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THE Independent

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

**UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL:
A SEASON OF ADVENTURE**
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ALSO THIS ISSUE:

Date Night
At the
St. George Art Museum
July 14th 7:00 - 9:00pm
Free Event!

ST. GEORGE ART MUSEUM PRESENTS
DATE NIGHT
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MYSTIC HOT SPRINGS HOSTS
ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
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Poetry Under the Stars 7

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**ON THE COVER: UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
A SEASON OF ADVENTURE
SEE STORY ON PG 3.**

Mystic Hot Springs cameo photo credit - Skyler Greene

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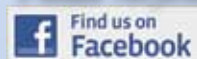
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EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER'S PERSPECTIVE By Josh Warburton

Last month I promised you a brief account of my first-ever musical tour.

Many things came into my mind that worried me about the trip. This was going to be the longest trip away from southern Utah in my adult life and my longest vacation away from The Independent in 21 years. Not only that, but I was going solo with plans to camp in my vehicle most nights and in areas where I'd never been. In addition to that, I had recently purchased my 2005 Land Cruiser, which has close to 200,000 miles on it, and although in so many ways it is the perfect traveling vehicle, it was still pretty new to me, and I fretted about a possible breakdown. Add to that that two of the five gigs I had booked were three-hour shows in venues I've never heard of and I was facing a lot of unknowns.

After finally getting on the road, I made the short trek to Ogden to visit my only child, Sky, and friends. I had a great evening, saw a couple of good bands, and stayed up way too late, but I had an awesome time. The second day, I drove the few hours to Rock Springs, Wyoming, where I played my first gig of the tour at a cool little spot called Johnny Macs.

The next night, I played a second gig in Rock Springs at a funky old bar called the Park Lounge on the first level of an otherwise abandoned hotel. It was a super cool building, and the people in attendance were nice. I spent some time that day in the nearby town of Green River where I checked out a beautiful island park, dipped my toes in the swollen river, and took a nap under a tree.

The next day, I decided to get up early and head north toward my next show in Jackson Hole. I made it somewhere around halfway before stopping to see two converging rivers. At that spot, there was a sign for Granite Hot Springs, so I decided to head that way. The pool at the springs was a bit more warm than hot as the heavy snow runoff mixed with the natural springs to make the pool a nice 86 degrees. I camped less than a mile from the springs and enjoyed my first tailgate-cooked meal of the trip, which I prepared in the light rain. It was great. Nothing like a home-cooked meal, even when the home is your car.

The next morning, I headed to Jackson Hole to play my gig at Town Square Tavern, a very nice restaurant and bar located right across the street from the famous Town Square Park. The show was great, especially considering it was one of the three-hour gigs. I learned a couple of new tunes and revived a few others to make sure I had plenty of material to fill the time. I really enjoyed Jackson Hole. It reminded me a bit of Springdale with all the tourists. I enjoyed the mountain views as well as two delicious meals at a classy spot called Lotus Cafe.

The next morning, I caught a yoga class in Jackson and then headed west toward Idaho, even though I didn't have to be in Pocatello until the next evening, and I'm so glad I did. I got some killer pictures of an old abandoned house, checked out a campground right by the river, and found some more incredible hot springs in Heise.

This one was both hot and large. After soaking for a few hours, I made my way up the road to a secluded camp spot and again cooked a yummy meal on the tailgate. I took a moonlit walk before enjoying another restful night sleeping in the truck. This was probably my favorite day of the whole trip. I enjoyed solitude, the freedom of the open road with no destination, and the beauty of the landscape.

The next night, I drove to Pocatello to play at the First National Bar, a spot my dad had performed at a few times over years before. The gig went well. I got lots of cheers and made some new friends.

That day and the next, I roamed around old town Pocatello and ate twice at a fantastic place appropriately called The Healthier Place to Eat.

From there, I got a tip about Lava Hot Springs, and of course I had to go. Although fairly commercial, I think these were my favorite hot springs of the trip. They featured large, clear pools at different temperatures including one at 112 degrees, with my personal favorite around 105 degrees and featuring jets. I camped nearby, right by the river. I made a super tasty Thai noodle dish and caught up with my dad on a long call. We shared tales of the road, tips on camping in our cars (he's done a lot of that), and talked about our family and an upcoming reunion. I hit Lava Hot Springs once more before hitting the road toward Utah.

The last couple days of my trip were fantastic. I cruised from southern Idaho into northern Utah, beautiful country. I've visited some friends and Sky before heading to Spanish Fork for my final gig. The show itself was fairly uneventful, although I did get some great compliments and feedback. By the time I wrapped up there, it was well after midnight. I just wanted to point my vehicle toward home and go as far as I could. I cruised south on I-15 until I started to feel sleepy, pulled over at a rest stop, and passed out for the night.

The next morning, I woke up with the sun, excited to hit one final hot springs experience on my trek home, one of my favorites: Mystic Hot Springs in Monroe. Mystic Mike greeted me after they opened, and I told him about my tour. He asked if I'd like to play a couple of songs, which I did. I then soaked in one of the vintage bath tubs while I prepared myself mentally for my return to southern Utah.

As I pulled onto the plateau before entering Zion Canyon, I felt swirls of emotions, mostly happiness but also a little bit of fear. I brought back with me new insights on myself, the knowledge that I need to do better to nurture and take care of myself, and a new list of goals and visions for my life.

I feel so very blessed to have had this opportunity to travel, perform, meet new people, and just get out of my comfort zone for a bit. That much time by yourself forces you to look inside, something we all need to do.

Thank you all for your support and interest in this introspective journey. I am definitely considering doing it again, if just for the time on the road and to myself. As I write this, I am already gearing up for my next road trip in early July, driving up to the Oregon coast for a family reunion. Not only am I excited to get on the road again, but I'm super stoked to get to the ocean and to see all of my family. Be well and happy reading.



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EVENTS

A SEASON OF ADVENTURE By Kami Terry Paul

From swashbuckling pirates to feuding fairy royalty, from young lovers and warring families to singing and dancing gamblers, from a mysterious vagabond in a tavern in the middle of the Utah desert to magical forests, the 2017 season of the Utah Shakespeare Festival promises a season of adventure for all.

The season, which will run from June 29 to Oct. 21, includes nine plays that run the gamut with music, drama, excitement, and escapades of every kind.

The Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre

Two complementary plays, William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" and the theatrical adaptation of the Academy Award-winning movie "Shakespeare in Love," will anchor the Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre. "Shakespeare in Love" is about young William Shakespeare who, out of ideas and short of cash, meets his ideal woman and is inspired to write one of his most famous plays, "Romeo and Juliet." These interdependent story lines provided the impetus behind the festival producing these two plays in repertory with many shared elements and cast members.

The festival has been selected as one

of three theatres to present the first United States productions in the United States. It is based on the original screenplay by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard with stage adaptation by Lee Hall. It is presented by special arrangement with Disney Theatrical Productions and Sonia Friedman Productions.

Rounding out the Engelstad Theatre will be the Shakespeare comedy "As You Like It." This rollicking frolic of confused courtship between Rosalind and Orlando features beautiful poetry and unsurpassed wit with love and danger waiting in the Forest of Arden.

The Randall L. Jones Theatre

Four plays will fill the stage in the Randall L. Jones Theatre in 2017, offering a variety of genres stories and exploits.

First will be the classic musical "Guys and Dolls" with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and book by Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling. Considered by many to be the perfect musical comedy, "Guys and Dolls" ran for over 1,200 performances when it opened on Broadway in 1950. Winner of many Tony Awards and numerous

other theater prizes, it has been frequently revived and has proven to be perennially popular. Featuring such memorable songs as "A Bushel and a Peck"

and "Luck Be a Lady," this oddball romantic comedy will find a comfortable home at the festival.

Next will be the mountain west premiere of Mary Zimmerman's glorious adaptation of the Robert Louis Stevenson novel "Treasure Island." This epic tale based on classic literature will thrill the entire family with tales of buried treasure, cutthroat pirates, the larger-than-life Long John Silver, and courageous young cabin boy Jim Hawkins. A play with music, "Treasure Island" is dramatic storytelling at its theatrical best.

Possibly Shakespeare's most beloved comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will also appear in the Randall Theatre. This story of fairies, dreams, and moonlight gets a new and exciting look when set in the art deco world of the Jazz Age. It is still true that "the course of love never did run smooth," and when the feuding king and queen of the fairies interfere in the couplings of mortals, the result is pure pandemonium and magical mayhem.

Playing later in the season in the Randall L. Jones Theatre will be a world-premiere adaptation of the satirical comedy "The Tavern" by George M. Cohan.

Joseph Hanreddy (who adapted "Sense and Sensibility" for the festival in 2014) is adapting

this hilarious play and shifting the action and plot to locations and characters in Utah that just might feel familiar. As such, it is a dark and stormy night when a

mysterious vagabond, a damsel in distress, and a politician all end up at a remote Utah tavern in the adventuresome melodrama.

The Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre

First up in the 200-seat studio theater will be "William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)," brought to you by the same guys responsible for "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)." The play tells the not-quite factual (well, not at all factual) story of an ancient manuscript purported to be the first play written by William Shakespeare. Using questionable scholarship and street-performer smarts, a trio of comic actors will throw themselves into a fast, funny, and frenzied festival of physical finesse, witty wordplay, and plentiful punning.

And last but certainly not least is the nationally-acclaimed world premiere of playwright Neil LaBute's "How To Fight Loneliness." LaBute recently had two successful shows close off-Broadway and has another, "All the Ways To Say I Love You," opening this fall at MCC Theater. He and his work have been recognized with Tony Award nominations and Arts and Letters Awards in Literature, among others. "How To Fight Loneliness" explores a modern-day husband and wife who are at a life-changing crossroads and struggling to make monumental decisions about life and love.

"This is a season with something for everybody, and one that propels us into the next stage of our development as a theatre company," said Joshua Stavros, media and public relations director. "It definitely will be an adventure you don't want to miss."



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EVENTS

CEDAR CITY FINAL FRIDAYS ART WALK BEGINS THIRD SEASON

The third season of Cedar City's Final Fridays Art Walk began June 30. This collaboration between artists, businesses, and galleries takes place during

regular business hours all summer. Art demonstrations and live music are set for the final Friday of each month through Sept. 29. This year, Art Walk has 11 exhibiting locations that are centralized along Center Street to 300 West at the Southern Utah Museum of Art.

Final Fridays are gallery strolls that offer participants a chance to engage with local businesses and the work of visual artists from Utah. Featured artists will be at the locations to mingle with visitors and give demonstrations. In addition to the array of visual arts, some of the locations will hold receptions with food and performances from local musicians. Final Fridays are deliberately scheduled right before Utah Shakespeare Festival performances. All of the participating businesses and galleries are located in or near the downtown area and within walking distance to the Utah Shakespeare Festival.



MYSTIC HOT SPRINGS HOSTS ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Mystic Hot Springs will host the Mystic Hot Springs Music Festival in Monroe July 21-24. Performers include the Jeff Austin Band, Hot Buttered Rum, TAARKA, The Railsplitters, and Grant Farm. The festival will feature activities such as acroyoga, drum circles, and Thai massage.



Ariana "Air" Gradow will help facilitate a flash mob during a July 24 parade.

Tickets includes onsite camping, all music and activities, hot springs access, parking, taxes, and fees. More information and tickets are available at mystichotspingsmusicfestival.com.

DOVE CENTER OFFERS FREE ONGOING WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUPS

Each Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7 p.m., DOVE Center offers the following free, ongoing support groups: the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors' Support Group (adult women only), the Kids' Club for children ages 6 to 11 who have been exposed to domestic violence or trauma, and Grupo de Ayuda (coordinado por Hispanas para Hispanas, solo mujeres).

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

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

Espanol, [435] 628-0458 x 304.)

To learn more or to donate to DOVE Center, visit dovecenter.org.



SUMA HOSTS "PATHFINDERS: NEW TERRITORIES" QUILT EXHIBIT

The Southern Utah Museum of Art at Southern Utah University will host "Pathfinders: New Territories," a national juried art quilt exhibition, through Aug. 26.

Under the direction of Deborah Snider, 61 artists from 24 states submitted 122 quilts. Working with an online, blind-jury process, jurors Marilyn Badger and Sandra Hoefner selected 33 artworks from 31 artists living in 16 states for the show. The artists selected to exhibit their pieces are Betsy Abbott, Margaret Abramshe, B.J. Adams, Linda Anderson, Pat Budge, Erika Carter, Shannon M. Conley, Vicki Conley, Gabriele DiTota, Marian Eason, Kristine

Eberhard, Aileyn Ecob, Deborah Fell, Paula Giovanini-Morris, Debra Goley, Barbara Oliver Hartman, Yunhwa Jang, Nancy Lemke, Niraja Lorenz, Salley Mavor, Susan McBride Gilgen, Lea McComas, Anne Muñoz, Margaret Noah, Linda Oszejca, Karen Post, Kathleen Russu, Maya Schonenberger, Bonnie Smith, Paula Straw, and Vivien Wise.

Since 1991, Badger, from St. George has produced award-winning quilts, winning numerous best-of-show awards around the country and Best Longarm Quilting Awards at all three American Quilter's Society shows held in Nashville, Des Moines, and Paducah, Kentucky. Badger's work has been featured in many national and international quilting books and magazines.

Hoefner, of Grand Junction, Colorado, holds a bachelor's degree in painting and ceramics from the University of Alaska, Anchorage, and a master's degree in drawing, painting, and mixed media including fiber and assemblage from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Her artwork is included in national art quilt and fiber publications.



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Aug. 14

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EVENTS

ST. GEORGE ART MUSEUM HOSTS DATE NIGHT

Are you looking for a fun, creative night out with someone special? The St. George Art Museum has an activity that may be just what you're looking for.

On July 14 from 7 to 9 p.m., the St. George Art Museum will host a date night event with an array of entertaining activities. These include music, couple activities, art making, a photo booth,

and light refreshments. The event is one of 20 events presented by the museum in celebration of 20 years in its current building and is free and open to the public.

Prospective attendees can sign up for the date night by calling (435) 627-4525 or emailing museum@sgcity.org. The St. George Art museum is located at 47 E 200 N in St. George. More information is available at sgartmuseum.com.



THE KAYENTA ARTS FOUNDATION PRESENTS POETRY UNDER THE STARS 7



Photo by Darren M. Edwards



Photo by Whitney Shurtleff

Since its inception by Garry Peter Morris and Ryan Rutkoskie, the Kayenta Arts Foundation's Poetry Under the Stars event has been known as an evening of beautifully crafted poetry, powerful performances, and intense emotions. This year's event (Saturday, July 22 at 7:30 p.m.) promises that and more.



Photo by Darren M. Edwards

While the evening will move into the new Kayenta Center for the Arts for the first time, it will feature some familiar poets. Joining event director Darren M. Edwards will be Janae Godfrey, Ron Coulson, and Whitney Shurtleff. For the first time ever, this year's performance will feature original musical compositions by Sydney Robb.

