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The Independent

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

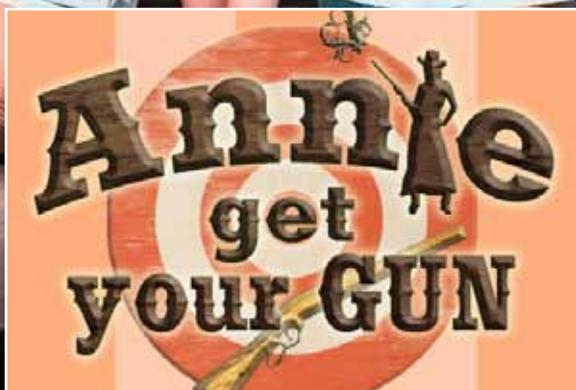


**HURRICANE VALLEY THEATRICAL COMPANY
PREMIERES "CATCH ME IF YOU CAN"
See Page 3**

ALSO THIS ISSUE:



**KANAB HOSTS 30TH ANNUAL
10K RACE
- See Page 7 of Zion Guide Insert**



**SHARPSHOOTING MUSICAL "ANNIE GET YOUR
GUN" OPENS AT BRIGHAM'S PLAYHOUSE
- See Page 4**



**BEAVER DAM JAM FEATURES LAWN
MOWER RACES & 3 DAYS OF LIVE MUSIC
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Color Country's Complete Guide To Arts, Music, Entertainment, Culture & More

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To submit a calendar event go to SUIndependent.com

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EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER'S PERSPECTIVE by Josh Warburton

Growth is hard. That seems true whether you're talking about personal growth or growth in a company.

I'd like to think I've been working on a bit of both right now.

The Independent is growing again as a result of the hiring of new sales director Cory Smith and account representative Michelle McKenna. They have both already proven themselves to be smart and dedicated workers as well as team players. Thanks go out to both of them for their excellent efforts this month.

This is also one of the times of the year when I personally put in a lot of hours. The majority of businesses in Zion Canyon and Kanab areas, my primary stomping grounds, make their marketing decisions for the year in this 2-to-3-month window. So I am running at a very fast pace in order to contact everyone we serve and those we'd like to in those areas. It's been tiring but also very productive.

We also brought back a former member of our staff, Nikki Slade. While Nikki is very proficient in many areas, the current incarnation of our company requires her to wear a lot of hats she did not previously wear when she worked for us a decade ago. Her jobs as office manager and my personal assistant do not adequately describe the variety of tasks required of her on a weekly basis. She's doing a bang-up job learning the new ropes and has been willing and eager to delve head-on into new tasks. Thank you for your patience and tenacity, Nikki.

The growth in ads in the last month allows us to publish a publication with more overall pages, thereby allowing room for more content. So this 32-page issue of The Independent is up from 24 pages last month, and this 16-page Zion Guide is up from 12 pages last month. Some of the highlights of this April issue of The Independent include Dallas' latest opinion piece, a local album review, Virgin river UDOT info, and a piece about a motion filed by Conserve Southwest Utah, the Conservation Lands Foundation, and The Wilderness Society to intervene in Washington County's appeal in the Interior Board of Land Appeals of the Final Resource Management Plans for the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas.

Additionally, our awesome event coverage includes the cover story on Heritage Theater Group, Brigham's Playhouse, the Beaver Dam Jam, and at the Kanab 10K among a lot of other great events coverage. The Zion Guide expansion allowed us to include both popular hikes and complementary less-traveled hikes features. We also very much enhanced our tips and suggestions in the first two pages of the edition as well as expanded our event calendar and events coverage. We also added a listing of featured businesses in both the Springdale and East Zion/Kanab areas to complement those respective maps.

Let me point out that while the Zion area calendar is pulled from our larger calendar that fills the back pages of each issue of The Independent, the events articles themselves always only appear in one section or the other. That's to say that you'll find all the Springdale and Kanab events still listed in our main calendar, but be sure to check out the more detailed events articles in the Zion Guide section, as those articles only appear there.

On a personal front, even amidst my heavy workload, I have been trying hard to analyze my old habits and behaviors to identify areas where I can improve. I know, for instance, that in this last couple of months of increased workload, I have not done nearly as well as usual to nurture and take care of myself.

As a result, my well-being has suffered. I feel that neglecting doing regular yoga and other physical activity as well as hot baths and massages has negatively affected my mood. But they say awareness is the first step, so it at least I know I need to be taking steps to move back the other direction. I've got to believe that I would do better taking care of my customers if I am at my happiest and most well-balanced state. It certainly is likely to be affecting my other personal relationships.

They say that if you make a public pledge to do something, you are far, far more likely to follow through with it, so today I am recommitting to my effort to prioritize my own personal health and wellness, do yoga regularly, take time to consider what my best nutritional and other inputs can be, do other exercise, and seek out additional means to nurture myself. I have been lucky enough to be blessed with good health, but at 40 years old, I really should not be taking that for granted. I really need to look at opportunities to improve, and if anything, I should be working to be in the best of health I have ever been.



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EVENTS

CATCH THIS SHOW – IF YOU CAN! By Nicole Kimzey

The premiere of any show is always exciting and brings an extra dose of energy with it. That is the case with Hurricane Valley Theatrical Company's southern Utah premiere of "Catch Me If You Can," the musical based on the 2002 Steven Spielberg movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks.

Kyle Myrick, who is both the Hurricane Valley Theatrical Company artistic director as well as the director of the show, is enthusiastic about bringing this to audiences who might not be familiar with the musical.

"Many people do not know it was made into a musical, but for those that do, they will be running to the theater to see it," he said. "The music is from the same team that did 'Hairspray,' so that gives you an idea of how fantastic the songs are. I'm most excited for those who are not familiar with it, because they are in for a real treat. This show is amazing!"

While great music is a plus, this musical profits from its fantastic storyline as well. It is the true story of Frank Abagnale Jr., who successfully conned people out of millions of dollars with check fraud and posed as a

pilot, doctor, and lawyer — all before his 19th birthday. Carl Hanratty was the FBI agent who spent years chasing him all over the country and then to Europe before catching him. The show follows their cat-and-mouse antics as Abagnale tries to keep one step ahead of Hanratty, all while trying to get approval from his father, Frank Sr.

Kelly Olsen plays Hanratty and has nothing but great things to say about it.

"I was really drawn to this character," he said. "Much of the time, he thinks he is

chasing an older experienced guy, and when he finds out it's just a kid, there is a real change in him, and I love that Hanratty's softer side comes out after that. The musical focuses more on the relationship between Hanratty and Frank Jr. than the movie does. It goes deeper, and I love it."

The other complicated relationship is between Frank Jr., played by Jadon Webster, and Frank Sr., played by Bruce Bennett.

"A big part of Frank Jr.'s focus is on his

relationship with his father," Bennett said. "Jr. is trying to please Sr., and the father is trying to be a good dad, but he can't quite get there. It's like he's in a little bit of denial. There are some great scenes and great songs between the two of them."

Lest you think it's all heavy relationship drama, this play has fantastic, upbeat scenes and production numbers. Olsen tips his hat to choreographer McKenzie Morgan for that.

"McKenzie did a fantastic job with the choreography," Olsen said. "It is so great with tons of energy. People are going to love it."

"This music is great," added Bennett. "It's very upbeat. It's very brassy with a '60s jazz feel, and I love singing these songs."

Webster is no stranger to being in musicals, but he was particularly drawn to this show because of the complexity of the role he plays.

"Frank Jr. has so much great material to work with," he said. "He's funny, charming, silly, serious, he gets to interact with everyone, and since singing is my passion, that's a huge plus, because Frank Jr.'s songs are remarkable."

Great story. Great music. Great dancing. Great venue. It's safe to say that "Catch Me If You Can" aims for the clouds and makes it there with ease.

"Catch Me If You Can" plays every Friday, Saturday, and Monday (April 7-29) at 7 p.m. with Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. at the Hurricane Fine Arts Center, located at 92 S 100 W in Hurricane. For tickets, call (435) 668-9753.



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EVENTS

CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES SEASON TICKETS ON SALE NOW

By Steve Lemmon



Dixie State University and the Celebrity Concert Series would like to sincerely thank all our patrons for the 2016-17 season.

It was gratifying to realize that the arts are still alive and well in St. George at a time when national support for this type of programming is on shaky ground. In retrospect, it really was an outstanding season. There were "big ticket" moments that included Manhattan Transfer with Take 6, the Drifters, Canadian Brass, and GENTRI. These acts delivered just the incredible, sold-out performances that we were expecting. But there were also some less obvious triumphs. For instance, listening to piano prodigy Stephen Beus explain so eloquently why Bach's Chaconne was so meaningful to him was extraordinary. His explanation changed the collective experience of the entire audience as we were engulfed by the simple, beautiful melodies. There was the astonishing brilliance of both the Montreal and California guitar trios. There was a moment at the end of CGT's Toccata and Fugue in D minor, also by J.S. Bach, where the audience didn't seem to know how to react to what they

Celebrity Concert Series



had just heard. It was almost as though we collectively held our breath hoping the moment wouldn't end. The standing ovation that erupted immediately thereafter was unanimous and motivated by pure joy. This is the effect of the arts on our community. It is both complicated and simple. It unites people who otherwise may not share much in common. It reminds us to slow down and enjoy gifts purely given by artists who have spent a lifetime honing their unique, God-given talents.

This is the beauty of being a season ticket holder for the Celebrity Concert Series. Not only will you see acts that you know and enjoy, you will discover new artists that you never knew you'd love. It is akin to the experience you might have when you dine at a fine restaurant and ask the chef's recommendation. The 2017-18 season will mark 60 years of "bringing the world to our stage." We invite you to join us. Become a season ticket holder today, and don't miss a single magic moment.

Tickets for the Celebrity Concert Series can be purchased at the DSU Box Office, by calling (435) 652-7800, or online at dsutix.com. Season tickets are on sale now! Please visit celebrityconcertseries.com for details regarding the 2017-18 roster which includes Joshua Creek, Kingston Trio, Doo Wop Project, Riders In The Sky, Lexi Mae Walker, GENTRI, Shuffle, Golden Dragon Acrobats, Young Ambassadors, Ballet West, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, and the ATOS Trio.



SHARPSHOOTING MUSICAL CLASSIC "ANNIE GET YOUR GUN" OPENS AT BRIGHAM'S PLAYHOUSE

By Melanie Baxendale

Brigham's Playhouse, a southern Utah leader in live theatre, is delighted to announce its next production. "Annie Get Your Gun" will show April 20 through May 27 at our intimate indoor theater in Washington! Come one, come all to Irving Berlin's Broadway musical classic of sharpshooting romance and show business!

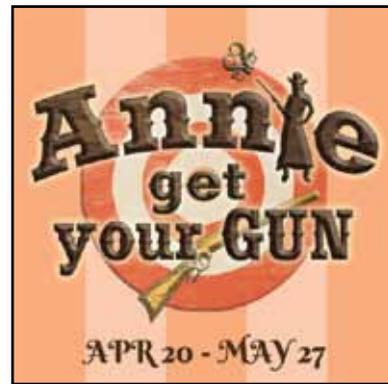
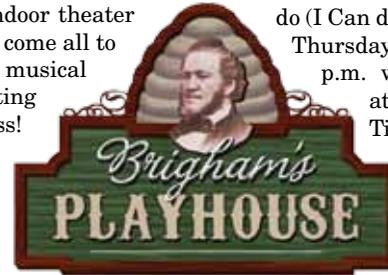
Annie Oakley is the best shot around, and she manages to support her little brother and sisters by selling the game she hunts. When she's discovered by Col. Buffalo Bill, he persuades this novel sharpshooter to join his Wild West Show. It only takes one glance for her to fall head over heels for dashing shooting ace Frank Butler, who headlines the show. She soon eclipses Butler as the main attraction, which while good for business is bad for romance. Butler hightails it off to join a rival show, his bruised male ego leading the way, but is ultimately pitted against Annie in a final shoot-out. The rousing, sure-fire finale hits the mark every time in a testament to the power of female ingenuity.

These two show

business rivals, Annie Oakley and Frank Butler, do what comes naturally as they fall in love to timeless songs, such as "Can't Get a Man with a Gun" and "Anything You Can do (I Can do Better)." Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 7 p.m. with matinee performances at 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Tickets are available at brighamsplayhouse.com or by visiting or calling the playhouse box office.

Brigham's Playhouse believes in the power of live theater and its ability to provide audiences and performing artists with life-changing experiences. It is located at CottonTown Village in Washington, just across from Star Nursery on Telegraph Road, next to Red Barn. This is the third season for the playhouse, which was founded in 2014 by the Young and Knapp families.

For more information about Brigham's Playhouse, please visit brighamsplayhouse.com or call (435) 251-8000. Box Office hours are Tuesdays-Fridays from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 7 p.m.



BEAVER DAM JAM FEATURES LAWN MOWER RACES AND THREE DAYS OF LIVE MUSIC

The tenth annual Beaver Dam Jam will run May 5-7 in Littlefield, Arizona. The outdoor venue will host 20 bands in a variety of genres as well as food and beverage vendors. In addition to the music, Lawn Mower Races will take place May 6 at 11 a.m.

The festival is organized by Bill Evans, owner of Beaver Dam Station. Evans has stated that the majority of people who attend are from Mesquite, St. George, and Cedar City but that some travel from as far away as Salt Lake City and Los Angeles for the all-weekend event.

The festival will begin May 5 at 1 p.m. with Sleep Dealer, Cleo, Vinyl Fusion, Full Tilt Boogie, Soul What, and the Joe Sherman Band will play. Bottoms Up will perform immediately afterward at Beaver Dam Station from 10:15 p.m. until 1 a.m.

On May 6 beginning at 11 a.m., Phoenix Kids Dancers, Nearly Departed, Crossroads, Mister Hyde, Highway Poets, and Catfish John will play, followed by the Dick Earl Blues Band from 10 p.m. until 1

a.m. at Beaver Dam Station.

On May 7, beginning at 10 a.m., Dakota Knights, Fiyah Rootz, Tommy Rocker, Lady Reiko, and El Dub will play. The festival will conclude at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 for all three days or \$20 per day and can be purchased the day of the show or in advance at Beaver Dam Station, located at 411 N. Old Pioneer Rd. in Littlefield. Camping is free, and children 12 and younger get in to the festival. More information is available at beaverdamstation.com or by calling (928) 347-5589.



Libraries Transform!

Mark your calendars for April 9-15 to celebrate National Library Week. The theme for 2017 is "Library's Transform," to reflect the value, impact, and services provided by libraries.

Since there is way too much going on to fit it all into just one week, the Library System will be celebrating the entire month of April! The Library System will be hosting programs on nutrition, craft workshops, Money Smart Week, Cowboy Poetry night, author visits, and displays of our "Un-Bound Recycled Book. Visit your library branch to find out more, or log on to: www.library.washco.utah.gov.

EVENTS

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET AT ANCESTOR SQUARE BEGINS 2017 SEASON

The first Downtown Farmers Market at Ancestor Square for 2017 will be held May 13 from 8 a.m. to noon in the courtyard and parking lot at Ancestor Square, located at St. George Boulevard and Main Street in downtown St. George. The market will



continue every Saturday until Oct. 28, 2017. Parking is located in the adjacent parking lot at Ancestor Square. The event is free and open to the public.

The Downtown Farmers Market at Ancestor Square is a nonprofit community project to promote the downtown area as well as promoting organic gardening and homemade crafts and goods. The market features vendors from all over Washington and Iron Counties selling goods such as organic fruits and vegetables, live plants, cut flowers, herbs, baked goods, jams and preserves, candy, candles, soaps and lotions, jewelry, photography, pottery, sculpture, oil paintings, woodwork, and more — anything and everything homegrown, homemade and/or locally produced.

The market accepts the Horizon card and participates in the Double Up Bucks program. The Farmers Market Information Booth will give EBT participants the information to get up to \$10 in free farm-fresh produce.

In addition to more than 30 vendors selling their goods, local musicians will play on center stage. The center lawn will be open to the public.

Opening day music will be provided by Stillhouse Road from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Stillhouse Road features the talents of Joe and Paula Ferrario and offers a blend of original songs, bluegrass, mountain music, and gospel favorites with acoustic guitar, mandolin, fiddle, and bass. The band's website is stillhouseroad.com.

More information is available by calling (435) 632-3721.



City of St. George Concert in the Park 2017

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April 10

WASATCH COUNTRY PICKERS

Classic Country

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May 9

THE COTORIES

Folk Rock

These road warriors will be making their debut appearance in St. George bringing you original music steeped in their travels on the back roads of the American countryside and a few songs you may know for one high-energy show!

Sponsored by the City of St. George with funding from the Utah Division of Arts and Museums, the State of Utah and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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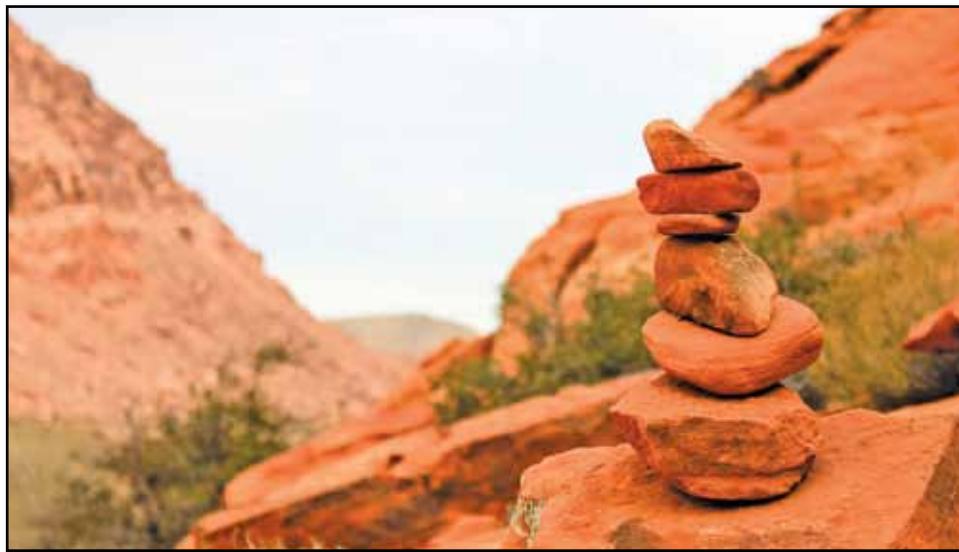
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CONSERVATION GROUPS DEFEND RED CLIFFS AND BEAVER DAM

On March 23, Conserve Southwest Utah, the Conservation Lands Foundation, and The Wilderness Society filed a motion to intervene in Washington County's appeal in the Interior Board of Land Appeals of the Final Resource Management Plans for the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas.



