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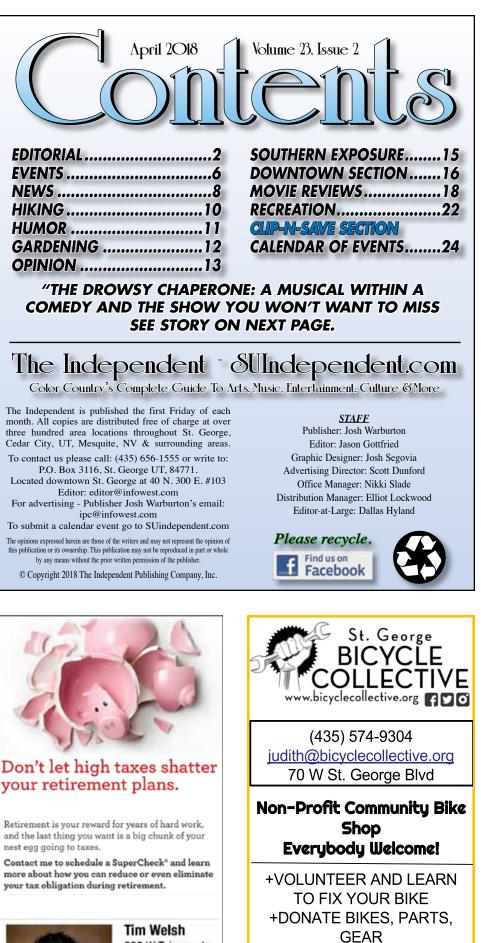
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Tim Welsh

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EDITORIAL **PUBLISHER'S** PERSPECTIVE by Josh Warburton

Publishing is hard and can be a thankless job sometimes. Often when I mention to folks that I'm a publisher, they get a look on their face as if they don't really know what that is or what I do. Partly. I believe it's because that the term can be used for people who do a number of different things, and also it's just not very common. How many publishers do you know?

A book publisher, for instance, is the person or entity that would normally be responsible for the creation of the finished volume, whether in print or digital. So that's to say that he or she is not typically the author, who creates the original content, or even the editor, who works with the author to refine that content to a publishable state.

As a newspaper publisher, the buck stops with me. I'm the person who ultimately decides the direction of the publication, its content scope, and its identity. I'm the one who made the decision over two decades ago that The Independent would be more than just an arts and entertainment publication but to some degree would have a voice of its own and, more importantly, offer up a platform for people to express their own viewpoints.

I mention this because I am often the one who gets the praise, and conversely the criticism, and sometimes rightly so.

I'm also the one who made the determination that we don't run arrest reports, car accidents, or drug busts. That decision is based on the fact that I disagree that people should be tried in the press. In some countries, it's actually illegal to publish allegations, even of people who have been arrested. The idea there is that a person is innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. What a concept, eh?

Now, that doesn't mean we never publish pieces that might imply, suggest, or even conclude that there might be actions by individuals that are illegal, nefarious, or otherwise unethical, but those are done in the context of opinion pieces. Those pieces represent the viewpoints of the author and not necessarily those of the publication.

"But wait," you say, "you just wrote that you are the owner, the buck stops with you, and you're responsible for said accusations."

And that's the part that's hard. We have to walk a very thin line. I am ultimately responsible for every piece of content that goes up on our websites and in print, and also, I rarely see the content before it publishes. That may surprise some of you, but that's actually pretty typical at most publications around the world. The editor or editors are tasked with making those individual day-to-day decisions on what content goes up and when and how it's presented. It is also a very difficult job. Especially when you are the lone editor at a publication.

Some of you may see where I'm going with this.

In January, Jason Gottfried took over as sole editor. That's editor in chief, managing editor, and line editor rolled into one. This is the first time in about five years that The Independent has operated with a

single editor. Before that, and for about 17 years of our history, we had a single editor. There are many benefits to having

all the editorial content curated, edited, and published by a single person. The consistency in formatting, style, voice, content, and such obviously all benefit by everything flowing through a single brain.

It also has its drawbacks and limitations.Jason often writes with generous amounts of wit and spirit, which sometimes gets interpreted as condescension or disrespect. I know through numerous conversations that this is not his intent. It is also not the intent of The Independent. The mission of The Independent is to inspire rigorous debate, start difficult conversations, and discuss controversial ideas. Jason understands this directive, but like anything else, it's going to be interpreted and manifest itself as he understands it and with his implicit biases. We all have biases. I sure do, and Jason is no different.

I bring all this up because we've received a bit of pushback on a few of the pieces Jason has written since he took the helm as editor at the beginning of the year. Some of it is fair, but much of it is just people disagreeing with either his stated opinions or that he has the ability to express them. Some people have even suggested that as the editor Jason represents the voice of The Independent, and I can understand that perspective — but that ignores that every editor The Independent has ever had was as free as Jason is to write his or her own pieces under our banner. For me, silencing any voice is the same as silencing any other voice.

All of that said, I'd like to make it clear that the core purpose of our opinion section content is to stimulate conversations on topics difficult to talk about. Some people just don't like their ideas challenged, and if you're one of those people, maybe our opinion section is not for you. Rather than tone down the breadth and width of the topics and concepts we are willing to publish articles about, we are dedicated to offering up a platform as wide as you'll find anywhere.

With that said, I think it's important that we speak civilly to each other and attempt to write things in a way that doesn't degrade others. We can't control what idea, concept, or topic might offend someone just out of discussing it, but we can do our best to frame ideas in a way that is constructive, thoughtful, and contemplative.

So in closing, to anyone who has been offended or hurt by any piece of content ever published by The Independent, I apologize as that's absolutely not our intent. Please understand that I am not apologizing for us tackling a subject or writing about a topic some may think is off limits. I don't agree with that stance. Everything is fair game to discuss as far as I'm concerned. That said, we will continue to strive to present our content in the most honest and heartfelt way we can without pulling the punches or censoring our contributors. We are first and foremost a platform for all -- "A clearinghouse of ideas" - a place where your thoughts are welcome regardless of your political, social, or religious persuasion. You make The Independent what it is, both as readers and as possible contributors. Thank you all for being a part of this wonderful amalgam of voices we call The Independent. Please send any opinion pieces or letters to the editor to editor@infowest.com. And happy reading!



"THE DROWSY CHAPERONE": A MUSICAL WITHIN A COMEDY AND THE SHOW YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS By Nicole Kimzey

You're comfortably sitting in your seat awaiting the start of the play. The lights dim to black, and as your anticipation grows, you hear a voice coming from the stage say, "I hate theater." It's not a common way for a play to start, but that's how "The Drowsy Chaperone" starts, and this engaging musical is anything but common.

Man in Chair (yes, that is the character's name) goes on telling us that theater "is so disappointing" and that he "offers up a prayer before every show that it be short, free of actors who roam the audience, and blessed with a story and a few good songs that will take me away." After he gets that off his chest he becomes eager to tell us about his favorite show from the 1920s: "The Drowsy Chaperone." He happens to have the original recording of the musical and promptly puts the album on his record player. As it begins, his apartment seems to transform and — voila "The Drowsy Chaperone" comes to life before our very eyes, and that is why they say "The Drowsy Chaperone" is a musical within a comedy.

Man in Chair continues to navigate us through this show full of delightful music, characters, and an intricate (and improbable) plot of love in crisis — involving gangsters, show people, millionaires, and servants that regularly show up in the production numbers.

Trent Cox plays Man in Chair and freely admits this is one of his dream roles.

"The Drowsy Chaperone' came out while I was in high school, and I've been in love with the show ever since," he said. Cox feels a real kinship with Man in Chair since they share many of the same passions. One of those passions is collecting posters, memorabilia, and records from their favorite shows. You will see Man in Chair's record collection with him on stage, and many of those come directly from Cox's own personal collection. Another similarity between the two is that they both have a fascination with the Drowsy Chaperone herself.

"Man is obsessed with the actress Beatrice Stockwell, who plays the Drowsy Chaperone, and I love Jennifer Roberts, who plays Beatrice Stockwell playing the Drowsy Chaperone, try and wrap your head around that," he said. "Jennifer and I are great friends, and I truly love watching her perform in this show."