While all ages are welcome, this is an uncensored event that will contain some adult language and themes. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at kayentaartsfoundation.org/events. Students can receive a \$10 discount on their tickets. For more information on the event contact Jan Broberg at janibroberg@gmail.com or Darren M. Edwards at darren.edwards@dixie.edu

HISTORIC ST. GEORGE LIVE TOURS RECREATE FAMOUS SETTLERS

This summer, both St. George residents and visitors can meet Brigham Young, Erastus Snow, Orson Pratt, Jacob Hamblin, Judge John Menzies Macfarlane, and a pioneer woman as part of the Historic St. George Live tours. Through August 31, (excluding July 4 and 24), guests will meet the pioneer settlers in historic buildings around town. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 10 a.m., the tours will be given at the art museum at the Pioneer Center for the Arts, located at 47 E 200 N, across the street from the post office.

The first-person reenactment is in its 19th year of entertaining and informing guests about early St. George history. In period costumes, the actors, tour guides, bus drivers, and day captains take visitors back to 1870 with historic facts and artifacts such

as a replica odometer that pioneers used to count the miles on the wheels of their wagons. At the Pioneer Courthouse, visitors will witness a trial for someone misusing a water turn, showing the importance of irrigation. The St. George Tabernacle, the Pioneer Opera House, Brigham Young's Winter Home, and the Daughters of Utah Pioneer Museum are all included on the tour. Buses are provided between sites.

In past years, the tours have catered to family and class reunions, Scout troops, neighborhoods, churches, civic clubs, businesses, bus tours, and others.

Tickets can be purchased at the St. George Art Museum. They are \$3 for ages 12 and up. Children 11 and under are admitted free with an adult. More information is available by calling (435) 627-4525.



Sunset on the Square
Town Square Park

Starting May 26th, the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month (May - August), the City of St. George and Write It Up! will turn Town Square into an outdoor theatre! Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy FREE family films under the stars! Come early to enjoy the games, booths, face painting, water balloons, dancing and prizes!!

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BRIAN HEAD RESORT REOPENS AFTER FIRE

Brian Head, Brian Head Resort, and the other local businesses in Brian Head have been saved from the massive wildfire that evacuated over 700 residents and visitors and closed the community for nearly two weeks. The evacuation order

was lifted for both Brian Head and Dry Lakes areas June 30. Access to Brian Head is now open through Cedar Breaks National Monument (State Route 148) and State Route 14 in Cedar Canyon. SR 143 from Parowan to Brian Head and the junction of SR 148 to Panguitch remain closed until further notice.

The resort's lift-served Mountain Bike Park and hiking trails are open. However, closures remain in effect for many other mountain biking and hiking trails in the Brian Head area. Brian Head officials ask that visitors obey all trail and road closures. Currently closed trails are Marathon, Mace's, Sydney Peaks, Bunker Creek, Dark Hollow, Scout Camp.

More information is available at brianhead.com and utahfireinfo.gov.



Photo by Mike Saemisch

ZINKE REPORT SAYS BEARS EARS BOUNDARIES NEED TO CHANGE

By Darren M. Edwards

On June 12 at noon, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke briefed the press on his interim report on the Bears Ears National Monument which he delivered to President Trump over the weekend.

After clarifying that the earlier claims that he'd postponed the report were false, Zinke went on to emphasize the amount of research, public commentary, and discussion with state, local, and tribal officials that went into the suggestions in the report.

Among the biggest takeaways from the report were Zinke's request that the president ask Congress to act to enable tribal co-management of the monument. He also suggested that the 1.5 million acre monument should be restructured including the redesignation of some areas as national recreation or national conservation areas.

According to the memorandum, "rather than designating an entire area encompassing almost 1.5 million acres as a national monument, it would have been more appropriate to identify and separate

the areas that have significant objects to be protected."

These were Secretary Zinke's recommendations to the president:

- Revision of the boundaries through appropriate authority, including the exercise of presidential authority under the act.
- The president request congressional authority to enable tribal co-management of designated cultural areas within the monument boundaries.
- Congress make more appropriate conservation designations within the current monument boundaries such as national recreation areas or national conservation areas.
- Congress clarify the intent of the management practices of wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas within the boundaries.



STUDY SHOWS ARTS' ECONOMIC IMPACT IN IRON COUNTY

A national study by Americans for the Arts found that the nation's nonprofit arts and culture industry generated \$166.3 billion in economic activity in 2015 — \$63.8 billion in spending by arts and cultural organizations and an additional \$102.5 billion in event-related spending by their audiences. This supported 4.6 million jobs and generated \$27.5 billion in government revenue, the study found.

Several local arts groups submitted data and helped with patron surveys, including the Cedar City Arts Council, the Utah Shakespeare Festival, the Cedar City/Brian Head Tourism Office, and Cedar City

Economic Development.

"By every measure, the results of Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 prove that the arts are an industry—a generator of government revenue, a cornerstone of tourism, and an employment powerhouse both locally and across the nation," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "Leaders who care about community and economic vitality, growing tourism, attracting an innovative workforce, and community engagement can feel good about choosing to invest in the arts."

Direct arts industry expenditures in Iron County were over \$76 million with a population of 47,000 compared to Logan City with \$31 million and a similar population.

"The arts impact adds up to a lot of jobs and local spending," said Cedar City Arts Council board member Sara Penny. "In contrasting Iron County with comparable communities all over the country, it is clear that the arts are an increasingly important economic resource for our area."

Nationally, 34 percent of surveyed arts events attendees travel from outside the area and spent about twice what local residents spent in addition to event tickets. Nearly 70 percent of surveyed visitors indicated that they came to the county specifically to attend an arts or cultural event.

The arts contribute to government revenue through the economic activity generated above the investment of government grants. A typical National Endowment for the Arts grant requires matching funds plus a rigorous review and stewardship process. Nationally, the government investment in the arts is about \$5 billion, and government revenue generated by the arts is over \$27 billion.

Locally, the average cultural attendee expenses are \$126 per person plus admission costs to arts events, resulting in over \$62 million contributed to the Iron County economy plus admission revenue.



Photo by Darren M. Edwards

DOCTORS PERFORM DIXIE REGIONAL'S FIRST TRANSCATHETER AORTIC VALVE REPLACEMENT

At Dixie Regional Medical Center, Dr. Blake Gardner and Dr. Jason Bowles together performed the institution's first transcatheter aortic valve replacement procedure. Mark Jamison was the first patient at Dixie Regional to have the procedure.

A transcatheter aortic valve replacement is a way to replace a diseased heart valve without having to open the patient's chest. During the procedure, a replacement valve is inserted through a small cut in the upper thigh. The doctor uses a catheter to navigate the valve to the heart and then expands the valve into place, and the new valve immediately begins to function.

"This is a great example of the benefits of a system approach to cardiovascular care," said Reuben Evans, who directs heart services at Dixie Regional. "We can implement and refine the most challenging

procedures at our lead tertiary center, Intermountain Medical Center Heart Institute. Then other heart surgeons can be trained there so they can offer new services at Dixie and other hospitals."



A Dixie Regional Staff member looks on as Mark Jamison recuperates. Jamison was the first recipient of a transcatheter aortic valve replacement at the hospital.

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SIZZLING HOT GOLF DEALS IN JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER

By Scott Dunford



This is the time of year we local golfers can celebrate what's hot about living in the desert here in Mesquite and southern Utah: Great golf rates with superb conditions!

We are truly blessed living here during the summer while our snowbird golfers wait for the return of mild temperatures. After you've played a round or two during the summer, you quickly realize it's an assume time of the year to play golf. It's a whole lot less expensive, and if you play before 6 or 7 a.m., you'll avoid the triple-digit heat most days. During July, August, and September, you can spend up to 70 percent less than our peak season rates! Check out these three tips to play more golf during the sizzling summer heat.

Tee it up before 7 a.m. Sunrise is right around 5 a.m. right now. Tee times start around 5-5:30 a.m. during the summer months, allowing you time to finish in less than four hours in most cases. That's due to fewer beginners and less crowded fairways. Finishing 18 holes before the real heat kicks in is the trick. This past week, my three friends and I teed it up at 6:10 a.m. at Falcon Ridge in Mesquite on a day when the weatherman said it was going to hit 116 degrees! We finished by 10 a.m. with a temperature of 99 degrees. Ninety-nine degrees was tolerable, leaving us plenty of time remaining in the day.

Hydrate every second or third hole. You'll find that our courses understand hydration and how important that is during this time of year. They typically have purified ice water stations every third hole. It's also a great idea to bring a fresh towel that you can soak with ice-cold water and wrap around your neck when it gets in the high 90s or low 100s. It takes the temperature of your body down a degree or two, which can be the

difference between playing the last three holes at the end of your day or finding an excuse to leave. Don't forget the sunblock, and always wear a hat.

There are an abundance of tee times available, even during the early morning hours when it's the best time of the day to play! Utilize the chart on this page to view all the local course telephone numbers and addresses. When peak season arrives in October, your game will still be sharp and ready to take on those returning snowbirds and vacationing guests!

I love this time of year for golf. The course conditions are superb. Course superintendents are focused on getting their courses in great shape for peak season when they generate 70 percent or more of their annual revenue. You can

even find even lower rates on golfnow.com, teetime.com, and others if you're a bit more flexible. So get out there and stop complaining about how it's too hot to do anything.

Summertime is a great time to be outdoors, but do it sensibly. Take plenty of water, and hydrate often. You'll never over-hydrate, but you can always under-hydrate. Whether you're hiking, fishing, enjoying watersports, or taking in an evening show at Tuachan, we locals love our summertime here in southern Utah. Check out our calendar of events in print and online at sunindependent.com. There's always something to do or see year-round in this little piece of paradise we call home! See you on the links.



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(435) 634-5866

SUNRIVER G.C.
4210 South Bluegrass Way
St. George, UT
(435) 986-0001

THE LEDGES G.C.
5224 North Winchester Hills Drive
St. George, UT
(435) 634-4640



**PHOTO ESSAY: DESIGNER
HOLDS FASHION SHOW
ATOP HOOVER DAM**

Jessica Minh Anh's Summer Fashion Show 2017



Ani Alvarez Calderon at Jessica Minh Anh's Hoover Dam Show.

On June 26, Jessica Minh Anh, a designer acclaimed for producing innovative runways, transformed the Hoover Dam into a sky-high catwalk. Anh's J Summer Fashion Show 2017, which stopped traffic atop the iconic megastructure, showcased nine haute couture, ready-to-wear, and jewelry collections from four continents. The show marked Anh's 20th production since her history-making catwalk on England's famous London's Tower Bridge.



Jessica Minh Anh's Summer Fashion Show - Emmanuel Haute Couture



BTS Jessica Minh Anh's Summer Fashion Show atop Hoover Dam



Hoover Dam spokesperson Rose Davis (left) and Jessica Minh Anh

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OPINION

DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY IS UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION AND IT'S ABOUT DAMN TIME

By Dallas Hyland



The Salt Lake Tribune reported this week that Dixie State University has become the fourth Utah school under federal investigation for sexual misconduct allegations. The article states that the other three schools — the University of Utah, Westminster College, and Brigham Young University — are specifically under investigation for allegedly mishandling sexual assault complaints from students. It should be noted here that the investigation into DSU is also for allegedly mishandling complaints by students, in particular the complaint Title IX complaint filed by Victoria Willard.

Willard alleges — among other things but most notably — that the school did not follow its own policies and procedures in the handling of her case and that it used the very contents of her case to file a retaliatory case against her. Given the presumption of innocence the school is duly entitled to aside, it does not bode well at all for its case that it gave her a complimentary bachelors degree upon expelling her, one she neither wanted nor earned. Ask yourself why they would do this, and if the answer is “to shut her up,” you win a prize.

The article also notes a statement by DSU in response to the investigation. “The university is fully committed to complying with all policies and following all processes to protect its students, faculty, and staff,” the

Find more at SUindependent.com

statement said. “Decisions are made with the best interest of the university community in mind.”

Given DSU's track record with a growing litany of “mishandled” situations, it could be said here that decisions are made with the best interest of the university community in mind. But the glaring question here is, “Just who exactly is that community?”

Because it sure as hell is not students or faculty.

Just ask Professor Joel Lewis, who was summarily coerced by President Biff Williams and other members of the administration, including the then sitting president of the faculty senate, to leave the school with a payoff in lieu of being fired for allegedly encouraging students to think.

Just ask Professor Varlo Davenport, who upon being acquitted of allegations of wrongdoing in a court of law was summarily defamed and further damaged by the school that had already mishandled the incident he was accused of and without due process of any sort destroyed his professional career.

These are the most prevalent and recent examples, of course, and I don't mean to exclude the many other incidents wherein the best interest of the university seemed to be conflated with something that had little or nothing to with the civil rights of the people involved. It's just that in the cases of Lewis, Davenport, and now Willard, the school's seeming inability to simply follow its policies as well as the law is a glaringly apparent pattern.

I am going to go out on a limb here and suggest that it may be the university's undoing. It appears to have been able to maintain some damage control with things like paying a salary to someone whose rights they may have violated to simply leave quietly. It was only a matter of time, however, before some people with a little fight in them lawyered up and resolved not only to right the wrong they believe they have suffered but to engage in a legal reckoning of sorts to see to it that what happened to them befalls no one else in the future — and to see to it that those responsible are held accountable.

I have been covering these and other incidents and cases at DSU for the better part of four years now, and there appear to be distinct patterns of behavior by the university and some of the same people involved in almost every case. And for some time now, I have been saying both in print and on the air that what is needed is for a federal entity to investigate this school and investigate it thoroughly.

Because that pattern of behavior is woefully egregious. In select cases for reasons outside of policy or law, DSU appears to exact with impunity the hostile personal agendas of members of faculty, administration, and perhaps even members of the board of

trustees and with the enforcement of a police force under color of law. It has maintained, and may still maintain, a “whistleblower” site where complaints and allegations are fielded by individuals outside of what is stipulated in the policies and where anonymous allegations are given a veracity that defies the law. To what end? Use your imagination.

The former head of DSU's campus police, Don Reid, currently has a complaint filed against him with the Utah Peace Officer's Standards and Training council for two very serious allegations: false and unwarranted threat of arrest and filing a false police report, both of which are not only serious crimes but terminal offenses.

(Reid retired last month after 42 years of service. Sources who wish not to be named say he did so against his will.)

And all this contention, which will lead to years of litigation, is paid for by you, the taxpayer. Yours are the deep pockets DSU has to employ the Utah Attorney General's Office to defend them as well as pay the salary of their general counsel, Doogie Hicks. (One has to wonder if the AG finds it disconcerting that the school has an attorney on staff that may still not yet be licensed to practice law in Utah.)

As a side note, keep this in mind: The Utah AG is bound by different standards than private council. He has a sworn oath to the people of Utah to uphold the law and is required to act accordingly if he becomes aware that his client has committed or is committing a crime.

This case is not trivial. Not in the least. It is a double-edged sword of sorts in that it has the potential to reveal not only some things about the school's actions in Willard's case but also serious concerns across the gamut of how the school operates as a whole. Investigations at the federal level can be isolated, or they can lead to more things of interest, and in this case those things might be how DSU handles the civil rights of individuals who work and attend there.

