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# **The Independent**

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

Celebrity Concert Series Presents  
**Ryan Shupe**  
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CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS RYAN SHUPE.  
SEE STORY ON PG 3.**

## The Independent ~ SUIndependent.com

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

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## EDITORIAL

# HOW I LOST THE ELECTION BUT WON SOMETHING ELSE

by Josh Warburton

Something significant happened to me the morning of Nov. 9. I stopped biting my nails, a bad habit that only seems to happen with me in times of stress. On a day when many others were just waking up to the reality of a Trump presidency and all the worries that many feel because of it, I was feeling quite relieved.

Although I would very much have loved to have won my election for Washington County Commissioner, there is a great sense of relief with it just being over. On an evening where most of America was surprised by the results of the presidential election, I had my own surprise in a pretty bad loss on my first attempt to be a Washington County Commissioner. Although I did receive 7,726 votes, I was disappointed to not have made a larger cut into the Republican candidate's vote total. I believed I could based on many factors. Reading the comments on the articles in the other area publications, I got the impression that the tide was turning in my favor toward the end of the race.

As I have expressed in some of my social posts, I have quite a bit of respect for my Republican opponent, Dean Cox, as he was always a gentleman in our forums and debates. But what especially impressed me was his willingness to stay and talk with me after every debate. We appeared at four forums, and Dean and I probably spoke for another combined three hours after those forums, largely just the two of us. What struck me in those conversations was his willingness to hear my ideas, observations, and even criticisms of his positions and to take the time to explain his to me, one-on-one, with seemingly no other motive but to enrich both of our understandings of these issues. It's one of the things that I enjoyed the most: getting to understand the inner workings of the man who will become our next Washington County Commissioner.

And while I had hoped that more of the Republican voters of our county had decided to kick the habit of simply voting for the person on the Republican ticket, I also gained a better understanding for why so many supported him, separate from his political affiliation. Ultimately, it looks like he earned a larger percentage of both the non-straight party ticket voters as well as the independent, unaffiliated voters than either myself or Greg Aldred, the third candidate for the office this go-around.

And while Dean spent the most money and had the endorsements of Republican lawmakers, I also applaud him for taking the time to debate Greg and me four times in an election where he had statistically such a large advantage ... not all heavily favored candidates in our area have done that.

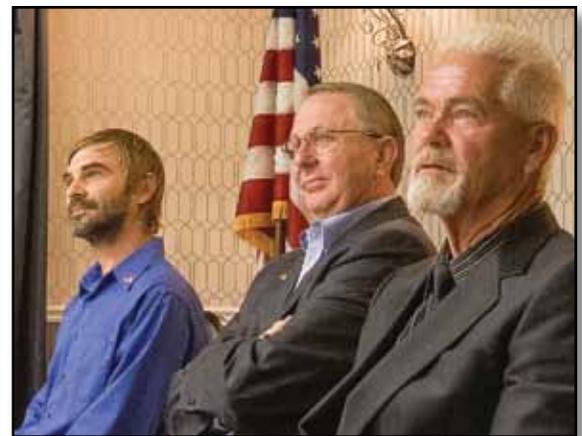
My last interaction with Dean before the election was at his Rotary Club in St. George the day before the election. As it was the day before the vote, the club offered him time to discuss his positions on the issues and recruit voters. Dean graciously offered to share that time with me, something no one asked him to do, not even me. I think that says a lot about a person who would do something for somebody that has been labeled their opponent, even possibly to his own detriment of losing a few votes. He absolutely did not need to do that but did it anyway.

I have been told a few negative stories about Dean and was even told some information that my supporters felt I should use to attack him. But I felt like to do that would be to run counter to my own motivation for running. I believe we need a kinder, gentler, better-listening government. I am not interested in tearing anyone down for my own gain. We should all be working to build each other up.

And I think dedicating oneself to public service should mean serving all of the public the best we can. Even in my last interaction, a good 20 minutes spent with just the two of us talking primarily about water and the Lake Powell Pipeline, I pointed out to him how much closer we are on agreement on that and other issues than we are further away. He still wants to build the pipeline but agrees we should implement conservation, reuse, and local water development as well.

Since Dean agrees we should be conserving much more, developing our local waters, and working on reprocessing and reuse, I would love to see the citizenry reinforce their desire for this strategy rather than pushing so hard for the pipeline. In the next few years, I believe it will become increasingly clear that both the cost to build the pipeline and a true lack of water available from the Colorado should put the focus on conservation first. As Dean stated in our debates, we are in the second driest state in the nation, which I would often follow with, "Then we should start acting like it."

So while I would like to take a moment to congratulate Dean on a dominant win in this election and Greg on running a great race, I also want to point out that I was able to expand their stated positions and even had them incorporate some of my talking points. So what I accomplished here largely was successfully broadening conversations, adding my thoughts to the debates on these very important issues, and possibly even influencing my opponents' positions. Will I run again? It's too early for me to know that right now, but I will tell you that I am committed to serving not only my fellow citizens of Washington County but also the world. "Be the change that you wish to see in the world" is both my favorite Gandhi quote and also words I try to live by. Be well.





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## MUSIC

# CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES HOSTS CANADIAN BRASS AND RYAN SHUPE By Steve Lemmon

Can you believe that December is upon us? If you share my disbelief, you may need some good old-fashioned Christmas music to get yourself ready for the holidays. The Celebrity Concert Series is ready to provide the perfect duo of seasonal concerts for you and your family. On Dec. 6, Canadian Brass will perform a show titled "Christmas Time Is Here," which will span Bach to the Grinch, followed by Ryan Shupe's holiday extravaganza on Dec. 17 on the Cox Performing Arts Center stage.

With an international reputation as one of the most popular brass ensembles today, Canadian Brass has truly earned the distinction of the world's most famous brass group. Masters of concert presentations, Canadian Brass has developed a uniquely engaging stage presence and rapport with audiences. Each of their concerts will show the full range from trademark Baroque and Dixieland tunes, not to mention

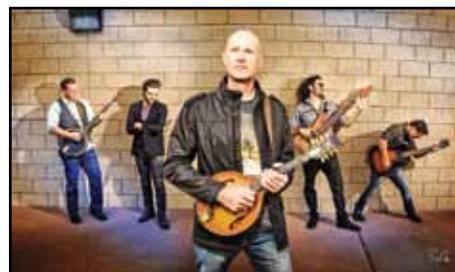
holiday tunes, to new compositions and arrangements created especially for them from formal classical presentation to music served up with lively dialogue and theatrical effects. The hallmark of any Canadian Brass performance is entertainment, spontaneity, virtuosity and most of all fun, but never at the expense of the music. Whatever the style, the music is central and performed with utmost dedication, skill, and excellence.



With a discography of over 130 albums and an extensive worldwide touring schedule, Canadian Brass is an important pioneer in bringing brass music to mass audiences everywhere. They have sold well over 2 million albums worldwide with 1.2 million sold since 1991. They continue to score Billboard chart positions, like with their rousing recording of patriotic songs and marches, "Stars & Stripes: Canadian Brass Salute America," which spent eight weeks in the Top 25 on the Billboard Classical Chart, peaking at No. 2! Touring legends with an enthusiastic fan base, the Canadian Brass play to packed houses everywhere throughout the USA, Canada, Japan, and Europe. They have also toured Australia, the Middle East, the Soviet Union, and South America. They were

the first brass ensemble from the West to perform in the People's Republic of China as well as the first brass group to take the main stage at the venerable Carnegie Hall. On numerous occasions, Canadian Brass has been invited by the Canadian Government to play for visiting heads of states, becoming one of Canada's greatest resources and musical ambassadors.

Next, Ryan Shupe and his band follow up on the success of last year's holiday show at Dixie State University. Combining his signature humor and virtuosic instrumental skills, Ryan is sure to entertain from young to old.



Shupe will not only perform their infectious holiday classics ("Egg Nog," "Rudolph," etc.) but also tunes from his new release, "We Rode On." The new album marks a striking career transition and a meaningful evolution in Shupe's songwriting, his life and the band's sound. It strongly and deftly combines the rock side of their musical arsenal with the acoustic instruments and virtuosic jamming the band has become known for in their live shows.

Like a mad musical scientist (and father and husband), Ryan Shupe recorded,

arranged, and tweaked the band's newest creation in his personal studio. "I wanted to create a new sound and an evolution for the band's music" said Shupe, "It's the best album we've done and definitely the most rocking!"

The album focuses on themes like family, love, and maturity. The epic title track, "We Rode On," triumphantly belts out the phrase, "singing songs at the top of our lungs," while the anthemic "Sun Will Shine Again" is a mantra to Shupe's children. The catchy, rocking "If I Stay" and "Just Say Yes" deal with love interest dilemmas. "Dream Big," a revamped version of their Billboard-charting Capitol Records release, is triumphant, inspirational, and powerful.

Being a fifth-generation fiddler and an accomplished guitarist and mandolin player, Shupe has been touring extensively across the U.S. since he was 10 years old. He is no stranger to the national stage, and the band has appeared on Good Morning America, E! TV, Mountain Stage, Woodsongs, Great American Country, and Country Music Television.

They continue to tour regularly with stops at festivals, concert series, special events, and prestigious venues. Bringing a national team together with radio, marketing, social media, and publicity, the band will continue touring nationally through 2016 to promote the album, starting with the regions where they have a strong following.

Tickets are available by visiting the DSU Box office, by calling (435) 652-7800, or online at dsutix.com. Join us as we bring the world to our stage!

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## EVENTS

### DOVE CENTER FREE ONGOING WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUPS

Each Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7 p.m. DOVE Center offers the following free, ongoing support groups: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors' Support Group (adult women only); Kids'

Club for children ages 6 to 11 who have been exposed to domestic violence or trauma; Grupo de Ayuda (coordinado por Hispanas para Hispanas, solo mujeres)

DOVE Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has a mission to build a community of peace one person, one family, and one home at a time by providing confidential shelter, advocacy, and counseling to support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. They work to increase safety in the community by building collaborative partnerships and providing awareness and prevention education.

For location and details, call DOVE Center's 24-hour helpline at 435-628-0458. To connect with the outreach office, call 435-628-1204. (Un mensaje de voz en Espanol, 435-628-0458 x 304)

To learn more or to donate to DOVE Center, visit [www.dovecenter.org](http://www.dovecenter.org).

### CELTIC WOMAN PERFORMS AT BURNS ARENA



On Dec. 22 at 7 p.m., Irish choral group Celtic Woman will perform at Burns Arena in St. George. The all-female ensemble will perform selections from its second Christmas album, "Home For Christmas," including holiday favorites such as "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and "Silent Night."

More information is available at [celticwoman.com](http://celticwoman.com). Tickets are on sale at [tickets.dsutix.com](http://tickets.dsutix.com).

### A VERY 'SUMA' HOLIDAY FEATURES WRAP-A-THON AND WISHING TREE

by Lola Taylor

The Southern Utah Museum of Art is ramping up the holiday season by providing a variety of ways to give this year with "A Very SUMA Holiday." There will be a wishing tree with one-of-a-kind handmade holiday ornaments and giving opportunities available in SUMA's gift shop from Nov. 19 to Dec. 15.

"The concept behind SUMA's gift shop is centered around the museum's mission statement of showcasing regional art of the Colorado Plateau and interests in the larger world," said Brooke Vlasich, a purchasing assistant. "This holiday season, we want to take the concept of supporting local and world communities one step further by collaborating with local nonprofits to give back to Cedar City."

One way you can give this season is through the wishing tree. Offered in partnership with Iron County Care and Share, it is a great way to give to back to those in our community who are in need of help, hope, and compassion this season. Care and Share helps homeless and low-income individuals and families work toward self-sufficiency. The tree will contain tags with the age and gender of a community individual in need. You can purchase gifts for the individual and deliver the gifts, with the tag attached, to the Care and Share.

The Wishing Tree will also feature holiday ornaments for sale from NOVICA and Ten Thousand Villages. Both nonprofit organizations feature products made by artisans from around the world who utilize

traditional crafting techniques that are unique to their country.

"Our desire to support and contribute to our community also drives our continuing collaboration with many of our vendors, who strive to create better opportunities for their artisans all around the globe," said Whitney Staheli, a purchasing assistant for SUMA.

SUMA will also host a wrap-a-thon for the Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center from noon to 6 pm on Dec. 2 and 3. All are welcome to come with their holiday purchases to be wrapped while they enjoy the art in the museum. Gift wrapping will be available in SUMA's lobby for a cash or check donation. All proceeds for the wrap-a-thon goes to the Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center, which helps survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

For more information about "A Very SUMA Holiday," please contact [suma@suu.edu](mailto:suma@suu.edu) or call (435) 586-5432.



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# EVENTS

## HERITAGE CENTER THEATER HOSTS A VARIETY OF PERFORMANCES IN DECEMBER

In December, the Heritage Center Theater in Cedar City will host performances of "The Forgotten Carols" and "A Christmas Carol on the Air" as well as a performance by the Nashville Tribute Band.

"The Forgotten Carols" will play Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$18-\$30 for the afternoon show and from \$23-\$36 for the evening show.

A Nashville Tribute Band Christmas



will perform Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$27 for orchestra seating or \$22 for floor seating. The band will perform classic Christmas songs as well as many of its original holiday tunes from its first Christmas album, "MERRY."



The Neil Simon Festival will present "A Christmas Carol on the Air" Dec. 20-22 at 7:30 p.m. featuring Tony Amendola from ABC's "Once Upon A Time" as Scrooge. Tickets are \$15 adults and \$10 for veterans, students, and children.

For more information email [Heritageboxoffice@gmail.com](mailto:Heritageboxoffice@gmail.com) or call (435) 865-2893



## THE ORCHESTRA OF SOUTHERN UTAH PRESENTS HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"

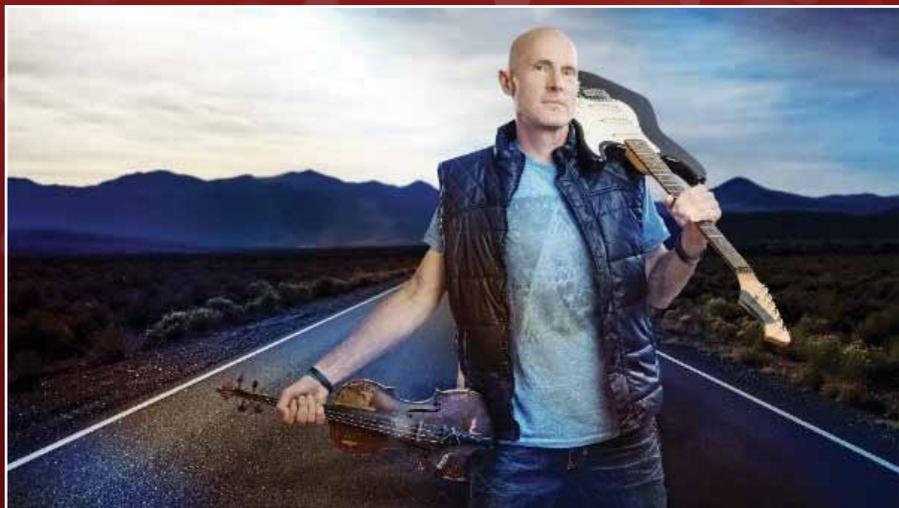
On Dec. 11 and 12, the Orchestra of Southern Utah will give its 76th annual performance of Handel's "Messiah." The concert is free and open to the public, although tickets are required. The doors open both evenings at 6:45, and the audience is asked to be seated by 7:15, at which time empty seats will be released to those waiting. The performance begins at 7:30. Children over 6 are welcome with adult supervision.