The charms of playing Beatrice Stockwell playing the Drowsy Chaperone are not lost on Jennifer Roberts.

"She knows who she is and really revels in it, even when she is causing complete pandemonium," Roberts said. She also loves the support of each cast member for one another.

"I think this show really defines 'ensemble cast," she said. Even though it is an ensemble show, there are a few stand outs for Roberts.

"If I were sitting in the audience and watching the show, I would be most charmed by the relationship between 'Underling' and 'Mrs. Tottendale,' played by John Blasko and Carmie Petersen Golightly," she said. "Despite Mrs. Tottendale's continued absent-minded coordination of the party, Underling encourages and supports her, like the best of relationships!"

Come for Man in Chair. Come for the Drowsy Chaperone. Come for the relationships, the ensemble feel of the cast, the engaging music — just make sure you come! Don't miss the Hurricane Valley Theatrical Company's "The Drowsy Chaperone," the musical within a comedy that everyone needs to see. The show is only playing for three weeks, so people are encouraged to get their tickets early before it's gone.

"The Drowsy Chaperone" runs from April 6 through 21 every Friday, Saturday, and Monday at 7 p.m. with Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. Performances will be at The Hurricane Fine Arts Center, located at 92 S 100 W in Hurricane. For tickets, visit hurricanetheatrical.com or call (435) 668-9753.

Find more events everyday at SUindependent.com

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WASHINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

fibraries lead

Washington County Library System will be celebrating the of April, so check out craft workshops, Money Smart W Poetry readings, and displays of the "Un~Bound Upcycl contest entries. Visit your library branch to find out more, <u>www.library.washco.utah.gov</u>.

There is so much going on, we can't fit it all into just one week! The Washington County Library System will be celebrating the entire month

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BEAVER DAM JAM OFFERS A WEEKEND OF LIVE MUSIC AND FREE CAMPING By Bill Evans

Once again, it is time for the Beaver Dam Jam. This year, it will be the 11th year of music, fun, and entertainment May 4, 5, and 6.

The Beaver Dam Jam is and has been an event that celebrates the great music scene here in southern Utah, northern Arizona, and southern Nevada. The bands not only hail from our local region but also have come in from as far away as Florida and Alaska.



This year promises to be another great year with music beginning May 4 at 4 p.m. with the homegrown harmonizing of Bottoms Up and Burn Unit (Las Vegas). Soul What!? (St. George) follows with a bluesy blend of R&B, class, and soul followed by U2LV with Three Blind Mice (Las Vegas) playing that night in the Beaver Dam Bar.



May 5 rolls in with local talent Joe Sherman, who incidentally was born and raised here in Beaver Dam, a young up-and-comer who has a great future in front of him. The afternoon is greeted with Beans and Wheels and Vinyl Fusion. Originally, the members of the next band May 5are from St. George: Insanity Stew is a great band with original music. Insanity Stew just happens to practice and hone their craft right here in Beaver Dam; look for their new CD. Evening awakes with Cat Fish John. Cat Fish John is an awesome Grateful Dead Tribute band from Las Vegas. Jerry is back with us through the strong vocals of Jeff Orr. Zam Trip, a band from Wyoming, rocks us in the bar May 5 from 10 p.m. to midnight.

May 6's show will be a strong rocking day, starting out with Naked Waiters (a fully



dressed threesome from Provo), followed by Whiskey Tooth Revival (Hurricane) and Tommy Rocker (Las Vegas), and ending the event is the great rocking band from St. George, Aura Surreal.

Sixteen bands in all will grace the stage here at Beaver Dam Station and Bar. Unless you want to make the pre-party, come on down Thursday night and listen to Aaron & Bonnie.



Lawnmower Races? Who doesn't love the juiced-up craziness of an overpowered riding lawnmower? These desert dogs have dropped the blade deck (thank god) and race around a small oval track directly behind the music venue. These dedicated racers and potential gardeners will amaze all. These racers have a number of classes from stock to modified. The racing season goes from November to May with the finals beginning May 5 at 11 a.m. Don't miss that fun!

There is free camping for motor homes, RV's, and tents all around and close to the venue. For those who want a little more primitive camping, there is free camping in the Beaver Dam Wash, just north of the venue, which offers a small stream and something other than the desert.

This year will be a great year with all the entertainment. Beaver Dam Jam is the area's best-kept secret — at only \$50 for the weekend or \$20 per day, you can't beat it! Come and celebrate, camp, and be a part of this gem in the desert.



ind more events daily It SUindependent.com

KANAB HOSTS MOTHER'S DAY 10K By Tana Seaford

Families from all over the state will be in Kanab May 12 for the annual Kanab Mother's Day 10K race. If you are a mother, or if you have a mother, this is your official invitation to run one of the most scenic courses in southern Utah and "Make Mama Proud." The 10K course begins at Moqui Cave just north of Kanab and follows Highway 89 through the narrow red rock canyon into Kanab with a finish at the Kanab City Park.

The 10K is a long-standing Mother's Day tradition for the entire family. A rose is presented to each mother as she crosses the finish line to honor all they do. Additionally, there will be a prize for the fastest motherdaughter combined time and the fastest mother-son combined time.

The race begins at 7 a.m., but racers must be at Jacob Hamblin Park, located at

100 E 500 N, by 6:30 a.m. to take a shuttle bus to the starting line. Walkers and runners must complete the first five miles of the course in two hours or less. Strollers will be allowed on the course so moms and dads can run together with little ones.

The entry fee includes a t-shirt designed by Kanab artist Mikelle Stott; a post-race breakfast feast that includes a variety of fresh fruit, mini muffins, doughnut holes, and a variety of juices compliments of Glazier's Market; and a raffle ticket for a drawing that includes great prizes from many community businesses. Custom trophies made from sandstone quarried near Kanab by Western Hills will be awarded three deep in each age division. Additionally, first-place finishers in each age category will receive gift certificates to St. George Running Center. You can also enter to win a guaranteed and paid entry into the coveted St. George Marathon.

Packet pickup will be in Kanab May 11 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Kanab City Office, located at 26 N 100 E. Register online at runnercard.com or download a registration form at kanab10k.com. Register by April 30 for the lowest price!

This is one of Kanab's premier events as many businesses and individuals converge to create a sense of community. We want everyone to experience it. So run, walk, volunteer, or cheer. We will see you there!



CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT KAYENTA PRESENTS "ART"

The Center for the Arts at Kayenta in partnership with Man of Two Worlds Productions presents the Tony-award winning comedy "Art." Performances will be given April 26–May 12 at 7:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Three long-time friends. One white painting. A hilarious Tony-award winning

comedy. Serge's purchase of an all-white painting creates a rift with his friends. Marc, Serge's best friend of 15 years, is stunned and infuriated by Serge's moment of insanity and angry at what he considers Serge's pretension. Yvan, the good-natured beta male of the trio, endeavors to keep the peace between them, but he's got more than enough to contend with in the form of his fraught upcoming wedding. The heated debate about the contentious canvas brings to the fore long-bubbling tensions between the trio as they dig ruthlessly away at each other's insecurities. "Art" is a clever, funny, sophisticated, and ultimately moving

portrait of friendship and its complexities, responsibilities, and burdens starring Garry Peter Morris, Kent Harrison Hayes, and Philippe Hall.

"Art" involves some mild language and is suitable for ages 13 and older. Tickets are available at kayentaarts.com or by calling (435) 674-ARTS.



a comedy by Yasmina Reza

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THURSDAY NIGHT Bonnie and Aaron Pre-Party in the Bar

FRIDAY

U2LV 8:45 - 10:00

Soul What!? 7:00 - 8:15

Burn Unit 5:30 - 6:45

Bottoms Up 4:00 - 5:15

---- INSIDE THE BAR -----

3 Blind Mice 10:00 – Midnight SATURDAY



Insanity Stew 6:00 - 7:30

Vinyl Fusion 4:00 – 5:30

Beans & Wheels 2:00 - 3:30

> **Joe Sherman** 12:00 – 1:30

---- INSIDE THE BAR -----

Zam Trip 10:00 – Midnight

SUNDAY

Aura Surreal

5:45 - 7:00

Tommy Rocker 3:15 - 4:45

Whiskey Tooth Revival

Naked Waiters 12:00 - 1:15



KAYENTA OFFERS A HOST OF EVENTS IN APRIL By Merrie Lee

This April, Kayenta is home to five events featuring Holocause survivor Stanley Bernath, Native Grass Band, the St. George Chamber Singers, Coyote Tales, and the Tony-award winning comedy "Art."