And as often happens, perhaps a domino effect will begin whereby other departments of federal agencies will take a keen interest into the handling of the school's finances as well as the actions of the campus police, in particular intimidation tactics and their handling of evidence. Misgivings and misbehavior are sometimes the bedfellows of money. Follow the trail, they say.

But be certain of this: DSU is under at least one federal investigation, and it is fair to say that more may follow.

See you out there.



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SPECIAL FEATURE

DEATH MILLS

Story by Cora Hamer
Photos by Darren M. Edwards

"Come on, you old hag."

Darkness flooded the space as a man pulled the rickety door shut. Benny peered outside his wired cage, awakened by the sound of his mother leaving with the man. His fluffy white fur was covered in fecal matter, tics, and fleas. The nails of his



back paw were grown out and wrapped the bottom of his cage, restraining him from movement.

Through the stacked, rotting wood of a makeshift barn, he could see a sliver of light. He whimpered at his dream: fresh grass, streaming ponds, and playing with his mother. Stacked above, below, and to the sides of him are dozens of other puppies with similar dreams.

Muffled shouting, splashing, and yipping erupted outside the barn, perking Benny's matted ears.

"Get in the damn water, you mutt!" the man demanded with eerie laughter.

The splashes and yips eventually ceased, leaving Benny to wonder when his mom would be back for him.

So what is a puppy mill? Think torture, isolation, disease, and death. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals estimates that 10,000 active puppy mills are hidden within the United States. Commercial puppy mills make an ideal amount of money for the breeder as they sell puppies to pet stores and through ads online.

With no legal oversight of proper breeding requirements and regulations,



puppy mills can operate under the sole interest of profit, ignoring basic care for the puppies and their parents like adequate food, water, space, play time, and veterinary visits.

At a puppy mill, puppies are generally born and weaned from their mothers and quickly sentenced to life in a wired cage or boarded box until they are sold to pet stores. They endure weather conditions of extreme heat or bitter cold while rarely — if ever — leaving their cages. Mothers are bred with little to no recovery time in between litters and disposed of when they can no longer produce puppies. Shooting, drowning, and beating are among the most common means of disposal.

Many puppies end up suffering with diseases or infirmities ranging from parasites to pneumonia. Little thought goes into the quality of the breed of puppy, making inbreeding quite common. This creates more health issues and congenital and hereditary conditions including heart disease and respiratory disorders.

Sadly, there is technically no legal definition of a "puppy mill," so it isn't hard for pet stores to show fraudulent papers stating that their puppies came from a reputable breeder. Try asking for the location of the breeder or the puppy's parents — it won't happen. It's easy to enter a pet store and see adorable, eight-week-old puppies, but where is your money going?

—To impregnate more female dogs until they can no longer stand and are quickly disposed of.

—To start a puppy's life in a cage infested with bugs and fecal matter.

—To end a puppy's life when they die in the cage from disease, starvation, or trauma.



—To disreputable breeders who don't give once ounce of care to the well being of animals.

puppy mills puppy store Washington City

What can one do to end and expose puppy mills?

—Visit the Southern Utah Animal Alliance Facebook page for updates on ways to expose The Puppy Store in Washington City.

—Volunteer and support local St. George animals shelters.

—Boycott any pet store that sells animals.

—Pledge to stop puppy mills on the Humane Society of the United States website.

—Show off your awesome rescue and how he or she changed your life.

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The advertisement features a background image of three people riding electric bikes and trikes on a paved path. One person is in a red shirt, another in a blue shirt, and a third in a white shirt riding a trike. The background shows a scenic view of hills and trees.

SPECIAL FEATURE

THE INDEPENDENT ADOPTABLE PETS GUIDE

By Nikki Slade

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary is located five miles north of Kanab at 5001 Angel Canyon Road. All adoptable cats and dogs are spayed or neutered and up to date on vaccinations. If you have questions about a specific pet or the adoption process, please email adoptions@bestfriends.org. If you'd like to apply to adopt one of these featured pets, click the link to their bio where you will find the adoption survey.

Louie



Louie is one of those shy dogs who's really not so shy after all. He'll walk anywhere with you but prefers not to be loved on too much. Cookies are an acceptable display of affection. Louie loves other dogs and gets all other dogs to love him, too; they just can't help it. He also passed his cat test at the sanctuary. Louie is polite and well behaved. He enjoys spending time in one of the Dogtown kitchens and doesn't even beg or jump on the counters. Although he is shy and fearful with people, Louie will happily approach them for a quick sniff and to see if they have any treats. However, if that person goes to pet him, he politely declines the affection and walks away to sniff elsewhere. Louie was born in 2015 and is currently starting treatment for heartworm disease. He also has anaplasmosis, a tick-borne disease. Besides his medical treatments, the biggest things Louie is working on at the sanctuary are walking nicely on a leash and becoming more comfortable getting in and out of vehicles. As Louie gets more confident and comfortable with the world, he's sure to let even more of his loving gentle personality shine through.

Frido



No one's happier to have company than Frido. He loves attention and is eager to be with people, especially when they brush his beautiful coat or take him for rides on the golf cart. He's also great with other dogs and gets along well with cats. Born in 2008, he is sweet, gentle, and mellow. He's a wonderful listener and easy to walk on a leash. Frido has already lost a lot of weight and is currently working on dropping, even more pounds to get down to a healthy weight. He gets insulin and takes medication for diabetes, Cushing's disease, and pain in his leg. Despite his medical needs, Frido is a very happy boy. He'd do great in a quiet, loving home where he can spend hours hanging out with his special person on the couch.



Addison

Addison is a fun-loving little dog who wants to be where the action and the people are. Dogtown caregivers say she's a live wire who loves to stay busy, especially with her iFetch ball launcher. Born in 2015, Addison came to the sanctuary from a poodle rescue in California. She was having difficulty finding a home because a spinal injury left her unable to wag her tail as much as she'd like and also unable to control where and when she goes to the bathroom. Her incontinence has been quite manageable at the sanctuary. A prescription diet helps prevent stomach upset. Bladder expressing a couple times a day helps to control any leaking. Bathing her hind end daily keeps her clean and comfortable. During the night, a confined sleeping area with multiple beds helps her stay dry. In spite of her injury, Addison is a very active and fit little dog who loves to play with other dogs at the sanctuary. She is currently working on waiting at doors because she has a tendency to dash through them and run. Addison would love the chance to experience life in a home with a stable routine that is full of love and celebration.

Peter

Peter is a loving, affectionate, and playful boy. He does well with other energetic, playful cats, but he can be a bit much for shy cats. Born in 2014, Peter has feline leukemia virus. He would need to be an only cat or live with other cats who also have the virus. He is a very smart boy who enjoys going for rides in a stroller and walks on a harness and leash. We are working on clicker training. Peter needs a home where he can get lots of attention and stimulation.



Vina



Vina is a very outgoing and friendly girl. She will come up to greet you and let you pick her up and cuddle her. She might be timid when first meeting other cats, but she makes friends quickly. Born in 2013, Vina came to us in a litter of kittens born to a stray. She had bladder stones and had surgery to remove them. We currently have her on a special diet to avoid recurrence. She may not need to stay on the special diet if she goes to a home where she drinks plenty of water and her condition is closely monitored. But she is on eyedrops long-term for a potential ocular disease. Even if you don't have a lot of experience in dealing with feline medical issues, Vina is super easy to treat because she's so sweet. She will be a lovely companion, a real snuggler and lap cat. If you sit and pet her, she will purr and roll around as if nothing else matters in life.

Because Animals Matter

Because Animals Matter is dedicated to reducing animal abuse and neglect through education. It offers fully vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and microchipped animals for adoption through a network of foster homes and the Because Animals Matter Center, a transition facility. It also welcomes volunteers for a variety of activities and needs foster families for animals awaiting their forever homes. Please contact Because Animals Matter at (435) 773-5209 or visit becauseanimalsmatter.com for more information.

Felicity

Felicity is a big sweetheart. She is approximately 1 year old. She is an energetic and happy German shepherd (mix?) pup. Felicity weighs about 60 lbs. and hasn't met a human, dog, or ball she doesn't like.



She still has that puppy energy and needs an active family with a yard to call home. She is smart and loves to please but is still learning her manners, so she needs guidance and consistent reinforcement of the rules. She walks well on a leash but would make a loving companion for a walker, runner, or hiker. Her special skills include fetch, morning snuggles, and loving everyone who walks through the door. To meet Felicity, call Danielle at (435) 862-7553. Felicity's adoption fee is \$125.

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SPECIAL FEATURE

Jimmy



Jimmy is a sweet dog with a lot of personality. He is approximately 1 year old and weighs 12–14 pounds. He is playful with other dogs but timid when meeting new people and takes some time to warm up. He may have been abused because he cowers when corrected or unsure. Because he is unaltered, he demonstrates behaviors typical of unaltered male dogs but will be neutered at the end of May. To meet Jimmy, call Phyllis at (435) 705-9227. Jimmy's adoption fee is \$150.

Maggie



Maggie is a cutie. She likes to play but also knows how to relax and soak up the sun. She is in a foster home with other dogs with whom she shares a loving relationship. She came to Because Animals Matter from a shelter at three months old and had a bad case of mange, but it has been treated. However, mange can recur in dogs, so her new family will have to keep an eye on her. However, it is easily treatable and not contagious to you or other pets in the family. To see her, call her foster parent, Lisa, at (435) 313-6422. Her adoption fee is \$150.



Roger

Roger is a wonderfully sweet and happy dog. He was picked up as a stray and is estimated to be between 2 and 4 years of age. He is quite excited when he first meets you but settles after a short time and is a good walker. He is learning his manners and already sits nicely for a treat and will

learn quickly as he is food-motivated and wants to please. He plays well with other dogs and is energetic, as is typical of his age. He is neutered and ready to meet his forever family. To meet Roger, call Aggie at (435) 773-1667 or Sue at (801) 554-3378. His adoption fee is \$125.

The City of Mesquite Animal Shelter

The City of Mesquite Animal Shelter is located at 795 Hardy Way and is open for adoptions from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays and from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sundays. Please call (702) 346-7415 during these hours to speak to the front desk, or visit mesquiteanimalshelter.petfinder.com. Animal Control may be reached by phone or voicemail at (702) 346-5268. Adoption fees include spaying or neutering and a 1-year rabies shot. Mesquite residents only receive one-year city pet licenses.

Willow



Willow was found as a stray. She is a very friendly, playful dog, and she loves people. She went on a sleepover and was loved by everyone and the other dogs in the home until it was playtime or feeding time. She does not share toys with other dogs, although she does with people. She has some food-sharing issues. She will eat out of the same bowl as another dog, but with two bowls, she becomes protective of her bowl. She would do best as the only dog in the home. The adoption fee for Willow is \$60.

Rosie



Rosie's owner could no longer keep her. She is shy, but once she gets to know you she is very sweet and loving. Rosie likes playing with toys or just sitting beside you while you pet her and tell her how wonderful she is. She is such a nice little dog. Rosie would probably do better in an adult home. The adoption fee for Rosie is \$60.

Rosa

Rosa's owner could no longer keep her. She is less than a year old. Rosa is very friendly, and she loves people. She will come when called. Her owner had Rosa trained to a harness so she could be on the patio when she was outside. Rosa has



beautiful coloration and unusual facial markings with striking blue eyes. The adoption fee for Rosa is \$40.

Joey



Joey's owner could no longer keep him. Joey is less than a year old. He is very friendly and loves people. Joey will come when called. His owner had him trained to a harness so he could be on patio when she was outside. Joey has a shiny black coat with a white spot on his front leg and huge golden eyes. He is quite stunning. The adoption fee for Joey is \$40.

PAWS

PAWS Adoption Center is located at 1125 W 1130 N in St. George. Please submit an application at dixiepaws.org. Call (435) 688-9748 or email officepaws@gmail.com. All pets are microchipped, spayed or neutered, and current on vaccinations. Below are the pets currently available for adoption from the shelter.



Vinnie

Vinnie is a 10-year-old Chihuahua mix. He doesn't seem to bark a lot. Vinnie gets along with all the dogs at PAWS, and he is not a shy dog. He will walk up to you and just wants to be loved and receive attention. He has a very nice disposition and low to medium energy. This little guy would be a great addition to any home.

Fiona

Fiona is a 2-year-old female Chihuahua. She is a sweet but timid girl. Once she gets to know you, she is very friendly and loving. Fiona came to PAWS from a shelter in Vegas in April. She gets along with older children and dogs. If you're looking for an addition to your family, consider this cute little girl.



Dottie

Dottie is 4 1/2 years old. She is a gray-and-white domestic shorthair. She is very



friendly and outgoing. Dottie will lick you when she first meets you. She is litterbox trained and gets along with other cats. Dottie is pretty mellow but also playful. She has been at PAWS since October 2016. We don't know why she is still here, because she is such a sweet girl! We're sure that if you meet her, you will agree.

Lydia



Lydia is a 10-month-old tabby/calico mix. She came to PAWS from a shelter in September 2016. Lydia is shy at first and will need a patient person to give her confidence. She has been in a home with other cats and dogs but is now at our adoption center. Lydia is litterbox trained and is very sweet. Come in and meet her soon.



Sophia

Sophia is a 2-year-old domestic shorthair tabby. She came to PAWS in December 2016 and was pregnant. She was a great mom, but she is ready to find her family now. Sophia is very sweet but is a little shy. She is litterbox trained and very clean. Sophia also gets along with other cats. Please come in and meet this girl!

PET SAFETY FOR FIREWORKS SEASON

By Aubree Thomas

No Fourth of July would be complete without fireworks displays. But pets often don't find the noise, blasts, and flashing lights associated with fireworks fun or entertaining. With fireworks going off in Utah throughout the month of July, pets are bound to get stressed and anxious. Utah State University Extension specialist Karl Hoopes and Allison Willoughby, both faculty in the USU School of Veterinary Medicine, shared tips to help owners keep their pets safe and make the summer more enjoyable for everyone.

Both Hoopes and Willoughby emphasized the importance of keeping pets in an area they are familiar with and where they can't hear the fireworks.

"If your dog is mildly nervous, just keeping it in a safe area is easiest and safest," Willoughby said. "Feeling 'safe' to your dog may be a cool basement or lower-level family room with a fan blowing to dampen the noise."

Hoopes said the shelter needs to be indoors where sound can be better controlled and pets can't escape. Playing soft music



Photo by Darren M. Edwards

or leaving the TV on can also keep them distracted and drown out the noise of the fireworks.

Special clothing, such as anxiety jackets or vests, can also be helpful in keeping animals calm. Willoughby said these jackets basically give the dog a hug by applying constant pressure, which makes it feel safer.

While dogs are usually more comfortable when their owners are nearby, giving them too much reassurance can actually have the opposite effect and make them more nervous.

"Dogs can feel more anxious if you are telling them over and over again they are going to be okay," Willoughby said. "They

can sense your own anxiety. Try to project confidence to your dog and give it the most attention when it is calm and confident."

Prescription medications can also be useful when it comes to helping pets feel safe. If a dog has high anxiety levels, Hoopes advised owners to plan ahead and contact their veterinarian to get a safe sedative to keep it calm.