Soloists include Mark O. Leavitt, Jay Merryweather, Ashlee Stoddard Carlile, Brandi Hall, Shannon Birch, Leslie Perkins, Kalina Stokes, Terri Metcalf-Peterson, Debra Stillman, and Jason Clark. Soloist Rylee Dalton is a previous R. L. Halversen youth soloist with OSU.

Tickets are available at the Heritage Center box office, located at 105 N. 100 E. in Cedar City during regular business hours. More information is available at [myosu.org](http://myosu.org).



12.6.16 CANADIAN BRASS



12.17.16 RYAN SHUPE

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concert series

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

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## LOCAL NEWS

# ST. GEORGE ARTS COMMISSION ACCEPTING GENERAL FUND ARTS GRANT APPLICATIONS

The St. George Arts Commission is accepting general fund arts grant applications for the fiscal 2016/17 year. The grant applications are available online at [sgcity.org/arts/artscommission](http://sgcity.org/arts/artscommission). Applicants

should reference the new grant guidelines at the website. Applications are accepted monthly no later than the second Thursday of each month and will be open until April 13, 2017. The availability of funds will be contingent upon approval of the St. George City Council. All General Fund Grant Award funds are required to be expended by June 30, 2017. Completed applications can be mailed or turned in to the following address:

St. George Arts Commission  
c/o Community Arts Division  
68 East Tabernacle St.  
St. George, Utah 84770

More information is available by calling (435) 627-4510.

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## TICKET SALES BEGIN FOR DOVE CENTER'S 2017 ANNUAL GALA

DOVE Center will hold its annual gala on March 18, 2017, at the SunRiver Ballroom. The gala is intended to raise money to ensure the continuation of critical services to survivors free of charge.

Called "Speak Up For Change: Ending Sexual and Domestic Violence One Voice at a Time," the event will feature Desirae and Deondra Brown from The 5 Browns. The sisters have performed over 500 concerts across the United States and around the world as soloists, duo pianists, and members of The 5 Browns. As survivors of sexual abuse, they have also formed The Foundation for Survivors of Abuse, a nonprofit organization to help create a face for victims of abuse.



"Desirae and Deondra are both wonderful examples of how their combined voices have created change and have helped fight against sexual assault and domestic abuse. Their message of hope, courage, and

strength is an inspiration to us all," said Lindsey Boyer, executive director of DOVE Center.

The event will begin with a social hour and silent auction followed by a catered sit-down dinner, after which the Brown sisters will speak and perform. Tickets for DOVE Center's annual gala are now on sale for \$100 each and can be purchased at [dovecenter.org](http://dovecenter.org).

DOVE Center is a local agency providing emergency shelter, victim advocacy, and counseling services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. More information about the annual gala or making a donation is available at [dovecenter.org](http://dovecenter.org). Information on becoming a sponsor is available from the DOVE Center advocacy and counseling office at (435) 628-1204. Information about emergency shelter, domestic violence, or sexual assault are available from DOVE's 24-hour helpline, (435) 628-0458.

## TURNER C. BITTON APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UTAH COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

The Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault recently announced Turner C. Bitton as its new executive director. Bitton brings a diverse background of nonprofit and for-profit experience to the coalition, most recently as membership coordinator at Equality Utah, Utah's LGBTQ advocacy organization. Bitton began his new position at the coalition Oct. 31.

"It's an honor to join the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault — the work of this organization is needed more now than ever," Bitton said. "Our understanding of sexual assault as a 'women's issue' is evolving, and new approaches, leadership, and public policy solutions are needed. I look forward to working with our coalition members, partners, and the community to eliminate the scourge of sexual assault in our society."

As executive director of the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Bitton will oversee an organization that works to build awareness of the pervasive issue of sexual assault in Utah communities and to foster a society where sexual violence is no longer tolerated.

"His wealth of experience and demonstrated leadership in service to our community will help the coalition move forward in its mission to strengthen the effectiveness of sexual violence education, prevention and response in Utah," said board chair Laurie Hofmann.

Bitton uses a data-centered approach to fund development and has lectured, spoken, and presented on the intersections between political engagement, donor cultivation, and digital organizing. Bitton is a member of the Association of Fundraising

Professionals, Utah Nonprofits Association, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, and the Grant Professionals Association. Turner also serves on the board of directors of several organizations. Bitton lives in Ogden with his husband Chase and their two dogs.

Originally named the Coalition of Advocates for Utah Survivors' Empowerment, the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault was established in 1996 with federal Violence Against Women Act funding as a statewide coordinating coalition of rape crisis providers and a response to a critical lack of communication and continuity among sexual violence service providers throughout the state. Since that time, the organization has grown statewide and supports the work of local victim advocacy organizations.



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## SO. EXPOSURE

# WHAT IS THE POINT OF OPINION COLUMNS

By Dallas Hyland

*"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." —Thomas Jefferson*

The 2016 national elections. Well, that was a lot of fun, yeah?

And while it is not outside of the scope of The Independent to put forth commentary on national stories, the focal point here is primarily issues concerning southern Utah. You'll hear me say it often and with increased emphasis that it is the responsibility of the citizen to be as informed and engaged as possible and to think nationally but act locally.

A good opinion piece does three things. First, it takes an informed position on a subject or issue. Second, it makes its argument for or against, taking opposing views and challenging the premises of them. And third, it very often makes a call to action.

This formula, while not set in stone, can be applied to almost any topic.

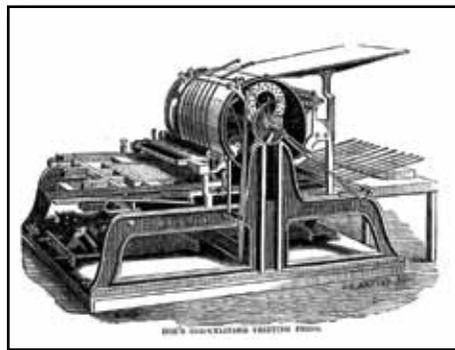
Political commentary, while a staple of the journalism here at the Indy, is not the only thing that should be found in the opinion section here, and we are inviting writers to contribute.

As of this month, I will be returning to the post of opinion editor, and I wanted to give a tip of the hat to Jason Gottfried for managing the position for the last year or so with impeccable style, class, and professionalism.

It seems traditional as a year draws to a close to reflect upon the passing year while at the same time looking forward to the next. I am rolling into my sixth year here, and the Indy itself embarks proudly on its 21st.

Our publisher and owner Josh Warburton, along with the editorial staff, has been taking a cue from the two-decade benchmark to craft a succinct mission statement that encompasses what we seek to do as we execute our role in our community both in print and online.

And given we are nearing the end of the year, I thought I would take the opportunity to give a brief overview of my mission for the opinion section of the Indy, which is in part adopted from my own as a writer.



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In short, it is to engage our community in thought-provoking dialogue and to encourage them to participate. With that said, it should be noted that this engagement will take on different tones and levels of involvement, depending on the writer and the subject.

We take the First Amendment and the notion that the Fourth Estate is crucial to maintaining our republic seriously here. We invite and welcome all input and are ever on the lookout for writers willing to commit to the process.

While it is understood that independent publications traditionally tend to lean counter to the mainstream of anything, we not only understand the necessity of contrarianism but also see the value in traditional ideologies and their contribution to the conversation.

While there is no guarantee of who or what will be contributed here, be assured that all contributions are welcome.

You'll hear me say of my own column that it is my expressed intent to incite rigorous dialogue on matters of consequence. For my own part, my observation is that civil discourse has found itself in decline if not decay, and I would like to take part in doing something about that.

Contact me at [dallas@suindependent.com](mailto:dallas@suindependent.com) if you would like to know more about getting involved.

As Albert Camus said, "A free press can be good or bad, but, most certainly, without freedom, a press will never be anything but bad."

Happy Holidays, everyone. See you out there.

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Southern Utah offers some of the most diverse outdoor recreational opportunities anywhere, so give a gift that

makes outdoor adventuring that much more sensational!

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ing assortment of toys to keep any furry companion active and occupied. And we offer so much more than just quality foods; we have a great assortment of canned, dried, frozen, fresh, freeze-dried, and dehydrated healthy and wholesome foods for your pets.

Current location is at 450 w 145 n in STG and the new location, coming late November, will be at 85 n 100 e. In the old Rent A Video building. New expanded location will include dozens of new items including items you'll find nowhere else in the area. We'll also be featuring a PAWS cat adoption room. You can reach them by phone at 256-6767.



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# RECREATION

## BRIAN HEAD OPENING THANKSGIVING WEEKEND 2016 Story and Photos by Josh Segovia

Opening weekend for the 2016–17 skiing and snowboarding season was not only much anticipated this year but definitely much needed after a slow start due to much warmer conditions at this time of year for southern Utah. The last storm, a couple of days before opening, brought enough snow to get winter enthusiasts excited to be back and prepare Brian Head to welcome the start of the season on a Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

from where they left off, honing their skills in the “Training Grounds” terrain park, others such as myself were just happy to be back doing what brings us joy and meeting up with familiar faces while cruising on the hill. The terrain park crew did an amazing job, setting up a total of 17 features and making for fun park laps for skiers and snowboarders of all abilities.

I can’t wait to see what this 2016–17 winter season will bring, but I can tell you it will definitely be another amazing time out exploring nature while standing sideways on my board or learning new skills each time I’m up on the mountain and behind my lens. I hope all my riders out there are also ready and have a list of goals they would like to accomplish this season. Whether it be a new skiing or snowboarding trick or exploring new resorts, it will only help you

become a well-rounded person and rider. I’d like to give a big thanks to John Grissinger and Mark Wilder for always inviting me up and being so generous, and as always, I will see you on the hill.

Learn more about Brian Head Resort and their upcoming winter events by visiting their website at [brianhead.com](http://brianhead.com), and stay in touch with my winter adventures at [instagram.com/joshsegovia](https://www.instagram.com/joshsegovia).



Rider: Justin Drake

With the resort firing up its snow-making guns and another weather pattern currently shaping up in Utah at the end of the Thanksgiving weekend, it won’t be long until it is fully operational and we can start looking towards more fun on the slopes and exploring all the terrain Brian Head Resort has to offer. While some picked up right



Rider: Mark Arrietta



Rider: Fern Gully

## HUMOR

# YOUR MONTHLY HOROSCOPE

By Trippy Koala

*These horoscopes are provided for entertainment purposes only. The authors cannot be held responsible for any decisions or actions based, in whole or in part, on any of the information presented herein. Really, even if you believe in horoscopes (especially if you believe in horoscopes), you shouldn't listen to anything listed herein ... wait, drink water. There, that's some advice you can heed.*

## Aquarius

The Sun/Neptune link this month suggests that everyone is out to get you. If a hot ball of gas and a cold ball of gas say it's true, who are you to argue?

## Pisces

You have a magnetic personality. Like, you know how two magnets repel each other? Yeah, it's a lot like that.

## Aries

I'm sorry, Aries. I don't have a horoscope for you this month. You're so unimportant that an omniscient koala can't even be bothered to make up a horoscope about you — I mean, consult the stars on your behalf.

## Taurus

Take that big risk this month. Love knows no limits! Just remember that the human body does know limits, lots of them...and that's why god created safe words.

## Gemini

It's been eight years since you've seen your genitals. You aren't going to be any less of a pig this holiday season, so you may as well send them a postcard. It's not like there's much to see, anyway.

## Cancer

You've been asking yourself a lot of hard questions lately. It's okay to answer them honestly. I mean, it's not like you can unfriend yourself on social media like everyone else would if they knew the truth about you, you funny little freak.

## Leo

All the powers in the Universe came together to make your dreams possible today, but since you're still dealing with a hangover from last night don't expect much to come of it.

## Virgo

This month you might be able to tune in to the thoughts and feelings of others. While it will seem exciting at first, you'll soon realize that everyone is just as self-centered and narcissistic as you. There is nothing quite as boring as listening to someone nervously think about their eyebrows for an hour.

## Libra

Most of the year is now behind you, so is an axe wielding maniac. No! Don't look! You're going to make him self-conscious.

## Scorpio

This month, your endearing stutter will make you a god among a tribe of hyperintelligent squirrels.

## Sagittarius

It's good to know when to bite your tongue. And how hard. If you're bleeding, it's too hard. Also, do not bite someone else's tongue unless you're both naked.

## Capricorn

During this month, try to remember that honesty is always key, except when you want to win, succeed, or just not suck at everything.

# WAYS TO FORTIFY MARITAL BONDS AND REKINDLE YOUR MARRIAGE

By Jamnit Frinkle, licensed marriage counselor

Let's face it: Marriage is the single stupidest thing involving the government that two people can do together. One day it's "I want to spend my life with you" and the next you've formed an emotional bond with a sex toy.

There are several ways to fortify marital bonds, despite the fact that you're probably only making things worse in the long run. Here are some ways to rekindle your marriage and stoke the flames of that terrible dumpster fire you started all those years ago.

### Strike your spouse less often

While nothing inspires hopeless rage and utter despair like marriage, research shows that couples who beat each other the least surprisingly score higher on relationship satisfaction surveys than those who beat them the most — the exception being those who have actually beaten their spouses to death and gotten away with it. The satisfaction rates among this group, especially women, are through the roof.

### Actually have sex again

There is often only one way to soften the harsh reality of the pressure cooker of the bleak life you've doomed yourselves to: grudgingly forcing yourselves to have sex.

So put on some music, drink a lot, turn down the lights (a blindfold may be preferable), and fantasize about the literally billions of beautiful, sybaritic people you could be burying yourself to the hilt in or impaled to the solar plexus by this very moment while mechanically copulating with your limp, disinterested spouse.

The trick is to totally disassociate from yourself and completely alienate your soul and your body, retreating into the fantasy world that could have been your life long enough for your body to technically make love to whatever hideous beast you made the mistake of shackling yourself to.

This technique is risky as it has an equal chance of reigniting a sense of intimacy or completely shattering your fragile, barely-duct-taped-together relationship with the shock of how unpleasant it is to have to be in close quarters with your spouse's grotesque, neglected body.

### Renew your vows, but this time be even less realistic

Romance thrives in the fertile soil of delusion, denial, and unrealistic expectations. If your roses are wilting, water them with absurdly grandiose declarations of affection that are even more outrageously unrealistic than the wedding vows you made however many years ago you sealed your horrible fate.

One theme to emphasize is somehow not being attracted to the other 98 percent of humanity who are all, if not more sexually attractive than your spouse, at least alluring in the fact that they are far less hateful and dull. Gush about how the unsightly shambles your partner's body has degenerated into is still — somehow — sexually arousing to you.

When doing so, be careful to always frame things in the positive, and do your best not to gag. For example, say "Your breasts are as perky as the day I met you" rather than "Your breasts do not resemble empty water balloons when you bend over, and even if they did, that would be hot"; say "You're

just big enough for me without hurting me" — with a straight face, if possible — rather than "No, really, my G-spot is only a couple centimeters in."

### Write poetry

Just kidding! Never, ever, attempt to write poetry. You pedantic simpleton. Ugh. Not even privately. Even God is embarrassed by your shallow, pitiful tripe.