Stanley Bernath is one of the lucky few to have survived the Holocaust as a Jewish prisoner of war during World War II in Austria. He was almost starved and worked to death while at Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp from 1944-45. His story is inspiring and hopeful. Now immortalized as a hologram who answers thousands of questions in museums across the country, Bernath himself will grace us with his presence this April at the Center for the Arts. At 7 p.m. April 9, Bernath will give a lecture - complete with video and photographs — recounting his personal experience during the war. Audience members can ask Bernath questions during the Q&A session following the lecture. At a robust 92 years of age. Bernath is extremely articulate and engaging. Please join us for

FULL SERVICE

this special fundraising event. Proceeds will help to continue the vision of the Center for the Arts at Kayenta to let our humanity be expanded through art in all its various forms.

If you're a fan of bluegrass music, Native Grass Band offers up songs and instrumentals with an eclectic mix of traditional and original music in what can be best described as "bluegrass Americana."

Native Grass Band will be in concert at the Kayenta Center for the Arts Theater April 13 at 7 p.m. Native Grass Band consists of local southern Utah performers Dave Holder on guitar, JD Thompson on upright bass, Lindsey Short on banjo, and myself on mandolin. You'll hear tight three-part harmonies, flashy lead breaks, and great arrangements on our original compositions that weave a homespun story on top of a great melody.

We're all influenced by the greats of bluegrass. Bill Monroe, Flatt & Scruggs, and Stanley Bros. created timeless music that never gets old to play or listen to, but most of those songs were written about life in the Appalachian Mountains. We are blessed with fantastic songwriters and musicians in Native Grass Band, and we enjoy thrilling our audience with never-before-heard music that we create through playing the traditional bluegrass instruments. Hearing new, fresh music with the overtones of the traditional stuff, with including themes from all across our great country is why we like to refer to our style as bluegrass Americana.

Original songs include "I Hear a Train," "Wild Horse," "Lovely Hellen," "Shirley May," "Native Grass Stomp," "Man's Good Life," "Red Roses for Guns," "Hypnotic," "Memories of June," "West Bound Train to Nevada," and more. This band is the real deal when it comes to captivating songwriting. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at nativegrassband.com or at the door on the day of the concert. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Be sure not to miss some local, homegrown music from the mandolin, guitar, banjo, doghouse bass, and vocal talents of the Native Grass Band!

Using precision and artistry in challenging harmonies April 20, these incredible vocalists will make this a night of inspiration and celebration of Brahms, Britten, and most notably Bach, the father of music himself! The St. George Chamber Singers is southern Utah's premier chamber choir, directed by Dr. Paul Wiens, Wheaton College professor emeritus. This select group of dedicated choral artists is committed to excellence in vocal chamber music. Their repertoire consists largely of classical a cappella music. This season, they are performing three major works by three exceptional composers known as "The Three B's," or Britten, Brahms, and Bach. They've also prepared a diverse selection of other pieces, which give audiences a variety of genres and composers to enjoy. For over 40 years, Wiens, DMA, has conducted notable choirs. Serving as chorus master under the baton of maestro John Nelson, memorable performances include Mendelssohn's "Elijah," Handel's "Messiah," and Brahms' Requiem. Wiens also sang in the Atlanta Symphony Chamber Choir under the legendary Robert Shaw.

Tickets are \$20. Come early and enjoy a pre-show gourmet boxed dinner by Harmon's at 6:30 p.m. Select "dinner and show" on kayentaarts.com from the dropdown menu when purchasing your tickets. Dinner orders must be pre-ordered, so don't delay, do it today! Hear invited storytellers' delightful tales on the theme "Art Matters" April 21 at 7 p.m. Unlike the regular open-micstyle Coyote Tales, this is a special curated event featuring invited storytellers who will perform during a lively cocktail reception to benefit the Kayenta Arts Foundation. It will be the ultimate showdown of words! After all stories have been told, audience members will vote with their wallets for the best Coyote Tale of the evening. Tickets are \$35.

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"Art" involves some mild language and is suitable for ages 13 and older. Tickets are available at kayentaarts.com or by calling (435) 674-ARTS.



Tony Holiday & The Velvetones (Internationally Touring Blues Band SLC, UT Tom Bennett and Rooster (Country Blues Villa Rica, GA) Reverend Freakchild (Blues from Bolder, Co) George Nelson (Soul Indie Folk SLC, UT) Josh Warburton (Singer/Songwriter ; Springdale, UT) Capitan Klas (Singer/Songwriter Stockholm, Sweden) and more...



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Cleaning

Handy Lady

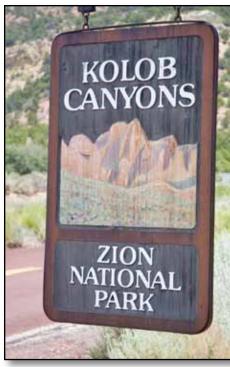


KOLOB CANYONS CLOSES FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Access to portions of the Kolob Canyon District of Zion National Park will be restricted due to a construction project beginning May 1. The project involves reconstructing sections of the road, repaving the entire road, and adding accessible parking, sidewalk, and toilet facilities. All of Kolob Canyon Road, the visitor center, and the parking lot off of Interstate 15 will be closed to all traffic during the sevenmonth project. The Taylor Creek Trail, the Timber Creek Overlook Trail, the Lee Pass Trailhead, and other areas served via the Kolob Canyons Road will not be available to the public.

Overnight permitted hikes will be drop off/pick up only April 15–30. No vehicles or hiking will be permitted inside the closure beginning May 1. Construction engineers and park officials have determined that closing these areas during the project will be safest for visitors and workers and will expedite the work, so the area may open at the soonest possible date.

Visitors will be able to access the La Verkin Creek Trail and hike to the Kolob



Arch via the Hop Valley Trail. Visitors may access the Hop Valley Trailhead from the Kolob Terrace Road. Overnight trips require a permit. There are many surrounding state parks, U.S. Forest Service, and public land scenic areas to consider as alternatives to Kolob Canyons during this closure.

> Find more events everyday at SUindependent.com

ORCHESTRA OF SOUTHERN UTAH PRESENTS GLORIOUS GALAXIES By Tanisa Crosby

The Orchestra of Southern Utah is thrilled to announce its final concert for the 2017–18 season, Glorious Galaxies. The concert will take place April 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Theatre. The orchestra is shooting for the stars, bringing in guest soloist Matthew Clegg, giving a world premiere of a piece by Alex Byers, and joined by performers from Aerobatic Performing Arts.

OSU takes to the stars with a world premiere of "When I Consider the Heavens" by Alex J. Byers, Canyon View High School's very own choral conductor. Emily Hepworth, OSU manager, explained that the piece is a tribute to cancer victims. Byers has performed has an OSU soloist and an R.L. Halversen Young Artist Composition winner.

SUU alumnus Matthew Clegg returns to Cedar City to sing the famous "Rigoletto" by Verdi and the vocal solo on Byers's composition. Clegg is currently a DMA candidate at the University of Nebraksa-Lincoln.

The orchestra is excited to take on the challenge of excerpts from Holst's "The Planets" with silk rope aerobatics. The movements that will be featured in this concert will be "Mars (Bringer of War)," "Venus (Bringer of Peace)," and "Jupiter (Bringer of Jollity)." During these movements, silk aerial aerobatics will be performed in front of the orchestra. It's sure to be an exciting collaboration between music and stunning visual movement.

Lobby music begins at 6:45 p.m. featuring Cedar Music Store and Studio's Children's Choir directed by Jolene Heit. Children 6 and up are welcome to attend.

Ticket prices are \$12 for adults, \$5 for students, and \$40 for groups of up to six. Tickets are available either by phone at (435) 233-8213 or by purchase at the Heritage Center box office.