"Every year from the 4th of July to the 24th, people give sedatives for their dogs because they know this time period is going to be hard on them," Hoopes said. "All they do is give them the sedative pill and let them go to sleep."

Herbal supplements can also be beneficial in treating milder cases of

anxiety. Willoughby said these supplements are available over-the-counter from pet stores or veterinarians and are safe to give over long periods of time.

Willoughby warned that people should never give prescriptions designed for humans to their pets and recommended that pet owners visit their veterinarians to find out what medication will work best for their pets.

"Don't use human prescriptions on your animals," Willoughby said. "Some may be toxic, and the dosages are different for pets. Your veterinarian will carefully calculate correct dosages based on your pet's species and weight. Also, your veterinarian will know any preexisting conditions that might not allow your pet to take certain medications."

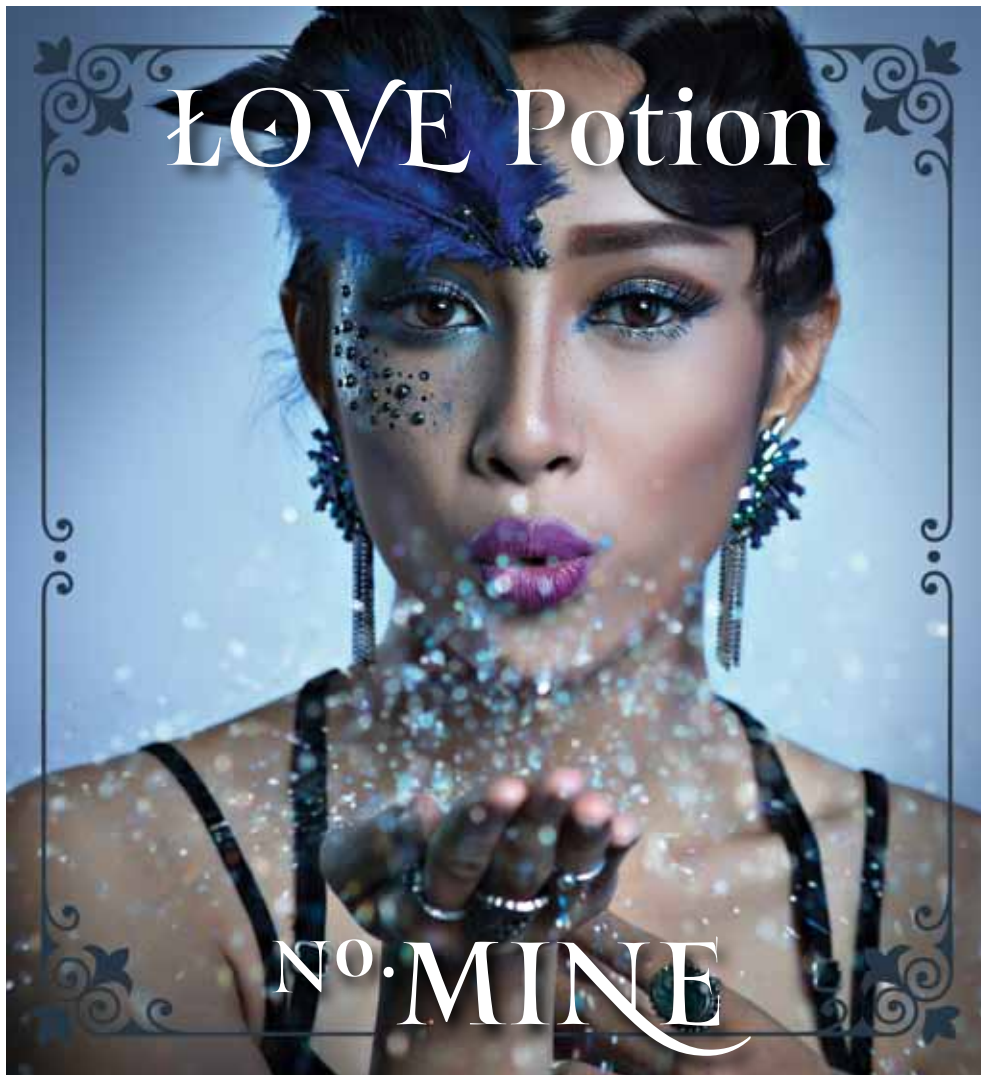
Willoughby had some advice for cat owners as well.

"I recommend you keep your cat indoors," she said. "Cats are pretty good about finding a spot where they feel secure. If they are hiding out a lot, just make sure they have access to their litter box, food, and water and somewhere they can visit without feeling too vulnerable."

Even after taking all of these precautions, sometimes pets still escape. Before attending any activity or celebration, pet owners should make sure their animal's microchip and license are up to date to avoid losing their furry friends.

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By Darren M. Edwards

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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.

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Downtown Farmers Market at Ancestor Square

The Downtown Farmers Market in Ancestor Square is a free event held every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon in the parking lot located at St. George Boulevard and Main Street in historic downtown St. George. It runs from May 14 until the end October. Local musicians will perform starting at 9:30 a.m.

Sunset on the Square

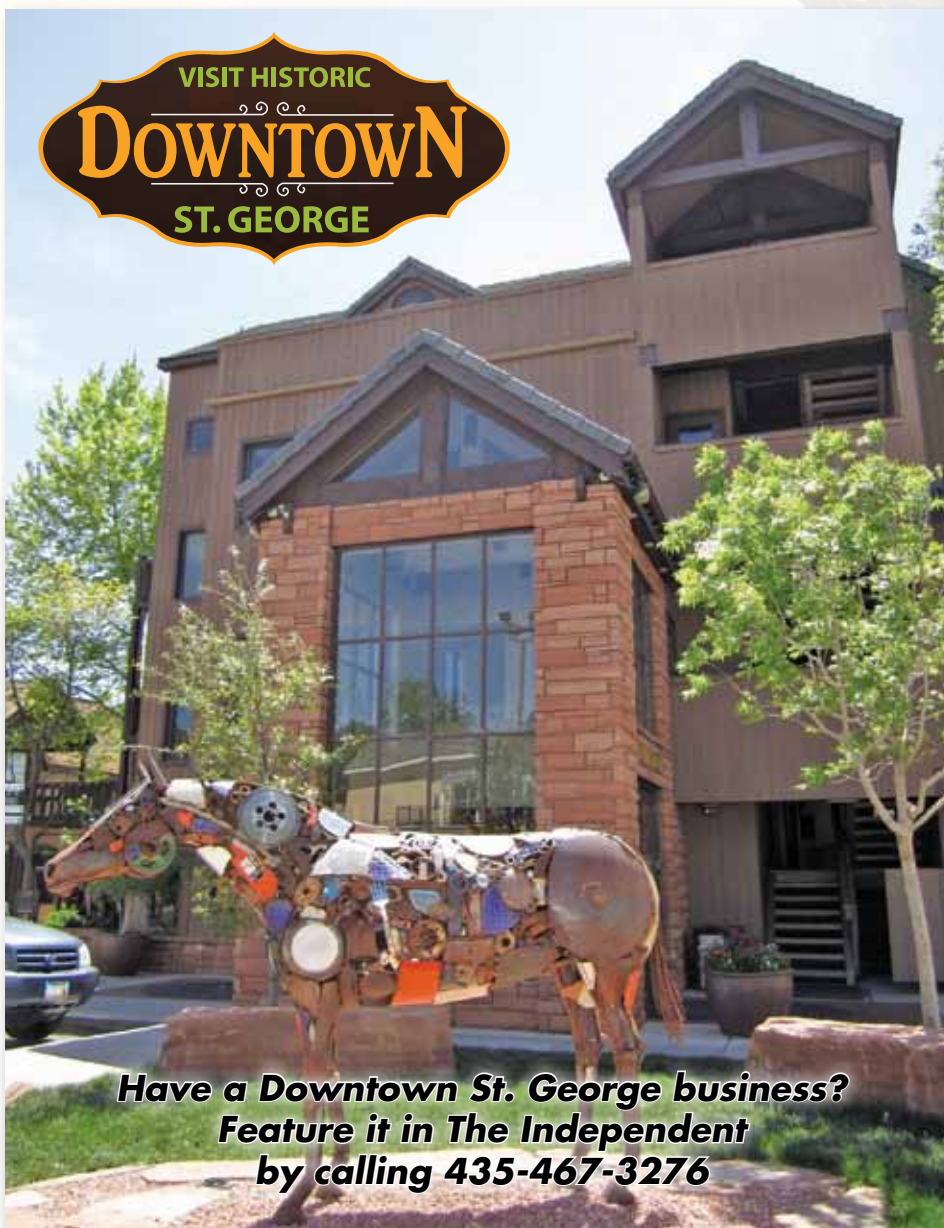
Sunset on the Square is held the second and fourth Friday of the month through Aug. 25. Come enjoy a fun family movie on a giant outdoor movie screen. Come early to catch great food, games, prizes, dancing, and much more. Activities begin at 6 p.m., and the movies will start at dusk.

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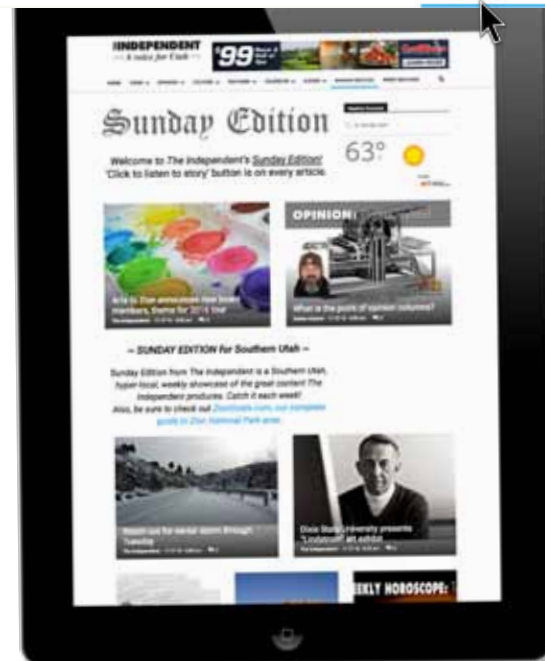
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SUNSET ON THE SQUARE

By Dawn McLain

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our local community and win a car from Premier Car & Truck or other great prizes including \$1,000 cash from Chartway Federal Credit Union, an annual family pass to the Washington City Community Center, and thousands of dollars' worth of runner-up prizes including electronics, trips, gift cards, and more!

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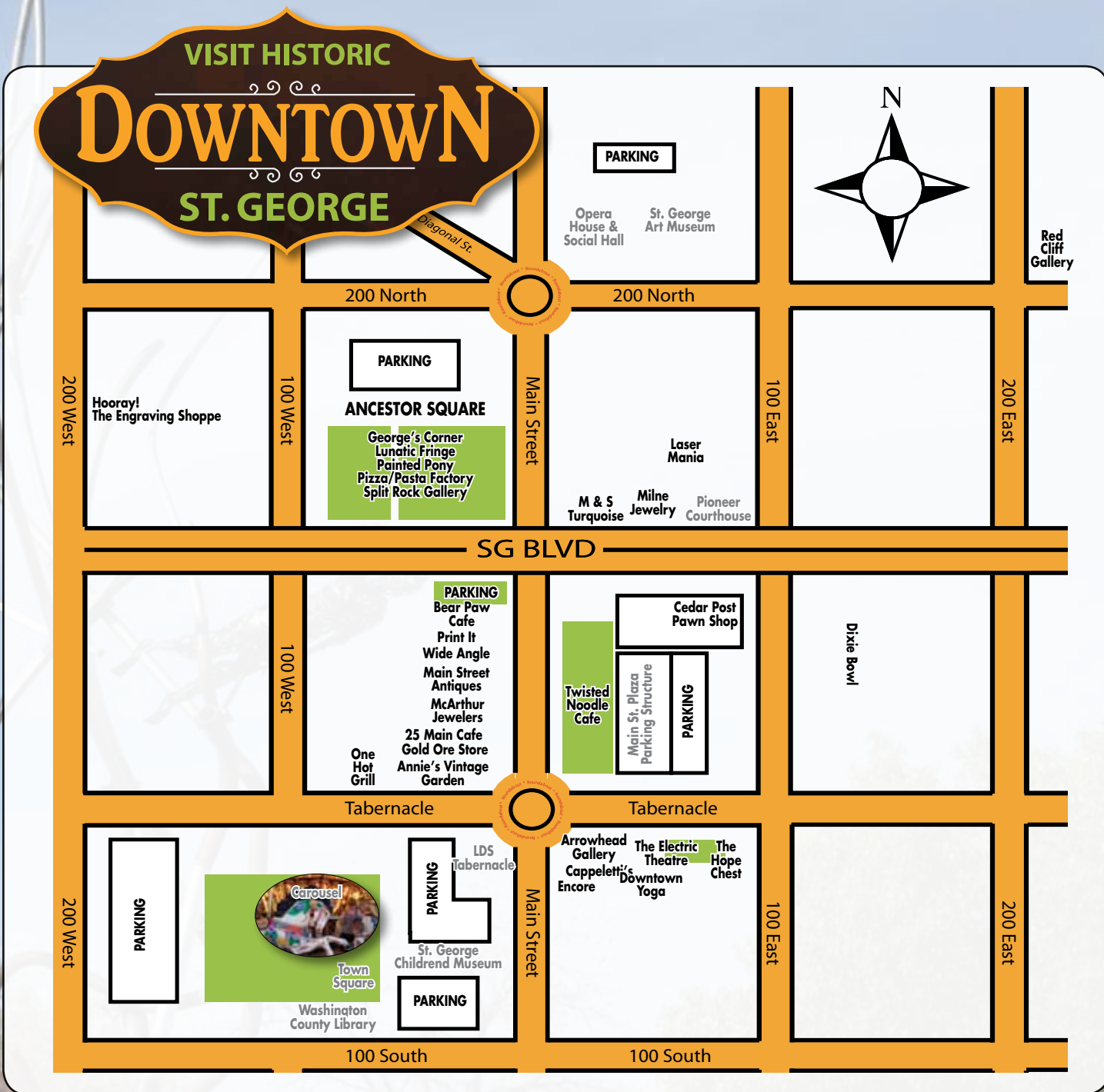
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HUMOR

YOUR MONTHLY HOROSCOPE

By Trippy Koala

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

Aquarius

You will learn to truly love yourself this month. Use discretion when truly loving yourself unless you want your family walking in on you in the middle of that.

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Pisces

During some shouting and explosions at a local "Star Wars" marathon party this week, you will glean that General Akbar's first name is apparently "Allahu."

Aries

Ok ... this is awkward. Jesus returned a while ago and — just for the hell of it — underwent a temple sealing (to Bjork of all people, which is kind of a surprise but not really if you know the guy). Anyway, he didn't take kindly to the death threats, and he's super pissed. Like moneychangers-in-the-temple pissed. So this would be the month to switch to Fruit of the Loom and lay off the Osephjay Ithsmay and Ighambray Oungay stuff for a while.