If you can't say something nice, plagiarize

Try Googling "romantic things to say to your spouse," "ways to say I love you," or "how to trick anyone into having sex." Memorize your lines, go out to Dread Blobster, get yourself a room at the end of the building at a Motel 6, and for the love of Milton Berle try not to sound like you're reading an obituary when you're saying it.

### Get divorced

If your marriage has gotten stale, that's simply because you're still married.

Remember when you were single and sex wasn't something you had to grimly steel yourself for halfway through the day?

Remember when you didn't have to sneak online YouTube lessons on how to convincingly fake an orgasm?

Remember when you didn't have to do the math on exactly how many drinks to have and when to have them in order to attain that perfect state of semi-drunkenness so as to delay orgasm long enough to have a bat's chance in hell of maybe actually bringing your partner to orgasm for once yet still be able to gather enough blood in your member to successfully smash it between those two awful ham hocks without the whole effort resembling someone holding an unwilling and possibly unconscious slug in a stranglehold and trying to force it into a misshapen and battered keyhole?

Divorce provides all the emotional anguish necessary for the desperate, bestial intercourse that thanks to your nuptial blunder you'll otherwise never have again. The confusion of why you are doing what you are doing combined with the fire-and-ice alchemy of overwhelming sadness and blind fury provide the perfect cortisol rush for an unforgettable night. (If a forgettable night is preferred, simply dose yourself with ketamine.)

These simple tips, in conjunction with fathomless oceans of denial, can help you to breathe life back into the shriveled, reluctant husk of your sad little marriage.

But like any tragic mistake, remember that no matter how much you rationalize, sugarcoat, and whitewash it, you will still have to suffer the crushing, inescapable consequences of your pitiful idealism one way or another for the rest of your meaningless life.

Jamnit Frinkle is a licensed marriage counselor and an amateur taxidermist. She offers family therapy, romantic advice, and deceased-pet-stuffing services to pathetic losers in southern Utah at discount prices.

*Editor's Note: This piece is satire. Your marriage is doomed no matter what you do. Jamnit Frinkle is a pseudonym for Jason Gottfried.*



## THE NEVADA OPEN ENJOYS A RICH HISTORY IN MESQUITE?

By Scott Dunford



The Nevada Open is a major gateway to up-and-coming amateurs and local professionals to the Web.com and PGA tours. Since the mid '90s, it's made its mark in Mesquite as one of the best places to watch world-class players shoot consecutive rounds in the 60s, just like the big boys. Watching these guys on the final day, Nov. 10, I felt like I was watching a PGA event without the crowds — a great way to get up and close to real talent. This year's event was nothing less than superb golf. More than 216 professionals and four amateurs participated in the longest running tournament in Nevada, competing for a total purse of \$140,000 presented by Mesquite Gaming. That purse has increased from \$125,000 just a year ago!



Here's a list of past champions that cut their teeth at this event and gone on to play on the PGA tour: Robert Gamez, Keven Stadler, Tom Lehman, Vic Wilk, and Kevin Penner. Players who are currently still on the PGA tour include Tony Finau, Graham Delaet, and Tom Whitney. Other players include Craig Barlow and Boyd Summerhays, and let's not forget our very own local Champion's Tour professional, Jay Don Blake. It will be interesting to watch how the top 10 finishers from this year's event will go on to be PGA tour competitors. They certainly have the talent for it, but it's never a given, as we all know too well.

The last two years, The Nevada Open has given back to our community and the future growth of the game by donating \$1,000 to the Mesquite Junior Golf Program. It's also about bringing attention and exposure to the golfing communities of southern Utah and Mesquite.

Here are the top 10 money list winners from this year's event. It was an exciting finish and very close with seven players scoring three rounds in the 60s!

1. Kevin Lucas, Folsom, California: 64-65-68 – 197 \$28,000
2. Nick Killpack, St. George, Utah: 64-67-67 – 198 \$14,714

3. Jeff Gove, La Quinta, California: 67-65-67 – 199 \$9,520
4. Douglas Quinones, Sioux Falls, South Dakota: 68-65-68 – 201 \$6,720
- T5. Seann Harlinton, North Vancouver, British Columbia: 72-66-64 – 202 \$4,847.50
- T5. Jim Knous, Englewood, Colorado: 67-67-68 – 202 \$4,847.50
- T5. Taylor Hood, Corona, California: 65-65-72 – 202 \$4,847.50
- T5. Pete Fernandez, Costa Mesa, California: 70-63-69 – 202 \$4,847.50
- T6. Kyle Souza, Sonoma, California: 67-70-66 – 203 \$3,780
- T6. Bryan Kruse, Westminster, Colorado: 67-69-67 – 203 \$3,780
- T7. Hudson Carpenter, Stillwater, Minnesota: 70-64-69 – 203 \$3,780
- T8. Johnny Ruiz, Simi Valley, California: 70-66-68 – 204 \$3,080
- T8. Connor Tendall, North Potomac, Maryland: 71-68-65 – 204 \$3,080
- T9. Jessie Mueller, Phoenix, Arizona: 69-66-70 – 205 \$2,450

- T9. Gregor Main, Danville, California: 71-67-67 – 205 \$2,450
- T9. Benjamin Briscoe, San Clemente, California: 66-71-68 – 205 \$2,450
- T9. Joel Lynn, Lillington, North Carolina: 67-70-68 – 205 \$2,450
- T10. Michael McCage, Moorpark, California: 67-69-70 – 206 \$2,030
- T10. Jared Sawada, Mililani, Hawaii: 67-71-68 – 206 \$2,030

Visit [nvopen.com](http://nvopen.com) for all tournament scores.

Congratulations to all 65 players who made the money list in this year's Nevada Open. A special thank you to the sponsors who continue to make it possible. Mesquite Gaming/CasaBlanca Resort-Casino, Virgin River Hotel-Casino, Eureka Casino-Resort and Mesquite Resort Association. See ya on the links and at next year's event!

# 2016 NEVADA OPEN



## YOUR MONTHLY GOLF TIP

### CLIFF NOTES ON GOLF BUSINESS 101

By Adam Schwartz



As someone who has played golf for the majority of his entire childhood, one concept that I have learned is to never dwell on the past, even though the game of golf does create a lot of memorable experiences. One vital part of playing the game is understanding how much it can parallel not only a person's life but his or her career. It is commonly known that a lot of great business opportunities have emancipated from golfing. Golf also parallels a person's ability to be an effective business colleague simply by networking on the golf course. A recent study, "Golf and the Business Executive," prepared by Research and Forecasts, Inc., showed that approximately one-quarter of the 25 million golfers in the United

States are business executives. Of the 401 executives surveyed, 93 percent of them agreed that playing golf with a business associate is an effective way of creating a closer business relationship.

To transition this idea for college students is to say that golf is the new MBA for business administration graduates. A majority of golfers have heard this term explaining that you can learn a lot more about a person by playing four hours of golf with them than accompanying them to a board room once a week. Golf can bring out the absolute worst and best traits in people. Some of the common traits business executives distinguish their fellow business partners when playing golf are the following:

- The ability to judge when and how to take risks.
- Understanding that par is a good score.
- Mental stability.

- Attention to detail.
- Recovery from failure.
- Humility of storytelling.
- Perfection is simply a slope.

In order to promote golf in the workplace, the business world has to be the leader in breaking the glass ceiling, enabling businesswomen to make a known presence on the golf course. As a businesswoman, there are many distinct advantages taking your game to the course. In the aforementioned study, female executives who play golf with handicaps of 10 or less average an annual salary of \$147,000 compared to male executives who average \$118,000.

One of the major associations in the country for businesswomen to play golf is the Executive Women's Golf Association. The association is the largest women-focused amateur golf association in the United States. The core focus is to connect business and professional women who

enable themselves to create and expand business relationships through the game of golf.

The Executive Women's Golf Association can enable women to play more golf, not only for creating business relationships but for the fun of the game. Only about 20 percent of the 25 million golfers are women. As an engaging tool to promote golf, the association can promote women to help their professional career, be outside rather than the office, exercise, be with friends, travel anywhere to play, and the best part is shopping. Essentially, you can't play the game unless you look good doing it!

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all.

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

## BOOK REVIEWS

# THE OBSESSIVE BOOKSELLER REVIEWS

By Niki Hawkes

The Raven's Shadow Trilogy  
by Anthony Ryan  
★★★★½

I thoroughly enjoyed the Raven's Shadow Trilogy, especially the first book, "Blood Song." It was easily a five-star read and one of the best fantasies I've read since Sanderson's "Stormlight Archives." It focused on one character, Vaelin, and his coming-of-age story. Taking place in the school (one of my favorite settings), it offered a combative learning environment that honestly reminded me of "Harry Potter" adventures meets the medieval, gritty reality of "Game of Thrones." The camaraderie that Vaelin formed with his fellow "brothers" was an excellent dynamic, one which I wish had carried through the rest of the trilogy.

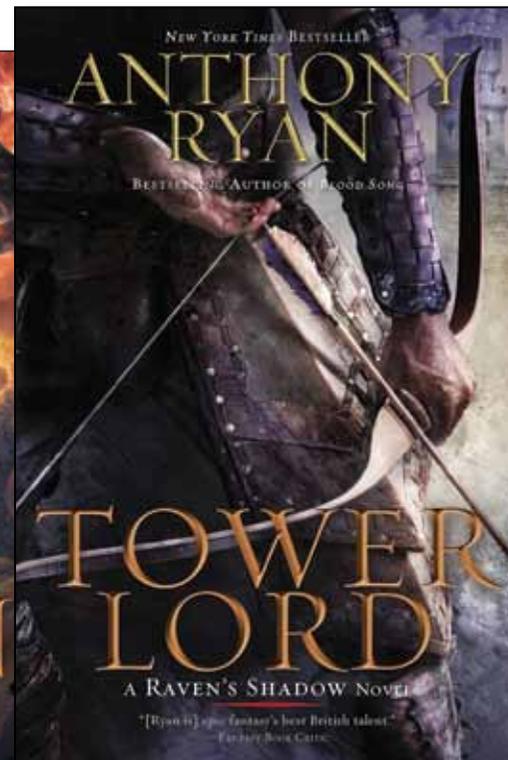
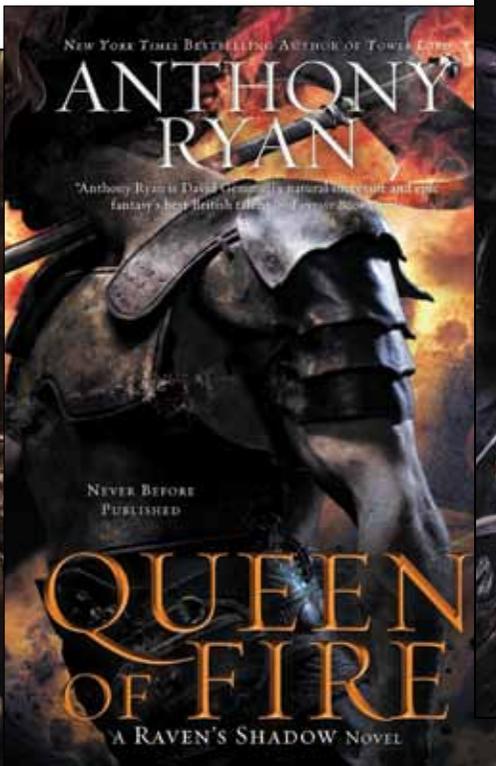
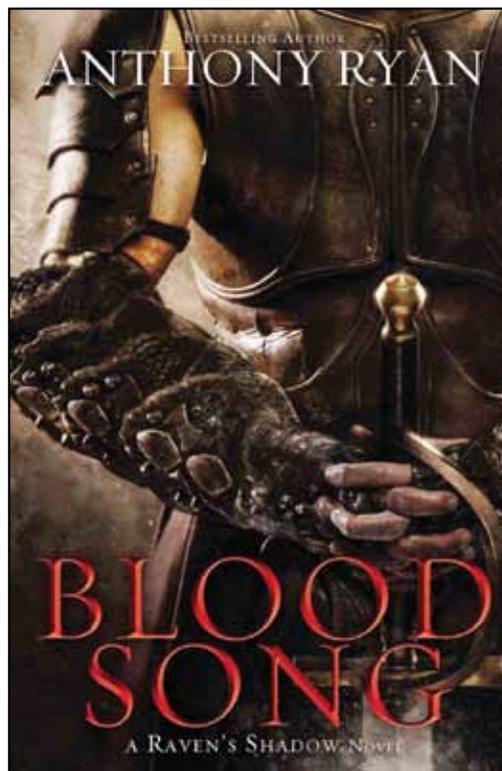
After finishing the first book (and fangirling about it for a few days), I quickly became aware that people weren't loving the second and third books nearly as much. I have a few theories as to why. The sequels are very different from the first one. What an author puts forth initially is usually a promise to the reader of what's to come, and

readers expect at least a bit of consistency of storytelling (which Ryan failed to deliver because his tale took off in a completely different direction).

His story also went from a single point of view to multiple points of view, bouncing

initial hero of the saga, became the least interesting ... odd, right? This overall story arc remained the same, but everything built up in the first book got swept under the rug in favor of these other storylines.

I was incredibly bored and found it difficult to get through ... once I did, though, I liked the ending.



around in a very "Game of Thrones" manner. I actually liked the different perspectives, each one adding a missing piece to the puzzle and written as well as Vaelin. Ironically, though, the passages involving Vaelin, the

While I understand how this could lead to a lot of disappointment, I admit I enjoyed "Tower Lord" (book two) almost as much as the first book. Heck, I even liked about 80 percent of "Queen of Fire" (book three) save one chunk near the end where

Overall, even though my personal experience with the series differs from the majority, I still think the consensus is that "Blood Song" is worth reading, even if you don't plan to continue on.

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# VISIT DOWNTOWN ST. GEORGE THIS DECEMBER

There is plenty going on in downtown St. George this December to help you enjoy the cooler weather. With restaurants and art galleries around every corner, there is still something for everyone.

## Georgefest

On the first Friday of each month, Main Street is transformed into one big venue for Georgefest. This event features artist and vendor tents, live music on both the main stage and the Jazz Garden at Ancestor Square, activities for all ages, and the food truck village.