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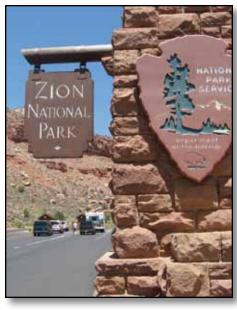




\$2,000 OFFERED FOR THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF POACHER OF PREGNANT ELK IN ZION NATIONAL PARK

The National Park Service, in conjunction with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, is seeking information





about the recent poaching of a pregnant cow elk within Zion National Park. The reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the poacher of a pregnant elk in Zion National Park has been increased to \$2,000.

It is estimated that the animal was killed sometime on or about Jan. 20.

The gut pile and partial hide of the elk were found in Lee Valley off the Kolob Terrace Road in Zion National Park. Evidence was collected at the scene, but help from the public will play a crucial role in finding those responsible.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to call or text the NPS Investigative Services Branch tip line at (888) 653-0009, email nps_isb@nps.gov, or submit a tip online at nps.gov/isb and click on "Submit a Tip."



RV Sales Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday Closed

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY PARTICIPATE IN MARCH FOR OUR LIVES IN CEDAR CITY By Jean Bjerke

Along with hundreds of thousands nationwide, 150 people in Cedar City gathered at the clocktower on Southern Utah University's campus March 24 for the March for Our Lives. They began by bowing their heads for an emotional 30-second moment of silence in memory of victims of school shootings — including the 17 killed in February at Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Then they were invited to text VOTERISE to 788-683 to register to vote from their cell phones.

SUU students, high school students, elementary school students, community members, and children marched through Cedar City carrying signs with messages such as "No one has a right to weapons of mass murder," "Hey politicians, you work for us, the people, not the NRA," "Make our schools safe again," "How many more will it take to end gun violence?" and "Ban Assault Rifles."

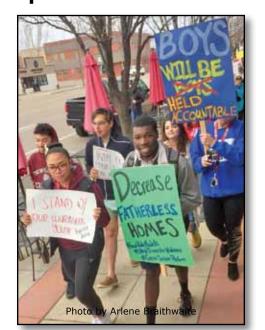
The march in Cedar City was organized by Human Rights Advocates, a student club at SUU, and co-sponsored by Action Iron County, an independent group. It was one of hundreds of marches nationwide held in all 50 states.

At a "talk-back" session following the march, people had the opportunity to voice their own thoughts. Speakers ranged from a nine-year-old boy to a mother, a teacher, and a military veteran.

"I'm a veteran and I come from a demographic that has overwhelming support for free guns," said David Handy, a former U.S. Marine who served in Afghanistan. "Frankly, I'm sick of seeing it. To those high school kids that came up here, I want you to know that you're not alone. We all support you, we're all proud of you, we're all trying to protect you."

"Everyone that's talking about putting guns in schools, think about it," he said. "Open your eyes, use some common sense. I've seen trained Marines cower and cry and piss themselves when rounds start flying down range. And you want teachers, teachers to stare down the barrels of guns!? It's not right, it's not a solution, it's an excuse. We need to take guns out of schools."

Matthew Eddy, a sociology professor at SUU, spoke from a historical perspective, saying that there are 33,000 gun deaths and 70,000 people injured by guns every year in the United States.



"No child should ever have to even imagine a situation like that," said Robyn Eddy, a mother and first grade teacher in Cedar City who has had to conduct active shooter drills in her classroom. "Something is wrong with our society that we have to be prepared for something like that. It's good to be prepared, but still it's like terrorizing the children."

"All I have to say is I am totally in with it, said Simon Blair, a nine-year-old elementary school student. "Common sense is needed."

"I'm an individual who supports the 2nd Amendment," said Brenden Whitelaw. "That the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." But he said about the students who were killed at Douglas High School that "their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness has been infringed upon, and we need to make positive change now. If I wasn't scared, I wouldn't be here today."

Ksenya Plumb, founder and president of the Human Rights Advocates student club at SUU, which organized the march, urged people to register to vote, to pay attention to issues, and call or write their congressional representatives. She said citizens should ask our senators and congressman about bills on gun trafficking, mental illness, domestic violence, and gun



Marchers gather in front of Sheratt Library on SUU campus following March for Our Lives, photo by Ksenya Plumb

"More Americans have died from guns in the United States since 1968 than in the entire history of warfare in the United States," he said. He emphasized that "96 percent of U.S. adults support background checks for all gun purchases ... and 60 percent of Americans say that the NRA has too much influence with our politicians." reform that are being blocked and not acted upon by Congress.

"Let's take this conversation further and also keep the victims in your hearts and your prayers, and their families," she said.

Find more at SUindependent.com



SUU AND SOUTHWEST TECH LAUNCH DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM By Ellen Treanor

Cedar High School senior Sam Palmer is like most 18-year-olds. He knows that college is a good investment but isn't sure a four-year university is best.

Recently, he took a class in computer programming at Southwest Tech College. In the past, if he switched to a four-year college, he would be required to retake the class. A new partnership between Southern Utah University and Southwest Tech is changing that.

Under the Dual Enrollment Program, if Sam chooses to enroll at Southwest Tech for a certificate program, his credits will be accepted at SUU. If he starts at SUU and decides it isn't the best option, he can switch to Southwest Tech and have all of his classes count.

Student needs are changing. Some high school seniors will enroll at an institution and graduate in four years, others need options. Nationally, there are 95 million people who have finished high school but have not finished college, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education.

"This is an excellent opportunity to further our mission as a dynamic teaching and learning community with a deep commitment to student success and developing opportunities leading students to productive careers," said SUU President Scott L. Wyatt.

Through the Dual Enrollment Program, all registered students of SUU are admitted to Southwest Tech and entitled to enroll in certificate programs, and all Southwest Tech students in certificate programs are admitted to SUU and entitled to enroll in classes for credit.

The unprecedented partnership developed in conversations between Wyatt and Southwest Tech President Brennan M. Wood of over the last few months when they acknowledged the diverse needs of students. The technical college system in Utah has been developing articulation agreements and pathways of various types for the last 30 years.

"I appreciate Presidents Wyatt and Wood coming together in this unprecedented partnership focused on student success," said Dr. Dave Woolstenhulme, Utah Commissioner of Technical Education. "This is a remarkable example of Utah's forward-thinking approach to education delivery and is a huge win for the students and the economy of our state."

The two campus communities are six blocks from each other, and SUU and Southwest Tech have a history of cooperation in developing a number of programs with articulated, stackable credentials.

The program is not intended to be a merger of the institutions but to $% \left({{{\left({{{{{\bf{n}}}} \right)}}}_{{{\bf{n}}}}}} \right)$

SUU'S SENIOR BFA CAPSTONE EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS EMERGING ARTISTS By Tracy Solimeno

Southern Utah University's department of art and design welcomes the 2018 bachelor of fine arts students to a capstone show at the Southern Utah Museum of Art. A variety of two- and three-dimensional works will be on display through May 5. Admission is free and open to the public.

Student exhibitions are always diverse and challenging. Academic courses allow students to discover techniques, surfaces, and subjects they may not have utilized on their own. This exploration leads to technical and creative aspects.

"BFA classes are harder, more time consuming, and more mentally and physically taxing", said Michelle Gray. "It is very validating to feel that my work is of the caliber to show in a museum like SUMA. It means that I have completed this rollercoaster of difficulty and come out on top."

Another component in academic work is the study of the human figure. It is a necessary and challenging component, that allows students to learn how to represent the human form in two- and three-dimensional art. Several pieces in this exhibit offer a presentation of the nude human figure. We encourage concerned patrons to view the exhibit before bringing children into the museum.

"My time at SUU has been more

[beneficial] than I ever thought it would be," said undergraduate ceramic artist Lissy Edwards. "Without the department of art and design at SUU, its diversity, and fantastic professors, I would not be where I am today. Susan Harris and Russell Wrankle have been so amazing to work with; these renowned artists have taught me key ideas and skills that have pushed my work to the next level." Edwards just returned from the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts where she had the honor of showing her work in the National Student Juried Exhibition.

"We are proud of these students and impressed by their skill and passion," said, Jeff Hanson, associate professor of graphic design and department chair.

Discover the journey of today's emerging artists in this astounding exhibition. For more information, please visit suu.edu/pva.



provide, as far as reasonably possible, all advantages of SUU and Southwest Tech to the other institutions' students as if the two institutions were one.