Taurus

This month, you will decide that you want to name your newborn child after something Utah is known for. Ruling out less poetic options like "Bigotry" and "Groupthink," you will settle on "Iodine-131."

Gemini

Inspired by former FBI director James Comey, you will begin meticulously documenting your conversations with everyone, which will reveal to you how much time you spend talking about boobs.

Cancer

You'll finally know what it means to be "high on life" after crushing up and snorting some Life cereal. It feels awful.

Leo

In an attempt to seem hip, you will start wearing nothing but rompers. Sadly, this will just make you look even more like a giant infant.

Virgo

This month you will get into a fist fight with a mime after he refuses to open an invisible door for you.

Libra

Every time that you look in a mirror this month,

Scorpio

you'll see a small, ghostly child standing next to you, reaching for you hand. Now, you could avoid mirrors all month, but that'd probably just piss him off.

This month you will slowly loosee th abilvxy tu re ad. Dont wur-e though, because alkdn axcondfy a;lknfd.

Sagittarius

Your significant other will appear to be suffering from some sort of gastric distress this month. Just give them space and clap a lot.

Capricorn

On Tuesday, you will be bitten by a radioactive spider. On Wednesday, you will wake up to find that you've sprouted six tiny extra legs and a patch of zits above your unibrow that are actually six tiny eyes. You could go to the doctor, or — now hear me out — you could call yourself Spiderman and try to swing off the top of a building. Either way, you're going to die. Pick the one that gives you the best obituary.

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ALBUM REVIEWS

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THE INDEPENDENT ALBUM REVIEWS

By Charles Cuthbertson

"Picnic" by Lisa Mac
👤👤👤

Musical genres can be limiting or liberating, depending on what performers do with them. Many music fans identify themselves by their preferred genre: They will make declarations like "I'm country" or "I'm rock and roll," and a whole set of expectations and assumptions are instantly created. A performer who caters to such expectations is arguably more likely to be commercially successful.

There are certainly also performers who deliberately distort or ignore genre conventions, freeing themselves from the potential trap of audience expectations. This is a riskier career move but arguably more artistically rewarding, provided an audience is willing to listen to the results. Think of Radiohead or Tom Waits; it's not easy to pin a label on them, right?

Lisa Mac, whose first studio album, "Picnic," was released last November, avoids both of these extremes and manages to come up with a style and sensibility that is entirely her own, one that injects some much needed originality into the genre of blues rock and establishes a true original voice.

"Picnic" demonstrates that Mac has both the vocal and instrumental chops to distinguish herself in a competitive environment. She has been performing frequently in and around Vegas and St. George, and anyone who attends live shows in these areas will likely be all too familiar with blues rock conventions (not that that's a bad thing). So being a good musician and singer is, though not a given, just the first step in getting the attention of an audience. Having said that, her voice is impressive,

powerful, and identifiable. I haven't seen her perform live, but on the basis of her singing on "Picnic," I can't imagine many people would be able to ignore her when she's singing.

Even better is the fact that she actually has things to say. Her lyrics are empowering and positive and come from an undeniably female perspective. "Not Getting Any," for example, includes this memorable chorus: "I dropped your shit at your mama's house yesterday / You can talk talk talk / All you want want want but / You're not gettin' any." This is the anthem of a woman who refuses to engage with an unappreciative lover. "I'm a big girl now and I demand something more." Even deadbeat boyfriends will be unable to resist the groove of this song.

Elsewhere, on "Changing," Mac's lyrics explore the self-consciousness of a writer:

"I used to flip my notebook shut / When someone would walk on by / Terrified they'd see what I'd write." The music here reflects a kind of aching vulnerability but also hints at a fierce determination. The song contains one of the best couplets I've heard in a long time: "My heart is racing / But this time it's not the nicotine / It's 'cause I'm seeing you / In another fifteen."

Musically speaking, "Picnic" makes the most of a small combo. Organ is featured nicely on the title track, and "Apron Strings" is energized by a driving bass line. "Come Hard," which is as appealingly provocative as the title suggests, also features DJ scratching. This is a fun record with lyrical bite and an engaging singer.

It's also an EP, which means it's all over much too soon. Many of the songs also begin to fade out before the groove has fully developed, and it would have been nice to hear them go on a bit longer. And on a few occasions, the bass hits too many of the same notes, turning the groove into a drone. But for a first studio album, "Picnic" is surprisingly great. It's also available from Lisa Mac's website as a \$5 download (or \$10 for both a CD and a digital download). This is the bargain of the year.

Based on her proficiency with multiple social media venues, Lisa Mac has all the signs of a performer with a promising future. According to her blog, she's already at work on a full-length album and appears to maintain a busy touring schedule. This picnic might be over too soon, but there's the promise of rich banquet to come.



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THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE GUIDE

by Adam Mast

“The Scent of Rain and Lightning” (R)

★★★★



“The Scent of Rain and Lightning” has recently been compared to “Hell or High Water,” and in terms of authenticity and intimacy, the comparison makes sense. In terms of tone, grit, and its fitting slow-

burn approach, though, this adaptation of Nancy Pickard’s novel is also reminiscent of “Winter’s Bone” and at times, it even plays a bit like a narrative version of “Making a Murderer.”

In this cold and dramatic character-driven tale of murder, an emotionally distraught Jody Linder (played by Maika Monroe) tries to piece together clues at the center of a mystery involving the untimely death of her parents years earlier. An angry reconnection with her traumatic past resurfaces when Billy (Brad Carter), the violent and unstable man sentenced for the murder, is ultimately released from prison. Initially, Jody is quick to confront Billy, but shortly thereafter, truths come to the surface that lead Jody to the realization that maybe the wrong man was convicted of killing her parents. Of course, Billy’s volatile behavior does nothing to suggest he’s innocent.

There are many strengths to speak of when talking about this movie, but one of the most effective aspects of “The Scent of Rain and Lightning” is the story structure. Rather than telling this tale by way of a straightforward narrative, actor-turned-director Blake Robbins keeps audience members on their collective toes by jumping back and forth between the present and the past. It’s all a bit jarring in the early goings, but in the end, it’s a perfect device for this particular story. As Jody delves deeper into her own private investigation, “The Scent of Rain and Lightning” jumps back, giving us insight into who her parents were before that fateful day. And as expected, the relationship was complicated.

Robbins, who also has a bit part in this film, directs the tightly wound proceedings with a raw and stark intimacy that puts character above all else. His experience as

an actor certainly serves him well here, and I dare say that “The Scent of Rain and Lightning” impressed me more than Taylor Sheridan’s soon-to-be-released “Wind River,” which also features Robbins in a supporting role.

“The performances here are outstanding. Monroe, who greatly impressed in “The Guest” and “It Follows,” continues to prove she’s a star on the rise, beautifully balancing anger, sadness, and vulnerability in equal measure. As Jody’s affection-seeking mother, the lovely Maggie Grace (“Taken”) has never been better. Likewise, Justin Chatwin (“War of the Worlds”) is subtle and strong as Jody’s lost soul of a father. It’s also a joy seeing ‘80s staples Will Patton (“No Way Out”) and Bonnie Bedelia (“Die Hard”) on the screen again as Jody’s concerned grandparents. While the entire ensemble is solid, watch for memorable work from Mark Webber (“Scott Pilgrim Vs. the World”) and Aaron Poole (“The Void”) as well. The highest of props goes to an electric Brad Carter (“True Detective”) whose Billy is as terrifying a live-wire act as they come. His unpredictable and vicious Billy makes Aaron Taylor-Johnson’s horrifying character in “Nocturnal Animals” look like a choirboy.

Screenwriters Casey Twenter and Jeff Robison have fashioned a mean and lean murder mystery with complex characters and an undeniably authentic feel for the film’s Oklahoma locale. The screenplay is every bit as rich and provocative as it is upsetting and tragic. Twenter and Robison also penned the underrated music-tinged drama “Rudderless” a few years back, and with “The Scent of Rain and Lightning,” it’s clear that this duo wanted to tackle something entirely different with their follow-up project. Mission accomplished. Pickard’s novel is about family, dysfunction, love, forgiveness, dark secrets, the ties that bind, and the bad decisions that we sometimes tend to make that can’t be altered. Twenter and Robison have ensured that these themes are completely intact in this solid adaptation.

Admittedly, “The Scent of Rain and Lightning” isn’t without its flaws. There are probably too many moments when Jody demands to know the truth, and as much as I adore The Flaming Lips, there’s a scene set to “Do You Realize” that felt a bit distracting to me in the context of the movie. Honestly, though, these are minor quibbles. As a whole, “The Scent of Rain and Lightning” is gripping stuff and requires your undivided attention. Taking it a step further, for my money this film is even more satisfying and emotionally complex than the much cherished and similarly themed “Blue Ruin.”

I think it’s safe to say that “The Scent of Rain and Lightning” will hit theaters before the end of the year. It’s too good not to.

“Wonder Woman” (PG-13)

★★★★



“Wonder Woman” is DC’s strongest cinematic venture since 2008’s “The Dark

Knight.” For those keeping score as of late, that might sound like faint praise at best. But the truth is that this movie is really entertaining, and there’s a kind of warmth, a sense of fun, and an inspirational quality here that was sorely lacking in both “The Man of Steel” and “Batman v Superman.” Furthermore, even though “Wonder Woman” resorts to the same sort of bombastic and dull, prolonged climactic finale that plagues a lot of superhero flicks, the character moments are completely earned. It should also be noted that “Wonder Woman” is a hell of a lot more cohesive than “Suicide Squad.”

Inspired by the famed comic book character of the same name, this big-screen adaptation of DC’s “Wonder Woman” ditches the cheese of the amusing Linda Carter-headlined TV series from the ‘70s and opts to exude a spirit more akin to the likes of Richard Donner’s version of “Superman” and Joe Johnston’s interpretation of “Captain America.”

In “Wonder Woman,” we see this multifaceted character as a tenacious youngster with a fighting spirit, an Amazonian warrior, a hero for the people, and a complex woman whose eyes are suddenly opened to the way our world truly works. But thankfully, this movie refuses to drown in a sea of gloom, doom, and cynicism. Through the aid of noble Steve Trevor (Chris Pine) and a handful of supreme do-gooders, “Wonder Woman” emerges as a fun, inspirational, and hopeful interpretation of this iconic source material. Yes, there is bad in this world, but there’s plenty of good, too.

As wonder woman Diana Prince, Gal Gadot positively kills it bringing heroism, toughness, charm, stunning physicality, and childlike innocence in equal measure — and quite honestly, this may be the smartest casting choice in the DC movie universe since Christopher Nolan cast Heath Ledger as the Joker. As fantastic as Gadot is, though, director Patty Jenkins and crew give their central player a worthy male co-star in the form of Chris Pine. As a man of principle during a time of war, Pine is absolutely superb in this movie. Together, Gadot and Pine deliver the kind of spot-on chemistry one could only hope for, and even when the film falters a bit in the story department, these lead performances bring weight and undeniable likeability to the picture every step of the way.

“Wonder Woman” benefits from a handful of wonderful supporting performances as well, most notably a plucky and positively adorable Lucy Davis as Trevor’s cheeky secretary. Connie Nielsen and Robin Wright also do terrific work as two strong women who have a monumental influence on Diana’s life.

DC and Warner Brothers were very smart bringing in director Patty Jenkins (“Monster”) to take this movie on, because while “Wonder Woman” is a big superhero film with tons of special effects, massive set pieces, and hyper-stylized action (clearly inspired by the Zack Snyder school of filmmaking), this picture is, for the most part, character driven. This isn’t to say that “Wonder Woman” isn’t without its missteps. There’s a lot going on in this picture, and the film struggles to find its rhythm early on (parts of the first act feel rushed and oddly truncated). But once the movie hits its stride about 30 minutes in, it’s quite a joy to behold. And rousing! A sequence in which Wonder Woman shows her true colors on the battlefield is enough to make you jump to your feet and cheer!

True, the battle between Wonder Woman and the big bad guy is a bit on the dull side, and the identity of the villain is pretty apparent early on. Furthermore, the great Danny Huston isn’t really given much

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to do while a fantastic Elena Anya is equally short-changed as Huston's disfigured right-hand woman. In the grand scheme of things, though, this movie really works and goes a long way to suggest that DC can do it up right when they get the right people involved. Most of what works here falls squarely in the lap of a dedicated and passionate Jenkins, but some of the credit should go to Snyder, who had a big hand in developing this movie. It's clear that the man behind both "The Man of Steel" and "Batman v Superman" has listened to what the fans have said and taken it to heart.

Now to address the baby elephant in the room. To simply suggest that "Wonder Woman" is just a feminist power play is to dismiss the strength of both this character and the movie as a whole, so much so that I even hate bringing it up because by doing so I'm just feeding into the political circus. Yes, Wonder Woman is a great role model for girls. But guess what? She's also a great role models for boys. While we're on the topic, Wonder Woman fights for the entire human race. Like all great heroes, she stands for unity. Case in point, there's a pivotal moment in this picture when a character looks up to Wonder Woman during a time of victory and says, "You did it." Without missing a beat, this stoic and graceful hero replies, "No. We did it." Truer words have never been spoken.

"Baby Driver" (R)

★★★★

"Baby Driver" has been garnering a steady stream of positive buzz since



debuting at South By Southwest earlier this year. That buzz was enough to encourage Sony Pictures to bump the original release date of August up to June. Is the buzz earned? Well, simply put, if you're a fan of the high-energy fanboy spirit of writer and director Edgar Wright, who jumped head first into this picture after his disappointing departure from Marvel's "Ant-Man," you owe it to yourself to see "Baby Driver" in a theater. Having said that, you might be wise to taper those expectations just a bit, because as straight-up entertaining as this movie is, I don't know that it's quite as memorable as Wright's past efforts "Shaun of the Dead," "Hot Fuzz," "Scott Pilgrim Vs. the World," or even the lesser seen "The World's End."

In "Baby Driver,"
Ansel Elgort

("The Fault in Our Stars") is Baby, a brilliant getaway driver who's as fearless and confident as he is sensitive and soft-spoken. To drown out the humming in his ears (a condition caused by a horrible accident when he was just a child), Baby turns to music. He uses that same music for timing purposes when on the job (relax, this film works to much stronger affect than 1991's forgotten "Hudson Hawk").

The question remains: Why would someone as seemingly sweet and quiet as Baby be part of an illegal operation that would have him collaborating with so many undesirables? Because he has a debt to pay to professional baddie, Doc (Kevin Spacey.) And until that debt is paid, he has no choice but to keep on driving. Even Baby's adoring, hearing-impaired foster father Joseph (C.J. Jones) and sweet-natured waitress/love interest Debora (Lily James) can't convince this loyal driver to simply walk away from a life of crime and start anew.

Elgort was terrific in "The Fault in Our Stars," but "Baby Driver" marks a true star-making turn for the young actor. He's simply a joy to behold in this picture, and he has a lovely rapport with co-stars James and Jones. Spacey is entertaining as dry-witted Doc, and his fatherly moments with Baby are entertaining, because throughout the picture, we're constantly questioning whether Doc has genuine affection for his star driver or if he's just using him for his expert skills.