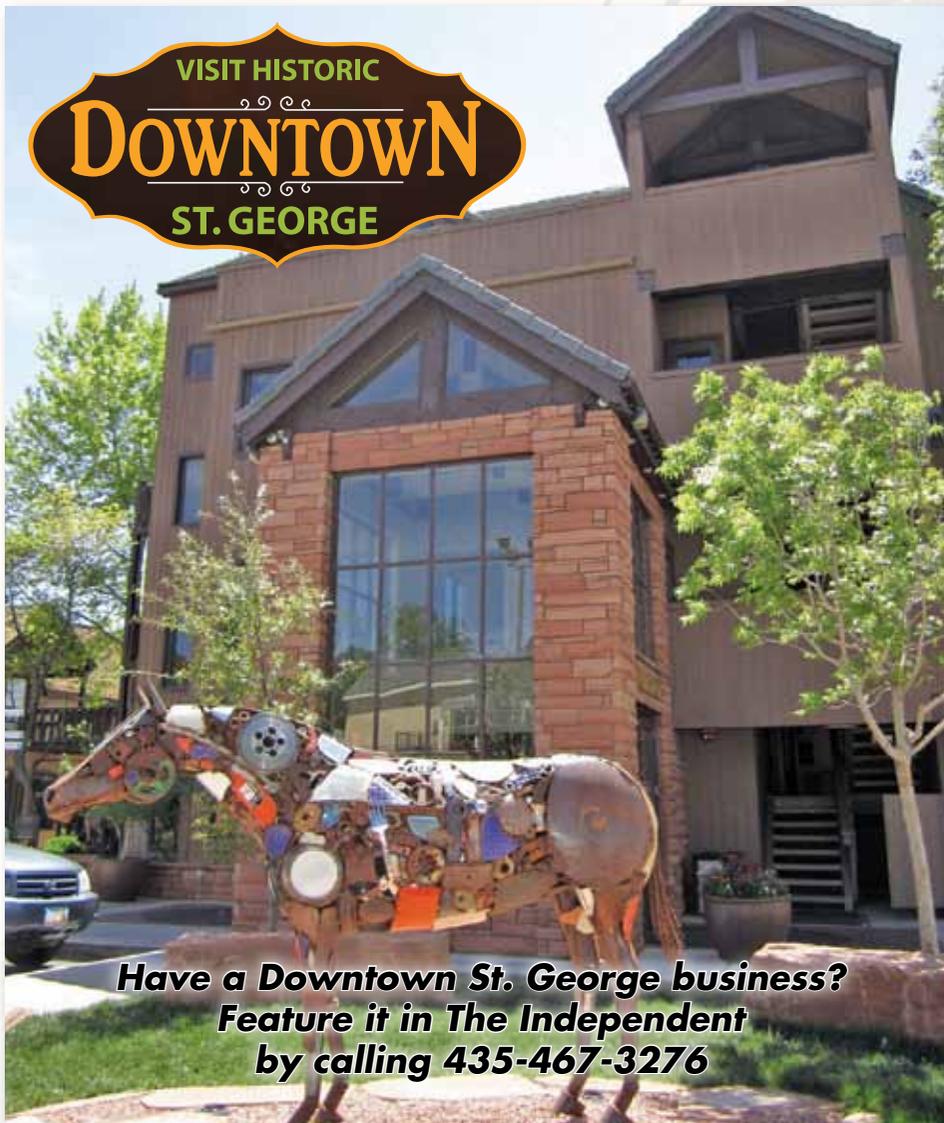
**Find more at [SUindependent.com](http://SUindependent.com)**

## The Painted Hills Fiber Artists

December is your last chance to catch The Painted Hills Fiber Artists exhibit honoring the National Parks Service 100th anniversary. You can see the exhibit at the St. George Art Museum now through Dec. 31. Admission is \$3.

## Improve Dixie

Every second and fourth Saturday of the month, you can see live improv at Even Stevens in Downtown St. George. From 7–10 p.m., the Improv Dixie comedy troupe will put on its family-friendly show, free to the public.



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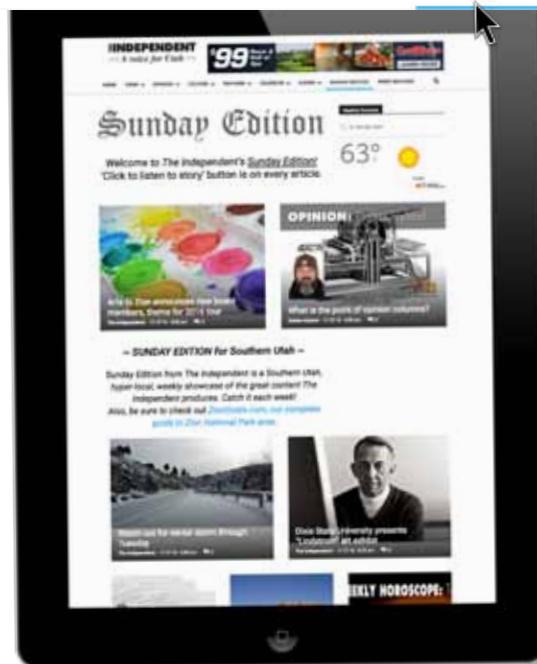


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## STREETFEST CHANGES TO GEORGEFEST, FEATURES BOMBAY HEAVY

In 2017, Streetfest will formally transition to nonprofit status under the new name "Georgefest" and will host Las Vegas-based alternative psychedelic rock band Bombay Heavy Jan. 6. The January event theme is "George Masquerade."

With winter months at hand, local residents and tourists alike can expect to continue to pack the various Streetfest venues from 6 to 10 p.m. on the first Friday night of each month at Historic Downtown St. George.



"We are lucky to live in an area where winters are mild and where we can continue to enjoy coming together for good music, good food, and nightlife fun all year long," said event executive producer Melynda Thorpe.



Photo by Nicole Winona, courtesy Emceesquare Media Inc.

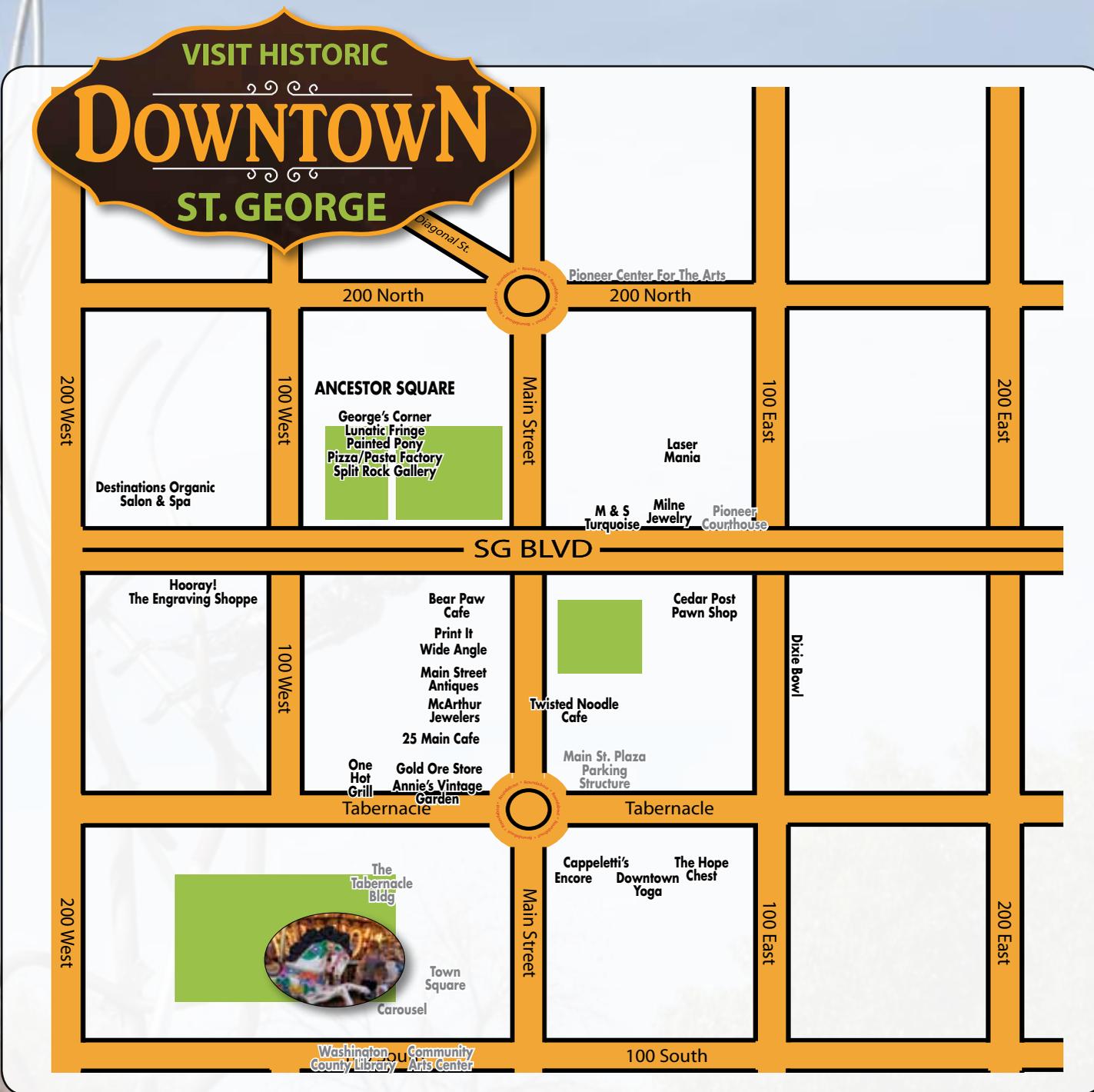


For adults 21 and over, The Jazz Garden at Historic Ancestor Square offers tapas by favorite downtown restaurants and adult beverage service to the tune of live jazz, acoustic rock, and blues. Each month, the Jazz Garden showcases a mix of local and guest artists. Jazz Garden hours extend 6 p.m. to midnight March through October. From November to February, the venue moves indoors to the Ancestor Square Clock Tower.

Georgefest is a nightlife event designed to celebrate the best of southern Utah, held on the first Friday of every month from 6 to 10 p.m., with the Desert Pulse Jazz Garden open until midnight April through October. The event is presented by Emceesquare

Media at Historic Downtown St. George and is sponsored in 2016 by the City of St. George, St. George Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, Canyon Media, St. George News, Etched Magazine, The Independent, Wingate by Windham Hotel, TDS Telecom, The Desert Pulse, Tuacahn, Iron Gate Winery and Wasatch Brewery.

More information on Georgefest or how to become a vendor is available at [georgestreetfest.com](http://georgestreetfest.com) or by emailing [info@georgestreetfest.com](mailto:info@georgestreetfest.com). Georgefest organizers are now accepting applications for street market vendors, buskers, and food vendors.



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## LOCAL ALBUMS

# NOTES FROM UNDERGROUND: MY FIRST FORAY INTO THE ST. GEORGE MUSIC SCENE

By Trevor Stott

Pitch black on a fall night, Arborist Records founder Alek Wiltbank guides me through a set of double doors into a long, dim hallway dotted at intervals with paper flyers and semi-darkened apertures to depths yet unknown. He twirls his keys like a man whistling in a graveyard — a jingling tambourine to accompany the unsteady echoes of our footsteps into the labyrinth. As we walk, he narrates something about the history of the place. A factory abandoned by the mechanisms of fate, come to be a storage facility — and what did they make? Twenty-four by 36 prints, it might have been. Maps of the world with two Germanies on them. But if the hydraulics are all dried and the pneumatics are out of steam, what's to

account for that steady, atavistic thumping that seems to grow louder as we walk the shadowed hall? Or that wall-muffled electric whine, that awash and trembling hint of a roar for spectacles unseen?

We follow the noise to its pulsing heart — an unmarked door behind which some unknown band may well be experimenting with the sound of amplified jet engines and hydroelectric mandolins. Is it Brickwalker? Morning, Sexy? Waking Up With Wolves? No one can say, but the door will remain unopened, the reverie undisturbed. Through another door, I'm led to an inscrutable chamber where a worn sofa faces a stack of televisions old enough to buy beer and so primitively heavy that I wondered how they could have been stacked by human effort. Behind, shelves full of vinyls rise jumbled and multicolored like a flowering shrub. "There's bound to be something in there for you," says my guide. "Sorry about the mess."

This is Arborist Records. If there's a mess, it's imperceptible, order and chaos having abandoned their opposing camps. On the wall, a poster of Martian sunrise, another of a canoe paddling 'cross an icy lake on one of Jupiter's moons. As for me, I am disoriented as to time and space. Is this St. George, Utah, the city that banned dancing? St. George, whose motto should be



"Where the First Half of 'Footloose' Comes Alive"?

The guy had to make album covers with scissors and glue. Band names by melting a thesaurus; venues by grace of God. There's an art gallery hidden deeper within the complex. A while ago, so the story goes, Alek gets locked into some dark section of the old factory late at night by way of bandmates' prank. An old man appears suddenly behind him and asks Alek what he's doing there. He says he's making music. "Come with me," the guy says. He takes him through the maze to a place where the walls are framed with canvas yearnings and the roof is ribbed with steel pipes. The heart of the beast, named by way of transcontinental self-reference repeated: "Arté Art." Alek asks the stranger if he wants him to bring bands into the place. The guy just nods. So I'm told.

We sit on the couch discussing metaphysics over "Super Smash Brothers." It's miraculous enough that one of these piled screens can flicker to life in the first place. Beyond that, I can't tell what's going on. At some point, we're struck by a conspicuous silence, the music from the practice room making itself known by its sudden absence. A man appears, long-haired and with a genuine expression. This fellow is called "Waking Up With Wolves." He navigates the room by memory, rummages like a geologist through the accumulated chaos of gatherings past — jackets and coffee mugs and assorted nothingness — and produces a rising-back chair from whence I know not, a priori by his magical whim. He conjures a Gibson acoustic in like fashion and arpeggiates upneck. On the third measure, Alek brings forth percussion from a hardwood table. Conversation follows in

syncopated rhythm, and after a while I lose track of the meaning and all I hear is pure noise. It occurs to me that in Italian halls, Hong Kong alleys, and St. George storage units, musicians everywhere are privileged to that microcosm of creation: Let there be sound.

We come out to the parking lot for some reason. Headlights emerge from the offstage desert darkness, heralding dented sedans. Bearded musicians emerge alone and in pairs, seemingly without having coordinated their entrances beforehand, brought in by some absurd serendipity or following the traces of faint melody through the night. And you think you've seen it all. They greet emphatically, as if surprised to see one another. Men with ear-piercings and eschewed beanie caps, bearing the smell of cigarettes and coffee. Small towns run deep. There are worlds hidden within worlds, like Russian nesting dolls. Leaving the place, I wasn't sure I was allowed to mention it. But they're trying to get the word out: A few months ago Alek started a Facebook group called "Sotah," inspired by an online guild of non-denominational emos and named for the third most obscure way you can abbreviate "southern Utah."

There's that dark old speakeasy, Jazzy's, out on Bluff, and Arté Art in that old factory off Dixie Drive. Beyond that — so they say — the local sound reverberates in a smattering of basements, bonfires, steakhouses, and secret subterranean societies. But the scene is growing, and so is the city. Someday, St. George music will be out in the open air; for now, it's blue-collar Americana shouted in the dark. There are no glittering neon signs, and the marquee is written with sticks in the dirt. You have to go out searching for yourself.

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## THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE GUIDE

by Adam Mast

**"Hacksaw Ridge" (R)**  
★★★★½



If there's one theme that's most prevalent in the greatest of war films, it's that war is hell! See "Paths of Glory," "The Deer Hunter," "Platoon," "Saving Private Ryan," "Black Hawk Down," and "The Hurt Locker," just to name a prominent few. You can now add Mel Gibson's stunning, real-life superhero movie "Hacksaw Ridge" to that prestigious list. It should also be noted that while this movie is brutal and unflinching in its depiction of the horrors of the battlefield, many viewers might be surprised to learn that a large portion of "Hacksaw Ridge" is decidedly old fashioned, particularly where its central love story is concerned.