On Feb. 23, Washington County filed an appeal with the Interior Board of Land Appeals contesting the Final Resource Management Plans for the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas. At the heart of the appeal is Washington County's claim that the Bureau of Land Management failed to consider and approve the construction of a highway or northern corridor through the Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas. Intervention status will give the three conservation organizations options in the case of an unfavorable settlement or ruling.

"The Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash [National Conservation Areas] are extraordinary landscapes, sustaining not only the native habitat but also the recreation and tourism critical to our local economy and the signature vistas of our county's visual appeal," stated Tom Butine, board president of Conserve Southwest Utah, a local citizen-based conservation nonprofit organization headquartered in St. George. "[Conserve Southwest Utah] and our members have invested heavily over the past 11 years to establish these protected lands and care deeply about their value to those who live and visit here. We hope to continue the dialog with our county commission to understand and resolve the issues."

The Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas were established by legislation in 2009 after years of collaboration and input from the public and other stakeholders. The Red Cliffs National Conservation Area was designated in large part to protect habitat

for the threatened Mojave Desert tortoise while allowing development in other areas of Washington County. This compromise was agreed to and signed by officials in Washington County as part of a Habitat Conservation Plan in 1996.

"The plan was the product of years of hard work and public input," said Phil Hanceford, assistant director of The Wilderness Society's BLM Action Center. "It is a shame to see government throwing away resources on legal action and going back on commitments made during negotiations around the designation of the National Conservation Areas."

"Logically, the construction of a highway through a National Conservation Area designated by Congress to protect desert tortoise habitat does not make sense," stated Danielle Murray, senior director at the Conservation Lands Foundation. "The [Final Resource Management Plan] gets it right. It reflects the overarching intent of Congress and six years of input from

stakeholders. We intervened to ensure all this hard work that led to a sensible plan is not undermined."

When they were designated, the Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas became part of the National Conservation Lands, a collection of places around the West recognized for their scenic, ecological, historic, or cultural significance. They were protected to "conserve, protect, and enhance for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generation the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreation, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources of the NCA; and to protect listed threatened or endangered species."

Conserve Southwest Utah is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit grassroots coalition of local citizens advocating conservation the area's natural resources (public lands, water, and air) and cultural resources (the remnants of native and pioneer activity) and for the Smart Growth principles that enable conservation, for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Conservation Lands Foundation is the only organization dedicated solely to protecting, restoring, and expanding the National Conservation Lands so they will endure from generation to generation. The National Conservation Lands are 36 million acres of protected public lands, rivers, and trails managed by the BLM that have joined the ranks of national parks and wildlife refuges as guardians of the nation's natural, cultural, and outdoor heritage and drivers of its \$646 billion outdoor recreation economy.

VIRGIN RIVER CLOSED AT UDOT WORK ZONE

Utah Department of Transportation advised recreational users of the Virgin River under Interstate 15 of river closures to ensure safety. Construction on I-15 to widen the freeway between exits 4 and 5 and to demolish and replace the bridges over the Virgin River is progressing.

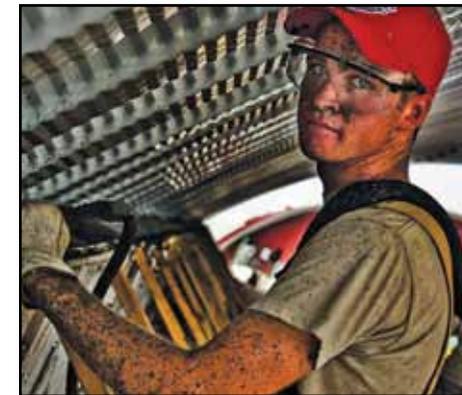
With the increasing temperatures and sunny days ahead, more people plan to use area trails and rivers. In order to protect the public and the workers and expedite construction, the Virgin River Trail and Virgin River under the freeway are closed for the next several months, and no users will be permitted in this active construction zone.

To facilitate construction of the new bridges, the Virgin River has been routed through a large pipe during the construction period. The river is impassable and closed for all public use during construction. Those desiring to float down the river should exit the river at the Confluence Park Trailhead and re-enter the river at the Man-o-War Trailhead.

To learn more about the project and

to access up-to-the-date information on the trail and river closure, visit the project website, contact the project team by phone at (435) 379-3435, or email exit4_5@utah.gov.

Travel information associated with this and other UDOT construction projects is available at udottraffic.utah.gov. Drivers can also follow @udottraffic on Twitter or download the UDOT Traffic App.



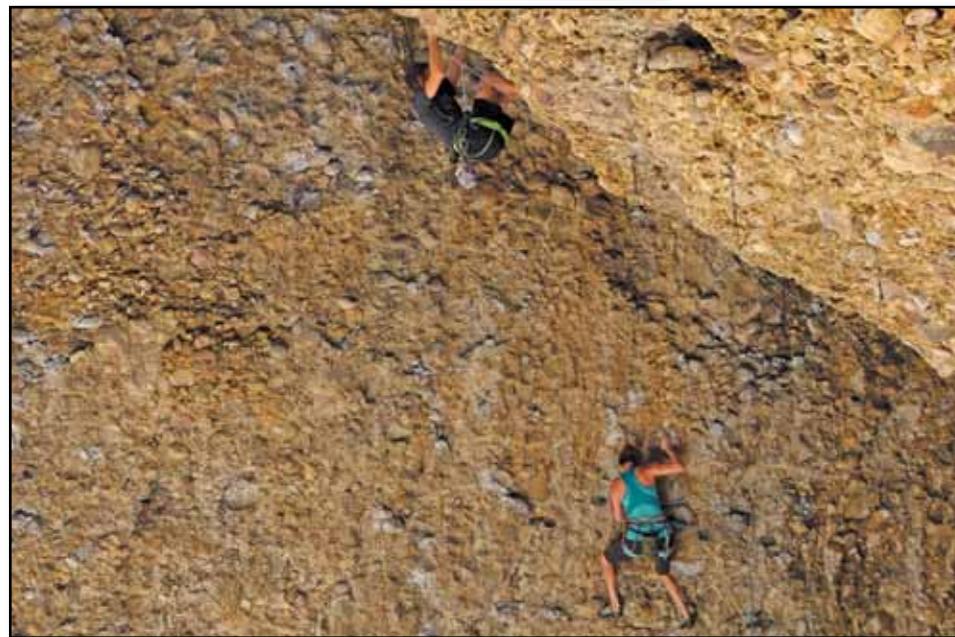
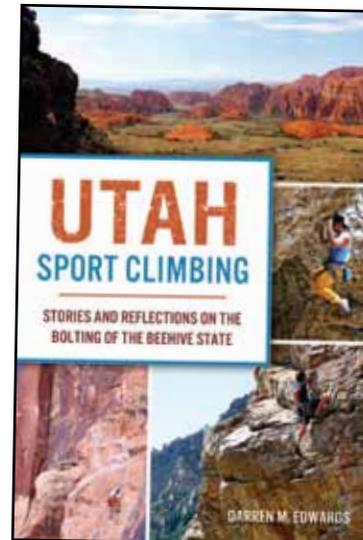
NEW BOOK EXPLORES SOME OF UTAH'S SPORT CLIMBING HISTORY

"Utah Sport Climbing: Stories and Reflections on the Bolting of the Beehive State", doesn't just tell stories from the sports history in Utah. It explores the complications that can arise between individuals, groups, and nature when we fall in love with something.

Not much drives passionate debate in Utah more than public land use. And sport climbing is securely tethered to that controversy as more thrill seekers gear up each year to ascend the state's geological wonders. From the Snow Canyon con-

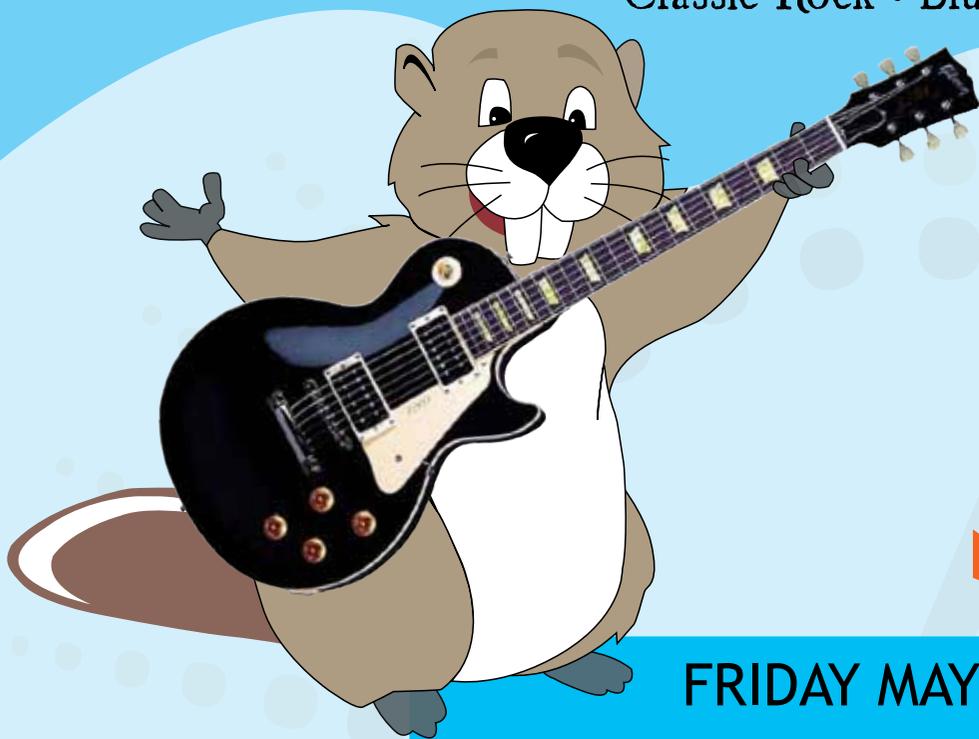
licts to the frenzied route development in American Fork Canyon, Utah remains central in the evolution of the sport. With over 60 interviews and a healthy dose of humor, climber and author Darren M. Edwards tracks the spirit, ethos, and feats of bolters who have led the way since the 1980s.

"Utah Sport Climbing: Stories and Reflections on the Bolting of the Beehive State" hits shelves March 27. It is available at local retailers and online at arcadiapublishing.com



The 10th Annual
Beaver Dam Jam

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3 DAYS OF
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**THURSDAY NIGHT
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 7 - 10PM
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FRIDAY MAY 5 1:30pm - 1am

1:30-2:00 Sleep Dealer
 2:15-2:45 Cleo
 3:00-4:30 Vinyl Fusion
 5:00-6:30 Full Tilt Boogie
 7:00-8:30 Soul What
 8:45-10:15 Joe Sherman Band
 Bottoms Up in the bar 10:15-1:00am

SATURDAY MAY 6 12Noon - 1am Lawn mower races start at 11am, Saturday!

12:00-1:30 Misty Day
 2:00-3:30 Crossroads
 4:00-5:30 Mister Hyde
 6:00-7:30 Highway Poets
 8:00-10:00 Catfish John
 Dick Earl Blues Band in the bar 10:00-1:00am

**BAND
 SCHEDULE**

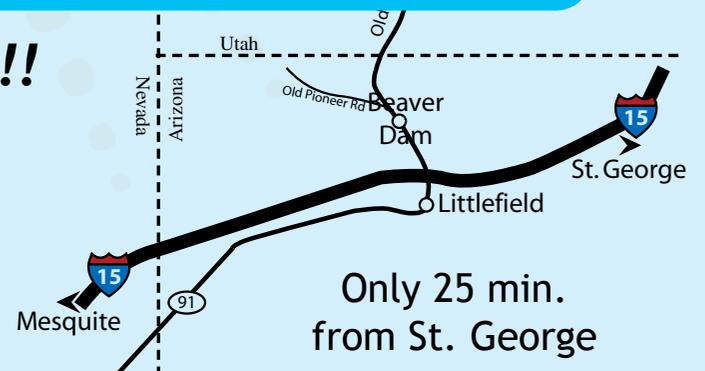
SUNDAY MAY 7 10am - 7pm

10:00-11:15 Dakota Nights
 11:35-1:00 Fiyah Rootz
 1:00-2:30 Tommy Rocker
 3:00-4:30 Lady Reiko
 5:00-7:00 El Dub
 Kids 12 and under free. Must be 21 to be in the bar.

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THE 15TH ANNUAL MESQUITE AMATEUR: A FIRST CLASS TOURNAMENT IN A SMALL-TOWN ATMOSPHERE

By Scott Dunford



Attention, golfers: Make the call soon to join hundreds of golfers from around the world May 29 through June 2 for the second largest, five-day, 54-hole, net, stroke play golf tournament in the nation, the Mesquite Amateur! Thanks to Mesquite Gaming, owner of CasaBlanca Resort and Virgin River Hotel, this tournament is celebrating its 15th year of world-class golf and resort-style fun.

bringing awareness to established and up-and-coming golf destinations.

SD: What's included in the entry fee?

CA: The Mesquite Amateur tournament entry fee includes three rounds of golf; a private, nightly catered dinner each night; a chance to win cash cards and raffles and to qualify to play in the championship round. In addition, each player is given a tee gift with \$100 credit to TaylorMade Mobile Pro Shop. Guests are welcome to join players at each dinner for a very reasonable fee. Our catering department does a fantastic job with these nightly dinners. During the tournament, we have a film crew daily shooting photos and video that

logoed ball markers, and shirts. We have a great relationship with these two suppliers, so if you wanted that new M2 driver, you'll get an even better deal than at your local pro shop.

SD: Do you ever sell out?

CA: We've always had enough golf courses in the region and can always add more players for the Mesquite Amateur. Our biggest year was 743 players in 2008. In the last few years, we're averaging about 500-600 players.

SD: How does this type of event help our local economy in Mesquite?

CA: One of the coolest things I've seen over the years is that players make Mesquite their second home or retire here. Aside from that, players in the tournament generally stay in Mesquite a full week, supporting our local restaurants, hotels, casinos, and retailers.

SD: Do a lot of players return year after year?

CA: We've had a few players who've been here all 15 years and others multiple times over. We typically announce them at the dinners and provide a few extra benefits and discounts for those recurring participants. They're the ones who are truly our ambassadors, helping us promote the event and garner new players year after year.

SD: Where do most of these folks come from?

CA: It's an international field: eight players from France, two from the Netherlands, and several French and Italians and 20-25 Canadians

have already registered for this year's tournament. Our top five participating states are California, Washington, Texas, Colorado, Utah, and Florida.

SD: What do you think is the biggest draw, other than the golf, for visitors?

CA: A small-town atmosphere at a first-class event! We treat our golf tournaments like they're PGA events. We have an official scoring team that provides live scoring online. For the championship round, we have live scoring on each hole so that anyone in the world can see what's happening hole by hole.

SD: Explain again how the format and prize money works.

CA: This is a net tournament flighted by age and handicap with approximately 30-35 players in each flight. I have five men's divisions and a women's division of all ages. First place winners in each flight get a choice of a Callaway or TaylorMade \$650 gift card all the way down to 10th place winners who receive a \$75 gift card. We end up paying about 30 percent of the field.

I'd like to thank Christian for his time and efforts in making Mesquite a first-class destination for tournaments like this one and the Nevada Open. This tournament is a must play if you haven't played in a competition that feels like the real deal, complete with a gallery, a scoring committee, and real-time scoring online. Sounds pretty cool, doesn't it? Visit mesquiteamateur.com for all the details and entry fee information. See ya on the links.



I had the opportunity to interview Christian Adderson, corporate sales manager for Mesquite Gaming and Mesquite Amateur tournament director, about its rich history and a few cool facts.

Scott Dunford: Christian, you've been involved now for 12 years with this tournament. Who actually started the tournament, and why has it become the second largest of its kind in the country?

Christian Adderson: It started with its first director, Mark Lynch, who with management looked at how successful these types of tournaments were in other parts of the country in

is shown on the big screen each night. Other events include Cigars Under the Stars, dedicated nightly entertainment, a Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament, a wine tasting at Katherine's Restaurant, special spa package offerings, and more.

Golf courses involved include Conestoga, Palms, CasaBlanca, Falcon Ridge, The Oasis Palmer and Canyons as well as Coyote Springs. The final round is played at the CasaBlanca Golf Course where we also stage the Nevada Open. CasaBlanca is a great course for amateur players and professionals to test their skills with others of similar abilities and age.

SD: In the 12 years you've been involved with this event, have you seen any significant changes?

CA: We're always looking for ways to increase the value to each player. Last year, we introduced a TaylorMade Adidas mobile pro shop where each player is given \$100 in credit to spend as they choose, whether it be for equipment or apparel. Folks can shop for items that they want versus a typical gift bag of balls,



YOUR MONTHLY GOLF TIP MESQUITE GAMING HOSTS COTTONTAIL CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mesquite Gaming, owner of CasaBlanca Resort and Virgin River Hotel, will host the Cottontail Classic golf tournament April 16 at 7:30 a.m. The tournament will be held at Palms Golf Club and formatted as a four-person scramble. Participants must register in advance as a team. The entry fee includes registration, course contests, and food. Prizes will be awarded for Gross and

Callaway net team scores. The event will begin with a shotgun start.

Registration for the Cottontail Classic is \$65 per person and \$260 per team. Players can register or find more information at mesquitegaming.com, by calling (702) 346-4067, or by visiting the Palms Pro Shop. Palms Golf Club is located at 530 Peppermill Palms Blvd. in Littlefield, Arizona.



LOCAL ALBUMS

LOCAL ALBUM REVIEW

By Alistair Hume

PLEASE, RECONNECT...
by Sleep Dealer



Sleep Dealer is a post-hardcore/emo/math rock band currently residing in St. George. This band consists of Austin Graves (guitar, lead vocals), Patrick Swansborough (guitar, vocals), Tyler Huff (bass, vocals), and Alek Wiltbank (drums, vocals). This band's high-energy shows have taken the Sotah local music scene by storm and have been a legitimate contributor of how strong it has become in the past year.

"Please, Reconnect..." is possibly one of the strongest first studio efforts to be released in a long time. Although it is shorter



and only provides us with four songs (not including the intro track), it is more than enough to tide Sleep Dealer's passionate fan base by just fine until hopefully the release of a debut album. Each and every song is polished, full of passion, and introspective from first guitar riff to last lyric. It also should be noted that from the rough demo of the first few songs, the studio vocals have evolved and should be acknowledged for being incredibly strong.