"Students will be served by multiple on-ramps and off-ramps," said Wood. "We know that one size does not fit all in terms of post high school education, so this partnership gives students options."

The program was recently boosted by a pledge of Gov. Herbert to support the collaboration and Utah legislature funding of \$200,000 from HB2. The bill passed in March 2018, proving that Utah is committed to be a national leader in educational delivery systems.

A plan is in place to implement the Dual Enrollment Program by fall. Both institutions will work to make the payment of tuition, financial aid, advising, and other administrative services as seamless as possible for all students.

SUU and Southwest Tech are committed to helping their students, like Sam Palmer, by providing multiple academic paths. The Dual Enrollment Program will give students more opportunities for success.



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HIKING SOUTHERN UTAH: DINO CLIFFS TRAIL By Lacey McIntyre

Distance: Approximately 3.6 miles round trip Family-friendly: Yes

Dogs allowed: Yes, on leash

Directions from St. George: Take Interstate 15 north to the Green Springs exit. Turn left on Green Springs Drive, then right onto Buena Vista Boulevard. In about a mile, you will come to a stop sign at Main Street in Washington. Turn left onto Main Street, and drive down the paved road until it turns to dirt. Continue on the dirt road for about 0.1 mile until you come to the second unpaved turn off on



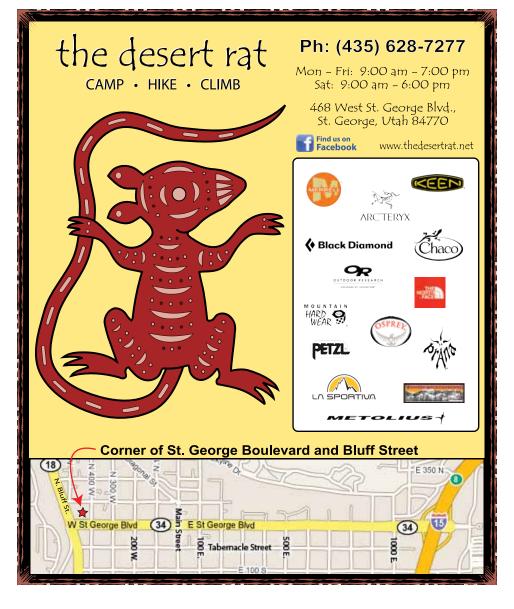
your right. That road will take you toward the water tanks, which are near where the Dino Cliffs trailhead is located. The road can be rough at times, so a high-clearance vehicle is recommended. It will be about a 0.7-mile drive on the combined dirt roads to the trailhead. Give yourself a good 2–2.5 hours to do the round-trip hike so you have time to see the dinosaur tracks, watch the wildlife, and have a snack break. If your vehicle cannot make it on the dirt road, you can park where the pavement ends and hike into the area.

I started this hike around 8:30 a.m. on a nice March day. Due to increased construction and other use near the area, it can be a bit confusing trying to maneuver all the dirt roads. The trailhead is near the Washington City water tanks, one of which you can see to the right off in the distance, so I knew the general location of where I was headed. After taking the second right at 0.1 mile, I followed the dirt road for 0.6 miles and found the trailhead sign on the right side of the roadway.

There is a pull out for parking across from the Dino Cliffs sign. Walk on the marked path, keeping straight at the intersection with another dirt road, to get to the Dino Cliffs stepover.

Stepping over onto the trail transported me to a scenic and peaceful place. Though I passed construction on the way in, I soon almost felt like I was in the middle of nowhere. Many birds nest in the rock crevices seen all around. I was lucky enough

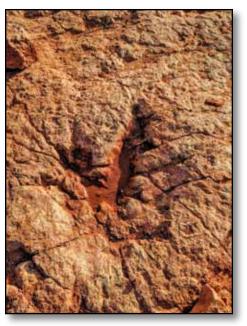




to spot red-tailed hawks, a peregrine falcon, and canyon wrens. While I saw no other people on my hike, nearby birds eagerly filled this void with their ongoing chatter of courting and warding off unwanted mates. Within the next few weeks, the area will come alive with creatures. Lizards, tortoises, and snakes will be waking up from their winter sleep and may be spotted along the trail.



About 200 yards into the hike, there are dinosaur footprints. They are not described with an interpretive sign, but there is a "site etiquette" sign that will indicate their presence on the ground below. The smaller tracks I found were most likely grallator tracks. Grallator tracks were some of the first discovered and were made by some of the oldest theropod dinosaurs, a common ancestor of today's birds. Theropods were meat eaters that walked on three sharpclawed toes. A couple examples of these dinosaurs would be the coelophysis and megapnosaurus. The bigger of the tracks found on the Dino Cliffs Trail are most likely eubrontes tracks. These tracks were made by meat-eating dinosaurs that were rather large, such as the dilophosaurus.



Just thinking about how dinosaurs had walked the path I was traveling was exciting. I could imagine the prehistoric activity along what was then Lake Dixie. Being a city girl from Indiana, there weren't opportunities close by to get out in nature and see dinosaur tracks. These tracks feel so wild and real compared to the clinical, remote feel I can get looking at museum displays with specimens from far-off locations. The trail is a well-marked moderate route, but there is a small uphill climb on slickrock that may prove difficult for some. It is easy to lose the trail a bit in the slickrock sections, but there were cairns placed around that helped me find my way. After about 1.8 miles of hiking along the bottom of the beautiful red sandstone formations, the Dino Cliffs Trail ends at the junction of a two-track service road known as the Grapevine Trail. There were some nice rock ledges that made for a great snack break spot. There is also an opportunity at this junction to make a longer loop back to your vehicle by taking the Grapevine Trail; however, I chose to turn around and go back the way I came. I was glad I did, because I spotted two beautiful red-tailed hawks enjoying a little thermal soaring as the temperatures rose. Once I finished the hike, I decided

to take a trip to the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm to learn a bit more about the dinosaur tracks I encountered. The museum building was actually built around the tracks, so you can see them naturally on the ground inside. making the visit a unique experience. They were discovered by accident, with many more still submerged likely 100 feet below nearby areas such as the Red Cliffs Mall. Dinosaurs are everywhere! The prehistory in the area is fascinating, and the museum has some top-notch volunteers who are dedicated and knowledgeable. The cost is 6 for adults and 3 for kids ages 4–11 (kids 3 and under are free). I highly recommend it!



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HUMOR

YOUR MONTHLY HOROSCOPE **By Jamnit Frainkle**

Jamnit Frainkle is a licensed marriage counselor and an amateur taxidermist. She studied astrology and Texas Hold 'Em in the mountains of Tibet with Yogi Tryptophan the All-Knowing for nearly two hours. She offers family therapy, romantic advice, clairvoyant mumbles, and deceasedpet-stuffing services to pathetic losers in southern Utah at discount prices.



Aquaman: Jan. 20–Feb. 18

Not

what baby

understanding

powder is, you

will commit a

truly gruesome



series of murders in an attempt to make some.



Seafood: Feb 18-March 20

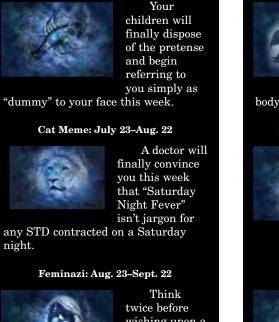
After an

emergency trip to the ER

this week.

the mystery

of where that



Literally Cancer: June 21–July 22

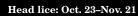
wishing upon a star this week — especially a reality TV star, lest he or she is

Illuminati: Sept. 23–Oct. 22

elected president.

Mistaking a new carbon dating app for a new dating app this week will result in the realization that claiming you

were 28 for 19 years in a row had resulted in you forgetting your actual age



You'll finally achieve fame this week when doctors discover a new species of lice living in your

body hair.

Summer Camp: Nov. 22–Dec. 21



Don't waste time this week worrying if your life is all too good to be true! It's definitely not.

Goatse: Dec. 22-Jan. 21



Not knowing what muscle milk is, you will commit a truly gruesome series of

murders in an attempt to make some.

Editor's Note: These horoscopes are satire not that it really matters either way. Your Monthly Horoscope is written by Jason Gottfried.