"Hacksaw Ridge" is based on true events and delves into the life of Desmond T. Doss (Andrew Garfield), a Christian conscientious objector and decorated U.S. Army medic who would go on to save several lives during a fierce World War II battle without ever once firing a weapon. The film covers everything from Doss' relationship with his troubled war veteran father (Hugo Weaving), to a passionate romance with the girl of his dreams (Teresa Palmer), to a potential court-martial that would find this stoic soldier sticking to his convictions, to a brutal and all-too-terrifying stand at Hacksaw Ridge where a heroic Doss would engage in the unthinkable, all in the name of his country and his brothers on the battlefield.

"Hacksaw Ridge" is one epic motion picture experience. In terms of its sprawling nature, it's exactly what one would come to expect from a skilled and passionate director like Mel Gibson ("The Man Without a Face," "Braveheart," "The Passion of the Christ," and "Apocalypto"). Again, though, it's the film's old-fashioned sensibility that is most surprising. "Hacksaw Ridge" is very patient, and Gibson and his screenwriters, Andrew Knight and Robert Schenkkan, wisely give us plenty of insight into Doss' life long before he enlists in the military. We see where this man's disdain for violence comes from early on. It actually dates back to an altercation between him and his brother when the siblings were just children. Gibson

also depicts Doss as a dedicated individual whose passion goes way beyond his love for his country. It begins with his love for his family despite a very strained relationship between him and his PTSD-afflicted father. That passion is also completely apparent during his whirlwind romance with Dorothy Schutte (Teresa Palmer), a nurse whose fear of her man going to war is only trumped by her love and admiration for him.

Since "Hacksaw Ridge" takes its time with the set-up, it makes the battle carnage in the final act all the more effective because there's so much more at stake. While we're on the topic of war carnage, Gibson doesn't mess around. The entire film is gorgeously shot, but the Hacksaw Ridge sequence itself is a force to be reckoned with. It's shocking and graphic, but such is war. There is a slightly disappointing "faceless enemy" aspect to the war sequences, and while it would have been nice to have the sort of perspective that Clint Eastwood gave us with "Letters From Iwo Jima," "Hacksaw Ridge" is really Doss' story; therefore, that's what Gibson focuses on.

Andrew Garfield delivers his very best work to date as Doss. It's tough enough that this man must earn the right to fight for his own country in a way that he feels is right, but once the bullets start to fly, he isn't quite prepared for the complete and utter chaos that awaits him. Garfield brings a quiet power and grace to this unexpected American hero.

As solid as Garfield is, "Hacksaw Ridge" offers up a handful of supporting performances that are equally worth noting. Weaving is positively stellar as Doss's father, Tom, bringing emotional weight to a tragic man whose life has been virtually destroyed by the art of war. Vince Vaughn subverts our expectations of what a tough-as-nails blowhard sergeant can be by injecting much needed humor into the proceedings and lacing that humor with a surprising amount of heart. This might be the most non-Vince Vaughn performance of Vince Vaughn's career, and it works to this particular movie's advantage. Kudos to Gibson for casting both Weaving and Vaughn against type. Rounding out an exceptional supporting cast are Palmer, Rachel Griffiths, Sam Worthington, and Luke Bracey.

There are certainly moments in this picture that are a little overly melodramatic and even a bit cheesy, but there's an unrelenting power at the heart of this movie that recalls Steven Spielberg's "Saving Private Ryan." In fact, "Hacksaw Ridge" has really stuck with me since I first saw it. Gibson's fiery, intense, brutal depiction of war itself is a visceral assault to be sure, but there's a lot more going on here. No matter what your personal beliefs, this is an inspirational and spiritual story of courage and heroism, and it sort of blows my mind that Doss' story hasn't been told until now.

There will no doubt be some viewers who half-heartedly accuse this film and its central figure of moral superiority. And in fact, even I questioned it after first walking out of the picture. The truth is, though, that "Hacksaw Ridge" never really suggests that Doss won an entire war without the use of guns. If anything, Doss would be quick to point out that had it not been for his brothers on the battlefield, he wouldn't have been able to do what he did. It's also quite clear that Doss wasn't interested in forcing his beliefs on others. What this movie truly illustrates — and very beautifully, I might add — is that heroes come in all forms. Don't be so quick to judge someone simply because you have a different belief

structure, because you never can tell. That particular individual might just save your life someday. Beyond that, "Hacksaw Ridge" brilliantly illustrates what a lot of us already knew going in: War is hell.

**"Moana" (PG)**  
★★★★½

Walt Disney Pictures is back with a brand new animated feature, and it looks like the famed studio has another hit on its hands. "Moana" is an absolute delight from start to finish.

Set to a Polynesian backdrop, "Moana" tells the tale of a fiercely independent Moana (Auli'i Cravalho), a young islander who looks to sail past the reef of her people in an effort to save her homeland from potential extinction. Moana's journey will lead her to a mythical warrior called Maui (Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson). Together, this mismatched duo will battle Mother Nature, defend themselves against an army of coconut pirates, and come face to face with an angry creature of enormous size and unmatched strength. Will teamwork prevail, or will the obstacles in Moana and Maui's path be too much for this duo to handle?

"Moana" offers up a traditional Disney sensibility that might remind viewers



of "The Little Mermaid" and "Aladdin," which should come as no surprise because the storytellers behind those celebrated animated features — Ron Clements and John Musker — also co-directed this picture. And if the sporadically quirky nature and high energy of "Moana" brings to mind "The Emperor's New Groove," that should come as no surprise either, because this film also includes the notable talents of co-directors Don Hall and Chris Williams. Keep in mind, though, that while there are certainly shades of the familiar in "Moana," this film ultimately carves out a path all its own.

Newcomer Cravalho is strong, sweet, tenacious, and determined as Moana. Add to this a fantastic singing voice and you have a courageous heroine that is sure to join the ranks of legendary Disney characters like Ariel, Belle, Elsa, and Anna. Johnson lends his undeniable swagger to the role of charismatic warrior, Maui. Together, Cravalho and Johnson form a formidable team in Moana and Maui. From their initial hesitance with one another to what ultimately becomes an unshakable bond, their chemistry is spot on.

The songs in "Moana," which were co-written by "Hamilton" creator Lin-Manuel Miranda, are outstanding. As moving, rousing, and heartfelt as "We Know the Way" is, it's the quirky numbers that are really worth noting. Maui's egomaniacal anthem "You're Welcome" is a ton of fun as is a David Bowie-inspired glam rock tune sung by a sea crab called Tamatoa (wonderfully voiced by a zany Jemaine Clement).

As expected, the animation is stellar. From the epic open sea vistas to the beautiful islands and the detail in the

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# MOVIES

character work (Maui's living tattoo\inner voice-of-reason is particularly adorable), "Moana" emerges as a masterclass in the animation department. Look no further than a jaw-dropping final act. Gorgeous stuff!

In addition to throwing in little winks at the likes of "Indiana Jones" and "Star Wars," "Moana" offers up a sparkling display of culture and diversity. It's also a movie filled with monumentally relevant themes: dream big, never give up, and always look out for those around you. "Moana" also delivers a somewhat unexpected environmental message in grandiose, awe-inspiring fashion. Don't worry. No spoilers here. I'll just close out this review by saying that "Moana" is enchanting, funny, and thrilling — but more importantly, it has a heart as big as the ocean.

**"Allied" (R)**  
★★★★

It's "Casablanca" meets "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" in "Allied," the latest film from the great Robert Zemeckis. Truth be told, Zemeckis' last two films ("The Walk" and "Flight") left me a little bit cold. They certainly weren't bad movies, but both fell a little bit flat. Having said that, "Allied" finds the "Back to the Future" director back on track.

"Allied" opens in Morocco circa 1942 and finds Canadian intelligence officer Max Vatan (Brad Pitt) teaming with French



resistance fighter Marianne Beauséjour (Marion Cotillard) in an effort to take down a powerful enemy during the Nazi regime. During a most dangerous covert mission, the inevitable happens: Max and Marianne fall in love. Shortly thereafter, the couple moves to London where they are married and eventually have a child. It isn't long before their relationship is tested by the pressures of the war, and eventually, Max must determine whether his wife and the mother of his child truly loves him or if she's secretly been working with the enemy.

"Allied" is refreshingly old-fashioned in its approach. Zemeckis and screenwriter Steven Knight ("Dirty Pretty Things," "Eastern Promises," "Locke") have made the kind of movie Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall might have starred in 70 years ago. This film is positively exquisite in terms of its construction. Knight provides "Allied" with thrills and intrigue to be sure, but this is more of a character-driven piece. Once the film settles into the "is she or isn't she" portion of the plot, the tension is palpable.

The overall look of the production is simply stunning. Zemeckis directs with a confident hand, and with "Allied," viewers will be reminded of what a truly talented storyteller he can be. Of course, Zemeckis is aided by way of breathtaking art direction,

gorgeous costumes, stellar cinematography, and a stirring score by Alan Silvestri.

"Allied" also relies heavily on the chemistry between its leads. Pitt is rather low key here. This isn't a showy performance. It's more of a movie-star performance. Having said that, Pitt's approach to the material is appropriate for this particular movie. Cotillard is gorgeous and tough to boot. She also brings just the right amount of "mysterious" to the role giving the second half of the picture a quiet intensity. Together, Pitt and Cotillard bring the heat. Look no further than a romantic rendezvous in the middle of a desert.

"Allied" is a movie for adults. It's thrilling, dramatic, and to a certain degree heartbreaking. As a spy movie, it's decidedly old-school, and that works to the movie's advantage because for all the espionage

on display, this is really a love story. As for the resolution regarding the mystery behind Beauséjour, it is both unexpected and fulfilling. Sure, there are a few slow patches, and there are certainly moments that are implausible, but no matter. "Allied" is well worth watching. At the very least, this is Zemeckis' strongest directorial effort since 2000's "Cast Away."

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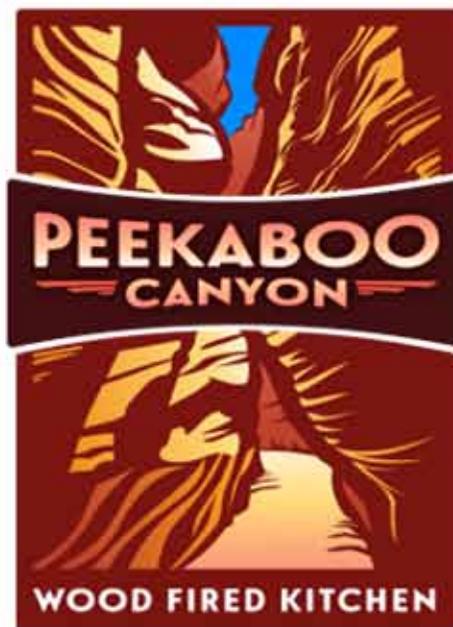
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## THE INDEPENDENT ALBUM REVIEWS

With "Skeleton Tree," Nick Cave sings his grief, creates great album  
By Charles Cuthbertson



In this age of streaming, few people seem to listen to albums, those collections of songs that are meant to be listened to all together in a particular order. Albums are divided up into their component tracks, which pop up randomly on "shuffle," and few bother to worry about in what order the tracks were originally arranged. And to be fair, many albums do not seem to be made with any particular sequence in mind.



But there are those who still appreciate the finely arranged album, songs that build on a particular theme or instrumental component and leave the listener with a sense that an intelligence is behind the arrangement of the album. And though the individual tracks may be enjoyed as songs, they take on a greater meaning and power when heard as part of a larger work.

Nick Cave is one of those artists who structures his albums carefully and deliberately, rewarding the attentive listener with the development of ideas and sounds. His latest album, made with longtime collaborator and Bad Seeds member Warren Ellis, is best appreciated as a complete work, one meant to be listened to in its entirety. The entire album is less than 40 minutes, which makes it easy to digest, even for the easily distracted. And the impact of the final three songs on the album increases substantially when heard in sequence.

Adding to the meaning of "Skeleton Tree" is the fact that this is Cave's first album since the death of his teenage son, who apparently ran off a cliff after experimenting with LSD for the first time. Cave has largely avoided publicity interviews for the album, preferring instead to collaborate on a documentary about the making of the album with director Andrew Dominik, titled "One More Time With Feeling."

The album sets the mood from its first song, "Jesus Alone," which combines eerie synthesizer tones and a droning background with Cave's trademark speak-singing. Cave describes images such as "lambs burst[ing]

through the wombs of their mothers," while a chorus repeats the lines, "I am calling you / With my voice." It's an unsettling beginning and a very unnatural-sounding song. Most of the sounds here are processed or artificial. There is little warmth.

The mood, along with Cave's recitation of imagery, continues with "Rings of Saturn" and "Girl in Amber," which centers Cave's penetrating voice right at the front of the mix. It's a somber, reserved song with lines like "Don't touch me" being delivered in a dry, desiccated voice. It sounds like resignation. In "Anthrocene," a wordless chorus punctuates the background softly as Cave notes, "I hear you've been out there looking for something to set on fire." The cumulative effect of the first half of the album is unsettling and cold. It's not very inviting.

Fans of Nick Cave are used to these kinds of moods and even celebrate them. Think of earlier albums like "Murder Ballads," or even the soundtrack music he created for the dystopic film, "The Road." We've heard Cave's dark music before.

But beginning with "I Need You," the last three songs on the album mark a shift in tone, instrumentation, and theme. The dominant synthesizer sounds begin to be subdued by warm piano chords, and Cave's voice undergoes a remarkable transformation. There are hints of trembling in his voice, and he sings here at an unusual range, as if he were hanging upside-down. "Nothing really matters when the world you love is gone," he sings over wailing background vocals. It's difficult to process the degree of raw emotion in Cave's voice. I've never heard anything quite like it. "Just breathe / Just breathe / I need you," the song continues, as if Cave were with us at the deathbed of a loved one.

"Distant Sky" further develops this mood, lifting the heaviness a bit with organ chords that sound like the beginning of a hymn. For the first time on the album, we hear a different voice, that of female singer Else Torp, who sounds remarkably like Kate Bush and does for Cave here what Bush did for Peter Gabriel in his song "Don't Give Up." The music is humanized, and warms the listener, a much needed reverie after "I Need You." The singing here is rich and assured, completely unlike the anxiety-producing sounds of the previous songs. It's the first hint of ease, and the effect is cathartic. "Soon the children will be rising," we hear. "This is not for our eyes."

By the time of the final song, the title track of the album, all we hear are natural, acoustic sounds: guitar, subdued piano, and a soft, insistent beat. It's a complete reversal of the album's harsh opening sounds, and we realize we have gone through all the cycles of grief in eight songs. "I called out across the ocean / The echo comes back empty," Cave sings, and the last words, the last sounds we hear on the album, are from a female chorus whispering, "It's all right now."

Collectively, this is one of the most transformative albums I've ever heard. The emotional content alone would make it memorable, but the evolution of the music here is deliberately constructed and brilliantly conceived. This is a great work, a contender for best album of the year.

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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.

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### FEATURED EVENT

**DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY  
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Dixie State University presents "Canadian Brass" on Dec. 6 at and "Ryan Shupe" on Dec. 17 at as part of the Celebrity Concert Series of 2016 Holiday Events. "Canadian Brass" has a national reputation as one of the most popular brass ensembles today, and has earned the distinction of "the world's most famous brass group."