The EP starts off with an instrumental intro titled "L+R+A+Start." It is a very relaxing tune, good for waking up alarms and video game intros. That is before it cohesively explodes into this band's first single, "M'aiq The Liar."

"M'aiq The Liar" is the only song on this EP that I would describe as aggressive, despite the hardcore atmosphere that this band carries with them. Although this song is aggressive, it is also very danceable, upbeat, and fast paced, leaving any fan of this vein of music unable to keep from swaying and moving while the lyrics take us through the brief yet poetically spoken story of a broken soul trying to get through hard times with their counterpart. Needless to say, its placement as lead of the full piece is not only appropriate but necessary.

Next in the mix is the death-defying "Clocktown Brewing Company." Although less on the technical side of this band's music, this track is truly special and has been a fan favorite rightfully so from first live performance, to demo to finished studio effort. It starts off slowly as our lovely lead vocalist Graves tells the story of one who quickly goes from being happily involved in love to abandoned. The passion truly bleeds through as whoever this song is about is determined to not give in to their tragic

circumstances, and they sing angelically to the sky, "I've patched up my old wounds with promises of bright tomorrows stitched tight with these half-hearted hopes." Throughout all this, the visible build-up goes through its cycle and crashes into the head-banging breakdown that carries this track through with complete power, vigor, and passion.



The followup to this is the melancholy "The World That Never Was (Ian's Song)." This song is not only a "Kingdom Hearts" reference but a heartfelt tribute to an actual person who was close friends with the band members and passed away in the summer of 2016. This track features instrumental melodies that in my opinion prove that instruments can sometimes provide twice the emotion of any vocalist no matter how passionate. The lyrics reciprocate perfectly the feeling of losing someone and having to let go of them, possibly one of the most difficult emotional processes that we all face as people at one point or another. The highlights of this track include the dual screaming of the chorus from both Graves and Huff, which makes this track even more hard hitting and profound, and the tappy and impressively fast-paced breakdown

backs even more intense, screamed vocals from Swansborough.

Closing the EP is the heartbreaking "The Great Hollow," an intense tale of facing self-provoked loneliness backed with a multitude of arpeggios. It is a good representation of Sleep Dealer's intention to be a sad band and closes off the album in what I would call a truly emo and relatable note. And with two guitars tapping in harmony, it makes for a great end.

Criticisms for this exquisite work are few. Sleep Dealer obviously has a bright future ahead of them, and I hope to see more of them defying the genre and pushing limits, which their live shows definitely provide. In future recordings, the drums deserve a little more pound for sure to make the works more explosive. Continually, I think although Sleep Dealer is easily classifiable as an emo band, it does a good job of setting up a sound that is individual to it and highlights the talents of each of the individual members. As a fan of this style of music, I give this EP a strong recommendation. Needless to say, however, the effort put into it truly shows, and any self-respecting musician would at least agree on that whether this is their cup of tea or not.

"Please, Reconnect..." is available at sleepdealeremo.bandcamp.com or at the Arborist display stands at Perks! in Washington and Jazzy's.

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DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY MAY BE WAIVING ITS 11TH AMENDMENT IMMUNITY

By Dallas Hyland



In the course of the events surrounding a lawsuit against individuals from the school, Dixie State University may be waiving its 11th Amendment immunity from prosecution.

I recently spoke with a professor from the college who said that since the filing of a civil lawsuit by Varlo Davenport against multiple individuals who work for or are associated with the school, the somewhat contentious issue seems to have died down some.



While the matter of a malicious prosecution related to the theater professor's firing the year before was meted out in the Washington County Justice Court, there were many on the Dixie State University campus for the better part of 2015 who were outspoken about what was taking place.

The professor speaking to me was one of them and will remain unnamed here to protect the person's identity. If there is anything to be learned from what has been taking place on the campus, it is that people who speak out against the administration's actions are subject to retaliation. One would only need to listen to the audio recording of the bootstrapping of former DSU professor Joel Lewis by President Biff Williams and members of the administration and faculty senate for being so outspoken.

The point this professor made was that people on campus and in the community who were once at arms about the matter

seem to have moved on.

My reply was that this was likely the nature of things. The issue is now securely rendered to the abyss of a federal civil litigation that could take years. Millstones of justice turn slowly, it is true. But they turn even slower still when suing a state entity.

But wait a minute now. It is not actually a state entity being sued here, is it?

DSU is granted immunity from prosecution under the 11th Amendment, so while it is generally understood that Davenport's suit is against the school per se, in actuality the suit is being brought against people working for or associated with the school in their personal capacities.

However, it is mandated by law that the state indemnify the actions of its employees at DSU, which might explain what would otherwise seem to be a glaring conflict of interest: the Utah Attorney General's office representing these individuals in their personal capacities.

That's right. A state institution protected from prosecution under federal law is using state resources to defend not the institution but individuals.

This warrants some serious consideration for sure, but something else has happened that brings a finer point to this.

DSU campus police officer Ron Isaacson has been seen in what appears to be surveillance of the law office of the attorney who brought forth the suit. He was noted on at least four occasions in a DSU vehicle in the parking lot or on the street nearby the offices. What makes this more interesting is the fact that Isaacson is one of the individuals who works for DSU and is

named in the suit.

I know Ron on a conversational level, and I messaged him to inquire if he knew his actions were being noted and if he was acting on his own volition while on duty or if he was acting under a directive — and if so, by whose directive? He has not responded.

A reasonable assertion here is that he is surveilling Prisbrey to gather intelligence for the purpose of defense in the lawsuit against himself and others as well as any potential future suits to follow. Perhaps he is running license plates through the state database and documenting who is visiting the law offices. Of course, this is conjecture. But under the circumstances, it's not out of the realm of possibility. It will require looking at the duty logs to ascertain some of this, but for now, let it sink in that it appears DSU campus police is engaging in surveillance of the attorney who has filed a federal lawsuit against private individuals.

The various things this would imply

notwithstanding, the glaring question is this: Is DSU using institution resources and money to assist individual lawsuits?

Taking this a little further, another resource of the school is being utilized to assist in this suit. DSU's own general council, Doajo Hicks, is working on the suit.

Taken at face value, are these not things that suggest that perhaps the 11th Amendment immunity granted the school is being used unjustly?

These are questions that demand answers.

And the Davenport case is just one in a labyrinth of unfolding stories coming from the many lawsuits against Dixie State University, past, present, and yet to come. There are so many, in fact, that I'd wager it would not be difficult to establish a pattern in the school's modus operandi suggesting that the school's immunity from being sued in totality could and should be under scrutiny.

A presumed purpose of said immunity under the 11th Amendment is to prevent public institutions from being held responsible for the egregious actions and behavior of its employees. It is an academic immunity per se, because the school is still required to indemnify the actions of its employees but nevertheless remains untouchable.

But what if it could be proven that it was not the act of one or two employees that brought forth, for instance, the Davenport suit? What if it were alleged — as it has been — that individuals at the staff level in the department as well as administrators were responsible? What if it included cooperation from the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents? What if law enforcement cooperated illegally and is being utilized to defend in the suit?

What if it could be proven that a professor, a department chair, a dean of students, a president, and a vice president — with the consent and cooperation of members of the Board of Trustees and even an outside foundation supporting the school — were complicit? And also bear in mind that some members of the leadership community, such as the mayor and the county attorney, hold positions on the DSU Board of Trustees and the Dixie Foundation. What if all of the aforementioned took individual parts in exacting with impunity, under color of law, a hostile personal agenda against one person?

And lastly, what if this were not an isolated incident?

Could the case not be made that it is in fact an institution, not an individual, that should be the defendant in this case — that DSU should not be granted immunity under the 11th Amendment?

And if all of this is not enough, let's add another component: the attorney representing the school. Not the hired gun, Doajo Hicks, mind you, but rather the actual attorney from the Utah Attorney General's office tasked with representing the individuals in the suits.

What if, in the course of his duties, this attorney became aware of, at the least, gross ethical misconduct by his clients and, at the worst, their potentially criminal actions? Would this attorney be bound under law to uphold the oath he swore to the people of Utah and at the least recuse himself from representing the client, if not in turn prosecuting it?

These are questions that demand answers.

But for now, all seems quiet on the DSU front. The generous \$10 million donation by local business Legend Solar has the new stadium underway, and the other new construction on and around the campus gives the appearance that it is business as usual for the Trailblazer Nation.

Recently, an anonymous blogger who writes often and succinctly about the Davenport case, paid The Independent and myself a compliment for keeping this story alive in the modest press. And while it is always nice to hear the few and far-between kind admonitions, the fact is that reporting this story has proven incomprehensibly complex and difficult.

That is the nature of applying oneself to the rigors of working in the Fourth Estate, I suppose.

But here is what I will tell you. I have been actively investigating multiple public entities in this town, including DSU, for the better part of five years now. I have developed upwards of 100 sources and established methodical timelines and correlations between events and these entities. And what is beginning to reveal itself with some clarity is that the patterns and behaviors of DSU are not limited to the school. There appears to be evidence of cooperation between these entities that reaches the highest levels of government in this county and perhaps reaches to the state level.

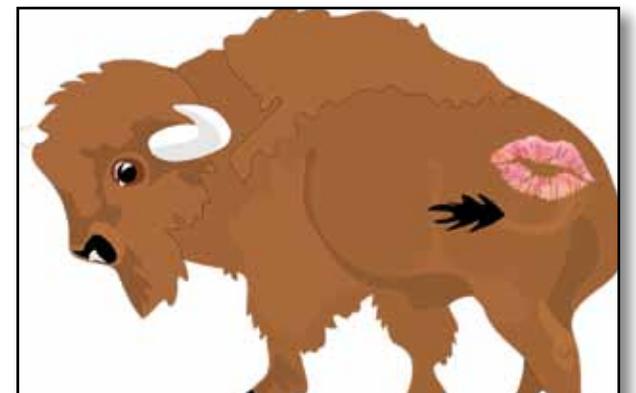
I have begun a large-scale whiteboard with columns of some of these entities and drawn lines of correlations between them. It is beginning to resemble a scene from "A Beautiful Mind" where either the work of a madman is at play or the correlations are so vast and complex that they are initially beyond comprehension. The general perception of conspiracy theories notwithstanding, remember that while correlation is not causation, it can be indicative.

I have spoken at great length with attorneys, professors, journalists, law enforcement officials, and everyday citizens on and off the record and continue to compile and analyze information as it is revealed. And something I am becoming increasingly convinced of is that it will take more than simply reporting these things in a local paper to see anything resembling justice have its way. No, it will take an investigation by outside and independent entities and perhaps exposure on a larger level.

For our part here at the Indy, let this serve as precursor to a multifaceted series of pieces on, but not limited to, these public entities. Because when there is an absence of justice for one, there is an absence of justice for all, and it is simply time for those who hold the positions of trust in our community to answer honestly and be held accountable for that trust.

In my opinion, they have not done so. Not by a long shot.

See you out there.



OPINION

LAUGHING AND CRYING WITH THE MUPPETS

By Marianne Mansfield

If you can't laugh, you'd be crying. I don't know who said that, but I think it applies to the comedy show that is our current White House administration. Come along with me, then, as I reimagine the major players on the national scene as Muppet characters. If you are like me and loved the Muppet Show troupe in all its iterations, you will see that the similarities are remarkable.

Enter stage right the President, aka The Swedish Chef. He is high-energy, has wild orange hair, and speaks a form of a language which does not exist. He seems quite oblivious to the fact that no one can understand him. He ends nearly every segment by letting loose of his cooking utensils that fly over his shoulders and ultimately destroy every piece of crockery in his kitchen. When I watch the President at the podium, or read his tweets, I fear for the crockery of our nation.

You can guess who Statler and Waldorf embody, or vice versa. That would be Senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham. They heckle and wisecrack from their balcony box. That fits well with the manner in which

these two are conducting the business of responding to the administration's antics lately. Statler and Waldorf, crusty old guys, criticize all the performances for their lack of humor and quality, especially Fozzie's, (aka Jeff Sessions. Read on).

The Muppet writers normally gave Statler and Waldorf the final words at the end of every episode. I'm okay with Graham and McCain having the final words on most issues. They seem pretty logical to me, it frightens me to say, but it could be just what stage they find themselves on these days. You take common sense where you can get it.

Now imagine that an apparently random commotion has just dragged your eyes off the stage to the aisles. There, you see little creatures making their way through the audience to take their seats, for which they have paid at least as much as the other audience members — in some cases, considerably more. They are led by none other than Pepe the King Prawn. When Pepe is not trying to establish that he is indeed a king prawn, and not a shrimp, he and his friends are fighting the threat of extradition to Mexico. Together, they have been labeled bad dudes and despicable criminals. Pepe argues otherwise, but the Chef and Gonzo don't have functional ears.

Here, we find some members of the administration on display and ready to perform at the Muppet Theater. The Swedish Chef stands center stage, happily spouting his nonsensical language as he flings a spinning potato masher off stage right. On cue, enter Fozzie Bear. He has assumed the position of Attorney General, the chief law enforcement officer and lawyer for the United States of America. Fozzie, who is known for his awful jokes, trips over a cord but remains upright and grins preposterously as the Swedish

Chef carries on about something that seems to involve Fozzie, although neither Fozzie nor the audience can be certain. Fozzie awaits the end of the Swedish Chef's rant, which is signaled by a turkey baster being hurled over the heads of the first three rows of audience members. Fozzie doffs his cap and lumbers off stage, smiling and waving. And that, my friends, is who is overseeing our legal system. It is all a bad joke.

Meanwhile in the orchestra pit, we find Dr. Teeth (Paul Ryan) leading the House of Representatives Band. He struggles without apparent success to find a tempo to which the Swedish Chef can stride about the stage. The Swedish Chef, however, seems oblivious to Dr. Teeth's efforts until the end of the piece, at which point he graces the valiant Dr. Teeth with a toothless and completely annoying smirk. Dr. Teeth nods in abject gratitude and leads the band into something with a peppier beat. Again, the Swedish Chef ignores the tune. He appears completely tone deaf. Poor Paul Ryan. He must regret the day he said yes to the Speaker's position.

Standing in the wings, smiling admiringly at the Swedish Chef who is at this moment singing in his non-existent language, is the Vice President, Mike Pence, aka Gonzo. He is at the ready to perform any bizarre act, even demolishing a car with a sledgehammer at the behest of the Swedish Chef. Despite the terribleness of the acts, the Swedish Chef asks Gonzo to perform what Gonzo views as artistic works of alchemy. He is sublimely clueless and could be our next commander-in-chief. Only a heartbeat protects us.

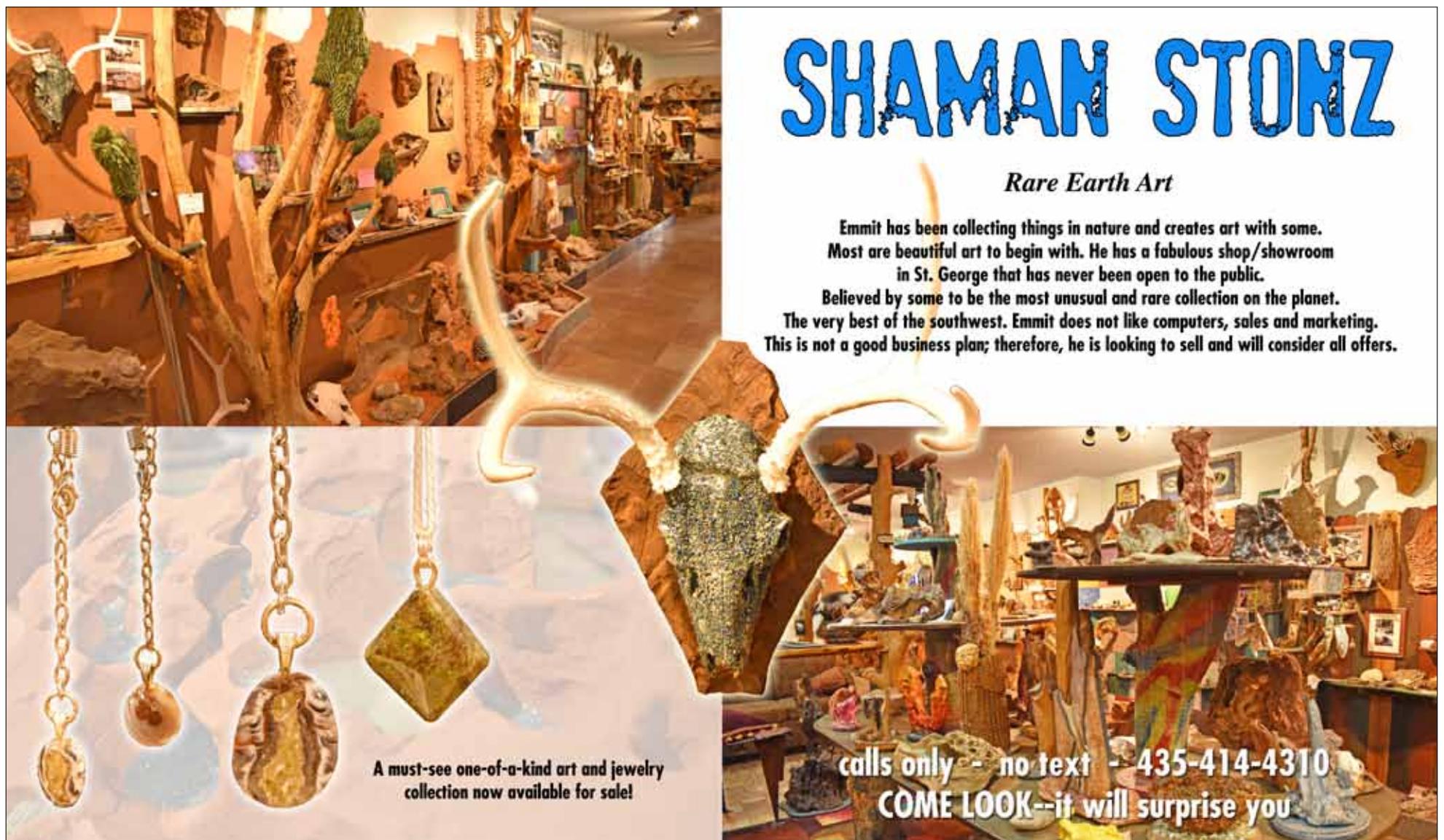
The Swedish Chef seems to have announced an intermission. The house lights have come up as an obviously reluctant figure is roughly shoved on stage to a

microphone and podium. He attempts to run, but Gonzo drags him back. This character's eyes are wild, but he tucks his tie in his jacket and checks to make certain the flag pin on his label is facing upright. He begins. It seems that Press Secretary Sean Spicer, played by the hapless Beaker, has the totally unenviable task of interpreting to the public what the Swedish Chef has been saying on stage. Sad Beaker. In the course of his relatively short time before the press, he has been punched, cloned, blown up, and shrunk. And yet he returns each day at intermission, convinced, it seems, that if he just picks the right words and repeats them repeatedly he will break through to the audience, and they will finally "get" what the Swedish Chef is talking about. Beaker gets mad sometimes, but who wouldn't? Unbeknownst to him, there is a laugh track playing in the background that only the audience can hear.