Find more humor everyday at SUindependent.com



To the delight of demi-vapors, genderfuzzes, and juxeras - not to mention those of the other 115 or so current genders (117 counting male and female) -– The Encyclopedia Britannica recently published its new "Encyclopedia of Pronouns."

The 1,000-volume set has been hailed by the New Fork Times "An indispensable volume for anyone seeking to avoid prison time in Canada, Oregon, or California" and the Washington Toast as "A staggering shit ton of books.'

The new reference set is being updated online daily as new genders and subsequent new pronouns arise, and an up-to-date hardback version - which fits conveniently in most warehouses - will be published annually.

"The 'Encyclopedia of Pronouns' is the greatest thing since Communism," raved Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau." The encyclopedia has been strategically



published some years before the 2021 presidential election - after which it is assumed that Democrats will have full control of all seven branches of government and the misuse of pronouns will be a felony punishable by death — thereby giving Americans a chance to memorize all of the existing pronouns now before millions more come into existence.

"Finally, Californians won't have a reason to whine when they are punished by the state for crimes of malicious grammatical inaccuracy," gushed California Governor Jerry Brown.

The Encyclopedia Britannica's new "Encyclopedia of Pronouns" is now on sale for \$19,999.99.

Editor's Note: This piece is satire. In truth, nothing can save us from the Democrats.

Find more humor everyday at SUindependent.com



GARDENING

SOUTHERN UTAH GARDENING: GROWING STRAWBERRIES IN HOME GARDENS By Ali Reynolds

Nothing is better than a home-grown ripe strawberry! When it comes to growing strawberries, there are three types of strawberries generally available to home gardeners.

June-bearers produce loads of fruit for about 2–3 weeks beginning in May here in southern Utah. Sometimes they will produce a small, late crop in the fall if we experience warm October weather.

Ever-bearers have three crops of berries. These crops produce in late spring, summer, and early fall. Ever-bearers are desirable for their long fruiting season, but the total yield is lower — about half that of June-bearers at a time.

Day-neutral varieties permit flowers to form in all-day lengths. Day neutrals can fruit from July through September in the first year of planting and for five months



during the second year. The berry size is naturally small and further decreases during summer heat.

High production does require more commitment of time and labor. They must receive regular irrigation, fertilization, and pest control to keep them healthy and productive.

Soil and site preparation

Strawberries grow best in full sun in a sandy loam soil with a pH of 6.2 but will tolerate a wide range of conditions. Avoid sites infested with perennial weeds and areas where tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, or eggplants were grown within the previous two years; these plants harbor verticillium wilt that can destroy strawberry plants. It



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is best to prepare at least two months prior to planting strawberries by incorporating organic matter, sulfur (pH test determines if necessary), and fertilizer (five pounds of 4-6-2 for every 100 square feet) into the top 2-4 inches of soil.

Varieties

There are many varieties available, depending on the breed of strawberry desired. Some of the best June-bearers I've tried are camorosa, allstar, jewel, sequoia, fletcher, late glow, and sparkle. Ever-bearing varieties recommended include Fort Laramie, ever-sweet, and fern. Albion, tribute, and tristar are day-neutral cultivars that have excellent flavors and good production with any variety. When purchasing potted strawberry plants, look for healthy growth that is free of leaves looking wilted or browned in the center of the plant.

Planting and spacing

Location of strawberries can be key in southern Utah. Afternoon shade helps production, but well amended, well drained soil is crucial. Plant strawberries in early spring as soon as the soil is dry enough to work. Dig the planting holes deep enough to accommodate the entire root length vertically. Excessively long roots should be trimmed to 4 inches if bare root. Firm the soil around the plant, making sure the crowns are covered to the original level; do not cover too shallow or too deeply. Space plants 6 to 12 inches apart. Since day-neutral cultivars do not create many runners, plants can be grown closer together. After runners become 10 to 12 inches long, they can be trained along the row or bed, spaced 4 to 8 inches apart. Gently press the runner into the soil and cover to a depth of 1/2 inch. Do not cut the runner from the parent plant; this is its lifeline until it develops its own root system.

Irrigation

Strawberries should have moist soil from either rainfall or irrigation. This is necessary for plant vigor, fruit size, and runner production. Increase the water when plants begin to bloom. Overhead watering when strawberries are near ripeness can cause them to rot, so drip irrigation is best at this point.

Mulching

Applying mulch immediately after planting helps to control weeds, conserve moisture, and keep berries clean. It also prevents low-temperature injury to the crown when applied in the fall. Place mulch over the plant tops in November (if your temperatures are around 20 F); use approximately one bale of straw per 50 linear feet of row, or 1 to 1 1/2 inches of soil conditioner or pine needles. Next spring when the forsythia are in full bloom (early March), remove about half the mulch and place it in the alley between the rows to suppress weeds, or toss it into the compost heap. Floating row covers may also be used to suppress weeds and protect against pests.

Fertilizing

Use a well-balanced slow-release fertilizer when blossoms appear, such as a 4-6-2. Biannual compost application in the fall when mulching them for the winter and again in the spring before flowering is best. Put a generous inch all over the ground. When first planting your strawberries, use a good amount of compost to enrich the soil as they will need nutrients to grow vigorously.

Pests

There are a few pests to be aware of when growing strawberries that love the sweet taste just as much as we do and often beat us to the punch. Earwigs and sowbugs seem to feed on strawberries just before they are ripe. A sprinkling of spinosad bait will generally stop them in their tracks. Diatomaceous earth is another choice but needs to be applied often and when soil and plants are dry and reapplied once wet. Birds can be another issue. Loosely covering with a mesh or shade cloth works well to deter birds.

Harvesting

Pick the fruit when it is fully ripe (one or two days after reaching full color), leaving the caps and stems attached. Keep harvested berries out of the sun, and keep them unwashed in the refrigerator up to 4-5 days.

Strawberries in pots

From personal experience, growing strawberries in those cute "strawberry pots" with the pockets on the sides can be frustrating. It's difficult for water to reach the side pockets as water wants to travel down rather than out. A preferred choice would be in whiskey barrels, large pots, or raised beds. Whatever you choose, keep the soil moist for best production.

Time to get those hands dirty and plant a patch of strawberries!





AN OPEN LETTER TO THE YOUTH WHO LED THE NATIONAL MARCHES FOR OUR LIVES By Marianne Mansfield

To the leaders of March for our Lives, Thank you.

Across the nation, you headed our columns of marchers who were gathered to speak out against gun violence. You were the people who gathered us together. You were all over social media announcing and then repeatedly reminding us of the date. You organized sign-making parties, you communicated with local police departments. You planned our routes, you thought about hecklers. I suspect that for days before March 24 you barely slept. I would guess that the minute your heads hit pillows, your eyes popped open because you'd thought of one more thing that needed to be attended to.

Thank you.

There were things that got away from you. Of course there were. An ill-placed

watering station, the absent megaphone, but you pushed forward. You were innovative and unwilling to be stopped. You were driven by your belief in the cause of safety. It burned in your hearts and filled your minds. You felt inspired. You were dedicated, committed. You were, after all, out to save lives, the lives of our students, your peers, my loved ones. You were out to change the course of our country, one bold step at a time.

Thank you.

When the moment came to begin our march, you stood on chairs, on rocks, on ladders, on each other. You asked for silence. With your hearts in your throats and your spirits ready for whatever was about to happen, you reminded us of this one last thing. This march was about students, for students, and by students. You, our students, would lead us. Thank you.

Before the march struck out, I heard men and women alike, those who were gray haired, or somewhat bent, or likely to walk at a slower pace, murmuring. "Why is this marching business necessary again?" Another, "Feels like Viet Nam again." "Or the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) times." "Or the Million Man March." "Remember Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait?" We talked among each other about how we were getting tired of all this marching. We knew, though, that we would never not show up. At least as long as we are able. $Marching \ is \ not \ only \ our \ right, \ we \ recognize$ it as our national responsibility. Those of us who parted to let you reach the head of the march cheered when you took over. Symbolically, we passed our heavy, but dear, torch to you.

Thank you.