Being a 5th generation fiddler, Ryan Shupe" is an accomplished electric guitar, acoustic guitar and mandolin player. Shupe has been touring extensively across the US since he was 10 years old. He is no stranger to the national stage and has appeared on Good Morning America, E! TV, Mountain Stage, Woodsongs, GAC and CMT. See them live in St. George. Individual tickets can be purchased at the DSU Box Office for \$5-\$25. They are also available at [dsutix.com](http://dsutix.com). For more information contact Steve Lemmon at [lemmon@dixie.edu](mailto:lemmon@dixie.edu) or (435) 652-7994. Cox Performing Arts Center, 325 S. 700 E., St. George.

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** Times vary. Come research your family history with the aid of friendly helpers. The center is open Tuesday and Wednesday from noon to 9 p.m., Thursday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 4-7 p.m. and closed on Mondays. Family History Research Center, 20 W. Main St., Kanab.

**CHRISTMAS IN THE CANYON** Tuacahn's Christmas In The Canyon is presented every Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening through Dec. 23. There is no admission charge to visit Tuacahn and enjoy Christmas in the Canyon. It's Tuacahn's way of saying "thank you" to the community for its support and to remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas. Tuacahn Amphitheater, 100 N. Tuacahn Dr. Ivins.

**BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SANCTUARY TOUR** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Drive to the sanctuary and take a tour through to the Visitor Center. Call ahead to make reservations at (435) 644-2001 or visit [BestFriends.org](http://BestFriends.org). Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab.

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### FEATURED EVENT

**NEWYEARS EVE AT THE BIT FEATURING "THE REALS"**



Complete with a package of careful arrangements and vibrant textures, "The Real are a band that pull from Rhythm and Blues to Americana and Roots music, to just plain old Rock 'n Roll, they even reel-in a slightly gospel sound. Join "The Reals" at The Bit and Spur Saloon in Springdale to ring in the New Year. There is a cover charge of \$20 and this is a 21 and older show. I.D.'s are required. The event starts at 10 p.m. and will finish at 1 a.m. For more information, contact The Bit and Spur at [bitandspur@infowest.com](mailto:bitandspur@infowest.com), or at (435) 772-3498. The Bit and Spur Saloon, 1212 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

**COWBOY DINNER AND SKIT** 9 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome to join the Chuckwagon Cookout at Little Hollywood Museum for the buffet when they have tours scheduled. Most seatings include an episode of "How the West Was Lost," cowboy skit. Pricing is \$16 for lunch and \$20 for dinner. Little Hollywood Museum, 297 W. Center St., Kanab.

**LINES IN NATURE EXHIBITION** 9 a.m. This two-person exhibit features the wood carvings of Justin Newby and the paintings/relief prints of Carol Bold. Admission is free. For more information, call (415) 855-5459. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

**A SALUTE TO NATIONAL PARKS** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Painted Hills Fiber Artists will feature their works of the National Parks System ever Monday-Saturday through Dec. 31 to honor the 100th anniversary of the National Parks Service. This display will not fail to enchant and captivate viewers of all ages. For more information, call Rosemary Hargrove at (435) 817-5650. St. George Art Museum, 47 E. 200 N., St. George.

**THE ELEMENTS OF ENCHANTMENT AIR, FIRE, EARTH, WATER IN THE ART OF MARY MANNING** 10 a.m. This art gallery show will be on display Dec. 2-3 and Dec. 5-6. Admission is free. For more information, contact Cindy Still at [thiaface@gmail.com](mailto:thiaface@gmail.com) or call (801) 831-5861. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main, St., George.

**FALL ART ATTACK** 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Rafter's Art Gallery is inspiring work by local and regional artists influenced by the incredible beauty of the Colorado Plateau. Rocking V Cafe, 97 W. Center St., Kanab.

**POLE FITNESS CLASSES** 7 p.m. Beginner class (Flow 1) Held Tuesday and Thursday nights at 7 p.m. for \$10. Or attend the free Community Intro class at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday nights. Book a party for your bachelorette or birthday party. 270 N. 2940 E., St. George.

**ART CLASSES** 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Oil painting, drawing, portraits and pastel classes available. Desert Rose Art Studio, 225 N. Bluff St Suite #1, St. George.

**LIVE MUSIC AT THE IRON HOUSE** 6-9 p.m. See live music and enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner every Tuesday through Saturday. Iron Horse Restaurant and Saloon, 78 E. Center St., Kanab.

**A VERY SUMA HOLIDAY** Noon-6 p.m. The Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) is ramping up the holiday season by providing a variety of ways to give this year with "A Very SUMA Holiday". There will be a Wishing Tree with one-of-a-kind handmade holiday ornaments to purchase and giving opportunities available in SUMA's gift shop through Dec.15. The tree contains tags with the age and gender of a community individual in need. You can purchase gifts for the individual and deliver the gifts, with the tag attached, to the Care and Share. The Wishing Tree will also have unique, handcrafted ornaments created by artisans from NOVICA and Ten Thousand Villages that you can purchase as gifts for your family and friends. The Wishing Tree will be available until the museum closes for the holidays on December 15. SUMA will also host a Wrap-A-Thon for the Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center (CCWCC) from noon-6 p.m. Dec. 2 and 3. Gift wrapping will be available in SUMA's lobby for a cash or check donation. All proceeds for the Wrap-A-Thon go to the CCWCC, which helps survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

**COWBOY ACTIVITIES AND CHUCKWAGON BUFFET** 5 p.m. Come by Jake's Chaparral on night's with scheduled tours. You can participate in several cowboy activities including shooting a real gun, pan for gold, cattle roping & a game of horseshoes while you enjoy live entertainment and a chuckwagon buffet every Monday-Saturday. Reservations available online. Jake's Chaparral, 86 S. 200 W., Kanab.

**"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: THE MUSICAL"** 7 p.m. and 2 p.m. A theatrical version of this Christmas classic will show Tuesday-Saturday at 7 p.m. and Saturday's at 2 p.m. through Dec. 31. Ticket prices range \$17-\$23 and can be purchased at [BrighamsPlayhouse.com](http://BrighamsPlayhouse.com). Brigham's Playhouse, 25 N. 300 W., Washington.

**MOVIES AT CRESCENT MOON MOVIE THEATER** 7:30 p.m. Showtimes are Wednesday through Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m. Crescent Moon Movie Theater, 150 S. 100 E., Kanab.

**NEIL SIMON FESTIVAL PRESENTS: "A CHRISTMAS CAROL ON THE AIR"** 7:30 p.m. Adapted from "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, this hilarious holiday comedy is a family friendly classic delivered in the style of an old-time radio show, Dec 20-22. Tickets are available for \$8-\$15 at [Heritagectr.com](http://Heritagectr.com). The Heritage Theater, 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

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

## Events by Day

### MONDAYS

**KUNDALINI YOGA & GONG RELAXATION** 7 p.m. Join Erika Field for a relaxing yoga session. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**FREE2FEED BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP** 9:30 a.m. 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 or go online to [www.free2feed.org](http://www.free2feed.org). Luther Hall, 244 S. Valley View Dr., St. George.

**BAND & ORCHESTRA FOR SENIOR ADULTS- "NEW HORIZONS"** 2 p.m. Zion Music Ensembles enrich the lives of senior adults and supports lifelong music participation by providing an entry point to group music making for seniors, teacher training opportunities for college music students, and encouraging music education for youth. The DiFiore Center, 307 North Main St., St. George.

**COMMUNITY BEREAVEMENT GROUP** 3:30 p.m. 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 W. First N. St., Mesquite.

**GENTLE YOGA ZACI** Yoga 4:15 p.m. 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.

**KICKSTART YOUR HEALTH NUTRITION AND COOKING CLASSES** 4:30 p.m. Food for Life: Kickstart Your Health will allow class attendees to discover the world of health through general topics ranging from digestion to blood pressure. Results are likely to be immediate and impressive! Get more information at [nutritiousway.org](http://nutritiousway.org). Nutritious Way Studio/Kitchen Headquarters, 1554 Hummingbird Dr., St. George.

**YIN YOGA** 5:30 p.m. Join Jenna Mackey for a great yoga and stretch class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**COLOR COUNTRY CAMERA CLUB** 6 p.m. Color Country Camera Club meets on the second and fourth 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 W. 100 S., St. George.

**ST. GEORGE DANCE COMPANY CLASS (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)** 7:30-8:45 p.m. Ballet for adults intermediate to advanced. More information visit [saintgeorgedance.com](http://saintgeorgedance.com) or call (435) 773-1221. The Electric Theater 68 W. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**KARAOKE** 9 p.m. The One & Only hosts Karaoke. Come have some drinks and get on stage with the fun crowd at the One & Only. The One and Only Bar, 800 E. Saint George Blvd., St. George.

## TUESDAYS

**ALL LEVELS HATHA YOGA** 9:15 a.m. Join Hollie Fillmore for almost two hours of Hatha yoga. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle, St. George.

**"NEW HORIZONS" BAND & ORCHESTRA FOR SENIOR ADULTS** 9:30 a.m. Zion Music Ensembles enrich the lives of senior adults and support lifelong music participation by providing an entry point to group music making for seniors, teacher training opportunities for college music students, and encouraging music education for youth. For more information contact the founder of Zion Music Ensembles, Mr. Kirk Jones at 435-772-1005. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

# CALENDAR

## TUESDAYS

**CHILDREN'S STORY TIME** 10 a.m. Frontier Homestead, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City.

**TECHART STUDIO: LEARN TO DJ** 10 a.m. 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.

**FLOW YOGA** Noon. Join Jayme Terran for stretching and yoga to help you relax. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**"EARLY BIRD" KARAOKE FUN WITH GAYLE LOUISE!** 5-9 p.m. "Early Bird" karaoke every Tuesday. Full bar and grille. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. Peggy Sue's Diner, 380 N. Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite.

**YOGASANA** 5:30 p.m. Join Elise Mitchell for this exhilarating yoga and stretch class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**HERITAGE WRITERS GUILD** 6 p.m. Second Tuesday of each month in the basement of the library. For more information call (435) 634-5737. 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

**OPEN PAINT NIGHT TUESDAY** 6 p.m. Desert Rose Art Studio invites anyone who would like to join a group of artist in an open paint night every Tuesday evening. Bring whatever medium you want and spend an enjoyable evening. Bring a friend if you would like. The cost is a donation of \$15 to help with our overhead. If you are interested in joining us call Alice Hiatt at (435) 256-3317. 225 N. Bluff St. Suite #1, St. George.

**OLD TIME FIDDLE JAM SESSION** 6 p.m. Enjoy free music along with a great dining experience. Hear tradition American Folk and Old Barn Theater from the Old Time Fiddlers live every Tuesday night. Parry Lodge Restaurant, 89 E. Center St., Kanab.

**THE GRACEFUL WOMAN** 6:30 p.m. 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 to \$11. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

**LIBRARY ART CLUB FOR CHILDREN** 6:30 p.m. Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month. This club is free. Register in the children's area! 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

**WOMEN'S GROUP MEETS** 7 p.m. First Tuesday each month. 259 W. 200 N., St. George.

**TANTRIC YOGA** 7:15 p.m. Join Mari Shirley for a vigorous but relaxing class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle, St. George.

## WEDNESDAYS

**"EARLY BIRD" KARAOKE FUN WITH GAYLE LOUISE!** 5-9 p.m. "Early Bird" karaoke every Thursday. There is a full bar and this is a 21 and older event. Bring your I.D.'s. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. Beaver Dam Station, County Hwy 91, Littlefield.

**KUNDALINI YOGA & MEDITATION** 9:15 a.m. Join Jennifer Tholen for a class to help ease the mind. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**"NEW HORIZONS" BAND & ORCHESTRA FOR SENIOR ADULTS** 9:30 a.m. Zion Music Ensembles enrich the lives of senior adults and support lifelong music participation by providing an entry point to group music making for seniors, teacher training opportunities for college music students, and encouraging music education for youth. For more information contact the founder of Zion Music Ensembles, Mr. Kirk Jones at 435-772-1005. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

**IT'S JUST YOGA** 1 p.m. Join Hollie Fillmore for just yoga. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**WRITERS IMPROVEMENT GROUP** 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Offered by Heritage Writers Guild every Wednesday. Bring eight pages of writing, (up to five pages, double spaced, 12 point font) for free and friendly feedback. For more information, call (435) 625-1743. 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

**ANIME GAMER CLUB** 3 p.m. Teens and 'Tweens who love Anime, gaming, or both, join us at the Santa Clara Library for book discussions, games, and great times! Santa Clara Library, 1099 Lava Flow Dr., St. George.

**GENTLE YOGA ZACI** Yoga 4:15 p.m. 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.

**WELCOME WAGGIN** 5 p.m. Join one of Best Friends' founders to learn more about the organization, hear heartwarming stories and discover secrets about the sanctuary. Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab.

**FOREIGN FILM CLUB** 5 p.m. Do you love foreign films? Then join us every first Wednesday of the month as we watch and discuss foreign cinematic gems! Santa Clara Library, 1099 Lave Flow Dr., St. George.

**SPANISH BALLE/ FLAMENCO DANCE** 5 p.m. 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.

**GRATITUDE & GRIT: YOGA FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY** 6 p.m. This class provides meditation and yoga exercises to help overcome destructive behaviors by empowering oneself from within. All are welcome. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

**KUNDALINI YOGA** 7 p.m. Join Jennifer Tholen for Kundalini style yoga. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**MIC AT JAZZY'S** 9 p.m. Come share your talents, or simply listen and have a beer! 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

**KARAOKE** 9 p.m. The One & Only hosts Karaoke. Come have some drinks and get on stage with the fun crowd at the One & Only. The One and Only Bar, 64 N. 800 E., St. George.

## THURSDAYS

**ALL LEVEL VINYASA YOGA** 9:15 a.m. Join Hollie Fillmore for a great stretch and relaxing yoga class for all levels. All moves and stretches can be adjusted to fit for you. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

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

**YOGASANA** 5:30 p.m. Join Elise Mitchell for this exhilarating yoga and stretch class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**JOYFUL YOGA** 6:30 p.m. 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 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

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

**TANTRIC YOGA** 7 p.m. Join Mari Shirley for a vigorous but relaxing class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**SINDUSTRY** 7 p.m. Free drink & drawing ticket. There will be Corn Hole Tournament, beer pong and Jenga. Live entertainment. \$10 buckets of beer. Every Thursday. No cover charge. 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

**LINE DANCING** 9 p.m. Come have some good old fashioned country line-dancing fun with a friendly crowd at The One and Only every Thursday. The One and Only, 64 N. 800 E., St. George.

## FRIDAYS

**YOGA NIDRA AND GONG!** 9 a.m. The Science of Yogic Relaxation and Restoration. A unique guided meditation that is preceded by yogic breathing and movement. Your stress will be transformed into positive energy. Your mind will be cleared. Your body will be rejuvenated. All levels are welcome! The Healing Tree, 535 S. Main. #4, Cedar City.

**FREE2FEED BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mommy & Tot playtime, followed by group discussion at noon. 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 at free2feed.org. Public Library, Hurricane.

**TEEN LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD (TLAB)** 4 p.m. Do you want to be involved in library programs, plan events, talk about books, and meet other teens all while earning service hours? Join TLAB at Rainbow Library! For teens in grades 6-12, first and third Friday of July and August. Mesquite Library, 121 W. First North St., Mesquite.

**IT'S JUST YOGA** Noon. Join Hollie Fillmore for just yoga. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle, St. George.