Once the performance ends, mercifully, and Statler and Waldorf have pronounced their final acrimonious benediction, the audience members rise to depart. On the street outside the theater, they notice a once proud bird gasping for breath in the gutter. It is Sam the Eagle, the self-proclaimed moral center of the troupe within. His job is to bring clarity, vision, and a sense of reality to the performances we witness each day. Unfortunately, Sam the Eagle is losing the battle. His strength is waning. His feathers grow dull and drift away.

If only Sam the Eagle had a sense of humor.

He could laugh like many of us do. It keeps us from crying.



SHAMAN STONZ

Rare Earth Art

Emmit has been collecting things in nature and creates art with some. Most are beautiful art to begin with. He has a fabulous shop/showroom in St. George that has never been open to the public. Believed by some to be the most unusual and rare collection on the planet. The very best of the southwest. Emmit does not like computers, sales and marketing. This is not a good business plan; therefore, he is looking to sell and will consider all offers.

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PUTTING A FACE ON UTAH'S REFUGEES

By Tiana McCall

They told me they felt like coming here was the answer to their prayers and it was what they dreamt of. They told me being here was like they were living in a dream and they were just waiting to wake up. It wasn't real. And now it feels so, so real. Being away from her is real. The lump in her neck is real. The sleepless nights are real. The weariness from the drugs is real. The shame is real. Their pain is real.

I began working with refugees as an English teacher in an adult education program in Salt Lake City. I gradually learned pieces of their stories, which included unimaginable loss, grief, and pain. My heart ached for them, and I became determined to understand them better and serve them in a meaningful way. I began working towards receiving a master's degree in social work because that was going to help me understand their pain and was going to put me in a position to effect change.

I am learning what it means to ease someone's burdens. I don't think I have ever really understood this concept before.

I think I thought it meant listening to someone complain about a bad day at work or a bad breakup. I never knew that it could mean holding someone's broken heart for a moment so they have a chance to breathe. It means providing a space to speak what is unspeakable and feel what should never have to be felt.

I stopped working as an English teacher and began working for the Refugee Services Office as an employment counselor. Once again, I was immersed in stories of pain, fear, and struggle. I was exposed to the memories of trauma that refugees carry with them every single day.

I wish I could fast forward for them. Help them skip all this pain. All this worry and fear. Skip to the better times. Or skip to

the resolution. Get past this waiting. That seems like the worst part to me. Is the cancer back? Will she be able to stay safe? Will they be together again? Will their hearts and bodies heal? Will they be free?

Refugees go through an extreme vetting process, which I learned about during my time with the Refugee Services Office. I learned that when they finally reach some sort of safety, they request refugee status from the place in which they arrived (asylum country). This means they are in limbo. They are waiting, hoping, dreaming, and praying for long-term, permanent legal and physical protection. In 2015, 107,100 refugees were resettled through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. It is estimated that there were 21.3



what makes my heart ache. And then I should do that. Every. Single. Day. For the rest of my life.

Learning from refugees makes my heart ache. Their pain, their sorrow, and their sadness is so real and so raw. And yet it's not all of them. They are full of joy, excitement, intelligence, and desire. They have lost everything, and they have every reason to quit, every reason to lay down and give up. And then they show up with a smile on their face, speak to me in broken English, give me the homemade baklava they made just for me, and kiss me on the cheek as though I am their sister.

I am their sister.

They are my family.

I thought getting a master's degree in social work would help me understand their pain. I thought my degree would help me help them. But what really helped me was to hear their stories.

I have come to know that we cannot fear someone when we understand them. We cannot hate someone when we can see ourselves in them.

He told me that his wife died, and instead of grieving he had to hide and run from murderers seeking to take his life. And when he finally reached some sort of physical safety, his body relaxed and the grief set in. He was sitting in front of me a mere 10 days after setting foot into this country. His sobbing began when I asked about his hopes and dreams for his life in the U.S.

He told me that now he will rest. He had worked all of his life, always sacrificing to take care of his family. He was the oldest in his family, and his father had died when he was a young boy. He had worked and worked and worked and worked and worked and worked. He was so very tired. I could see it in his eyes. Behind those tears.

Now he would rest.

After refugees are resettled to the United States, they are required to find employment to support themselves. They are loaned the money to purchase the airplane ticket to this country and are required to pay it back within months of arriving. For those who speak some English, are relatively healthy, and have some skills from their previous life, employment is relatively easy to obtain.

For those less fortunate, they start with basic English classes. They struggle to obtain job training to develop entry-level skills to get their first job. They are often forced into employment in factories where speaking English is a low priority, the shifts are odd hours, and the labor is taxing on the body. For some, physical and mental health issues overwhelm and consume their lives, making employment extremely difficult.

Being here is a dream. But it is also a curse. There is no rest. They must keep pushing and striving and dreaming and hoping, because their struggle is not finished.

Being resettled is not the end of the journey. It is just the beginning.

This is not my weight to bear, yet I feel the burden. The amount of confusion and worry and fear and sadness that I feel is minuscule to that which they hold with them every second of the day. Are my tears worth crying? Is the pain I feel helping them?

The heartache that I feel when strangers tell me their stories pushes me to continue to fight for them. Their hope teaches me to hope. Their success teaches me what the human soul is capable of.

I thought I would be the one helping them, teaching them, saving them.

As I continue to do this work, I am realizing that I was the student all along.

million refugees worldwide that year. The individuals being selected for resettlement consist of less than one percent of the individuals worldwide who are living in fear, danger, and uncertainty every day.

When an individual is attempting to achieve resettlement, they submit an application. Their situation is assessed to determine if resettlement is the most appropriate, long-term solution as well as their eligibility to be resettled.

If an individual "has committed a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity ... a serious non-political crime outside the country of refuge prior to his admission to that country as a refugee," he or she is unable to participate in a resettlement program.

Each individual attempting to receive resettlement is looked at under a microscope. Every facet of their lives is uncovered and explored and interpreted. They are questioned repeatedly; their bodies are screened for diseases. For those ravaged by war and heartbreak, nothing is private.

Cancer. Mastectomy. Rape. War. Displacement. Tumors. Fear. Loneliness. Sleeplessness. Violence.

How can my heart understand these things? How can I keep these things inside of me? How do they keep these things inside of them? How do they? How?

Because there is joy.

Remembering an old movie. Sharing food and drinks. Generosity. Laughter. Gratitude.

How do these things exist at the same time? My heart is broken and it is full. They break my heart every time I see them, yet they make it full every time I see them.

I read somewhere that I should notice

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Leah is a highly attuned empath, healer, animal communicator and trainer and has had these skills since birth. Later in life she began to professionally develop them after her own healing journey began following a near death experience. That miraculous experience, followed later by extensive training, showed her how to rebalance her own past traumas, addictions, depression, anxiety, fibromyalgia and other physical injuries. She was also shown how to communicate and work with animals in a more holistic and balanced way. She was then guided to share this healing work with animals, mother nature and humans alike. Leah is available for personal sessions. Call to inquire.

Please check out her article on some of her journey: suindependent.com/let-food-thy-medicine

OPINION

LPP UPDATE PROVIDES DETAILS ON LAKE POWELL PIPELINE

By Lisa Rutherford

For 11 years, Washington County's grassroots conservation organization, Conserve Southwest Utah, has been studying the proposed Lake Powell Pipeline Project, a plan that would pipe water from Lake Powell via a 139-mile pipeline to Washington County. Conserve Southwest Utah's knowledge of the project is extensive, and its activities have included reviewing 22 study reports produced by the State of Utah about the project and commenting on those reports to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the agency heading the project at the federal level. Conserve Southwest Utah has produced a white paper defining its position on the proposed project and water generally so citizens can gain a better understanding of this project, the challenges it presents, and what "water opportunities" we have.

In addition to the 30-page white paper, Conserve Southwest Utah has produced a condensed version called the LPP Update Winter 2017, which hits the high points

of the larger document. The LPP Update explains that we have plenty of water for growth, and we need to use existing supplies more efficiently. It reveals less expensive but effective alternatives to the Lake Powell Pipeline and encourages conservation first before relying on an unsustainable water supply from the Colorado River.

The LPP Update was produced in partnership with the Taxpayer Association of Kane County. It was sent to Utah's legislators, the governor's office, and all local officials in the county in hopes that they would read and consider this alternative information. The information is in opposition to the position held by most state and local officials, who have been convinced by the State Division of Water Resources and our local Washington County Water Conservancy District that the pipeline is the answer for the long-term future supply for our county.

The project concept began in the mid '90s, and in 2006, the Lake Powell Pipeline Act was passed, making it an official state project. Since then, state and local officials have been wedded to the project with little interest in considering alternatives.

Problems identified in the LPP Update include the questionable and elusive repayment options that have been challenged by more than 20 prominent Utah economists, the lack of real need for the water, and the lack of accurate usage data—a deficiency which promotes the questionable need. The update also delves into reasons for Washington County's extremely high water usage and raises questions about population projections for the county and how much water that population would require. The issue of how much water we really have and how far it will go to support our county's growth is covered in detail. Finally, it addresses the reliability of the Colorado River, given the effects of climate change and the questionable reliability of the Lake Powell Pipeline's 1957 junior "water right"—a right that might, not necessarily would, supply water to a permanent water project. By law, Washington County and Kane County taxpayers must repay the Lake Powell Pipeline's cost.

The update notes that unlike most other places, residents' property tax bills include taxes paid to the Washington

County Water Conservancy District. This practice effectively hides the true cost of water by bundling it with other taxing entities and is a major driver for the overuse of water in our county, driving the perceived need for the Lake Powell Pipeline. When people don't know the true cost of water as revealed in a monthly bill showing how much they use and what that use costs, the value of water is lost. Over 50 percent of the cost of our water is paid in property taxes.

A bill, SB151, was run in the legislature this year and attempted to help resolve the problem by providing that property tax collections of certain water conservancy districts may not exceed a specific percent of their revenues with certain exceptions. Beginning on July 1, 2020, districts would have been restricted in their property tax collections to not exceed 15 percent of their total annual revenues with exceptions as noted above and detailed in the bill text. However, the bill was killed in the Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environmental Committee after a robust discussion with water districts weeping and gnashing teeth over their revenues and operations being negatively impacted. One must wonder how water providers elsewhere manage and are more creative in their operational practices, allowing them to realize significant conservation and better use of their precious water resources without property-tax money.

Citizens would do well to review the LPP Update and, if time allows, the entire white paper for important details on the Lake Powell Pipeline project and water in our community.

Lisa Rutherford serves as an advisor to Conserve Southwest Utah and is a resident of Ivins.



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LOCAL NEWS

DR. KATHRYN ALLEN LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE OF UTAH'S THIRD DISTRICT

By Grisha Syssoyev

"Surreal." That was the word Democratic candidate for U.S. Representative of Utah's Third District Dr. Kathryn Allen used to describe her transformation from private citizen to aspiring public servant.



A former family physician, Allen was thrust into the spotlight last week, following Rep. Jason Chaffetz's ill-conceived remarks comparing the cost of healthcare to that of an iPhone. The outcry was immediate and condemnatory. For Allen, still in the exploratory phase of her campaign, the national outrage manifested as an unbelievable surge in campaign donations, leaving her with a war chest of over \$450,000. By way of comparison, none of Chaffetz's past opponents have ever spent more than \$60,000.

This good fortune has not come without some difficulties. Allen had not intended to declare her candidacy quite so early but acted in the interest of seizing the momentum and formally declared her run for office. She has had to scramble since to put together a

campaign team and begin to articulate her policy stances.

Politically, Dr. Allen hopes to position herself as someone who is both fairly progressive yet able to cross party lines.

"I have some views that some liberals would take shots at," she said. "I'm a grounded, practical person. I think the way I will get to voters is personally ... the same way I do as a physician."

On the issue of healthcare, she had a great deal to say, much of it informed by her medical background.

"There were things I liked and didn't like about the ACA", she explained. "I liked that it provided access. That's the number one thing it did. It helped people who were poor or in the middle class."

She recounted a story about a patient of hers who was unable to afford specialized care before the enactment of the Affordable Care Act. Nonetheless, she admitted that she is not wholly in favor of it.

"I was disappointed that it didn't provide a protection for patients to keep their primary care doctor," she said. "I was disappointed with the overregulation."

However, she does not see the new American Health Care Act as a remedy. Under the proposed AHCA, she warned, the ones most hurt would be children and the poor.

On other issues, Allen took firmer stances. She cites corporate greed as the main obstacle stopping what she sees as a necessary transition to clean air technologies. Regarding education, she notes that while public schools have many flaws, doing away with them would be harmful to students. She cited a study that found the performance of children transferred from public schools to charter schools worsened and reiterated her support for improving our public education system.

As concerns the Trump Administration's immigration policy, she disagrees with breaking up families and recent travel bans.

"Immigration is a complex issue, but disrupting families and taking parents away from children ... I think that's morally repugnant," she said. "We do need some reform of immigration policy, but these Muslim bans are not the way to go about it."

Allen faces an uphill battle. Her presumptive opponent, Rep. Chaffetz, has never won Utah's Third District with less than 65 percent of the vote; his most recent victory garnered him 73 percent. The majority of Utah voters are registered Republicans with the second largest bloc being independents. Unlike Dr. Allen, Chaffetz is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, an advantage in a district where the majority of voters and political networks share his faith.

Kathryn Allen trusts, however, that she will be able to reach independents and moderate Republicans as well as those who consider Rep. Chaffetz to have failed his duties as a public servant. She believes that he has tied himself to the Trump White House and that this will tarnish his name and reputation.

"This Trump Administration has got to go ... and Chaffetz is part of it," she said.



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MONTHLY POETRY JAM AT THE ST. GEORGE ART MUSEUM

By Darren M. Edwards

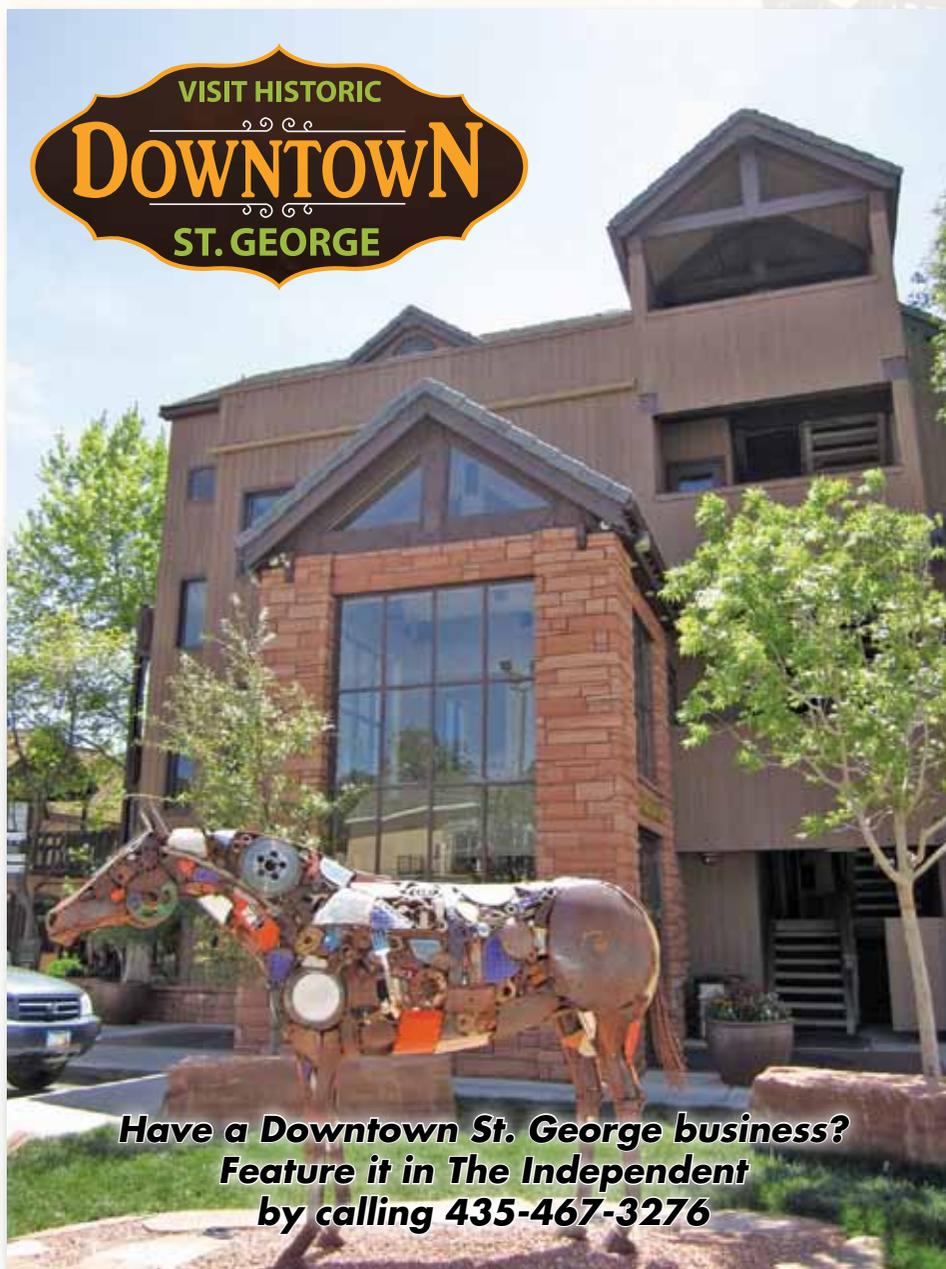
For those of you who are looking to express your creative side and those of you who miss the old poetry slam at Jazzy's, you'll want to be sure and check out the Poetry Jam at the St. George Art Museum.

"We keep it very open and come up and share when you feel comfortable. It is a great opportunity to share poetry and creativity in a relaxed and friendly environment," said Alicia Lockwood, who helped start the event.

A key difference between the Poetry Jam and Jazzy's old Poetry Slam is an emphasis on the jam being a family-

friendly event, unlike Jazzy's, which was completely uncensored. So, come ready to share your best family-friendly work.