We cheered, but we fretted because that is what a lifetime of watching and $% \left({{{\mathbf{x}}_{i}}} \right)$

marching has shown us. We wanted to take you aside and share the knowledge we gained from our experiences with you. We wanted to safeguard your bristling enthusiasm. We wanted to warn you about the pitfalls of activism. We wanted you to know that, even in the face of your energy being sucked out of you by the never ending opposition, you must persevere. It's that important.

Thank you.

We worried that the burden of our hope would weigh too heavy on your young shoulders. We feared that our collective history would be a drag, a rope made of our dreams wrapped around your youthful ankles. So when you bounded to the head of the line, with our first exhaled breath we roared our approval from the middle and rear. With our next inhaled breath, we embraced our concerns but kept them to ourselves.

Thank you.

We need you. Our country needs you. And we know you need us. March on. Keep looking forward. Don't worry about what's behind you. We are. Thank you.

Find more opinions everyday at SUindependent.com







SUU **COMMUNITY EDUCATION SEEKS INSTRUCTORS By Haven Scott**

What are you doing this summer? For those who love to learn something new, or those who would like to share their wisdom with others, community education at Southern Utah University is planning a fun, social, educational summer for all.

Suzette Beach, assistant director at SUU Community Education, said the office is in the process of gathering interested instructors to teach community members about a hobby, trade, or experience that they are passionate about.

"We live in a community rich with talented people, and it is exciting to see them stepping up to share their talents with others," Beach said. "We invite others to join us if they have something special to teach."

SUU Community Education rounds into its second session in its mission to bring community education back to Cedar City and surrounding residents with more than 100 signing up for 15 classes ranging from Adobe Creative Cloud to social dancing.

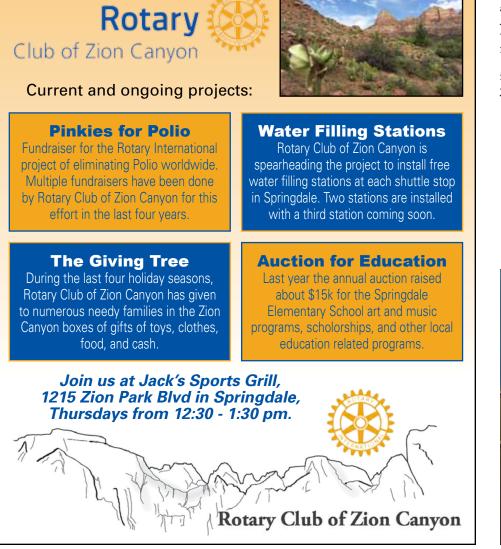
"We are so excited at the community's response to our initial series of classes, said Melynda Thorpe, community and academic enrichment director. "The goal of our office was to have 300 residents enroll in community education for the year 2018 - we were thrilled to have 200 enroll in our spring launch session alone."

SUU Community Education classes are scheduled to run year round in three consecutive sessions: spring, summer, and fall. Some classes will repeat from session to session with new courses being added regularly. Classes currently proposed for summer 2018 include beginning computers, hiking with United States Forest Service, yoga, painting, golf, outdoor photography, Iron County history, and cake decorating, among others.

"We're doing something different in our community education program, and that is to create very specific, cultural experiences for residents interested in learning something new," Thorpe said.

For those interested in teaching a community education or professional development class, visit suu.edu/wise, email bewise@suu.edu, call (435) 865-8259, or stop by the CAE office at 136 W. University Blvd., suite 3, in Cedar City for more information.





ANNOUNCES PLEIN AIR ART **INVITATIONAL DATES AND FEATURED ARTISTS** Twenty-four award-winning artists George

ZION NATIONAL PARK

in-park demonstrations, providing interactive wet-paint exhibits, and special receptions with proceeds benefiting Zion's education programs

By John Marciano

Zion Nat'l Park Forever Project and Zion National Park have finalized the dates, event locations, and artists for the 10th Plein Air Invitational. The week-long event starts Nov. 5 and culminates Nov. 10 with the "Art-In-The-Park" paint-out celebration on the great lawn in front of the Zion Lodge.

Every November, 24 artists, through their work and voices, remind park guests of the transformational power Zion retains within its aquifers of sandstone. In the immediacy of their art, they show all of us that the beauty of this landscape is right now, just as it was to Thomas Moran and Frederick Dellenbaugh more than 100 vears ago.

"We invite you to come witness, enjoy, and learn from our 24 acclaimed landscape artists as they share their talents and insight within the sacred backdrop of Zion National Park," said superintendent Jeff Bradybaugh.

Experiences and events include in-park demonstrations, instructive evening lectures, and interactive wet-paint exhibits. Studio pieces from each artist are featured in the Zion Human History Museum, and renderings from the paint-out event and silent auction will be featured Nov. 10 at the Zion Lodge. The Plein

Air pieces painted during the week will also be on sale at the museum over the weekend.

The 24 acclaimed artists invited to participate in this year's event are as follows:

> -Bill Cramer (Featured Artist), oil, Prescott, Arizona -Suzie Baker, oil.

Shenandoah, Tennessee -Richard Boyer, oil, Salt Lake City —Arlene Braithwaite,

pastel, Cedar City -Royden Card, acrylic, St. -John D. Cogan, acrylic, Farmington, New Mexico

- -Michelle Condrat, oil, Salt Lake City -Cody DeLong, oil, Cottonwood,
- Arizona —Kimball Geisler, oil, Idaho Falls

-Bruce Gomez, pastel, Denver, Colorado

—George Handrahan, oil, Layton

—Mary Jabens, oil, Cedar City

-Rick Kinateder, watercolor and gouache, Provo

—Shanna Kunz, oil, Ogden

-Roland Lee, watercolor, St. George -Bonnie McGee, oil, St. George

-James McGrew, oil, Lake Oswego, Oregon

-Meredith Nemirov, watercolor, Ridgeway, Clorado

—Steve Stauffer, oil, Murray, Utah

-Gregory Stocks, oil, Cottonwood, Arizona

—Michele Usibelli, oil, /acrylic/ gouache, Woodway, Washington -Lewis Williams, pastel and acrylic,

Montrose, Colorado —Jim Wodark, oil, Orange, California

-Suze Woolf, watercolor, Seattle

"The Plein Air event provides an opportunity for visitors to appreciate the beauty of Zion in new ways through the impressions of these talented artists," said Bradybaugh. "Their work continues to enhance our perpetual stewardship of this wonderful sanctuary we recognize as Zion National Park."





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IT IS FINALLY BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE SPRING By Cedar City Mayor Maile Wilson

It is finally beginning to feel like spring, or at least it has for a few days. With the warmer weather comes the many "Festival City" events and visits from tourists, friends, tournament participants, family, etc. Since we always want to show our best side when guests visit, please take advantage of our annual City Spring Clean-Up by getting your property all tidied up and looking its very best. This is a great opportunity to have our city crews haul away the debris that comes from a long winter as we all start getting our areas ready for another beautiful Cedar City summer. As a city, we are also going to focus on beautification and making sure our city areas are also being maintained so our residents can be proud to call Cedar City home.

As the weather warms up, please keep in mind that we still live in a desert and that water is a precious resource. Here in the Cedar Valley, there are multiple water users. There are agricultural operations that purchase the right to use water and develop their own water delivery systems. There are small unincorporated subdivisions that have their own water systems. There are customers supplied by systems developed by the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District. There are also municipalities, such as Cedar City, that have developed water delivery systems for the benefit of its residents, businesses. industry, and all sorts of users. All of these groups of water users have one thing in common: They all rely on an increasingly limited resource.

One conservation step the city took a number of years ago was to adopt an ordinance related to time-of-day outdoor watering restrictions to help prevent water lost to evaporation during the heat of the day. Between April 1 and October 31, those using Cedar City's culinary system are prohibited from outdoor watering between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

It is easy to tell if you are using culinary water. One piece of information you may want to consider is you are receiving this notice in your water bill! Irrigation with water from a ditch system would be outside of Cedar City's culinary system. Lastly, large users such as a school or recreational venue using Cedar City's secondary irrigation system are not using the culinary system. So, if you are not on the ditch system or secondary irrigation system for your outside watering, you are using Cedar City's culinary system and the ordinance applies to you.