**"EARLY BIRD" KARAOKE FUN WITH GAYLE LOUISE!** 5-9 p.m. "You're the Star" karaoke every Friday. Full bar and grille. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. Oasis Golf Club Bar & Grille, 100 Palmer Ln., Mesquite.

**PAINT YOUR PET PARTY** 5 p.m. For just \$20 per person, you're provided with an 11x14 canvas, paints, brushes, and artist instruction. No prior painting experience is needed! Email jennifernagle@hotmail.com to sign up. Don't have a pet? No problem! Thumb through one of the many Best Friends' magazines to find an animal of your liking or email a web image to vistorcenter@bestfriends.org and we'll print it out for you. Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab.

**LAUNCHING PAD COMMUNITY GATHERING** 6 p.m. (Temporarily once a month for summer season, next get together on Nov. 13.) We are a trans-denominational spiritual community. We focus on young adults, but everyone is welcome to join! Community potluck starts at 6 p.m. and service begins around 7 p.m., followed by a group discussion and spiritual practice. Visit facebook.com/LaunchingPadZion for more info! 908 N. 1400 W., St. George.

**PIANO MAN STEVE & DJ JUAN IN SEASONS LOUNGE AT EUREKA CASINO RESORT** 7 p.m. Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

**DJ SPINZ** 9 p.m. D.J. Spinz will be at the One and Only every Friday night. Come dance the night away, have a few drinks, play pool and have a great time! The One and Only, 64 N. 800 E., St. George.

## SATURDAYS

**YOUTH BEGINNER TENNIS LESSONS** Ages 9-12. Call the Tennis Pro at (435) 674-3180 for information. St. George.

**YOUTH INTERMEDIATE TENNIS LESSONS** Grades 6-9. Call the Tennis Pro at (435) 674-3180 for information. St. George.

**HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED TENNIS CLINICS** Call the Tennis Pro at (435) 674-3180 for informatio. St. George.

**GUIDED SATURDAY MORNING HIKE** 7 a.m. Venture into the stunning outback 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). For more information email stgeorgehub.com or call (435) 673-7246 Adventure Hub St. George, 128 N. 100 W. Ste. 124, St. George.

**GRATEFUL YOGA TEACHER ROTATION** 9 a.m. Enjoy your Saturday morning by starting off with yoga to relax and stretch you. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

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

**TAI CHI DRAGON QIGONG AT SANTA CLARA LIBRARY** 10:30-11:30 a.m. Full-body Energetic Healing, every Saturday. Admission is free. No experience is needed. Tai Chi Dragon Qigong is good for all ages and all levels of health and mobility. Santa Clara Library, 1099 N. Lava Flow/Warrior Way, Santa Clara.

**BUNNY YOGA** Noon Best Friends Visitor Center invites you to a gentle yoga class and opportunity to meet a few adorable, adoptable Sanctuary bunnies every first Saturday of the month. Mats will be provided if needed. Suggested donation of \$10 or more will be gifted to Best Friends. Best Friends' members receive free entry! Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab.

**SATURDAY MOVIE MATINEE @ ST. GEORGE LIBRARY** 2 p.m. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

**PIANO MAN STEVE & DJ JUAN IN SEASONS LOUNGE AT EUREKA CASINO RESORT** 7 p.m. Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

# CALENDAR

**PRAYFUL & GRAFTEFUL YOGA** 9 p.m. Join in on a great yoga class to help relax and ease the mind. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

## SUNDAYS

**UNITY CENTER OF POSITIVE LIVING GATHERING** 9 a.m. Join Tejbir Singh for meditation and a great yoga class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**KUNDALINI YOGA & MEDITATION** 9 a.m. Join Tejbir Singh for meditation and a great yoga class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

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

**YIN YOGA** 7 p.m. Join Analee Scott for a great yoga class. Downtown Yoga, 50 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

## Events by Date

### Fri, Dec 2

**HURRICANE VALLEY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. The festival includes a silent auction, bake sale, craft fair, live entertainment, Santa Claus, and more family fun. For vendor or donation information, call (435) 635-2609. Hurricane Community Center, 63 S. 100 W., Hurricane.

**DICKENS' CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** 10 a.m. Step back in time and enjoy the sights and sounds of 19th century London at The Spectrum's Dickens' Christmas Festival. The Festival is a unique and unusual entertainment and shopping experience. Guests wind through narrow village streets as they shop for gifts and rub shoulders with a cast of Dickens' characters such as Tiny Tim, Scrooge and even Queen Victoria. Old English shops, hundreds of period costumes, orphans, royalty, and the "real" Father Christmas all combine to offer guests a holiday experience like no other. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors (65+), \$5 for children ages 4-12, and free to kids 3 and under. Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr., St. George.

**CHRISTMAS MARKET** 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Frontier Homestead State Park's Christmas Market captures the sights, sounds and ambiance of a traditional pioneer bazaar; providing a truly unique holiday shopping experience. Browse over 30 artist and craftsmen booths selling their holiday wares of jewelry, photography, glassworks, home décor, fiber, paper and wood crafts. Admission is \$1 per person. Free hot chocolate will be available. The Christmas Market is part of the week long celebration Christmas at the Homestead. For more information about the market and all the Homestead Christmas events, visit [ChristmasAtTheHomestead.com](http://ChristmasAtTheHomestead.com). Frontier Homestead, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City.

**Z-ARTS GALA FEATURING "HARRY O AND FRIENDS"** 6-10 p.m. The Annual Z-Arts Gala to celebrate the hosting of over 70 events will take place at the Switchback in Springdale. This event is \$50 per plate. Call (435) 772-3434 ext. 313 or visit the Z-Arts office in the Canyon Community Center. Switchback Bar and Grill, 1149 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

**2016 ANNUAL SYMPHONY OF THE CANYONS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** 7 p.m. This "Christmas Spectacular" Fundraiser Festival Market will feature live music, a food court (open 10 a.m.-3 p.m.) and Santa Claus. There will be a drawing for spectacular items donated by our local businesses and individuals supporting the symphony. There is also be a dinner and concert. Kanab Middle School, 690 S. Cowboy Way, Kanab.

**"THE SPAZMATICS"** 8:30 p.m. "The Spazmatics" will perform live at the Casablanca Resort for a pre-party for Mayhem in Mesquite. This is a 21 and older event. I.D.'s are required. Admission is free. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

### Sat, Dec 3

**VALLEY OF FIRE- GUIDED HIKE: PAINTED PINNACLES- BASELINE MESA LOOP** 8:30 a.m. This is a strenuous, 5.5-mile off-trail guided hike crosses open desert until reaching the surprise beauty of the "painted pinnacles" area near Baseline Mesa. This hike is only recommended to experienced hikers in good physical condition. Those interested in participating in this guided hike are required to preregister. To register, email Chris at [vofinterpranger@mvdsl.com](mailto:vofinterpranger@mvdsl.com). This event is included with your park entrance fee of \$10 per vehicle. Nevada residents receive a \$2 discount. For more information on this event please contact Chris J. at (702) 397-2088 or [vofinterpranger@mvdsl.com](mailto:vofinterpranger@mvdsl.com). Valley of Fire State Park, 29450 Valley of Fire Rd., Moapa Valley.

**HURRICANE VALLEY CHRISTMAS TRE FESTIVAL** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. The festival includes a silent auction, bake sale, craft fair, live entertainment, breakfast with Sant Claus (9 a.m.-Noon), and more family fun. For vendor or donation information, call (435) 635-2609. Hurricane Community Center, 63 S. 100 W., Hurricane.

**CHRISTMAS MARKET** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Frontier Homestead State Park's Christmas Market captures the sights, sounds and ambiance of a traditional pioneer bazaar; providing a truly unique holiday shopping experience. Browse over 30 artist and craftsmen booths selling their holiday wares of jewelry, photography, glassworks, home décor, fiber, paper and wood crafts. Admission is \$1 per person. Free hot chocolate will be available and live holiday entertainment will be featured throughout the day. For more information about the market and all the Homestead Christmas events, visit [ChristmasAtTheHomestead.com](http://ChristmasAtTheHomestead.com). Frontier Homestead, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City.

**DICKENS' CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** 10 a.m. Step back in time and enjoy the sights and sounds of 19th century London at The Spectrum's Dickens' Christmas Festival. The Festival is a unique and unusual entertainment and shopping experience. Guests wind through narrow village streets as they shop for gifts and rub shoulders with a cast of Dickens' characters such as Tiny Tim, Scrooge and even Queen Victoria. Old English shops, hundreds of period costumes, orphans, royalty, and the "real" Father Christmas all combine to offer guests a holiday experience like no other. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$65 for seniors (65+), \$5 for children ages 4-12, and free to kids 3 and under. Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr., St. George.

**MAYHEM IN MESQUITE X** 7 p.m. Tuff-N-Uff presents: Future Stars of MMA at Mayhem in Mesquite X. Tickets are \$10-\$45 and can be purchased at [StarTickets.com](http://StarTickets.com). Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

**HOLIDAY SOCIAL AT TONAQUINT NATURE CENTER** 10:30 a.m. Join the TNC staff at the annual Holiday Social and make a craft, have a cup of chocolate and spend a little time at a beautiful park. Crafts are \$1 each and cookies for decorating are .50 cents each. Tonaquint Nature Center, 1851 S. Dixie Dr., St. George.

**STORYTIME AT THE MUSEUM** 11 a.m. The Virgin Valley Heritage Museum will sponsor Christmas Stories of the past. Talented artist and storyteller, Diana Coonradt, will be telling the stories of days gone by. This family friendly activity is free. The activity will end by adding handmade ornaments to the Christmas Tree at the Museum. For more information, call (702) 346-5705 or email [ekuta@mesquitenv.gov](mailto:ekuta@mesquitenv.gov). Virgin Valley Heritage Museum, 35 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

**2016 ANNUAL SYMPHONY OF THE CANYONS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** 7 p.m. This "Christmas Spectacular" Fundraiser Festival Market will feature live music, a food court (open 10 a.m.-3 p.m.) and Santa Claus. There will be a drawing for spectacular items donated by our local businesses and individuals supporting the symphony. There is also be a dinner and concert. Kanab Middle School, 690 S. Cowboy Way, Kanab.

**MAYHEM IN MESQUITE X** 7 p.m. Tuff-N-Uff presents: Future Stars of MMA at Mayhem in Mesquite X. Tickets are \$10-\$45 and can be purchased at [StarTickets.com](http://StarTickets.com). Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

**"REBEL SOUL"** 10 p.m. Rebel Soul will be performing live music as part of Mayhem in Mesquite's after party. Admission is free. This is a 21 and older party. You must bring your I.D.'s to attend. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

**"MANY MILES"** 6-9 p.m. "Many Miles" will give a free, live musical performance at Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Canyon Blvd., Springdale.

### Tues, Dec 6

**HEART OF THE HOLIDAYS** 5-9 p.m. The best local talent blends with the country music artists for this holiday show. All proceeds will support local elementary schools and local organizations. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be bought at J.S. Merchant at the Eureka Casino. For more information, call Carol White at (702) 346-4600 or email [cwhite@eurekamesquite.com](mailto:cwhite@eurekamesquite.com). Eureka Casino Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

**DSU CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES - "CANADIAN BRASS"** 7:30 p.m. With an international reputation as one of the most popular brass ensembles today, "Canadian Brass" has truly earned the distinction of "the world's most famous brass group." Tickets prices vary and are available by calling (435) 652-7800, at the DSU Ticket Office, or by visiting [DSUTix.com](http://DSUTix.com). Dixie State University Cox Auditorium, 375 S. University Ave., St. George.

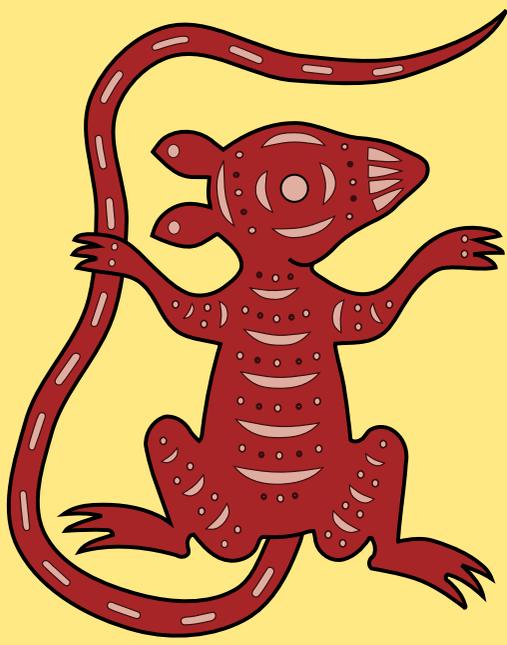
### Wed, Dec 7

**"FORGOTTEN CAROLS"** 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The "Forgotten Carols" stage performance tells the story of a nurse whose empty life is changed when a new patient recounts the story of Christ's birth as told by little known characters in the nativity story. Tickets are \$18-\$36 and can be purchased at [EventBrite.com](http://EventBrite.com). The Heritage Center, 105 N. 100 E. Cedar City.

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

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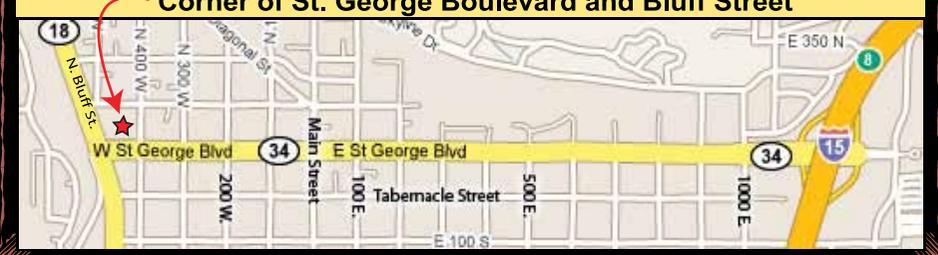
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Sat: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

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# CALENDAR

## Thurs, Dec 8

### PARADE OF LIGHTS / TREE LIGHTING

5:30 p.m. The Second Annual Parade of Lights will begin at Arrowhead Lane and make its way down Mesquite Boulevard toward South Willow Street. Mesquite City Hall, 10 E. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

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

## Fri, Dec 9

**SUSAN HARRIS, "RELIQUARIES FOR THE ANCIENT FUTURE"** 5 p.m. Utah ceramic artist, Susan Harris, will be featured in a solo show entitled, "Reliquaries for the Ancient Future". It will feature a selection of work related to her study of ancient Etruscan and Chinese ritual vessels. Art Works Gallery, 16 N. 100 W., Cedar City.

**COMEDY MACHINE** 8:30 p.m. The Casablanca in Mesquite has top comics from all over the US performing every first Friday of the month. Tickets are \$15-\$25, StarTickets.com. 21 and older. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

**"JONEMERY MUSIC"** 8:30 p.m. "JonEmery Music" will perform live music. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 2400 Zion - Mount Carmel Hwy., Springdale.

## Sat, Dec 10

**VALLEY OF FIRE- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY: SAND PAINTING** 1:30 p.m. Join park staff for a fun children's activity designed to emulate the sand painting done the by Navajo and other Native American cultures. In a special twist, we will be turning our sand painting art into magnets! This event is included with your park entrance fee of \$10 per vehicle. Chris J. at (702) 397-2088 or vofinterpranger@mvdsl.com. Valley of Fire State Park, 29450 Valley of Fire Rd., Moapa Valley.