The Poetry Jam started in November of last year and has been held every month since. With the exception of this month (due to the museum performing an exhibit change), you can catch the Poetry Jam on the last Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. So be sure to mark it on your schedules for May. While donations are accepted, the event is free and open to the public.



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ENJOY APRIL'S WEATHER IN DOWNTOWN ST. GEORGE

By Darren M. Edwards

There is plenty going on in downtown St. George this April to keep you entertained. With restaurants and art galleries around every corner, there is something for everyone.

Thirty-eighth annual St. George Arts Festival

On April 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 50 S. Main St., downtown's Town Square, people can enjoy strolling among the works of over 110 juried artists. The festival will also have live entertainment on two stages, a vibrant children's area, and a wide variety of food vendors.

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.

April art exhibit at DiFiore Center

For April, The DiFiore Center will feature artist Carlyle Potter's work in their gallery. Carlyle's passion for jazz is displayed in his paintings. The gallery is open Mondays-Saturdays. While

Potter's work will be on display all month, an opening reception will be held April 3 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Potter is also part of the DiFiore Center's monthly Jazz Jam, which is held on the third Tuesday of every month. For more information, you can contact the DiFiore Center at difiorecenter@gmail.com The DiFiore Center is located at 307 N. Main St.

Mystery Escape Room

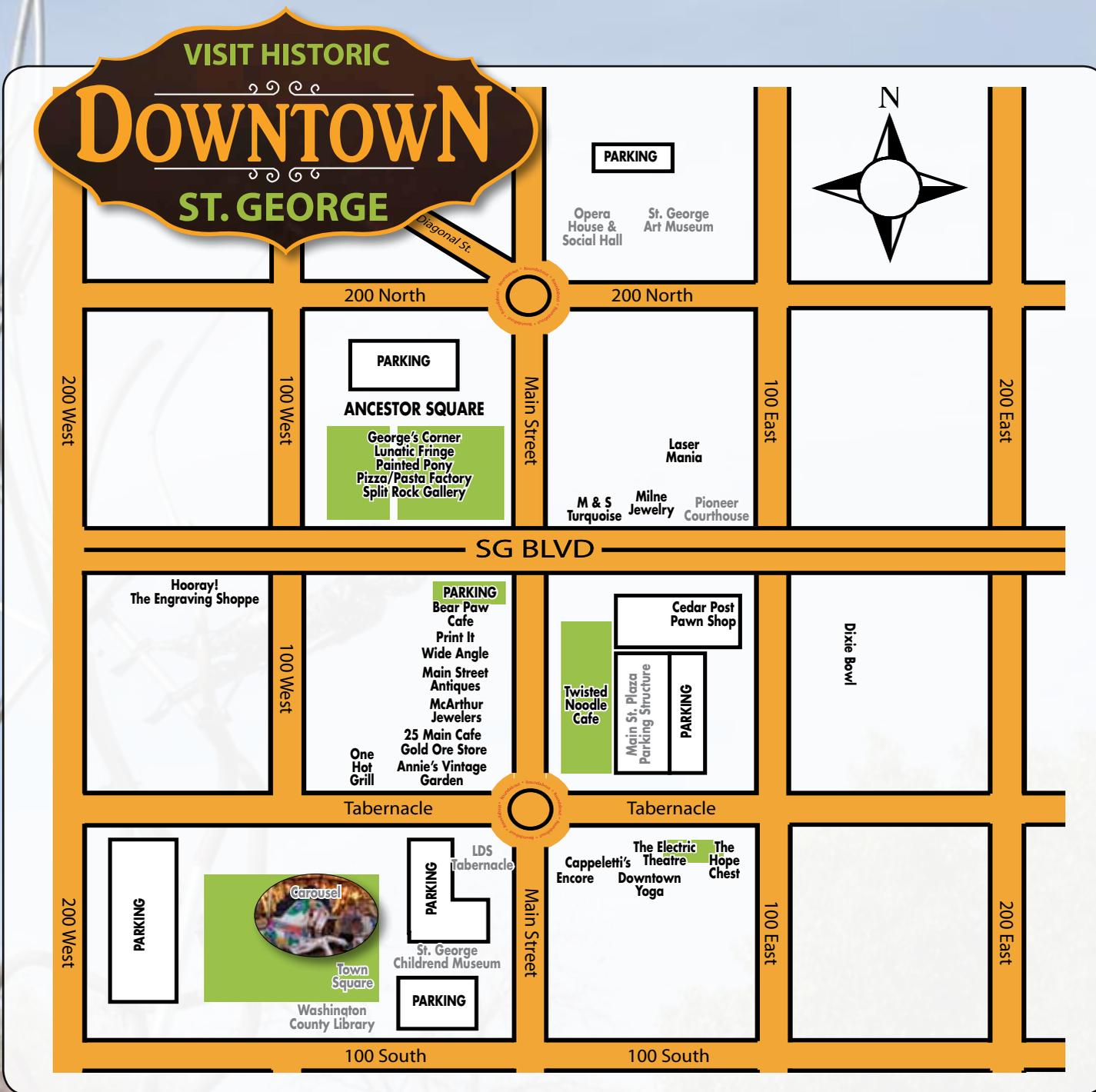
Located at 46 W. St. George Blvd., the Mystery Escape Room invites you and your friends to try and escape one of their seven room designs. They are open Mondays-Saturdays by reservation. Contact Jeff at (435) 237-8470 for more information.

Arts to Zion Showcase at Gallery 35

"Snapshots! Washington County Works! Agriculture and Water!" will be on exhibit at Gallery 35 from April 7 to May 2. The exhibit is a collaboration between Silver Reef Museum and the St. George Art Museum. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Gallery 35 is located downtown at 35 N. Main St. For more information, contact Bobbi Wan-Kier at (435) 216-2651

Photo by Darren M. Edwards





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- Children's Museum
- Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum
- DiFiore Center
- Gallery 35
- Main Street Gallery by Fibonacci
- Pioneer Courthouse
- Roland Lee Gallery
- Split Rock Art & Design Gallery
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BOOK REVIEWS

**THE
 OBSESSIVE
 BOOKSELLER
 REVIEWS**
 By Nikki Hawkes

“Ivory and Bone” by Julie Eshbaugh
 ★★★½

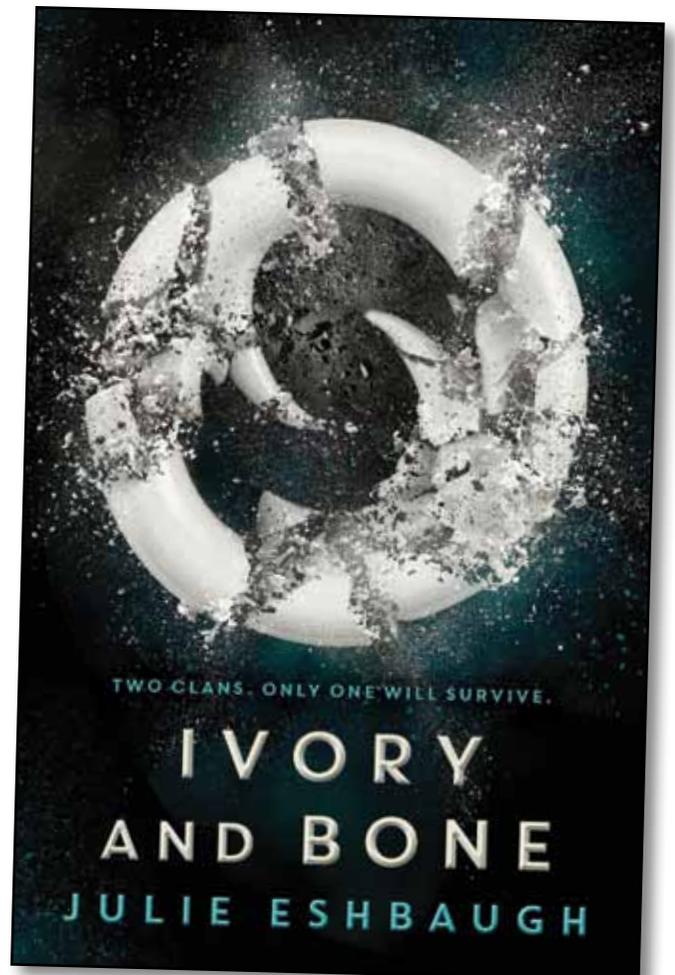
“Ivory and Bone” is set in the mammoth-hunting era of prehistory, and the constant cultural infusion was easily my favorite part of the book. It was doubtless a lot more fanciful than life in that era would’ve been, but I didn’t mind because it kept the plot lighthearted and fun and allowed the story to focus on the relationships. The book is supposed to be a creative retelling of “Pride and Prejudice.” Interestingly enough, it was only after finishing it that I was clued into this fact (sometimes it really helps to read the overview). As I’m not one for classic literature, I didn’t put two and two together, but in hindsight it was kind of obvious. During the read, I had a few issues with logistics. There was a lot of traveling back and forth between clans, which felt a little forced and unnecessary. Discovering that Eshbaugh was trying to stay true to a preexisting plotline made me a little more forgiving. As the next book goes beyond that initial framework, I am especially excited to see what the author can weave without these constraints.

The writing style and format were also major selling points of the novel. A boy tells his side of things to a girl about

their journey together thus far. It’s a mix of first- and second-person narration that I found to be quite beautifully woven together. As an aspiring writer, I’m inspired by the creativity and usage of different techniques in this novel — it was very well done. I’ll admit that I’ve been having difficulty enjoying young adult books lately, so it really speaks to how unique “Ivory and Bone” was that I completely devoured it in a day.

Overall, if you’re in the mood for a cool setting, interesting writing style, and classic love story, “Ivory and Bone” is the book for you. I’m thrilled to continue on with “Obsidian and Stars,” out June 13.

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

THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE GUIDE

by Adam Mast

“Beauty and the Beast” (PG)
★★★★½



Disney’s animated-feature-turned-live-action-feature craze continues with director Bill Condon’s flesh-and-blood adaptation of the Mouse House’s much beloved 1991 classic, “Beauty and the Beast.” This was the very first animated feature to land a Best Picture Oscar nomination so to call “Beauty and the Beast” one of Disney’s most cherished properties would be a gross understatement.

For the few of you who aren’t familiar with this tale as old as time, “Beauty and the Beast” is a romantic fairy tale about an independent young woman named Belle who switches places with her imprisoned father Maurice, only to eventually bond with the monstrous beast who imprisoned him in the first place. During her stay, Belle also befriends the living inanimate objects that reside in the Beast’s isolated castle, and she soon learns there’s more to this misunderstood creature than meets the eye.

Condon (“Dreamgirls”) has made some additions here, but for the most part, he’s taken the animated version and simply used it as a storyboard for this live-action version. Some of this film, including a rousing and colorful rendition of “Be Our Guest” and a beautiful “Tale as Old as Time” ballroom dance number, work splendidly while other sequences, including Maurice’s wolf encounter in the woods, lack any sort of real tension.

Overall, the look of this picture is next to none: The art direction, the costume design, the cinematography, etc. Disney spent a gazillion dollars on this thing, and you will see every cent right up there on the screen. Also intact are the tunes fans have come to know and love. In fact, Condon and crew even threw in a couple of new songs, including a Beast solo number that plays as an effective companion piece to Belle’s big opener. There are other new tunes to be found as well, but they play more as condensed snippets rather than full-blown songs, so they just sort of end before you really have a chance to decide whether you truly love them or not.

Performancewise, “Beauty and the Beast” is a bit of a mixed bag. Emma

Watson is adorable, charming, and talented to be sure, but is she Belle? Oddly enough, Watson feels more like Belle in real life than she does in this movie. Belle, as presented in this picture, lacks the spunky quality and all-out independent spirit that made the character so memorable in the animated feature. What’s more, while Watson can certainly carry a tune, she lacks the pipes required to take her musical numbers to soaring heights. Again, Watson isn’t bad here. She has moments of genuine emotion, but for the most part, she’s disappointingly low key.

Dan Stevens emerges as a strong Beast, and even beneath the lackluster CG facial structure, the “Downton Abbey” co-star’s charisma shines through.

Luke Evans hams it up to entertaining heights as the ever egomaniacal Gaston, and while the personality, swagger, dastardly behavior, and line delivery are there, his physicality is not. Still, Evans is terrific.

Kevin Kline is likable and warm as Maurice, but it’s a shame that this veteran actor didn’t bring a more crazy and eccentric sensibility to the role. Finally, as for the much-talked about controversy surrounding Josh Gad and his flamboyant portrayal of Gaston’s buffoonish sidekick, LeFou... well, quite frankly, it’s much ado about nothing. It’s such a small aspect of the proceedings and so seemingly innocent that all the fuss being made about it feels overblown.

Speaking of overblown, “Beauty and the Beast” might have benefited from a slightly tighter length. By simply taking a look at the running time, it’s obvious that things have been added as the animated feature clocked in at just under 90 minutes while this live action take comes in at a lengthier 2 hours and 9 minutes. Included among those additions are a Beast backstory and a look at Belle’s life as an infant. While these additions are interesting and necessary in an effort to keep this from being a straight-up remake, the extra length will most likely test the patience of little ones.

While “Beauty and the Beast” is ultimately worth seeing for the lavish production values alone, a lot of that animated magic simply gets lost in translation here. It’s clear that the weight of the 1991 animated feature casts a pretty big shadow over the proceedings. In the end, this film is pleasant enough, and no doubt fans are likely to respond to it in a big way. For my money, however, this new take on a classic is merely good rather than great, and it doesn’t work as successfully as 2016’s “The Jungle Book” or 2015’s “Cinderella.”

“Kong: Skull Island” (PG-13)
★★★★



Director Jordan Vogt-Roberts follows up his itty bitty 2013 independent debut “Kings of Summer” with a movie that features an entirely different kind of a king in the adventurous Warner Brothers/Legendary Pictures epic “Kong: Skull Island.” Given his rather limited resume, Roberts might seem like an unlikely choice to helm such a huge studio film, but Universal Pictures took a similar risk a few years ago

after handing Colin Trevorrow the keys to “Jurassic World” when, at the time, his only feature credit was the time travel romance gem “Safety Not Guaranteed.” That decision turned out to work in Universal’s favor to the tune of a gazillion dollars at the box office. It worked in Trevorrow’s favor, too, as he landed “Star Wars Episode IX” shortly after “Jurassic World” became a worldwide phenomenon. The interesting thing to note here is that, despite some missteps, “Kong: Skull Island” is actually considerably more entertaining than “Jurassic World” in nearly every way, so could that mean that there’s a “Star Wars” movie in Jordan Vogt-Roberts’ future? Only time, and box-office revenue, will tell.

Following a brief but immensely lively 1940s-set intro, “Kong: Skull Island” then skips ahead a few decades to the early ’70s, a time when all eyes were on the Vietnam War. The story begins when explorer Bill Randa (John Goodman) convinces the government to assign him a military platoon, headed by a war crazy Preston Packard (Samuel L. Jackson), to aid this opportunistic entrepreneur in a journey that will eventually find him and a wily squad of grunts on an uncharted island in the middle of the Pacific. Also along for the ride are a wide assortment of individuals including expert tracker James Conrad (Tom Hiddleston) and good-hearted photographer Mason Weaver (Brie Larson). Upon arriving on this mysterious island via helicopters, Randa and his crew find themselves under attack by a massive primate that the local natives and stranded American castaway Hank Marlow (John C. Reilly) refer to as Kong. What follows is a spirited adventure that borrows elements from previous incarnations of “King Kong,” all while carving out a wonderfully colorful niche all its own.

1933’s “King Kong” is an absolute classic, and it set a standard not only for visual effects but for adventure movies in general. Talk to anyone who grew up a monster kid and they’ll most likely tell you it all started with “King Kong.” No doubt Jordan Vogt-Roberts falls into that category.

What a grand entertainment his “Skull Island” is. It’s almost as grand as Kong himself! And the choice to set “Skull Island” in the early ’70s works to the film’s advantage. For all of the sheer adventure and big old monster action, this is also a war movie in very much the same way that “Rogue One” is a war movie. Further still, it’s clear that “Skull Island” offers up an anti-war sentiment that works surprisingly well in the context of the film.

Of course, it should be noted that many viewers plunking down their cold, hard cash to see this movie are doing so so that they might have an opportunity to see gigantic monsters beat the crap out of each other. They could care less about the subtext, and they could care less about the obvious lack of character depth. Simply put, those viewers, are going to get what they paid for. For the record, I liked both the subtext and the monsters! As for the lack of character depth, yes, it’s a bit bothersome, but it isn’t enough to take away from what is a pretty damn good time at the movies.

Of the entire cast, it’s John C. Reilly who truly owns the proceedings. His Hank Marlow is the very personification of comic relief in “Kong: Skull Island,” but just when you think this terrific character actor is only about the funny, he reaches into your chest and pulls on your heartstrings. He’s absolutely great in this movie, doing a bit of a riff on Dennis Hopper’s iconic role in “Apocalypse, Now” and completely making

every scene he’s in stronger than it might have been otherwise.

Tom Hiddleston, whom I generally enjoy, is bland and feels woefully miscast in this movie, and his sort-of-tough-guy persona falls short. Dependable John Goodman, who recently received a much-deserved star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, has some terrific moments in the quintessential Carl Denham role while an infectiously likable Brie Larson (an Oscar winner for her role “Room”) does all she can to rise above the constraints of an underwritten part. Thankfully, her killer smile goes a long way.

Elsewhere in the picture, a likable but underwritten Toby Kebbell pops up as a soldier hoping to make it home in one piece to his son Billy, whom he writes letters to throughout “Skull Island.” He has his work cut out for himself, though, as he finds himself isolated from his crew on an island populated by hungry critters of all different shapes and sizes. Thomas Mann, who made such a wonderful impression in the underappreciated “Me and Earl and the Dying Girl,” also pops up for a little bit of screen time, but his role is hardly worthy of his talent.

Corey Hawkins and Jason Mitchell make an appearance, too, making this a “Straight Outta Compton” reunion of sorts. Hawkins (currently starring in “24: Legacy”) appears against type as Randa’s bookworm assistant while Mitchell (soon to break out in Dee Rees’ powerful “Mudbound”) plays one of Packard’s war-crazy grunts.

Finally, we have Samuel L. Jackson doing his Samuel L. Jackson thing, and while his mad-dog military man Preston Packard feels like a variation of intense and furious characters we’ve seen him play many times before, there’s a little bit more complexity bubbling under the surface. It’s clear that Packard’s psyche has been ravaged by the art of war, and that mentality sticks with him once he arrives on the island and finds himself at war with the world’s largest primate.