Jon Hamm, Eiza Gonzalez, Jamie Foxx, Jon Bernthal, Lanny Joon, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers' Flea all bring varying degrees of badness and humor to the colorful host of undesirables who consistently complicate Baby's already complicated life. Foxx's Bats, in particular, is all menace while Hamm brings a more playful sensibility to the table as Buddy. While Buddy clearly has something a little more diabolical bubbling just under the surface, it's oddly delightful seeing the fashion in which he treats fellow cohort and love interest Darling (Gonzalez). He truly adores this woman.

What's most intriguing about these ruthless but weirdly likable villains is the somewhat unpredictable direction Wright takes them in. And this brings us to the real star of the show, writer and director Edgar Wright. From the homaging antics of "Spaced" to his fantastic previous big-screen efforts, few fanboy directors dazzle in quite the same way that Wright does. It's quite disheartening that this guy isn't more of a household name.

With "Baby Driver," Wright is able to marry moving images with music in such a creative way that you might wish all musicals unfolded like this. True, "Baby Driver" isn't a musical in the traditional sense, but then neither is "The Blues Brothers," and for my money, that's one of the best musicals ever made! In "Baby Driver," the timing is spot on, the editing is masterful, and the song choices are utterly brilliant.

So why not a higher rating? As wonderful as large stretches of this picture are, there are missteps. The characters are lively, the performances are solid, the opening set piece is stunning, and the extended shot that follows is unforgettable. But the movie does go off the rails a bit in the final act, and for all the propulsive energy and dynamic music-tinged flair on display, some jokes fall surprisingly flat.

While the writing isn't 100 percent on target, Wright the director more than makes up for

it. He's an infectiously likable auteur whose undeniable fanboy spirit comes through loud and clear in his vibrant work. In terms of personality, his pure love of cinema, and his childlike exuberance, he's sort of like Quentin Tarantino and Guillermo del Toro rolled into a British bundle of high-octane energy.

It should also be noted that "Baby Driver" is an original in a summer movie season that isn't exactly brimming with originality. Sure, with it's offbeat whirlwind romance, quiet but slightly rebellious central character, and hip, criminal underworld antics, "Baby Driver" does offer up elements reminiscent of "True Romance," "Cry-Baby," and "Pulp Fiction," but there's no doubt that the proceedings feel fresh when stacked up against many of this summer's biggest films.

"Baby Driver" might be suffering from a very slight case of overhype, but it's still well worth seeing in a movie theater. It's a fun time at the movies delivered by one of the industry's most energetic filmmakers.

"The Mummy" (PG-13)

★★★



"The Mummy" is comparable to the Brendan Fraser reboot in that both films feel like second-rate Indiana Jones knockoffs. The big difference is that this version has an A-list star in Tom Cruise whereas the 1999 version starred a goofy but charming Brendan Fraser. One thing both movies have in common, other than the title and the fact that they're both based on an iconic Universal Pictures monster property, is that they're completely unnecessary.

In this big-budget take on "The Mummy" from director Alex Kurtzman ("People Like Us"), Tom Cruise stars as Nick Morton, a soldier of fortune whose run-in with an ancient supernatural force could spell certain doom for all humanity. That force comes in the form of Ahmanet (Sophia Boutella), an Egyptian princess who was sentenced to mummification thousands of years earlier for the murder of her pharaoh father. When Morton inadvertently assists in the unleashing of Ahmanet from her mummified tomb, he is quickly seduced by her power. Will artifacts expert Jenny Halsey (Annabelle Wallis), smartass sidekick Chris Vail (Jake Johnson), and the mysterious head of an underground organization (Russell Crowe) be enough to help Morton destroy that which he is seemingly controlled by? Hmm, good question.

"The Mummy" has been designed as a starting point for Universal Pictures' Dark Universe, a kind of shared universe that will ultimately be populated by the studio's most famed movie

monsters. Yes, it's basically going to be the monster equivalent of Marvel. In addition to the title character, this film also features Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, but mostly, "The Mummy" plays like a Tom Cruise franchise start-up ... sort of. For those of you who have seen the all-too-revealing trailers for this picture, you know that they give away a key plot element regarding Cruise's Nick Morton, but I'll pretend like you haven't seen those trailers and avoid revealing what that plot element is.

While we're on the topic of Tom Cruise, it's true that there are many moments in this picture when the box-office superstar looks completely disinterested in what's going on. But you can't blame him entirely, because he isn't really given anything all that interesting to do. On the other hand, you can blame him for agreeing to take this project on as written. There are certainly moments of charm, and whenever Maverick is asked to spring into action, he has no problem running from sandstorms and leaping from desert rooftops as fiery explosions blast directly behind him. Cruise even brings the humor a couple of times (look no further than a humorous scene when a seductive Ahmanet causes him to giggle as she runs her long sharp nails across his belly). By and large, though, this isn't a character of any real striking depth, and even Morton's supposed arc from selfish soldier of fortune to a man of compassion and sacrifice feels slight and unearned.

A big part of the problem is the uninspired relationship between Halsey and Morton. There's no real chemistry or heat between Wallis and Cruise, so a lot of the beats that occur in the final act of the movie fizzle rather than sizzle. Weirdly enough, the bond between Morton and Vail is more amusing than heartfelt. It has a ring to it that's blatantly inspired by "American Werewolf in London," but sadly, Cruise and Johnson, as fun as their banter tends to be, are no David Naughton and Griffin Dunne.

Russell Crowe hams it up as an all-knowing Dr. Jekyll. If only his Mr. Hyde were more wildly over the top. If Crowe ever gets a Jekyll/Hyde standalone movie, let's hope he is given the opportunity to completely go off. As for Boutella, she brings a fierce sexual charge to Ahmenet, but overall, she isn't terribly menacing. Furthermore, she doesn't have a fraction of the personality here that she brought to last year's entertaining "Star Trek Beyond." Here's hoping she's stronger in the upcoming "Atomic Blonde."

Kurtzman manages a few nifty set pieces (the opening sequence is pretty fun) and even a handful of decent scares (underwater zombies anyone?). But for all its quick pacing, "The Mummy" is still a bit on the dull side. Even the climactic showdown between Morton and Ahmanet is a bit of a bust. And it all culminates in a setup for a potential sequel that will most likely never come to fruition.

This take on "The Mummy" isn't quite the train wreck some would have you believe. I'm certainly not eager to rush out and see it again, and I remain baffled that this is the fashion in which Universal would attempt to launch their Dark Universe brand. But again, it isn't a total disaster, and it's hardly the worst movie on Tom Cruise's resume (that dubious honor has to go to "Mission: Impossible 2" or "Jack Reacher: Never Go Back"). In fact, for my money, "The Mummy" isn't even necessarily the worst "Indiana Jones" movie. Take that as you will.

MOVIES

"It Comes at Night" (R)

★★★½



For those of you going into "It Comes at Night" hoping to get the wits scared out of you at a breakneck pace, you may want to stay home. This isn't that kind of a movie. This is a quiet, methodically paced, horrifying drama in which the apocalyptic backdrop at the heart of the movie is secondary to the characters trying to survive it. It all plays a bit like a very understated, honed-in episode of "The Walking Dead."

"It Comes at Night" imagines a world consumed by a deadly virus, only we never really learn what that virus is or how it came to be. Instead, writer/director Trey Edward Shults ("Krisha") opts to center his film around a family of three as they try to make a home for themselves in a cold world where sickness has obliterated a large portion of the human race. Patriarch Paul (Joel Edgerton) runs a tight ship, confining his loving wife Sarah (Carmen Ejogo) and

his teenage son Travis (Kelvin Harrison Jr.) to a home in the middle of the woods. They only leave their isolated abode to forge for supplies, and very seldom do they ever venture out at night. Why? You needn't look past the sinister title of this film to find your answer.

Themes from John Carpenter's "The Thing" of mistrust and paranoia are ultimately pushed to the forefront of the movie when intruder Will (Christopher Abbott) breaks into Paul's home forging for supplies of his own in an effort to provide for his own wife and child. Following said intrusion, a very suspicious Paul must consider every conceivable angle behind Will's motivation. Suffice it to say, this is a pretty dark movie. It's a fairly cynical one, too.

As a survival story, a tale of how far a father will go to protect the ones he loves, and a cold look at a world ravaged by sickness, there are times when "It Comes at Night" might remind one of John Hillcoat's bleak cinematic adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's "The Road," although this film is considerably smaller in scale.

Dependable Joel Edgerton ("The Gift") continues his string of captivating performances by presenting Paul as a man whose protective nature is only rivaled by his struggle to hold on to his humanity. Likewise, Christopher Abbott ("A Most Violent Year") is strong as the mysterious stranger who forces Paul to make some incredibly tough decisions. Despite having less to do in this movie, Carmen Ejogo ("Alien: Covenant") and Riley Keough ("Mad Max: Fury Road") acquit themselves nicely as a pair of loving wives who, like their husbands and children, simply want to make a sensible life for themselves in a world gone to hell.

It's Kelvin Harrison Jr. ("The Birth of a Nation") who makes the biggest impression in "It Comes at Night" as Paul's 17-year-old son. Travis is a typical teenager. He has a dog, he likes to draw, and he has many of the same desires as other young men his age. But sadly, Travis is also plagued by nightmares brought on by a terrifyingly unpredictable world. Of the entire cast, Harrison is asked to display the widest range of emotions, and he's completely up to the challenge.

There are times when "It Comes at Night" falters a bit. There are slight lapses of logic, and there's an odd, seemingly incomplete transition following a sequence in which Paul and Will have a deadly encounter in the woods. It's as if an entire scene was cut from the film, and you can feel it. There's also a bizarre conversation about baked goods between Travis and Will's flirty wife. Furthermore, some film aficionados will find the altering of aspect ratios throughout the film off-putting. Still, "It Comes at Night" is beautifully acted, and Shults, who has worked with the likes of Terrence Malick, shoots the hell out of the proceedings with the aid of his gifted cinematographer, Drew Daniels. "It Comes at Night" has patience, and Shults' decision to allow certain scenes to linger as Brian McOmber's ominous score plays in the background, add to the film's overall effectiveness. A lot of this stuff really gets under your skin.

"It Comes at Night" certainly isn't a re-invention of the apocalyptic horror film, but it earns points for putting character first and finding ways to unsettle the viewer through tone rather than cheap shock tactics. Yes, it ends on an anticlimactic note, and yes, it's cold and cynical. But again, the cast is strong, and the whole thing is stunning to look at. If you're in the mood for a methodically paced, undeniably bleak genre piece along the lines of something like "The Witch," then "It Comes at Night" is definitely worth your time.

"47 Meters Down" (PG-13)

★★



"47 Meters Down" fails to capitalize on the success of last summer's moderately successful "The Shallows" despite a simple premise that could have been pretty darn intense had it been properly executed. Alas, this is another in a long line of weak, high-concept survival thrillers that owe more than a thing or two to the likes of a little summer blockbuster called "Jaws."

In "47 Meters Down," sisters Lisa (Mandy Moore) and Kate (Claire Holt) decide to pair up with two men (Yani Gellman and Santiago Segura) they just met while vacationing in Mexico and head out on the open sea to take part in an underwater shark-sighting excursion. Lisa is skittish about the whole venture from the get-go, doubly so the moment she bears witness to the run-down boat they'll be traveling on and lays eyes on the men captaining it (Matthew Modine and Chris Johnson).

Once our heroines are in the cage and experiencing the breathtaking underwater vistas and the massive man-eaters that inhabit it, Lisa's worries are out of sight out of mind — until the cable connecting their cage to the boat unexpectedly snaps. In a matter of minutes, Lisa and Kate find themselves 47 meters down with very little communication, sharks circling, and oxygen running dangerously low.

This all sounds like it would make for a pretty exciting time at the movies, doesn't it? You'd think so, but ultimately, what should be a tense exercise in survivalist terror turns into an overly long exercise in tedium. "47 Meters Down" is repetitious, to say the least: numerous scenes featuring Kate or Lisa exiting the cage, swimming a few meters up to make contact with the surface, and being told to get back to the cage where it's safe. We're also annoyingly reminded on a couple of separate occasions that if Lisa and Kate attempt to swim to the surface too quickly, they'll get the bends.

As a woman trying to get past a recent break-up, a generally likable Mandy Moore doesn't do much to elevate the proceedings. When her terrified Lisa is in panic mode in this picture, it's hard to tell whether her heavy breathing and squeals are a representation of her fear or pleasure. Claire Holt fares slightly better as the more calm and level-headed Kate.

Yani Gellman and Santiago Segura are appealing enough as the two men who talk Lisa and Kate into jumping into a cage surrounded by massive great white sharks. But honestly, they aren't in the film enough to truly make a difference. Chris Johnson has a couple of amusing moments early on as the creeper of the south seas, but veteran Matthew Modine appears thoroughly bored as an individual who spends the majority of the film repeating himself off camera via a communicator. Modine is to "47 Meters Down" as Michael Caine is to "Jaws: The Revenge," only with less personality.

The sharks have been the selling point in the marketing for this movie, but they really aren't in the film all that much. Again, one might surmise they are the selling point because "The Shallows" did halfway decent box-office last summer. "47 Meters Down" is really more of a story about two women trying to remain calm and keep their wits about them as they sit helplessly in shark-infested waters. But "Open Water" this ain't.

The thing is, director Johannes Roberts (who actually has his name ahead of the film title! This isn't just "47 Meters Down.") No, this is "Johannes Roberts' 47 Meters Down") is unable to wring genuine tension out of a concept that should be filled with it. Even the ending of the picture, which for a fleeting moment appears as if it might grow a pair of balls by way of a nifty little twist, recoils and completely cops out.

In terms of visual style, there are moments in "47 Meters Down" that look real and other moments that look like half-assed green-screen shots. Likewise, when the sharks are seen from afar, they look like the real deal, but when they're up close and in attack mode, they look less than stellar. Through it all, what really holds "47 Meters Down" back, aside from the tedious repetition of it all, is that I never genuinely got the sense that these women were actually stranded down there struggling to survive. I'll tell you who was struggling, though. My wife and I! To stay awake!



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BOOK REVIEWS

THE OBSESSIVE BOOKSELLER REVIEWS

By Niki Hawkes

"The Legion of Flame"
by Anthony Ryan

★★★★★

If you start only one new fantasy series this year, make it "Draconis Memoria" by Anthony Ryan! I thought "The Waking Fire" was one of the best books I'd ever read, but "Legion of Flame" was even better!

"Legion of Flame" was the ultimate armchair adventure! Each chapter was so good, I had a difficult time finding decent stopping points (and as such, stayed up way too late on too many occasions to finish it). Ryan ended each of his chapters with an aggravatingly brilliant hook that just begged you to keep reading (so I did). There was always an abundance of action, adventure, exploration, steampunk, and of course dragons. Every element came together brilliantly for, I'll say it again, one of the best books I've ever read.

In both of these books, Ryan takes you on an exploration of this world and allows you to discover its breathtaking histories/mysteries alongside some very memorable characters. This depth of discovery, combined with a very Indiana Jones adventure feel, is truly the magic of these novels and one of my favorite elements. There's such a sense of wonder with his world-building, stuff that will truly dazzle you. I can't even begin to guess what he has in store next!

