**BRANSON ANDERSON** Enjoy folk tunes from Branson Anderson at George's in Ancestor Square. George's Corner Restaurant, 2 W St George Blvd, St George, 435-216-7311.

**Z-ARTS! PRESENTS "CUATROS CAMINOS ARTS AND FLAMENCO"** @ CCC 7:00pm Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

## Wed, Feb 3

**MISS SAIGON- IN CONCERT** 7:30pm Miss Saigon is a musical by Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil (*Les Misérables*.) It is based on Giacomo Puccini's opera, *Madame Butterfly*. Tickets on sale at [www.thestagedoortheater.com](http://www.thestagedoortheater.com) or call (866) 967-8167 or (435)656-4407, The Electric Theater, 68 E Tabernacle, St. George.

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FEB 15

## Swing City Dolls

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FEB 16

## Summer of Love

*Remember when LOVE & PEACE were groovy and flowers filled your hair? Let us take you back to days when music was Far Out with songs from the Mamas & the Papas, Janis Joplin, the Monkeys, Hair, The Doors, Joe Cocker and more! Featuring a full cast of singers and live band, this show will have you dancing!*



FEB 17

## Piano Follies

*Starring Lionardo, Piano Follies features beautiful showgirls, a live band, and of course, the piano! This show includes show stopping tributes to Broadway, the Roaring 20's, the Big Band Era, and more! You will laugh, cry, and stand up and cheer! The Grand Finale features "Rhapsody in Blue"!*



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