Speaking of primate, Kong himself is quite the glorious beast. He’s a fierce loner but surprisingly gentle when approached with kindness. Make no mistakes, though: He’s definitely king of this particular island, and he’s definitely not the kind of creature you want to pick a fight with. The effects team has done a great job of bringing this version of Kong to life. He isn’t quite as impressive as the Kong from Peter Jackson’s 2005 film, nor does he clock in as much screen time (granted, Jackson’s picture was over three hours long while this movie clocks in at a brisk two hours). Regardless, he still makes quite the impression in “Skull Island.” He can even beat a yacht-sized lizardlike creature’s ass with one hand!

You could make the argument that perhaps a newbie filmmaker with only one independent feature under his belt shouldn’t go from a film of that size to a picture of this size. And while true that “Skull Island” does suffer a bit from thin characterizations and odd pacing on occasion, there’s no doubt that Jordan Vogt-Roberts brings color, energy, a great taste in ’70s music, and glorious monster carnage to the table. He’s like a kid in a great big candy store, and what this film might lack in characterization it more than makes up for in a sheer, grand sense of adventure. Plus, Roberts has an ace up his sleeve in the form of the great John C. Reilly. And be sure to stick around through the end credits. I won’t spoil the surprise, but I think it’s safe to say that we haven’t seen the last of Kong.

“Kong: Skull Island” (cont.)

To paraphrase what Toby Kebbell’s lost soldier might have written to his son had he had the opportunity to see this blast of a monster movie, “Dear Billy, I saw ‘Kong: Skull Island,’ and it was a ton of fun!”

“Logan” (R)

★★★★



Few trailers in recent memory have so perfectly represented the overall tone of a movie than that first trailer for “Logan.” The inclusion of Johnny Cash’s haunting cover of Nine Inch Nails’ “Hurt” was a stroke of genius. Props to the marketing teams at Marvel Studios and 20th Century Fox for that one.

In “Logan,” we’re introduced to a considerably different Wolverine than the one we’ve seen eight times before. It’s still a perfectly cast Hugh Jackman in the role, but this Logan is far more weathered. He’s alone, he’s broken, and he’s fittingly cynical. And how could he not be cynical? He lives in a world where very few mutants remain, where violence is part of day-to-day life, and where the heroics of his past have very little bearing on a rather bleak 2029 climate. Kind of like the world we live in now.

When Logan’s not serving as a limo driver for hire, he serves as a caretaker for an aging Charles Xavier who is now suffering from dementia. Of course, when this particular mutant has a spell, it isn’t at all healthy for those around him.

Adding to Logan’s misery is the unthinkable notion that he’s sick, virtually dying from the very thing that made him who he is. Logan reluctantly finds a new purpose though when he discovers the existence of a child with several traits that are oddly similar to his own. Young Laura has an undeniable set of fighting skills that are only rivaled by her ferocity, attitude,

and eerie sense of quiet. Ultimately, Logan and Charles hit the open road in an effort to elude the military and to get Laura to safe ground. Along the way, they aid a family of farmers all while forming an inevitable bond.

“Logan” shifts tones on a dime. It’s a “Mad Max” and “Terminator” style action movie, it’s film noir, it’s a western, and it’s a road movie, but “Logan” is also a moving, sobering, melancholy-laced character driven piece. What’s more, writer/director James Mangold (“Cop Land,” “Walk the Line,” “The Wolverine”) has fashioned a standalone movie that still manages to honor the legacy of everything that has come before it.

Speaking of honor and legacy, this is Hugh Jackman’s ninth time breaking out the claws, and if he’s to be taken at his word, this is also his last time as Wolverine. If this truly is the case, then the likable Aussie actor is going out on a high note. True, this particular incarnation of the character is grittier and darker than some audiences might be prepared for, but given that the film takes its cue from “Old Man Logan,” it all makes sense. Whatever you might think of this more somber take on Logan, Jackman pretty much nails it in every facet. This man has watched nearly everyone he’s been close to, die, and that has taken quite a toll on him. Jackman brings real emotion to this movie, but rest assured that he gets to kick plenty of ass, too.

Equally impressive are the performances Mangold gets out of a stellar supporting cast. As an elderly, sickly Charles Xavier, the great Patrick Stewart has never been better. He brings both humor and humanity in equal measure. Xavier as presented in this picture has undeniable power that he can barely control anymore, and his dementia tends to cause him to behave in a way that is very non-Professor X. It’s his constant words of wisdom to a broken Logan, however, that truly make this character so memorable. There’s a great father/son dynamic going on between Stewart and Jackman, and while this bond has been explored in past films, it resonates in a much more profound way in “Logan.”

Also turning in quite the impressive performance is Stephen Merchant. His mutant Caliban shares Xavier-caretaking duties with Logan, and each time Charles has an “episode,” it takes a little more out of him physically. It would have been nice if the film would have delved a little more into Caliban as a character, because Merchant is an actor of considerable depth. He gives this mutant a soul. Look no further than a pivotal moment in which Caliban must make tough decision after being forced to do bad things against his will.

Rounding out the leads is fierce young newcomer Dafne Keen. As a mysterious little girl with a couple of pretty big secrets, Keen emerges as a stick of cinematic dynamite. A breathtaking sequence in which her Laura finally reveals her true self is a sequence you’re not likely to forget. With barely any dialogue at all, Keen breathes life (and fire) into this tough-as-nails youngster, and the fashion in which Laura bonds with Logan later on in the picture is a real kick. It sort of plays like “Children of X-Men.”

This is Mangold’s second time helming a “Wolverine” picture, and while his last outing was admirable, he clearly has meatier material to work with here. Themes range from timely politics to the power of family, and Mangold and co-writer Scott Frank even throw in comic books themselves as a creative means to drive the plot forward. And again, it’s refreshing

and admirable that Mangold has opted to put character over spectacle. In fact, had he solely gone the character-driven route, this picture might have been even more effective.

Admittedly, “Logan” is a little too long. It gets a bit bogged down by a supermutant-soldier subplot and an extended finale in which Wolverine must lead a revolt against a military squad. Furthermore, the second half of “Logan,” which turns into a slice of Americana road movie before leading into its oddly paced final act, doesn’t quite live up to the near-perfect first half. Some fans are also questioning what exactly happened to all the characters Logan was so close to throughout the years. True, there’s ambiguity at play in a big way here, but this is Logan’s story, and answers to some of these questions will no doubt be answered in the future. In that regard, Mangold sort of does here what J.J. Abrams did with “The Force Awakens.” Rather than showing what led up to a specific point of origin, he simply meets up with where these characters currently are.

For my money, “Logan” certainly has its flaws, but they don’t really detract from the big picture. With “Logan,” Mangold and Jackman have given us a fitting Wolverine swan song (if it truly is a swan song) that is well worth watching for character and emotional gravitas alone. This is a dark, gritty, R-rated take on one of Marvel’s most beloved properties and if you’ve followed all of the “X-Men” and “Wolverine” big-screen adventures, you’re likely to walk out of this picture with a big old lump in your throat. In fact, when you go to see “Logan,” you may even want to have a box of tissues handy.

Leave it to those creative (and shrewd) storytellers at Marvel Studios to open their movie with a stinger instead of close with it.

“The Belko Experiment” (R)

★★★½



Leave it to colorful screenwriter James Gunn (writer and director of “Slither,” “Guardians of the Galaxy,” and the upcoming “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2”) to add a bit of humor and likability to “The Belko Experiment,” a film that sort of plays like a nutty fusion of “Office Space” and “Battle Royale.” This slice of dark-comedy-tinged horror from “Wolf Creek” director Greg McClean might have been drowned in a sea of relentless nihilism had it not been for Gunn’s humorous touch.

The setup in “The Belko Experiment” is pretty simple: 80 employees at an American communications corporation located in Bogota, Columbia, are locked in their corporate tower and forced by an unseen mastermind to murder one another until only one remains. Why? Well, in “The Belko Experiment,” the why doesn’t seem to be as important as the how, but rest assured, there is a bit of an explanation behind the mystery.

“The Belko Experiment” is one of those pictures where you know from the get-go that a lot of folks are going to die. At a brisk one hour and 20 minutes, there isn’t a lot

of time for depth, either, but most viewers aren’t coming into “The Belko Experiment” for any sort of deep meaning, so no harm, no foul. Having said that, credit Gunn and McClean for injecting a little humanity into the proceedings by way of a mostly warm and likable cast.

Fresh off his turn in the entertaining chamber thriller “10 Cloverfield Lane,” the affable John Gallagher Jr. plays the moral center in “The Belko Experiment,” a pacifist who refuses to listen to his captor when he’s told to kill. Instead, he does whatever he can to keep order in a chaotic (and undeniably deadly) situation. Granted, trying to maintain a level of righteousness ain’t easy when you have Tony Goldwyn (taking the kind of villainous character he played in “Ghost” and amping him up to murderous new heights) as your military-trained foe.

Elsewhere, “The Belko Experiment” is populated by familiar Gunn-universe supporting players like Michael Rooker and Gregg Henry and terrific actors like “Scrubs” star John C. McGinley in a role that sort of re-imagines his “Office Space” character in a “Hostel” situation.

McClean and Gunn have as much sadistic, exploitative fun with this premise as they can. This is to say that with its perverse sense of humor, “The Belko Experiment” is more “Final Destination” and “The Running Man” than it is “Saw” and “The Strangers.” It should also be noted that with its jet-black comedy, this film has more interest in exploring the dark-humor-laced ugliness of Peter Berg’s “Very Bad Things” than the moral conundrum and hopeful nature at the heart of the ferryboat sequence in Christopher Nolan’s “The Dark Knight.”

“The Belko Experiment” does attempt to give us a little more upstairs than you might be expecting by way of offering up a multicultural cast and taking a few satirical jabs at corporate America. Having said that, if it’s horror with deeply rooted subtext that you’re truly into, this one has nothing on the recently released “Get Out.” Still, the humor and likable character traits put this one a notch above director Jonathon Liebman’s little-seen and similarly themed thriller, “The Killing Room.”

“The Belko Experiment” feels a bit rushed and moves at a quick clip, perhaps too quick. It’s a nasty bit of B-movie business about how far some of us will go in the name of self-preservation, and the entire movie is punctuated by appropriately disturbing humor and varying tones. From a technical standpoint, it should also be noted that the effects in this picture are solid, particularly the make-up and model work.

In the end, I’ll give “The Belko Experiment” this: It’s never boring. Furthermore, it’s pretty much over before you know it. The ending is a bit uneventful and happens far too quickly, but props to Gunn and McClean for at least attempting a resolve and not leaving things overly ambiguous. And of course, “The Belko Experiment” can’t resist pulling back beyond the frame and suggesting a bigger picture, one that leaves the door wide open for a potential sequel. Is this movie worthy of a sequel? Not really, but then neither was “The Purge,” and the follow-up to that overrated hit was actually stronger than its predecessor.

Irrelevant side note: I loved the retro Orion Pictures logo that opened this film. It took me back to the days of “Robocop.”

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THE INDEPENDENT ALBUM REVIEWS

By Charles Cuthbertson

“Eternally Even” by Jim James
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Album Review: “Eternally Even” by Jim James Released just four days before Election Day last November, Jim James’ latest solo album anticipates in many ways the division and controversy that followed the electoral tally. On the first two tracks alone, James wonders, “What if the world became sweet again?” and reminds listeners that “You can’t build love out of guns, blood, and sorrow.” “Eternally Even,” though in no way an overtly political album, carries a message and a sound that is sorely needed in the Trump era.

James, of course, is best known as the frontman for My Morning Jacket, a band that has been around for nearly 20 years. Built as much on James’ ethereal vocals as its chiming guitars, the band has found success with its unique sound,

which may cause many to wonder why James is making solo albums in the first place. (“Eternally Even” is only the second full-length album James has recorded.) Conversely, it seems likely that many who come to James’ album will do so because of his work in My Morning Jacket, so he is put in the potentially divisive position of having to remind listeners of why they like him while justifying the effort to strike out on his own. (Not unlike, say, a presidential candidate!)

Luckily, James strikes a balance here. The first few songs on the album indeed veer widely from My Morning Jacket’s signature sound, and James himself plays most of the instruments. The record opens with “Hide in Plain Sight,” an anthem that begins with a grinding guitar drone set to a persistent beat. James’ philosophical musings, which are highlighted in nearly every song, are muffled here. The overall sound is radically different from My Morning Jacket and initially off-putting.

There’s a distinct ‘60s vibe to the lyrics of “Same Old Lie” (quoted above), and the music here gradually segues into a kind of drum-circle-and-synth coda, establishing a contemplative kind of groove. Though many solo albums begin with a bang, as if to announce the rebirth of the singer, James establishes a slow, almost dreary, pace in the opening of this album. Though the lyrics are intriguing, I found myself growing impatient.

One of the more pleasant contrasts with My Morning Jacket comes from the backing

lyrics of Shungudzo Kuyimba, who sings on many of the songs here. Female vocals are seldom heard in My Morning Jacket, and Kuyimba’s voice fits nicely with James’ without drowning his distinctive vocal mannerisms. The overlapping vocals of both singers are a highlight of “Here in Spirit,” as are the production manipulations of the keyboards and the beat, other sounds that are rarely heard in My Morning Jacket.

After this opening trilogy of songs, the album settles into sonic territory that may be more familiar and comforting to My Morning Jacket fans. But James does not simply recreate the band’s style, though many of the songs on this album have an immersive, enveloping sound. “We Ain’t Getting Any Younger,” for example, which comes at the midpoint of the album, has a strong Pink Floyd vibe, particularly in its bass rhythm, and the instrumental begins with a mesmerizing keyboard loop that leads into

a mid-tempo beat. James plays the organ on this number, and the overall sound is ideal for headphones. Belying the hypnotic drone of the music is James’ admonishment to a complacent audience: “This world is war and blood,” he sighs, “when it could have been love.” It’s not necessarily the kind of message you want to hear at, say, an outdoor festival, but the music may lull you into a kind of aural complacency while rejecting

that attitude in the listener’s politics.

Nostalgic echoes are also found in the next two songs. “True Nature” incorporates all kinds of elements, including live sax and synth horns, merging them into a layered, engaging homage to ‘70s rhythm and blues. “In the Moment,” with its bass slapping, tubular bells, and muted synth trumpet, sounds like a improvisational cover of “Gold Dust Woman” by Herbie Hancock (in a good way).

The album closes with the title track, which sounds like My Morning Jacket with synthesizers in place of that band’s distinctive guitars. James strikes a contemplative mood, reflecting on his journey so far: “There’s gold in growing older,” he sings. “Life’s been completely fair.” Whatever the results of the election will bring us in the months to come, Jim James offers a perfect companion for late night contemplation with this album. It’s one to listen to with the front door open, accompanied by the hum of insects in the night. Turn off your news alerts and let this one take you away.



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SOUTHERN UTAH SPIRITUAL ROUND TABLE

Curated by **Darren M. Edwards**

The Southern Utah Spiritual Round Table is a column I have wanted to put together for over a year now, and I'm thrilled to finally have it up and running for our readers. The idea was simple, get a handful of local spiritual leaders from different faiths to provide short answers to some of life's more difficult questions. The logistics weren't so simple. But, now with the help of the St. George Interfaith Council things have fallen into place. You won't only find the column in our monthly print edition. You can look forward to it every week as part of our Sunday Edition online.

This month's question: "What should I do when someone close to me betrays my trust?"

From Community of Christ pastor Emily Rose

The betrayal of trust can be a very painful experience, especially depending on the nature of that betrayal. Without knowing the fullness of the situation, I can

still offer principles of relationship that are upheld in Community of Christ.

One of the sacred texts in Community of Christ is the Doctrine and Covenants, and in a recent passage that was added in 2010, we were given this counsel: "As revealed in Christ, God, the Creator of all, ultimately is concerned about behaviors and relationships that uphold the worth and giftedness of all people and that protect the most vulnerable. Such relationships are to be rooted in the principles of Christ-like love, mutual respect, responsibility, justice, covenant, and faithfulness, against which there is no law" (D&C 164:6a).

These words of counsel came to us specifically when we were working toward full inclusion of LGBTQIA individuals in both priesthood and the sacrament of

marriage, but the principles apply to all relationships. We seek to be grounded in Christ-like love, mutual respect, responsibility, justice, covenant, and faithfulness. When trust is broken, these principles can be guideposts along the road to reconciliation.

When someone close to you betrays your trust, I would recommend vulnerability and honesty in conversation about it. Open, mutual conversation is essential for healing. Sometimes healing can take many forms. In some cases, healing of the relationship can bring a deeper and stronger bond. In other cases, effective boundaries between both parties are key, and healing can take place separately.

Community of Christ also upholds a priesthood structure that offers different

experience in our lives.

Do not seek revenge or retaliate, as this will break your own trust in yourself. Two wrongs never make a right.

Re-evaluate your relationship with this person. Reset, or set for the first time, healthy boundaries. Your relationship with them has changed. When someone shows you who they are, believe them the first time. This does not mean you can't have a relationship with them, but do not be in denial or make excuses for their behavior as that enables a dysfunctional relationship.

If you decide to continue to be in a relationship with them, determine the extent of the relationship you want and the boundaries you need to establish to ensure the relationship is a healthy one. Then communicate that with them clearly as to what is acceptable and not acceptable to you, and follow through with this practice for your own self-respect and peace of mind. You can grow stronger through this experience and still maintain an open heart.

From Unity Center of Positive Living's Carmella Fitzpatrick

Breathe! Honor your feelings of betrayal. Take a walk to contemplate this situation. Begin to ask yourself some questions in order to explore what happened. Could it be this person did not realize that this was a trust to not be exploited? Often people only look from their own nose.

I'm not sure what this trust was, so let me explain a bit. For example, if you told someone close something that you knew would hurt them when they got to work or ran into someone who was going to do something, yet wanted them to know so they wouldn't be hurt or blunder more. It might be natural to assume they would honor what you told them to be confidential. Not everyone, though, even close ones, consider this, and sometimes feel they are now privy to this information because you are their backbone force and feel they can explode this newfound information in a way where they can be self-righteous about it not realizing that they have now put you in an uncomfortable situation. Sometimes, this is why people are where they are, though, and may want to then reconsider how to approach this again.

Or if it truly was some private information about yourself. Did you make it clear this was private? Again, people look from their own nose of experience, and even though you may be close to them, they may not always be as thoughtful as you may have hoped to your feelings and may not have considered the consequences of blah, blah, blah. If so, then consider a way to speak with this person in a way where they can understand how they hurt you where it won't be an emotional explosion.