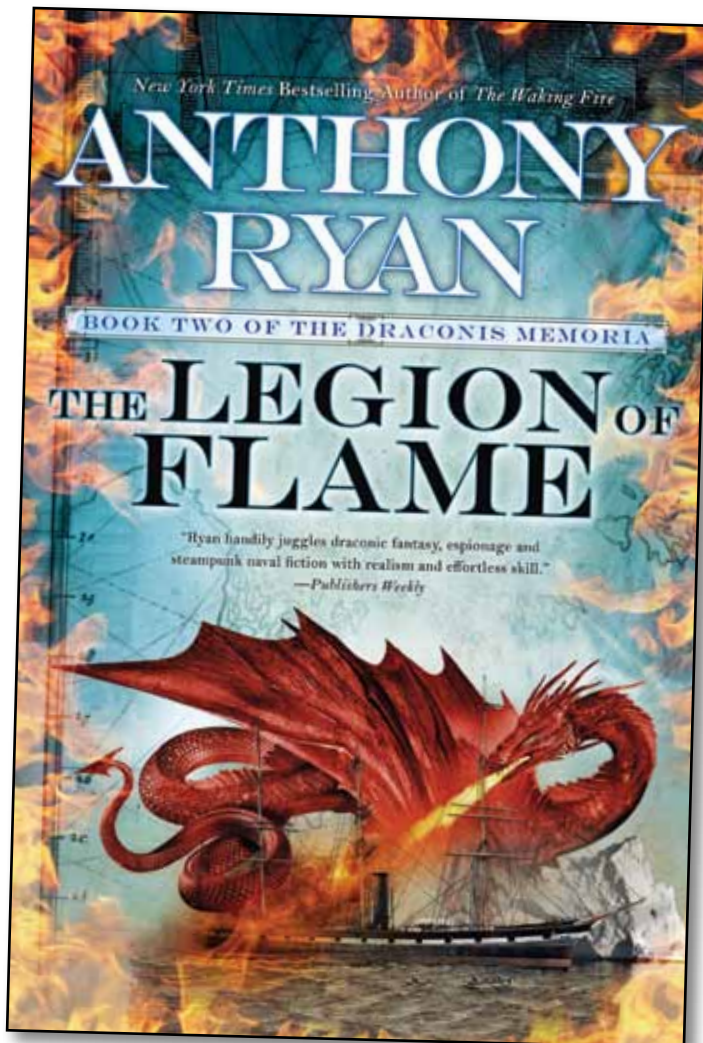
Both books incorporate multiple POVs, and they were all equally exciting to read about. Each character was perfectly placed to give us a grand picture of what's transpiring, and I triple-dog-dare you to pick a favorite — they're all deserving of the title. If forced, I'd say Lizanne struck a chord with me the most because her personality has a lot of duality, making her very interesting to read about.

Let's talk about dragons for a minute. The dragons are incredibly well-conceived in this series. So far, their role has been much stronger than I'd dared hope — it truly is a dragon book. I love the varieties,

their importance to the human populations, their significance in the story, and — most predominantly — how well they're being represented. Ryan manages to keep all the things that I think comprise great dragons while simultaneously amping them up with his own twists. They're brilliant! And if this wasn't already one of my favorite books for story, characters, and world-building alone, it would be for the dragons.

So because of the amazing characters, seamless blend of fantasy and steampunk, exciting adventures, page-turning plot, and killer use of dragons, "Legion of Flame" is perfection. I plan to recommend it as often as I can!

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The Neil Simon Festival in Cedar City runs July 12–Aug. 12 at the Heritage Center Theater and includes four separate shows: Neil Simon's "Broadway Bound" and "The Dinner Party," Michael Frayn's "Noises Off!" and the world premier of "Under Construction: the Blue Collar Musical" by Peter Sham. Show times vary. "Broadway Bound" follows two brothers determined to break into the world of show business while coping with family drama. "The Dinner Party" takes place in Paris where five people are invited to a restaurant that will change their lives forever. "Noises Off!" contains a manic menagerie of itinerant actors, door-slaming, intrigue, and an errant herring. "Under Construction" shows off the skills of an unlikely group of workers who trade in their hard hats for top hats to put on an unscheduled performance. More information and tickets are available by calling (435) 267-0194 or at simonfest.org. Heritage Center Theater, 105 N 100 E, Cedar City.

UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL 2017 SEASON June 29–Oct. 21. Dates and times vary. The 2017 season includes Shakespeare's "As You Like It," "Romeo and Juliet," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" as well as "Shakespeare in Love," "Guys and Dolls," "Treasure Island," "The Tavern," "How To Fight Loneliness," and "William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)." Beverley Center for the Arts, 195 W. Center St., Cedar City.

"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN" June 8–July 7 at 7 p.m. Dates vary. This fun and energetic musical delight audiences of all ages. Tickets are \$17–\$23. Infants and children under 5 years of age are not permitted. Brigham's Playhouse, 25 N 300 W, Washington.

"TREASURE ISLAND" July 5–Sept. 2. Dates and times vary. This epic tale with music will thrill the entire family with tales of buried treasure, cutthroat pirates, the larger-than-life Long John Silver, and the courageous young cabin boy Jim Hawkins. The Utah Shakespeare Festival Tickets are \$32–\$75 and can be purchased at boxoffice.bard.org. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

"AS YOU LIKE IT" June 29–Sept. 7. Dates and times vary. Rosalind has a problem. Disguised as a boy, she goes to Arden to find her father. But her disguise has also fooled her beloved Orlando, who now asks this "boy" to help him woo the woman of his dreams — none other than Rosalind herself! Tickets are \$20–\$75 and can be purchased at boxoffice.bard.org. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

"SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE" June 30–Sept. 8. Dates and times vary. Showing adapted for the stage from the Academy Award-winning film, "Shakespeare in Love" tells of a young Shakespeare who is facing writer's block and is short on cash and inspiration. To his rescue comes Viola, with whom he quickly falls in love and who inspires him to write his most famous love story, "Romeo and Juliet." Tickets are \$20–\$75 and can be purchased at boxoffice.bard.org. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

"ROMEO AND JULIET" July 1–Sept. 9. Dates and times vary. "Romeo and Juliet" is the perfect complement to "Shakespeare in Love." The two plays share cast and scenery, and this added synergy will provide a new dimension to what may be the most famous love story in the world. Tickets are \$20–\$75. For tickets and showtimes, visit boxoffice.bard.org. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

"GUYS AND DOLLS" July 3–Sept. 1. Dates and times vary. Take a high-rolling gambler and pair him with a puritanical missionary. Then throw in a showgirl dreaming of the straight-and-narrow and a craps game manager who is anything but straight or narrow. Mix it up with the brassy music of Frank Loesser, including "A Bushel and a Peck" and "Luck Be a Lady," and you have what many consider the perfect musical comedy. Tickets are \$36–\$79. For tickets and showtimes, visit boxoffice.bard.org. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" July 4–Oct. 21. Dates and times vary. Shakespeare's luxurious tale of fairies, dreams, and moonlight, this popular comedy gets a new and exciting look when set in the art deco world of the Jazz Age. When the feuding king and queen of the fairies interfere in the couplings of mortals, the result is pure pandemonium and magical mayhem. Tickets are \$36–\$79. For tickets and showtimes, visit boxoffice.bard.org. Engelstad Shakespeare Theatre, Cedar City.

"SHREK THE MUSICAL" 8:45 p.m. May 26–Oct. 20. Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film, "Shrek The Musical" is a Tony Award-winning fairy tale directed by Scott S. Anderson. Showtimes vary. Tickets are \$29–\$89 and can be purchased at tuacahn.org. 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

OUTBACK HIKING CLUB OF SOUTHERN UTAH Dates and times vary. 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 the visitor center. Make reservations at (435) 644-2001 or visit bestfriends.org. Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Road, Kanab.

July Live Music
7/1 – Many Miles Trio

4th of July Party
Fiyah Rootz & Full Tilt Boogie
Beer Garden, BBQ, Bounce Houses, & more!!

7/8 – Crossroads
7/15 – Naked Waiters
7/22 – Mike and Elaine
7/29 – John Underwood

95 Zion Park Blvd, Springdale • 435-772-0336

CALENDAR

"NEWSIES" June 2–Oct. 18. 8:45 p.m. Set in New York City at the turn of the century, "Newsies" is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a ragged band of teenaged "newsies" who dreams only of a better life far from the hardship of the streets. But when publishing titans Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst raise distribution prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack finds a cause to fight for and rallies newsies from across the city to strike for what's right. Directed by Jeffrey Denman. Showtimes vary. Tickets are \$29–\$89 and can be purchased at tuacahn.org. 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

THE ART OF THE "JODEEZ" 10 a.m. Featuring the art of Jodi Fuller, Jody Gerber, and Jodi McGregor. There will be an art reception June 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served. This exhibit will show June 14 through July 25. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

FATHERING WITH LOVE AND LOGIC July 12, 19, and 26. This free five-session course uses the Fathering with Love and Logic approach in teaching dads how to raise responsible kids and enjoy parenting. Registration is required. Must be 18 or older to attend. Class dates are June 28 and July 5, 12, 19, and 26. The first session is required for enrollment and incentive eligibility. If you would like to attend the course but are unable to attend the first session or have any questions please contact Kelly at (435) 669-3377 or kelly.kendall@usu.edu. Switchpoint Community Resource Center, 920 N 1300 W, St. George.

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

ART CLASSES Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. 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 and 8 p.m. Saturday nights. Book a party for your bachelorette or birthday party. 270 N 2940 E, St. George.

MOVIES AT CRESCENT MOON MOVIE THEATER Wednesdays–Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 1 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$6. Call (435) 644-2350 or visit crescentmoonkanab.com. 150 S 100 E, Kanab.

KARAOKE AT THE STATELINE CASINO Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. Karaoke goes until they're finished. Stateline Casino, 490 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

STAR PARTY A guided stargazing tour takes place in Dark Canyon Star Park every night. Learn something about the night sky and the universe. For reservations, text or call (435) 899-9092 or email kanabstars@gmail.com. N. Hwy. 89, Kanab.

NEW HORIZONS BAND AND ORCHESTRA FOR SENIOR ADULTS 2 p.m. Dates vary. Supports lifelong music participation for seniors, teacher training opportunities for college music students, and music education for youth. Visit zionmusicensembles.com. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

GENTLE YOGA Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:15 p.m. ZACI Yoga, 348 N. Bluff St. #205, St. George.

KARAOKE AT THE ONE AND ONLY Mondays and Wednesdays at 9 p.m. 800 E. St. George Blvd., St. George.

PIANO MAN STEVE & DJ JUAN IN SEASONS LOUNGE AT EUREKA CASINO Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

Events by Day

MONDAYS

PRECISION HEARING AND MEMORY MATTERS MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE 1 p.m. The Precision Hearing Monday Matinee series is a new, free community event that is bringing back the classics featuring memorable film favorites from the 1950's and 60's. The Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle 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. Call (702) 346-5224. Mesquite Library, 121 W. First N. St., Mesquite.

KICKSTART YOUR HEALTH NUTRITION AND COOKING CLASSES 4:30 p.m. Class topics range from digestion to blood pressure. Visit nutritiousway.org. 1554 Hummingbird Dr., St. George.

COLOR COUNTRY CAMERA CLUB 6 p.m. Meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the St. George Library basement meeting room. Anyone interested in photography is welcome. Email meetings@colorcountry-cameraclub.org. 88 W 100 S, St. George.

ST. GEORGE DANCE COMPANY CLASS 7:30–8:45 p.m. Ballet for adults, intermediate to advanced. Open to the public. Visit saintgeorge-dance.com or call (435) 773-1221. The Electric Theater, 68 W. Tabernacle St., St. George.

TUESDAYS

NEW HORIZONS ORCHESTRA 9:30–11:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Free group music instruction for senior adults, beginning or experienced. zionmusicensembles.com. Washington Fields, 471 W. Washington Palms Way, St. George.

NEW HORIZONS BAND 2–4 p.m. Tuesdays. Free group music instruction for senior adults, beginning or experienced. zionmusicensembles.com. St. George Library, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

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

KARAOKE AT PEGGY SUE'S DINER 5–9 p.m. Full bar and grill. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. 380 N. Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite.

HERITAGE WRITERS GUILD Second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. Meets in the basement of the St. George Library. Call (435) 634-5737. 88 W 100 S, St. George.

OPEN PAINT NIGHT 6 p.m. Desert Rose Art Studio invites anyone who would like to join a group of artists. Bring whatever medium you want. Cost is \$15. Call Alice Hiatt at (435) 256-3317. 225 N. Bluff St. suite 1, St. George.

THE GRACEFUL WOMAN 6:30 p.m. Open to women of all ages for a night to empower, uplift, heal, strengthen, and teach. Fruit and tea will be served after class. By donation. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

The Kanab Theater Group

Presents:

MY TURN ON EARTH



July 27, 28, & 29

Aug 3, 4, & 5

Kanab High School Auditorium
59 East Cowboy Ln, Kanab UT

7pm

General Adm \$10

Tickets can be purchased at the door

For more information:

(435) 689-0443 Linda

Book and Lyrics by
Carol Lynn Pearson

Music by
Lex De Azevedo

My Turn On Earth is presented through special arrangement with Zion Theatricals. All authorized materials are also supplied by ZT, www.ziontheatricals.com

JULY 12 - AUGUST 12, 2017

THE Neil Simon FESTIVAL

At the Heritage Center Theater in Cedar City!



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CALENDAR

TUESDAYS

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

OLD TIME FIDDLERS JAM SESSION 7 p.m. Free. Parry's Lodge Old Barn Theater 89 E. Center St. Kanab.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL WEST COAST SWING CLASSES AND DANCING Each first and third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. \$6 per person 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.

WEDNESDAYS

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

ANIME GAMER CLUB 3 p.m. Teens and tweens who love anime, gaming, or both meet for book discussions, games, and great times. Santa Clara Library, 1099 Lava Flow Dr., St. George.

Find more events daily at SUindependent.com



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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.

KARAOKE AT BEAVER DAM STATION 5:30-9 p.m. Full bar. 21 and over, must have ID. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. Beaver Dam Station, County Hwy. 91, Littlefield, AZ.

FOREIGN FILM CLUB Every first Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. Watch and discuss foreign films. Santa Clara Library, 1099 Lava Flow Dr., St. George.

GRATITUDE & GRIT: YOGA FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY 6 p.m. Meditation and yoga exercises to help overcome destructive behaviors. All are welcome. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

MUSIC AT THE TERRACE 7 p.m. Come out and enjoy live music every Wednesday on the stage behind the Office of Tourism Visitor Center. It is free to the public and a different performer each week. Office of Tourism Visitor Center, 78 S. 100 E., Kanab.

THURSDAYS

SINDUSTRY 7 p.m. Free drink and drawing ticket, corn hole tournament, beer pong, and Jenga. Live entertainment. \$10 buckets of beer. No cover charge. 275 Mesa Blvd., Mesquite.