**"WHO'S YOUR HUCKLEBERRY"** 6-9 p.m. "Who's Your Huckleberry" will perform live music with Duane Mark, Lorin Walker Madsen, and Jon Emery in Sprindale. this is a free event. Call (435) 772-0336 for more information. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

**ZION JOY TO THE WORD - 7TH ANNUAL LIGHT PARADE AND SWEETS SOCIAL "WHIMSICAL WONDERLAND"** 6:30 p.m. Springdale, Rockville and Zion will celebrate this joyous season with music and a town Light Parade, followed by a Community Sweet Social and craft event. Music At the Mart starts at 5:30 p.m. with live musical guest "The Washburn Family Bluegrass Band" at Sol Foods Market. The parade line-up is at 6:30 p.m. on Canyon Springs Road. The Parade starts at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Santa will be there too! 1149 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

**SEASONS UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER CONTEST** 7-10 p.m. Wear your ugliest Christma Sweater to win this contest. Judging starts at 9 p.m. There will be prizes for first through fifth place. This is a 21 years or older event. For more information, contact Carol White at cwhite@eurekaquest.com or (702) 346-4600. Eureka Resort, 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

**IMPROV DIXIE LIVE** 7 p.m. Every second and fourth Saturday, Improv Dixie Live performs 7-10 p.m. Improv Dixie is Southern Utah's newest improvisational comedy troupe who make up stories and games based off of your suggestions. It's family friendly so bring the kids every. Even Stevens, 471 E. St. George Blvd., St. George.

**"JENNIFER NETTLES" IN CONCERT AT TUACAHN** 8 p.m. Grammy® Award-winning Country superstar Jennifer Nettles will perform live music onstage at Tuacahn Amphitheater. Tickets are \$49-\$69 and can be purchased by calling (800) 746-9882 or (435) 652-3300. Tuacahn Amphitheater. 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

**"JONEMERY MUSIC"** 8:30 p.m. "JonEmery Music" will perform live music. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 2400 Zion - Mount Carmel Hwy., Springdale.

**"A VERY BEATLES CHRISTMAS STARRING THE FAB"** 8:30 p.m. Get in the Christmas spirit with the most uplifting classics by the "best sounding Beatles in the World". Tickets are \$15-\$35 and can be purchased at StarTickets.com. This is a 21 and older event. I.D.'s are required. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

## Mon, Dec 12

**A NASHVILLE TRIBUTE BAND CHRISTMAS** 7:30 p.m. A Nashville Tribute Band Christmas will perform live Christmas music. Tickets are \$27-\$32 and are on sale now at DSUTix.com. Cox Auditorium, 385 S. University Ave., St. George

## Fri, Dec 16

**THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** The annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is organized by the National Audubon Society and the data compiled are used to track the health of bird populations at a scale that professional scientists could never accomplish alone. This event is free and is open to birders of all skill levels. If you are a beginner, you will be able to join a team that includes experienced birders. If you are unable to join a field team and you live within the boundaries of a count circle, you can make arrangements with the coordinator to stay home and report the birds that visit your feeders. Information on over thirty counts held in Utah can be found at UtahBirds.org. Locally we have counts at Bryce, Escalante, Kanab, Boulder, and Glen Canyon. Visit Aaudubon.org for a wealth of information on CBCs. For more information, contact Lisa Church at (435) 644-1273. Kanab BLM Office, 669 S. Hwy. 89 A., Kanab.

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- 14K Gold Morganite & Diamond Stud Earrings \$899
- 14K Gold Stackable Diamond Ring 1/3 ctw. \$1,239
- Shimmering Diamonds® Sterling Silver Pendant \$189
- 14K Gold Shimmering Diamonds® Lariat Necklace 1/10 ctw. \$579
- 14K Gold 2Us® Pendant 1/4 ctw. \$979
- Diva Diamonds® Sterling Silver Pendant \$99
- 14K Gold 2Us® Diamond Ring 1/2 ctw. \$1,649
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# Habitat for Humanity® of Southwest Utah

The housing statistics in Southern Utah are sobering, with over 800 school age kids considered homeless, rent being higher than the State average with a 2 bedroom at \$750 a month, and some of the lowest wages in the nation.

Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Utah is a nonprofit organization that is committed to providing low-income families with safe, affordable homes in Washington County. Since being established in 1998, we have been devoted to working with families to better their lives and offer them a hand-up, not a hand-out. To date, we have built 21 homes in the area, have housed 101 people, and have just begun our 22nd home for our newest partner family! We feel that our Mission Statement says it all: "We are an organization that builds a better community by providing families a home where they become healthier, where kids leave for school in the morning, do their homework at night, where parents rest from one day and plan for the next. In decent, affordable housing, walls are strong and roofs are secure and the family inside focuses on thriving instead of surviving."

Owning a home is not easy; it is a lifestyle of persistence, strength, and commitment. Habitat builds homes in partnership with the community and those in need, selling the homes to partner families through a zero-interest mortgage. Families must apply, attend homeownership preparation classes, and dedicate 250 hours per adult of sweat equity to help build their home or the



homes of others.

Habitat also helps the community through our A Brush With Kindness (ABWK) program. Through generous grants from organizations such as United Way Dixie and Home Depot, as well as donations from individuals, we are able

to help additional home owners in the county. The ABWK program is available to assist elderly, the disabled, veterans, and low-income families with exterior projects like painting, fence repair, and yard clean up. This program helps those who qualify with a no interest loan for the repairs.

There are many ways to be a part of Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Utah! You can serve on a committee or the board, volunteer on one of our projects, volunteer or shop at the ReStore, donate towards a home build, and much more. If you join our FAM Club (Five a month) you can make a tremendous difference in the community by donating \$5 a month automatically to Habitat. If 5,000 people donated \$5 a month, we could help three families a year get into a new, safe, affordable home.

Join the Habitat family, donate, and attend events and fundraisers, to help support our mission in Southern Utah! You can contact us by calling 435.674.7669 for more information.



Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Utah | 835 South Bluff Street | St George, UT 84770 | (435) 674-7669

# CALENDAR

**AUDITIONS FOR "12 DANCING PRINCESSES"** 4-8 p.m. All youth ages 5-18 are invited to audition for "12 Dancing Princesses" presented by the Children's Musical Theater of St. George. Go to [CMTStGeorge.org](http://CMTStGeorge.org) for audition information and to sign-up for a time slot. There is a fee of \$50. The Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

**A NASHVILLE TRIBUTE BAND CHRISTMAS** 7:30 p.m. A Nashville Tribute Band Christmas will perform live Christmas music. Tickets are \$22-\$27 and are on sale now at [EventBrite.com](http://EventBrite.com). Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

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## Sat, Dec 17

**"SOUL WHAT?!"** 6-9 p.m. "Soul What?!" will perform live music at Zion Canyon Brew Pub. This is a free event. For more information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

**EAGLE POINT RESORT OPENING** 9:00 a.m. Opening weekend of the 2016-17 ski and snowboarding season begins. 150 S W Village Cir, Beaver, UT 84713. (855) 324-5378, [www.eaglepointresort.com](http://www.eaglepointresort.com)

**CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES - RYAN SHUPE** 7:30 p.m. Ryan Shupe has been touring extensively across the U.S. since he was 10 years old. He is no stranger to the national stage and the band has appeared on Good Morning America, E! TV, Mountain Stage, Woodsongs, GAC and CMT. Tickets prices vary and are available by calling (435) 652-7800, at the DSU Ticket Office, or by visiting [DSUTix.com](http://DSUTix.com). Dixie State University Cox Auditorium, 375 S. University Avenue, St. George.

**"SISSY BROWN"** 9 p.m. "Sissy Brown" will perform live music at Jazzy's, 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

## Thurs, Dec 22

**CELTIC WOMAN: HOME FOR CHRISTMAS THE SYMPHONY TOUR** 7 p.m. Celtic Woman will perform live Christmas Music. Tickets are \$29-\$79 and are available at [DSUTix.com](http://DSUTix.com). Burns Arena, 225 S. 700 E., St. George.

**Find more events daily  
at [SUindependent.com](http://SUindependent.com)**

## Sat, Dec 24

**IMPROV DIXIE LIVE** 7 p.m. Every second and fourth Saturday, Improv Dixie Live performs 7-10 p.m. Improv Dixie is Southern Utah's newest improvisational comedy troupe who make up stories and games based off of your suggestions. It's family friendly so bring the kids every. Even Stevens, 471 E. St. George Blvd., St. George.

**"MIKE AND ELAINE"** 6-9 p.m. "Mike and Elaine" will perform live music in Springdale. This is a free event. For more information call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

## Fri, Dec 30

**"ELVIS LIVE FROM LAS VEGAS" STARRING TYLER JAMES** 7:30 p.m. "Elvis Live" featuring the "Memphis Experience Band" will perform at the Casablanca. Tickets are \$15-\$25 and can be purchased at [StarTickets.com](http://StarTickets.com). CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

## Sat, Dec 31

**NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS** 7 p.m. A spectacular and memorable fireworks display presentation will be held in Springdale. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

**VEGAS LIMIT - ALL REQUEST LIVE! & DJ RICOCHET - NEW YEARS EVE PARTY** 9 p.m. Starring "Vegas Limit" is the ultimate interactive New Year's Eve bash. Tickets start at \$15 if purchased in advance. All reserved seating includes party favors and a champagne toast. This is a 21 and older party. I.D.'s are required. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

**BRING IN THE BREW YEAR FEATURING "CATFISH JOHN"** 9 pm.-Midnight "Cattfish John" will perform live music during this New Year's Eve celebration. There is a \$10 cover charge at the door. For more information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

## Mon, Jan 1

**"HOLIDAY ROAD"** 10 a.m. "Holiday Road" is a feel good exhibit of vibrant artworks with a memory lane or road trip vibe reminiscent of enjoyable travels including scenic art-scapes and vehicles of eras gone by. The reception will have car themed music along with "road trip" refreshments. A meet-the-artist reception will be held Jan. 5th from 6 to 8 p.m. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

## Fri, Jan 6

**ULTIMATE OUTDOOR EXPO** 8 p.m. Showcasing the latest in outdoor enjoyment. There will be RVs, fishing and camping equipment, outdoor enthusiast vendors with interactive demonstrations, paddle board, yoga class, a dutch oven cooking demo and much more. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for Seniors (over 60), \$5 for kids (8-12), and free for kids under 8. Tickets will be sold at the door. Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr., St. George.

**COMEDY MACHINE** 8:30 p.m. The Casablanca in Mesquite has top comics performing every first Friday of the month. Tickets are \$15-\$25 and can, [StarTickets.com](http://StarTickets.com). 21 and older. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

*Leah Dietzen, Intuitive Healer & Spiritual Mentor  
has joined the Awakened Soul team...*

Leah is a highly attuned empath, animal communicator, healer and intuitive and has had these skills since birth. Later in life she began to professionally develop them with an intense drive and desire to serve after her own healing journey began following a near death experience. This miraculous experience showed her how to heal her own past traumas, life-threatening addictions, depression, anxiety, fibromyalgia and other physical ailments. She was then divinely shown and guided to share this healing work with animals, mother nature and humans alike.



She is highly trained in, and facilitates Pranic Healing sessions, offering deep healing on a cellular level for deep seeded emotions, phobias, addictions and traumas as well as general stress relief and overall well being.

She is also an Intuitive Reader, Medium and Speaks to Souls on all levels, including autistic children, the elderly and those yet to be born.

Leah is a developed Animal Communicator and Animal Trainer and offers Pranic Healing work and a vocal bridge for your beloved animals as well.

Leah will be available at Awakened Soul Wednesday 3pm-8pm, Thursday 10am-8pm, Friday 10am-7pm

Leah is also available at additional times for phone sessions on all services per request.

She offers 60min sessions for \$60 and 30min sessions for \$30

To book a session with Leah, or for more information on her sessions please visit Awakened Soul's Facebook page or call her direct at at 949-394-4013.



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Best wishes for a happy holiday season from the entire staff at ERA REALTY CENTER.

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## UTAH OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

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UTAH OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT is known for offering the best in outdoor equipment. From chain saws; mowers; generators; hand tools and more. You will also find ATVs and scooters. Service and repair are another specialty here. Your questions are welcomed by phoning 586-8091 or visit their website at [www.utahoutdoorpowerequipment.com](http://www.utahoutdoorpowerequipment.com) Happy Holidays.

## JONES PAINT & GLASS

Phone 586-3800

In Cedar City At 38 E 1600 North

No matter where you are, JONES PAINT & GLASS is never far off. They've been serving the folks from this area for a very long time. And as longstanding neighbors, they are there to serve you, too.

JONES PAINT & GLASS is located at 38 E 1600 North in Cedar City, phone 586-3800, and they specialize in quality name brand paint products and supplies. They do excellent color matching and airless spray equipment sales, service and rentals. They are also your indoor; outdoor; and garage door specialist; and your glass headquarters, including auto glass installations.

They handle all of your commercial and new construction glass applications; as well as service and repair needs. For residential, JONES PAINT & GLASS offers complete glass for remodels and custom homes. Financing is available. Phone 586-3800 for information on all they offer.

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Phone 867-1978

This company has winner written all over it. WESTERN POWDER COATING is located in Cedar City at 444 West Industrial Road, phone 867-1978, and is best known for offering state of the art equipment to give you the best in powder coatings for ornamental ironwork, fencing, gates, trailers and more. Custom jobs are welcome. Sand blasting is another specialty.

There are two things that make doing business at WESTERN POWDER COATING such a pleasure: First, they are extremely efficient. And finally, they stand behind their service 100%.

Russ and the crew at WESTERN POWDER COATING wish you Happy Holidays and they invite you to phone 867-1978 for all they have to offer.



## BRODY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT

In Cedar City At 1166 South Sage Drive, Suite C

Phone 531-8773

The ultimate in Mexican dining. That's what you'll always find at BRODY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT. This outstanding Mexican restaurant features all of the traditional south-of-the-border favorites cooked in the authentic manner. Bring the whole family for a truly great lunch or dinner. They're located at 1166 South Sage Drive, Suite C in Cedar City, phone 531-8773.

When you stop in here you'll want to try their signature dishes including molcajete supreme; huarache and their famous street tacos. You'll also want to try some nachos. Make plans now to stop in at BRODY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT and enjoy a truly authentic dinner.

Abimael "Al" Garcia and everyone at BRODY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT send out warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## THE UPS STORE

"Locally Owned & Operated"

In Cedar City At 646 South Main Street

Phone 867-1987

This business provides so many services that it becomes difficult to describe each service adequately: THE UPS STORE located in Cedar City at 646 South Main Street, phone 867-1987.

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Happy Holidays to all our good customers. It's been a pleasure serving you.

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## ESCROW & TITLE INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC

[www.securityescrowutah.com](http://www.securityescrowutah.com)

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They will be relocating to 397 South Main soon. Phone 867-0402 for more information. Also visit them at [www.securityescrowutah.com](http://www.securityescrowutah.com)

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Merry Christmas from DAIRY FARMERS OF AMERICA and may all good things come to you in 2017. For great holiday gift ideas and information call 438-2421 or visit them online at [www.dfamilk.com](http://www.dfamilk.com)

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