If none of the above is the case, then it may be time to realize that this is a lesson learned, and no matter how close you may be to this person, they obviously are not spiritually evolved enough to consider the consequences of their actions and can no longer be privy to such a trust.

Jesus said to forgive 70 times seven. He did not mean you were meant to walk off and recite a mantra of "I forgive" 70 times seven times to brainwash yourself. It is meant to be where you take a walk, and consider the ways to forgive ... I forgive myself for assuming ... I forgive this person for their foolishness ... I forgive myself for being so foolish ... I forgive because I care for myself ... and this person ... I forgive, because I have learned from this situation who now to trust ... etc. till finally you are at peace. Blessings be to you.



kinds of blessings in times of crisis or stress. One such priesthood office is that of teacher. In Community of Christ, teachers "represent Christ primarily as ministers of presence who model Jesus as Peacemaker through interpersonal (one-to-one) reconciliation and peacemaking. [They] especially proclaim and promote the Worth of All Persons and create an environment that is ready to listen and slow to criticize with individuals and in congregations." In a case of betrayal of trust, it might be helpful to invite a teacher to be a third party of reconciliation and peacemaking.

From Free Spirit Community spiritual leader Cynthia Cashin

That is a very difficult situation to be in, and I truly feel for you.

One of the first things I believe you should do is to allow yourself time to grieve. Yes, you are experiencing grief and loss — the loss of the aspect of your relationship with this person that allowed you to trust, your innocence in this relationship and with this person. Be very gentle with yourself, and allow yourself to absorb the shock and grief you are naturally feeling.

Forgive yourself and them. You may be tempted to feel, "How could I have been so stupid?" or "How could I not see what they were really like?" Forgive yourself for your belief that your innocence, your trust and your vulnerability were misplaced. You allowed yourself to love or care for this person and that is strength and a blessing, so forgive yourself.

Forgive them for their breach of your trust, as when you forgive them you do so for your own peace of mind. Do not become bitter and close your heart, for giving and receiving love is the most important



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Current and ongoing projects:

Pinkies for Polio
Fundraiser for the Rotary International project of eliminating Polio worldwide. Multiple fundraisers have been done by Rotary Club of Zion Canyon for this effort in the last four years.

Water Filling Stations
Rotary Club of Zion Canyon is spearheading the project to install free water filling stations at each shuttle stop in Springdale. Two stations are installed with a third station coming soon.

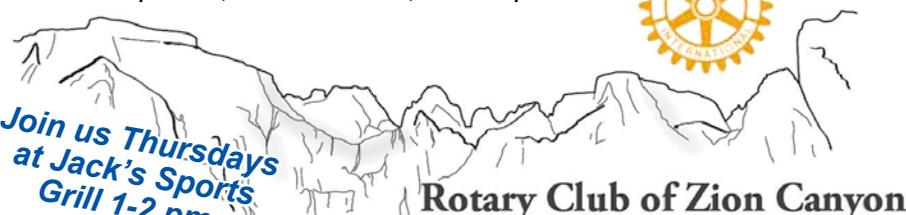
Giving Tree
During the last four holiday seasons, Rotary Club of Zion Canyon has given to numerous needy families in the Zion Canyon boxes of gifts of toys, clothes, food, and cash.

Auction for Education
Last year the annual auction raised about \$15k for the Springdale Elementary School art and music programs, scholarships, and other local education related programs.

Come see us this month at the Springdale Earth Day Festival on April 22nd.
Bit & Spur Lawn, 1212 Zion Park Blvd, 11 am to 5 pm.



Join us Thursdays at Jack's Sports Grill 1-2 pm.



Rotary Club of Zion Canyon

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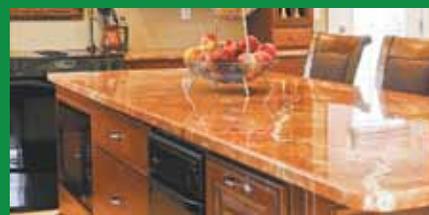


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CALENDAR

Multi-Day Events

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

**YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE!
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FEATURED EVENT

**ORCHESTRA OF SOUTHERN UTAH
PRESENTS SILVER AND GOLD
SOIREE**



The Orchestra of Southern Utah took audiences on a world tour through music this season and presents one more local event, May 8 in Cedar City. The "Silver and Gold Soirée" is set to be held at the Iron Gate Inn and Winery at 5 p.m. Tickets will be \$10 per person, which is well worth the price for an evening of hors d'oeuvres, live music, great company, and, of course, wine provided by our local winery. Delightful nonalcoholic sparkling juices will also be provided. Tickets can only be purchased in advance. Call Emily Hepworth at (435) 233-8213 and reserve yours today. Iron Gate Inn and Winery, 100 N. 200 W., Cedar City.

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. For more info, call (435) 644-5973. Family History Research Center, 20 W. Main St., Kanab.

AMAZING EARTHFEST 8 a.m. Amazing Earthfest, May 14-20, in Kanab, is Southern Utah's spring festival of learning, discovery, arts and adventure exploring life in the Intermountain West. Enjoy hiking, wildlife, scenery, dinosaurs, culture, ethics, history and the dark sky of Utah's canyon country. Watch award-winning documentary films of planetary, national, and regional significance in a cool, comfortable theater. Celebrate the centennial of America's National Parks. Most events are free. For a schedule of events, visit amazingearthfest.org, stop in at the Kane County Visitor Center, or call (435) 644-3735. Kanab, 78 S. 100 E., Kanab.

OUTBACK HIKING CLUB OF SOUTHERN UTAH 7 a.m. The Outback Hiking Club of Southern Utah has been offering weekly hikes for over 28 years. Dates and times of hikes vary. Membership dues are \$15 per year. Sponsors provide discounts for gear. For more information, visit Meetup.com/Outback-Hiking-Club-Of-Southern-Utah.

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. Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab.

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.

FABULOUS FIBER FOLLIES 10 a.m. The Red Rock Weavers Guild will feature their fiber creations at the Canyon Community Center. The show features handmade items by locals, heirlooms, pieces made by the Red Rock Weavers, unusual fiber things purchased on world travels, woven and/or quilted items created by Southern Utah artisans. This show will be on display Feb. 14--Mar. 29 with a reception on Feb. 18. from 5 to 7 p.m. The gallery hours are Monday--Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday noon- 5 p.m. This is a free event and open to the public. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

FALL ART ATTACK 11:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Rafter's Art Gallery is inspiring work by local and regional artists influenced by the incredible beauty of the Colorado Plateau every Thursday through Monday. Rocking V Cafe, 97 W. Center St., Kanab.

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 and a game of horseshoes while you enjoy live entertainment and a chuckwagon buffet. Reservations available online. Jake's Chaparral, 86 S. 200 W., Kanab.

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.

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.

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.

SUU ART & DESIGN STUDENTS PRESENTATIONS Noon-6 p.m. The SUU Department of Art & Design is proud to present the Senior Bachelor of Fine Arts exhibit at the Southern Utah Museum of Art. The artwork of 27 graduating seniors will be on exhibit from Mar. 23 to Apr. 29. Each student will be presenting their best work in their area of emphasis, including ceramics, illustration, graphic design, painting, drawing, and print-making. For information, visit www.suu.edu/pva/ or call (435) 586-5432 Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

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April Live Music

All shows 4-7 pm on our riverside patio

4/1 – Brian Griffing

4/8 – Brooke Macintosh

4/15 – Soul What?!

4/22 – Jason Tyler Burton

4/29 – Many Miles

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CALENDAR

Multi-Day Events

NUNSET BOULEVARD, THE MUSICAL (Sequel to Nunsense) 7:30 p.m. The Little Sisters of Hoboken are off on their newest "Nunsense" adventure, this time heading to Tinseltown. They are thrilled at the prospect of performing at the Hollywood Bowl until they discover they are booked into the Hollywood Bowl-A-Rama, not the famous "Bowl!" But when they hear that a big-time producer is auditioning people for a new movie musical about the life of Dolores Hart, the famous movie star who became a nun, their spirits soar! Could this be their big break? Featuring all new songs, audience participation, and heavenly humor, ABC Television calls this show, "Hilarious, Wacky, and Unpredictable!" This play will show at various days starting Apr. 6-Apr. 15. Tickets are \$5-\$10 and can be purchased at Tickets.DSUtix.com Eccles Black Box GA, 100 S. University Ave., St. George.

OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS 7:30 p.m. Nick, a single Italian man from New Jersey has been offered a dream job that would take him away from his only family left in the city, his grandparents. His grandparents aren't thrilled about the news and start a series of schemes to keep him around. This play will show at various times and days starting Mar. 9-Apr. 8. Ticket prices vary and can be purchased by calling (435) 628-8755, or online at ShowTix4U.com. St. George Opera House, 212 N. Main St., St. George.

ANNIE GET YOUR GUN 7 p.m. "Annie Oakley is the best shot around, and she manages to support her little brother and sisters by selling the game she hunts. When she's discovered by Col. Buffalo Bill, he persuades this novel sharpshooter to join his Wild West Show. It only takes one glance for her to fall head over heels for dashing shooting ace Frank Butler, who headlines the show. This play will show on various days starting Apr. 20-May. 27. Tickets are \$15-\$25 and can be purchased at BrighamsPlayhouse.com. No children under 5 are permitted. 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. Ticket prices start at \$6. For more info, call (435) 644-2350 or visit, CrescentMoonKanab.com Crescent Moon Movie Theater, 150 S. 100 E., Kanab.

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 Blvd., Mesquite.

STAR PARTY A guided stargazing tour will take place in Dark Canyon-Star Park just minutes from town every night. Learn something about the night sky and the universe we live in. It's safe, fun, and an amazing experience. For reservations text or call (435) 899-9092 or email kanabstars@gmail.com. Dark Canyon Star Park, N. Hwy. 89, Kanab.

Find more at SUindependent.com

Events by Day MONDAYS

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. 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 N. 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. Nutritious Way Studio/Kitchen Headquarters, 1554 Hummingbird Dr., 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. St. George Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

ST. GEORGE DANCE COMPANY CLASS 7:30-8:45 p.m. Ballet for adults intermediate to advanced. This class is open to the public. For more information, visit saintgeorgedance.com or call (435) 773-1221. The Electric Theater 68 W. Tabernacle St., St. George.

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

TUESDAYS

"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.

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.

CHILDREN'S CREATIVE MOVEMENT ART CLASSES 10 a.m. This is a creative movement class for children that provides the opportunity for them to develop movement and learning skills while using the imagination and exploring their playful spirit. Jennifer Wadsworth has an educational background which includes an MA in dance research from BYU -Provo and BFA in dance performance from the Juilliard. For more information, call (435) 673-4206, or email difiorecenter@gmail.com. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main 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.

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.

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.

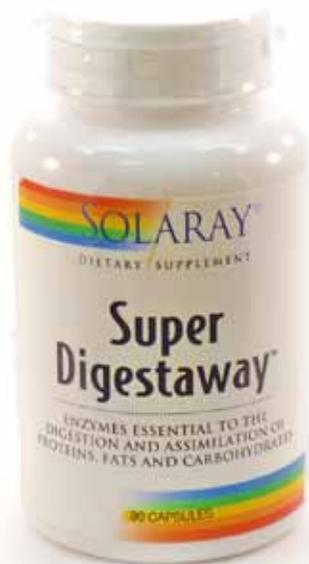
LIBRARY ART CLUB FOR CHILDREN 6:30 p.m. Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month. This club is free. Register in the children's area! 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

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

WEDNESDAYS

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.

FREE2FEED BREASTFEEDING & MOTHERHOOD 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 free2feed.org. The Bunkerville Community Center, 200 Virgin St., Mesquite.



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CALENDAR

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.

"EARLY BIRD" KARAOKE FUN WITH GAYLE LOUISE! 5:30-9 p.m. "You're the Star" karaoke every Wednesday. Full bar. 21 and over. Bring your I.D.'s. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. Beaver Dam Station, County Hwy. 91, Littlefield.

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.

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.

OPEN 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

CHILDREN'S CREATIVE MOVEMENT ART CLASSES 10 a.m. This is a creative movement class for children that provides the opportunity for them to develop movement and learning skills while using the imagination and exploring their playful spirit. Jennifer Wadsworth has an educational background which includes an MA in Dance Research from BYU -Provo and BFA in Dance Performance from the Juilliard. Call (435) 673-4206, or email difiorecenter@gmail.com. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main 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. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

Find more events everyday at SIndependent.com

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.

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.

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.

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.

"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 5-7 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.

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. Kane County Senior Center, 445 N. Main St., Kanab.

LIVE MUSIC AT PEEKABOO WOOD FIRED KITCHEN 6:30 p.m. Enjoy free, live music with a delicious meal. Peekaboo Wood Fired Kitchen, 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

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

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). Email stgeorgehub.com or call (435) 673-7246 Adventure Hub St. George, 128 N. 100 W. Ste. 124, St. George.

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.

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.

YOUTH TENNIS LESSONS Ages 9-12, Grades 6-9, High School advanced. Call the Tennis Pro at (435) 674-3180 for information. St. George.

SUNDAYS

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.

Events by Date

Fri, Apr 7

THE COMEDY MACHINE 8:30 p.m. Enjoy top comedic performances from the United States with Paul Scally, Adam Hunter, and Jay Reid. Tickets are \$15-\$25 and can be purchased at StarTickets.com. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

GEORGE STREETFEST 6-10 p.m. George Streetfest is southern Utah's popular outdoor nightlife event. On the first Friday of every month, local residents, artists and entertainers invite you to gather at the heart of Historic Downtown St. George to celebrate the best of southern Utah. Enjoy a free Main Street concert, DJ Spinz Youth Dance Party, and the Desert Pulse Jazz Garden at Green Gate Village for adults 21 plus. Georgefest is nightlife you can get excited about. For more information, call (435) 773-0781, or email george@emceesquare.com. Ancestor Square, St. George.

PROFESSIONAL BULLRIDERS 8 p.m. This is not a rodeo. This is bull-riding, and the first rule is to stay alive. Tickets are \$29-\$49 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org. Call (800) 746-9882. Tuacahn Amphitheater, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

Sat, Apr 8

SILVER REEF-SOUTHWEST WILDLIFE FOUNDATION BIRDS OF PREY PROGRAM 10:00 a.m. Martin Tyner of the Southwest Wildlife Foundation will be presenting on "Birds of Prey". Martin is the founder of the organization and will have several live birds with him including his golden eagle named Scout. The fee is \$6. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (435) 879-2254 or online at <https://form.jotform.com>. Silver Reef Museum, 1903 Wells Fargo Rd., Leeds.

BROOKE MACINTOSH 4-7p.m. Brooke Macintosh will perform at the Zion Canyon Brew Pub. This is a free event and open to the public. For information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

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CALENDAR

Sat, Apr 8

SORRY NO SYMPATHY 7 p.m. Sorry No Sympathy will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

SOUTHERN NEVADA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 7:30 p.m. The Southern Nevada Symphony Orchestra Conducted by Dr. Selmer Spitzer will perform at the Casablanca Resort. The orchestra is comprised of musicians from Southern Nevada communities including Mesquite, Moapa Valley, Las Vegas, Henderson and St. George, UT. A limited number VIP seats that get you prime seats to the show are also available. This show is for ages 5 and older. Tickets are \$17-\$30 and can be purchased at StarTickets.com. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

PROFESSIONAL BULLRIDERS 8 p.m. This is not a rodeo. This is bull-riding, and the first rule is to stay alive. at Tuacahn Amphitheater. Tickets are \$29-\$49 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org. For more information, visit Tuacahn.org or call (800) 746-9882. Tuacahn Amphitheater, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

FIYAH ROOTZ 8-11 p.m. Fiyah Rootz will perform live music at George's Corner Restaurant. This is a free event. For more information, call (435) 216-7311., George's Corner Restaurant. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Mon, Apr 10

SUMA FAMILY ARTS NIGHT 6-7 p.m. the Southern Utah Museum of Art, SUU, and artsFUSION team up to bring performing and visual arts to life for families in Southern Utah. The SUMA Family Arts Night Series will be held through April on select Monday evenings. These are free and open to the public. For more information, call (435) 586-5432, or visit SUU.edu/SUMA. SUMA Family Arts Night dates are April 10, and 17. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

PAINT NIGHT 6 p.m. Grab a mimosa and let that creative juice run with Paint Nite at Even Stevens. Briana Buckley will show you all the techniques needed to get you started on a masterpiece. Even Stevens, 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.

CONCERT IN THE PARK-THE WASATCH COUNTRY PICKERS 7:30 p.m. 2017 Series-First concert, The Wasatch Country Pickers have been together for eight years and play all over the western United States. They play songs consisting of Country Legends, modern country and some originals. You will enjoy the harmony and excitement and high-energy of the Wasatch country Pickers. Sponsored by the City of St. George, Concert in the Park 2016 Series is free to the public. Don't miss the second Monday of each month April through September. Park seating is available, bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and the family. For more information call (435) 627-4525. Vernon Worthen Park, 300 S. 400 E., St. George.

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

Tue, Apr 11

CARRY ON KID 7 p.m. Carry On Kid will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

"FINDING GREATNESS AND REALISTIC HOPE IN CHAOTIC, CHALLENGING TIMES" WITH REV. MICHAEL DOWD 7 p.m. Free program is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Southwest Utah. This presentation focuses on 6 points of agreement held in common by tens of millions of religious and non-religious people across the globe. It will inspire and encourage you in the face of changing climate and other environmental challenges. Michael Dowd is the author of "Thank God for Evolution", a book lauded by six Nobel Prize laureates. He also has presented several TED talks which are available on the internet. at Room on the Square next to Croshaw's Gourmet Pies 175 W. 900 S., St. George.

Wed, Apr 12

MEDITATION 101 6:30 p.m. Meditation 101, a beginners class, is offered every month on the second Wednesday. Learn techniques to reduce stress and increase happiness through meditation. Class fee is \$10. For more information, contact Suzie at (435) 592-5191. Stone Path Energy Center, 150 W. University Blvd., Cedar City.

TOURING GROUP, "THE SINGER AND THE SONG WRITTEN" 7:00 p.m. George's Corner Restaurant and Pub this is a free event and open to the public. For information visit StGeorgeCafe.com. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

PLAINSONG FEATURING IAIN MATTHEWS 7:30 p.m. Iain Matthews was a founding member of Fairport Convention and Matthews' Southern Comfort. In 1972, he and co-founder Andy Roberts recorded the debut album by Plainsong - In Search of Amelia Earhart. Both men moved on to have distinguished careers. Iain now has over 50 albums to his credit, One of many highlights for Andy, was as a guitarist for Pink Floyd The Wall Tour. Now, reunited for a final album and tour, Iain Matthews and Andy Roberts bring the music of Plainsong to Southern Utah. Off The Cuff Improv Theatre, 913 S. Main, Cedar City.