LINE DANCING AT THE ONE AND ONLY 9 p.m. Come have some good old fashioned fun with a friendly crowd. 64 N 800 E, St. George.

FRIDAYS

JAKEY LEIGHS HOSTS RED ROCK LIVE 6:30-9:30 p.m. Live music, free and open to the public. Jakey Leighs, 4 E. Center St., Kanab.

YOGA NIDRA AND GONG 9 a.m. A unique guided meditation preceded by yogic breathing and movement. All levels welcome. The Healing Tree, 535 S. Main St. #4, Cedar City.

TEEN LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD First and third Fridays of July and August at 4 p.m. Get involved in library programs, plan events, talk about books, and meet other teens, all while earning service hours. For grades 6-12. Mesquite Library, 121 W. First North St., Mesquite.

KARAOKE AT OASIS GOLF CLUB 5-9 p.m. Full bar and grill. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. 100 Palmer Lane, 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. Don't have a pet? 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 they'll print it out for you. Email jennifernagle@hotmail.com to sign up. Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 5001 Angel Canyon Rd., Kanab.

LIVE MUSIC AT PEEKABOO WOOD FIRED KITCHEN 6:30 p.m. Free. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

DJ SPINZ AT THE ONE AND ONLY 9 p.m. 64 N 800 E, St. George.

SUNSET ON THE SQUARE Every second and fourth Friday of the month June 9-August 25 at 6 p.m. Free. Movies under the stars, booths, food, face painting, prizes, and dancing before the movie starts. Movies start at dusk. Town Square Park, 50 S. Main St., St. George.

YOUR FEATURED EVENT HERE!
CALL (435) 656-1555.

SATURDAYS

YOUTH BEGINNER TENNIS LESSONS
KANAB OUTDOOR MARKET 4-9 p.m. Usual farmers market offerings as well as food trucks. Free classes such as yoga or Zumba will be offered at 4 p.m. and live music will be performed from 7 to 9 p.m. No fee for vendors to participate, although anyone offering baked goods must have a cottage kitchen license. Email tracy@cluckingitup.com. 150 W. Center St., Kanab.

FEATURED EVENT
DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET AT ANCESTOR SQUARE 2017



The Downtown Farmers Market takes place every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon in the courtyard and parking lot of Ancestor Square. Parking is located in the adjacent parking lot. Featuring vendors from Washington and Iron Counties selling local, homegrown goods. Horizon card accepted. Bring your EBT card to the information booth to get up to \$10 in free farm-fresh produce. Live music from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, call (435) 632-3721, or visit farmersmarketdowntown.com. 2 W. St. George Blvd.,

TUACAHN SATURDAY MARKET 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Come enjoy the wonderful surroundings at the outdoor market in the canyon featuring local artwork, crafts, food and entertainment. 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

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 (spring and fall months). The guide is a local expert trained as a Wilderness First Responder. Call (435) 673-7246. Adventure Hub St. George, 128 N 100 W suite 124, St. George.

ZION CANYON FARMERS MARKET 9 a.m.-noon. Rain or shine on the lawn of the Bit and Spur Restaurant. The 2017 season is May 6-Oct. 14. 1212 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

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

SATURDAY MOVIE MATINEE 2 p.m. St. George Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

Events by Date

Fri, July 7

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

FEATURED EVENT
ROCKFEST AT THE O.G. TANNER AMPHITHEATER



Rockfest is July 7 at 7:30 p.m. with Provo band The National Parks and local favorite Many Miles. The National Parks is branded as electronic folk pop. Tickets are available at dsutix.com or octannershows.com or by calling (435) 652-7800. Tanner Amphitheater, 144 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

Sat, July 8

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

SHOW AND SHINE CAR SHOW 6:30-9 p.m. Bring your ride. Main Street, Kanab.

TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES SGT PEPPER 50TH ANNIVERSARY 8:30 p.m. Part of the "Albumpaloosa" concert series. 21 and older event. Tickets are \$15-\$35 and can be purchased at startickets.com. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Mon, July 10

CONCERT IN THE PARK Ché Zuro, Acoustic Folk Rock. 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. Don't miss the second Monday of each month April through September. Park seating is available, bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and the family, free. For more information call (435) 627-4525. Vernon Worthen Park, 300 S. 400 E., St. George.

Wed, July 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. Suzie at (435) 592-5191. Stone Path Energy Center, 150 W. University Blvd., Cedar City.

Find more events daily at SUindependent.com

CALENDAR

Thur, July 13

ARTS AND TARTS 5:30 p.m. A gathering of artists of all types to mingle, discuss the needs and possibilities of the arts community, and enjoy great food. Raven's Heart Gallery, 57 W. Center St., Kanab.

"ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY" 8:30 p.m. Free. Open to all ages. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Fri, July 14

SUNSET ON THE SQUARE 6 p.m. Watch a movie on a big screen outdoors. St. George Town Square, 50 South Main, St. George.

NAKED WAITERS AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Sat, July 15

CLASSIC ROCK MUSIC FESTIVAL FEATURING YELLOW BRICK ROAD 9:30 a.m. Brian Head Resort, 329 South Hwy. 143, Brian Head.

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 media ranging from technical drawing and fine art painting classes to mixed media and craft building. DiFiore Center, 307 N Main St, St. George.

NAKED WAITERS 4-7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

DICK EARL'S ELECTRIC WITNESS TRIO AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

LOTTIE DARGER 8 p.m. Performance by Lottie Darger. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

"ENTRANCED," THE HYPNO-REALITY SHOW 8:30 p.m. Comedic hypnotist Terry Parrett. 21 and older event. Tickets are \$10-\$25 and can be purchased at startickets.com. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Find more at SIndependent.com

Tues, July 18

DIXIE POETS 2 p.m. Develop your poetic talents with a fun group of poets twice monthly on first and third Tuesdays. Bring 10-12 copies of your original poetry for gentle critiquing and suggestions. Short poetry lesson on the first Tuesdays and other special events as scheduled. Contact Lin Floyd at lin@sunrivertoday.com for more info. Newcomers welcome. St. George Senior Citizen Center, 245 N 200 W, St. George.

JAZZ JAM 7 p.m. Free. For information, call (435) 673-4206, email difiorecenter@gmail.com, or visit difiorecenter.org. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

Wed, July 19

GOLDEN GLOVES JUNIOR NATIONALS 5 p.m. nightly at the CasaBlanca Event Center. Tickets are \$15-\$35. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Thur, July 20

PAWS FOR TALES 4 p.m. Children can read to registered therapy dogs. Free. St. George Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

NUTRITION; STAYING HYDRATED 5:30 p.m. Learn the best way to stay hydrated. Free but limited to the first 15 people to register. Red Rock Bicycle Co., 446 W 100 S, St. George.

Fri, July 21

THE MYSTIC HOT SPRINGS MUSIC FESTIVAL July 21-24 in Monroe, Utah. Performers include the Jeff Austin Band, Hot Buttered Rum, TAARKA, The Railsplitters, and Grant Farm. The festival will feature acroyoga, drum circles, and Thai massage. Tickets includes onsite camping, all music and activities, hot springs access, parking, taxes, and fees. Tickets are available at mystichot-springsmusicfestival.com.

DUCK CREEK DAYS 2017 ARTS FESTIVAL AND CHILI COOK-OFF 10 a.m. Friday and Saturday. There will be vendor booths, a live band each night, activities and crafts for kids, blood drive, a duck derby and of course the Chili Cook-Off. For information, visit duck-creekvillage.com. Duck Creek Village.

TOM BENNETT ONE MAN BAND 6 p.m. Harmon's, 3520 Pioneer Pkwy, Santa Clara.

MOVIE IN THE PARK: "MOANA" 6 p.m. Vendors, entertainment and more! Movie showing starts at dusk. Washington City Veterans Park, 111 N. 100 E., Washington.



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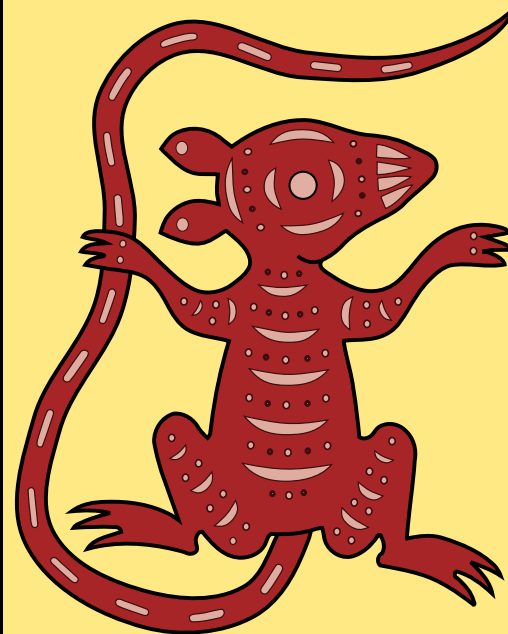
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Corner of St. George Boulevard and Bluff Street



CALENDAR

Fri, July 21

COSTA RICA & CABO SAN LUCAS VACATION GIVEAWAY WITH DJ JANELLE 9 p.m. 10 year anniversary for Mike's Tavern in Cedar City. Mike's Tavern will be giving away two vacations. No purchase necessary. Free. 21 and older. Mike's Tavern, 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

OTHERWISE AT THE FIREHOUSE BAR 8 p.m. Otherwise is a hard rock band from Las Vegas. Opening band TBA. Tickets available at smithstix.com or any Smith's location. \$20 advance purchase, \$25 day of show. FireHouse Bar & Grill, 1476 W. Sunset Blvd., St. George.

Sat, July 22

SUPERHERO THEME CJC FUN RUN 7 a.m. This 5K/10K is a fundraiser for the Kane County Children's Justice Center. Super \$25 per person or \$50 for group of 2-4 people. There will also be a kids run. \$5 per kid. Register at runnercard.com. Highway 89, Kanab.

MIKE AND ELAINE 4-7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

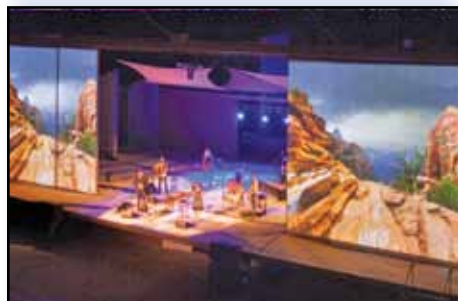
TUSHAR TRAIL RACES 6 a.m. The most challenging course in the Grand Circle Trail Series with over 30,000 feet of vertical gain for 100 miles. Eagle Point Ski Resort, 150 S W Village Circle, Beaver.

SANCTUARY - THE STORY OF ZION 7:30 p.m. O. C. Tanner Amphitheater, 350 W. Lion Blvd., Springdale.

FEATURED EVENT

"SANCTUARY: THE STORY OF ZION"
AT THE

O.C. TANNER AMPHITHEATER



On July 22 at 8 p.m., "Sanctuary: The Story of Zion" is an original production written by Sam Payne telling the colorful history of Zion through stories, songs, and images. Tickets are available at dsutix.com or octannershows.com or by calling (435) 652-7800. Tanner Amphitheater, 144 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

SONORA TROPICANA 8:30 p.m. 21 and older event. Tickets are \$15-\$30 and can be purchased at startickets.com. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Find more events
everyday at
SUindependent.com

Mon, July 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 who routinely gather at meetings and on field trips to share photographic knowledge and experiences. Attendees are at all levels of expertise, beginners to professionals. No fees or by-laws. St George Public Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

ALEX BOYE CONCERT 7 p.m. Fundraiser for the Children's Justice Center. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at ticketor.com/alexboye. Children under two are free. Bring your own chairs. Hot dogs and concessions available. Sparklers and glow sticks available for purchase. KHS Football Field, 59 E. Cowboy Dr., Kanab.

Tues, July 25

DISC BRAKE BLEED (SHIMANO) 5:30 p.m. Learn how to bleed your own Shimano brakes. Free but limited to the first 15 people to register. Red Rock Bicycle Co., 446 W 100 S, St. George.

Fri, July 28

FINAL FRIDAY ART WALKS June 30 Sept. 29, 5-8 p.m. On the last Friday of the month through September, Art Walk is held at various locations along Main Street and University Boulevard. Visit with artists, see beautiful art pieces made using a variety of media, and purchase a new piece to add to your collection. For information, visit facebook.com/CedarCityArts.

SUNSET ON THE SQUARE 6 p.m. Watch a movie on a big screen outdoors. St. George Town Square, 50 South Main, St. George.

LISA MAC 6 p.m. Harmon's Cafe, 1189 E 700 S, St. George.

THE NATURALS AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Sat, July 29

BUNCO 1-5 p.m. \$99 includes room, one buffet, and tournament fee. Bring a guest for \$79 in shared room. Cash and prizes up to \$5,000. For information, call (888) 711-4653 ext. 6950. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

JOHN UNDERWOOD 4-7 p.m. John Underwood will perform at the Zion Canyon Brew Pub. This event is free and open to the public. For information, call (435) 772-0336. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

2017 COLOR COUNTRY POKER RUN & CLASSIC CAR / BIKE SHOW 7 p.m. Poker run same-day registration noon-2 p.m. Rider \$25, passenger \$15 (includes pizza, soda and T-shirt). Best and worst hand win cash prize. Classic car show same day registration 1-3 p.m. at La Quinta Inn at 1377 S. Main St., Cedar City. \$30 per classic car/bike (includes pizza, soda and T-shirt). Classic Car and Bike Show 3-7 p.m. at Evans' parking lot at 169 N 100 W across from Mike's Tavern. Afterparty at Mike's Tavern from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. with Full Tilt Boogie, Bila Gaana, Tony Christiansen, and Mudd. Mike's Tavern, 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

HARRY O AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Mon, July 31

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

Tues, Aug 1

DIXIE POETS 2 p.m. Develop your poetic talents with a fun group of poets twice monthly on first and third Tuesdays. Bring 10-12 copies of your original poetry for gentle critiquing and suggestions. Short poetry lesson on the first Tuesdays and other special events as scheduled. Contact Lin Floyd at lin@sunrivertoday.com for more info. Newcomers welcome. St. George Senior Citizen Center, 245 N 200 W, St. George.

Fri, Aug 4

"ANNIE" 6:30 p.m. Children's Musical Theatre St. George presents. The Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

COLLIN RAYE 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a night under the stars with country singer Collin Raye. O.C. Tanner Amphitheater, 350 W. Lion Blvd., Springdale.

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

Sat, Aug 5

LIGHTS: A PREMIER TRIBUTE TO JOURNEY 8 p.m. Free Casapoolooza concert. 21 and older. Casablanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

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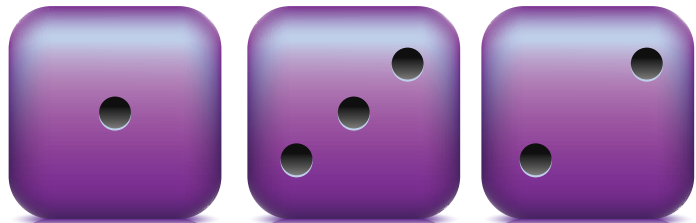
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