SHAWN OWENS JAZZ PROJECT 8 p.m. George's Corner Restaurant and Pub this is a free event and open to the public. For information visit StGeorgeCafe.com. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Fri, Apr 14

QUIET OAKS 7 p.m. Quiet Oaks will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA / LAMB OF GOD: AN EASTER ORATORIO 7:30 p.m. Lamb of God: An Easter Oratorio Composed by Rob Gardner, this stirring oratorio features events surrounding the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and blends the singing of LietoVoices! with the music of the Southwest Symphony. A divine, awe-inspiring masterpiece! Children 5 and under will not be admitted to the Lamb of God performance. 7:30 p.m. Cox Performing Arts Center, 325 S. 700 E., St. George.

STAYING ALIVE: ONE NIGHT OF THE BEE GEE'S 8 p.m. Staying Alive will perform live music at Tuacahn Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$19-\$30 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org or call (800) 746-9882 Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

Sat, Apr 15

CHILDREN'S ART CLASS 10 a.m. Kids and teens are instructed in a way that encourages self-expression and gives them the tools to be an independent, confident and competent artist. Young artists can explore their endless abilities through a variety of different mediums ranging from technical drawing and fine art painting classes, to mixed media and craft building. DiFiore Center, 307 N Main St, St. George.

LA DOLCE VITA CANCER FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR MCHS 6 p.m. \$35 per person to include desserts, champagne, and more. Raffle, silent auction, live auction. For more information, call (702) 346-1137 Eureka Hotel and Casino - Grand Canyon Room, Mesquite

SOUL WHAT?!? 7-10 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.

KENNY LOGGINS 7 p.m. Kenny Loggins will perform live music at Tuacahn Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$45-\$75 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org or call (800) 746-9882 Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

FEATURED EVENT

DSU CELEBRITY CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS "DUO FORTIN-POIRIER"



The Dixie State University Celebrity Concert Series continues with Duo Fortin-Poirier 7:30 p.m. Duo Fortin-Poirier Vingt doigts et un piano (Twenty Fingers and a piano) is a concert performed with two heads, four hands, and thousands of notes. Known for their dynamism and ease on stage, the lovely Duo Fortin-Poirier presents an exceptional musical tour that will delight music lovers and amateurs alike. The pianists Amélie Fortin and Marie-Christine Poirier invite you to discover a selection of pieces from their favorite works. The two musicians are happy to present the works through interpretations that can be at times funny or touching. You can also discover less well-known music or simply a different interpretation of works you are already familiar with. Vingt doigts et un piano, is a refreshing dose of music where you will be allured by the piano artistry and the complicity between Amélie Fortin and Marie-Christine Poirier. An event not to be missed! Ticket are \$15 and can be purchased at DSUTix.com or by calling the DSU's Box Office at (435) 652-7800. Cox Performing Arts Center, 325 S. 700 E., St. George.

TOM BENNETT 8-11 p.m. Tom Bennett will perform at George's Corner Restaurant. This is a free event. For more information, call (435) 216-7311. George's Corner Restaurant. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

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CALENDAR

"EAGLES GREATEST HITS" TRIBUTE - ALBUMPALOOZA 8:30 p.m. "Eagles Greatest Hits" will be performed live by the Albumpalooza band. They will perform the songs "Desperado", "One of These Nights", "Take it Easy", along with other great classics like "Hotel California", "Life in the Fast Lane", and "I Can't Tell You Why". Tickets are \$15-\$35 and can be purchased at StarTickets.com. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Mon, Apr 17

SUMA FAMILY ARTS NIGHT 6-7 p.m. the Southern Utah Museum of Art, SUU, and artsFUSION team up to bring performing and visual arts to life for families in Southern Utah. These are free and open to the public. For more information, call (435) 586-5432, or visit SUU.edu/SUMA. Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S. 300 W., Cedar City.

BIG D JAZZ JAM 6 p.m. Enjoy live jazz music performed by musicians with nationwide experience. Free admission; Donations appreciated. 100% of donations to The DiFiore Center go toward programs, classes and events. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

GLACIER VEINS 7 p.m. Glacier Veins will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

Tues, Apr 18

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL WEST COAST SWING CLASSES AND DANCING 7 p.m. Each first and third Tuesday of the month. There is a \$6 per person donation, per class. For more information, contact Neil Duncan at neiljamesduncan@gmail.com, or call (619) 994-6854. Washington City Community Center, Upstairs Aerobics Room, 350 E. 200 N., Washington

Wed, Apr 19

CEDAR CITY CONCEALED CARRY WEEKEND CLASS 10 a.m. This concealed carry class fulfills the training required by the Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) to qualify for a Utah Concealed Firearm Permit. Class length is 4 hours. Bring a pre-registration ticket or receipt, something to take notes with, and a State-issued photo I.D. Do not bring weapons or ammunition into the classroom. This permit will be valid for 5 years. A new permit cost is \$39 for residents and \$49 for non-residents. A permit renewal fee is \$15. Must be 21 years of age or older. Class price does not include the permit application fee. Permits are not issued in class; a training certificate will be provided at the end of class, which must be submitted with the application before a permit can be received. C-A-L Ranch, 750 S. Main St., Cedar City

PIN-UPS ON TOUR PRESENTS TEASE FOR THE TROOPS 9 p.m. A vintage variety and burlesque show that supports our Military. Someone that attends the show that night will win a 7 night trip to Cancun, Mexico all you have to do to enter is simply be there. This is a 21 and older event. Please bring your I.D.'s. For information and tickets visit BrownPaperTickets.com. Mike's Tavern, 90 West Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Find more opinions daily at SUIndependent.com

Thur, Apr 20

PAWS FOR TALES - READ TO A DOG 4 p.m. This is an opportunity for children to read to registered therapy dogs. Studies have shown the many benefits of children reading to dogs. This is a free event. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

Fri, Apr 21

LORIN WALKER MADSEN 7 p.m. Lorin Walker Madsen will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

TEASE FOR THE TROOPS-PIN UPS ON TOUR 9 p.m. A vintage variety and burlesque show that supports our Military. This is a 21 and older event. Please bring your I.D.'s. Tickets are \$20-\$50 with free admittance for military. For information and tickets visit BrownPaperTickets.com. Mike's Tavern, 90 West Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Sat, Apr 22

DIXIE POWER KITE FESTIVAL 10 a.m. Dixie Power Kite Festival partnered with Washington County School District Foundation to bring a great community event to Southern Utah. Reading charts are sent out in January to all elementary students, K-5. The students are encouraged to read a certain amount of minutes per week and parents sign off on the chart. They bring the chart to the Kite Festival and receive a free kite or book as a reward. A whole day of festivities takes place on that day, kite flying, enjoying games, vendors, continuous entertainment, etc. The proceeds from the Festival are given to the Washington County School District for literacy programs. In the past 16 years, Dixie Power Kite Festival has given back \$350,000 to the literacy programs in the elementary schools. Photo Gallery Event Location Dixie State University Encampment Mall Dixie State University, 225 S. 700 E., St. George.

UTAH CONCEALED CARRY CLASS 10 a.m. This concealed carry class fulfills the training required by the Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) to qualify for a Utah Concealed Firearm Permit. Class length: 4 hours Range time: none (not required for permit). BCI-approved course curriculum and instructors. Class topics include: The safe loading, unloading, storage, and carrying of firearms to be concealed. Current laws defining lawful self defense, use of force by private citizens, including use of deadly force, transportation, and concealment. Pistol operation. Pistol cartridges and components. Ammunition malfunctions. Maintenance and cleaning. Holster selection / concealment techniques. This permit will be valid for 5 years. A new permit cost is \$39 for residents and \$49 for non-residents. A permit renewal fee is \$15. Must be 21 years of age or older. Shall issue to both residents and non-residents Comfort Inn conference room, 138 E. Riverside Dr., St. George.

ZION CANYON EARTH DAY 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The town of Springdale will be celebrating the 13th Annual Zion Canyon Earth Day on the lawn of the Bit & Spur Restaurant. The Zion Canyon Earth Day Celebration is sustainably focused and educationally driven. It is a showcase for local bands, food vendors, and artists - culminating in a unique performance from composer and multi-instrumentalist, Nacho Arimany with special guests. Bit and Spur Restaurant, 1212 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

STAYER 7 p.m. Stayer will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

ONE HERO AT A TIME Noon. Live bands will be playing all day and hosted by "Ray the Music Man". There will be special video showings and also on-going raffle drawings. Bar concessions will be open all day. There will be Veterans Information tables on sight. The recipient and family will be present throughout the day. There will be several special presentations on stage for the recipient, as well as appearances from past recipients. This is a very special event with an opportunity for attendees to meet and shake hands with our veterans. Confirmed Bands so far: "Most Wanted", "Rockin' Mockers", "The Experiment" & "The Desert Outlaws"! More to come! Donations of \$20 are being accepted at the door. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

JASON TYLER BURTON 4-7 p.m. Jason Tyler Burton will perform at the Zion Canyon Brew Pub. This is a free event and open to the public. For information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

DICK EARLS ELECTRIC WITNESS 8-11 p.m. Dick Earls Electric Witness will perform live music at George's Corner Restaurant. This is a free event. For more information, call (435) 216-7311., George's Corner Restaurant. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

A NIGHT OF COUNTRY, PUNK N ROLL 9 p.m. Three Amazing Bands on Tour will perform live rock music at Mike's Tavern. Lorin Walker Madsen, Riva Rebels, & The Wade Wilson Project. There is a \$5 cover charge at the door. This is a 21 and older event. Please bring your I.D.'s. Mike's Tavern, 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE! CALL 435-656-1555

Mon, Apr 24

COLOR COUNTRY CAMERA CLUB 4TH MONDAY 6 p.m. The Color Country Camera Club is a fellowship of people with a mutual interest in photography. We routinely gather at meetings and on field trips to share photographic knowledge and experiences. Attendees are at all levels of expertise, beginners to professionals. We have no fees or by-laws. St. George Public Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

Tues, Apr 25

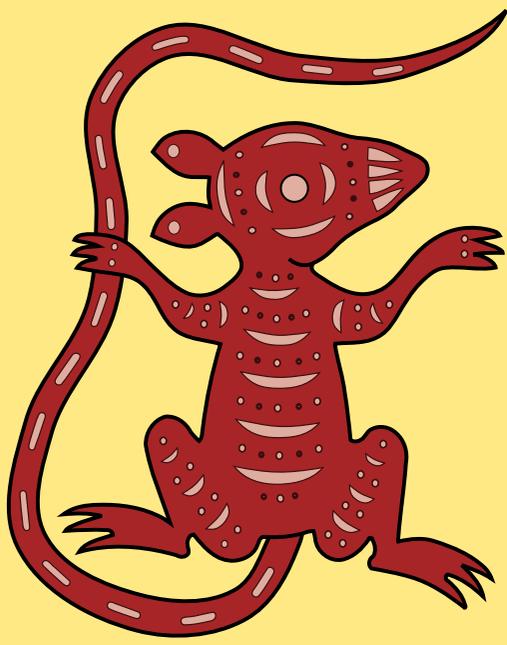
SAMARA 7 p.m. Samara will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

Wed, Apr 26

ZION NATIONAL PARK NIGHT SKIES PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP 5 p.m. Overview National Park Trips Media and Tamron USA have teamed up to offer the 2nd Annual National Park Night Skies Photography Workshop in Zion National Park. With iconic red rock formations that tower above the landscape below, Zion National Park is a photographer's dream destination. This workshop will immerse an exclusive group of participants into the art and science of night skies photography with an emphasis on capturing the Milky Way hovering over Zion Canyon (The Watchman) and other rock formations in the foreground. As an added bonus, we'll take advantage of Zion's stunning sunrises and sunsets and conduct two additional shoots to capture these moments. For information, email rwood@aimmeadia.com or call Rob Wood (303) 506-3327 Zion National Park.

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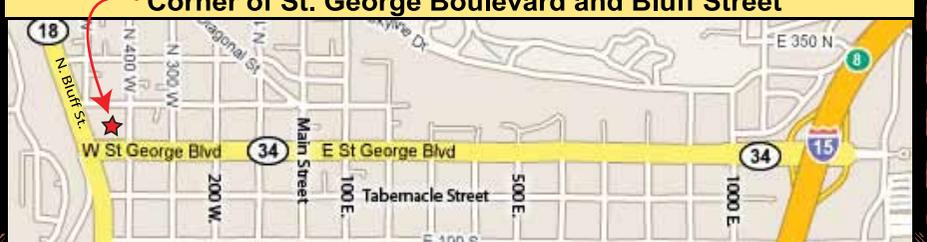








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CALENDAR

Thurs, Apr 27

MR. CP'S JAZZ JAM 6-8 p.m. Every fourth thursday of the month, Carlyle Potter and company lead an open jam for all jazz cats out there. Even Stevens, 471 St. George Blvd., St. George

CLINT BLACK 8 p.m. Clint Black will perform live music at Tuacahn Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$24--\$39 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org or call (800) 746-9882 Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

Fri, Apr 28

"BORN INTO BROTHELS" PRESENTED BY DOCUTAH 7 p.m. In the dark underworld of Calcutta's overcrowded red light district appear a group of unforgettable children. Feisty, courageous, and wickedly funny—they are the children of prostitutes. This Oscar-winning film portrays the resilience of children and the magic of art to transform life for young people living in the brothels. Tickets are \$10 cash at the door, reservations are required. Reserve tickets at <http://docutah.com/born-into-brothels/>. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

WHISKEY TOOTH 7 p.m. Whiskey Tooth will perform live at Jazzy's, there is a \$5 cover charge at the door. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

**Find more opinions daily
at SUIindependent.com**

Sat, Apr 29

SUPPORT THE GIRLS BENEFIT at Jazzy's, For time and additional information, call (435) 688-9496. 285 N. Bluff St., St. George.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION 9 a.m. Help the St George City's Leisure Services Department celebrate Arbor Day at the Tonaquint Nature Center. We will be planting multiple trees and shrub for the continuing efforts of beautifying this amazing and unique park. Tonaquint Nature Center, Tonaquint Nature Center, 1851 S. Dixie Dr., St. George.

MANY MILES 4 p.m. "Many Miles" 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.

PETER CETERA IN CONCERT AT TUACAHN 8 p.m. Peter Cetera will perform live music at Tuacahn Amphitheatre. Tickets are \$42--\$62 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org or call (800) 746-9882. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

ALICE ERICKSEN AND DAVID STEVENS 8-11 p.m. Alice Ericksen and David Stevens will perform live music at George's Corner Restaurant. This is a free event. For more information, call (435) 216-7311., George's Corner Restaurant. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

"ELEGANT DECEPTION" ILLUSIONISTS KYLE & MISTIE KNIGHT 8:30 p.m. "A true power couple, Kyle is has won awards for his sleight of hand and stage illusions, while Mistie is a former Miss Las Vegas who brings personality and production to the show with her own magic and costume quick changes. Together Kyle & Mistie Knight present one-of-a-kind illusions with a bold and modern style, and allow their audience to get up close and involved in ways they've never seen before!" Tickets are \$15--\$25 and can be purchased at StarTickets.com. Tickets are required for ages 5 & older. No children under 5 yrs permitted. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

DIO RISING: LAS VEGAS' TRIBUTE TO RONNIE JAMES DIO 10 p.m. Dio Rising will perform live at Mike's Tavern. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at EventBrite.com. This is a 21 and older event. I.D.'s are required. Mike's Tavern, 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Mon, May 1

PAWS FOR TALES - READ TO A DOG 4 p.m. This is an opportunity for children to read to registered therapy dogs. Studies have shown the many benefits of children reading to dogs. This is a free event. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

Wed, May 3

MATT BRADFORD 7 p.m. George's Corner Restaurant and Pub this is a free event and open to the public. For information, visit StGeorgeCafe.com. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Fri, May 5

SPRING CONCERT IN BLUE 7 p.m. "Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue" will feature pianist Donna Casebolt as the featured selection for Symphony of the Canyon's first concert of 2017. Additional selections include "The Beautiful Blue Danube," "Blue Suede Shoes," "A Salute to Ol' Blue Eyes," "St. Louis Blues" and "Bluebells of Scotland" featuring Jack Allen on trombone. Kortney Stirland Directing. Kanab High School Auditorium, 59 E. Cowboy Dr., Kanab.

BRIAN REGAN 8 p.m. America's favorite comedian Brian Regan returns to Tuacahn by popular demand. Tickets are \$44--\$52 and can be purchased online at Tuacahn.org or call (800) 746-9882. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

THE COMEDY MACHINE 8:30 p.m. Enjoy top comedic performances from the United States with Paul Scally, Adam Hunter, and Jay Reid. Tickets are \$15-\$25 and can be purchased at StarTickets.com. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Sat, May 6

KANAB 10K Run the Kanab 10K! It's a beautiful course along Hwy. 89 from Moqui Cave to the Kanab City Park--vermillion cliffs, Kanab Creek, blue skies. Local artists design our t-shirts. Custom made trophies are awarded three deep in age division. We provide a post race feast, really, fruit of all kinds, juice, donut holes and mini muffins. Registration is \$15--\$35 with discounts for early registration. For times and to register visit RunnerCard.com. Please pre-register. For additional information, email Megan Smith at milesmegan@yahoo.com or call (435) 899-0364.

FEATURED EVENT

10TH ANNUAL BEAVER DAM JAM



The 10th annual Beaver Dam Jam is set to kick off in May 6 and will run through May 8 in Littlefield, Ariz. The outdoor venue will host up to 15 bands in a variety of genres as well as food and beverage vendors. On May 6, the event runs from 2 to 10 p.m. outside with Joe Sherman, Freeze Warning, Aura Surreal, Mister Hyde. Gunlock County will play in the bar from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. May 8, it runs from noon to 10 pm outside with Most Wanted, Highway Poets, Soul What!?, Jensen Buck and the Family, and Cat Fish John. Wirelephant will play inside the bar from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. May 9, it runs from noon to 7 p.m. with Joe Sherman, Dakota Nights, Tommy Rocker, and Flyah Rootz. Attendees must be 21 or older to enter the bar. Tickets are \$45 and can be purchased the day of the show. People camping and kids 12 and younger get in free. Advance tickets are available at Beaver Dam Station and Bar, located at 411 N. Old Pioneer Rd. in Littlefield. For more information, visit facebook.com/beaverdamjam, e-mail beaverdamstation@gmail.com or call (928) 347-5589. Beaver Dam Station and Bar, 411 N. Old Pioneer Rd., Littlefield.

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