There are a couple of exceptions to the time of day watering restrictions you may want to be aware of. If you have just planted grass, there is no watering restriction for the first 30 days. If you are present and using short cycles of water to maintain your irrigation system, there is no restriction. If you have a business licensed as a nursery, there is no restriction. Also the city's water superintendent may issue a permit. If you don't fall into one of these categories, you are regulated by the city's watering restrictions.

Cedar City's Water Department and Code Enforcement will be out enforcing this ordinance in the coming months. If found in violation of the ordinance you can expect to receive one warning. Repeated violations will result in water service being shut off and financial penalties. Please do your part to conserve!

On a related topic, the Cedar City Waterworks ordinance was recently changed. The ordinance now reads: "Water bills are sent out monthly. All water bills shall be paid in full by 5 p.m. on the 23rd of the month. If the 23rd falls on a weekend or legal holiday, payment is due by 5 p.m. the following business day. Late fees will be assessed when payments are not received as specified herein."

With the 23rd of the month as the specified due date, Cedar City water customers may need to make adjustments to auto-pay accounts to make sure a late fee is not assessed.

The Cedar City Police and Fire Departments participated in an exercise with the Utah National Guard's 85th Weapons of Mass Destruction -Civil Support Team $\left(CST\right)$ on Wednesday, March 21st. The exercise also included Gold Cross Ambulance and the Cedar City Hospital. The 85th CST is a specialized team staffed with 22 personnel whose primary mission is to support local authorities during times of disaster or when dealing with a potential act of terrorism. The team has many unique capabilities, including a complex suite of survey and analysis equipment used for identifying chemical, biological, and radiological material; advanced communications; a mobile incident command center; a mobile analytical laboratory; and its own medical ambulance.

The scenario for Wednesday's exercise revolved around a potential synthetic opioid production laboratory where the dangerous drug, fentanyl, was being used. Law enforcement, fire, ambulance, and hospital resources were all incorporated into the drill, and the 85th CST was used to assist. The drill was a great opportunity to train our first responders to be better prepared to deal with hazardous situations.

Lieutenant Colonel Chris Caldwell, a Cedar City native, is the commander of the 85th CST. He says he and his team make a concerted effort each year to reach out to some of the more rural communities in addition to working with larger cities. This community outreach establishes vital relationships between first responders and his team while enhancing emergency preparedness. Caldwell's team also brings awareness to our emergency management personnel regarding new and emerging threats and ways to properly deal with them.



MESQUITE IS JUMPING WITH ACTIVITY By Mesquite Mayor Al Litman

Spring is here, and Mesquite is jumping with activity. It's a great time of the year to visit the "Gem in the Desert." Mesquite Gaming, the premier entertainment venue in town, has booked a John Denver Tribute show for April 7; the Southern Nevada Symphony Orchestra April 14; an American trilogy show — a tribute to Elvis, Frank Sinatra, and Neil Diamond — April 20 and 21; and will complete April with a country artist tribute show honoring Kenny Chesney and Eric Church April 28. The CasaBlanca showroom will be packed with excitement.

April rounds out the first season of the Nevada Desert Dogs Professional Basketball Team at the Rising Star Sports Ranch and Resort Hotel. Watch professional basketball in air-conditioned comfort. It's exciting and fast-moving fun for the entire family. Call the hotel for ticket information.



Speaking of sports, our City of Mesquite Recreation Department is hosting Utah Youth Soccer April 7. Our fields are great and well maintained. Bring chairs and watch the kids have a great time.

If you love unique golf events, you just cannot miss Clash in the Canyons at our sports and events complex. A star-studded field will be back, and you get to watch longdrive golf at its very best April 21–24. There is no charge, and seating is provided. By the way, April is a great month to explore our hiking and walking trails, and off-roading is great fun with our mild weather.

I have not yet talked about our great nightspots. I cannot endorse one over the other, but if you like to dance, check out CasaBlanca, Eureka, and on weekends Club Envy. Of course, you need to be 21 and older at each venue. The music is great, and there is something for everyone's taste. As far as dining in Mesquite, I'll be giving my personal reviews in future articles. All I can say is you will not go hungry or thirsty in Mesquite.

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INDEPENDENT MOVIE GUIDE by Adam Mast

"Ready Player One" (PG-13)



If "Ready Player One" suggests anything, it's that even in his 70s, Steven Spielberg has still got it! The Beard's latest offering is a dizzying, dazzling, nostalgialaced pop culture smorgasbord.

This technical marvel is based on the popular novel by Ernest Cline - which I must confess, I have not read — and while there are plenty of fans of the book out there who are quick to point out that quite a bit has been left out of this film adaptation, there's another contingent of "Ready Player One" fans who are quick to suggest that many of Spielberg's changes are for the better. No matter what your opinion on that subject, one thing is certain: It would be difficult to deny the overall sense of fun to be had here. This is pure escapism, the kind of unfiltered joy that ingratiated many of us to the works of Spielberg in the first place

Taking place in the not-too-distant future, "Ready Player One" revolves around a virtual-reality world known as the Oasis. Created by socially awkward genius

Halliday (Mark Rylance, doing a near spot-on impersonation of Garth Algar from "Wayne's World"), the Oasis is a place where anything c a n happen — but more importantly, it's a place where folks from the real world can jump in and be whoever they want to be. It isn't long before the Oasis becomes a way of life in a dystopian landscape where escaping the harsh existence of reality is easier than figuring out a way to solve real world problems.

Upon learning that he's sick and hasn't much time left, the mysterious Halliday sets the stage for the world's biggest Easter egg hunt in an effort to pass on his legacy — which is both his blessing and his curse — to a worthy successor. Enter Wade Watts (Tye Sheridan), a seemingly trapped young man whose life in the Stacks is so impoverished and so uneventful that he uses the Oasis and his alter ego, an avatar called Parzival, as a means to make a more adventurous life for himself. After all, in the real world, Wade is a nobody, but in the Oasis, he's a man with a purpose.

Eventually, that purpose finds Parzival competing with numerous players inside the Oasis with the sole goal of acquiring the ultimate prize. Of course, any time there's an "ultimate prize" at stake, there's bound to be several interested parties, and in the case of "Ready Player One," one such party is Sorrento (Ben Mendelsohn), the nefarious head of a corporation with an almighty agenda. And so, faster than you can say "Raiders of the Lost Ark," the race is on!

As a movie, "Ready Player One" does feel overstuffed and clunky at times, and even for this avid fanboy, it isn't without it's eye-rolling moments. That said, this movie is so damned fun and so overflowing with awe-inspiring grandeur that the flaws feel like a fleeting memory. When "Ready Player One" isn't throwing game- and filmrelated references at you at a breakneck pace — this movie will most certainly require multiple viewings to catch them all — it dazzles you with the kind of technical bravado and sequence construction that only a storyteller of Spielberg's caliber could deliver.

True, it does seem a little odd that one of the book's primary influences has gone on to actually direct the movie, but no matter. This is Spielberg doing Spielberg, and it's clear that he's having the time of his life playing in this particular sandbox. Look no further than a jaw-dropping, much talked-about sequence that pays homage to Stanley Kubrick's landmark horror film "The Shining." Simply put, this

sequence is an all-timer! There are certainly missteps here. "Ready Player One" runs long, and with so much exposition, so many references, and all the epic world building going on, perhaps this might have been one of those rare occasions when splitting the material into a couple of cinematic chapters might

have been

more

appropriate. It also would have been a bit more honest had Spielberg cast less conventionally attractive actors in the lead roles. An energetic Sheridan and a likable Olivia Cooke are terrific in their respective roles, but the casting here feels a little bit safe, especially taking into consideration that Parzival and his fellow avatars in the Oasis fear meeting one another in the real world due to a myriad of insecurities.

All of that said, "Ready Player One" offers up a whole lot of entertainment value, and surprisingly, there's more to speak of than just the pop culture references and the spectacular, visual splendor of it all. The central Halliday plot thread is actually a sad one and speaks volumes to our current social media culture. This man hides behind his creation because reality alludes him, but one of the more intriguing (and special) aspects of this movie is that Halliday (a role that was rumored to have been offered to a retired Gene Wilder at one point) is aware of his own flaws, and it's something he wants to rectify. And that all plays a big part in his Willy Wonka-inspired Easter Egg hunt. In fact, Wade's issues mirror Halliday's, and this thematic through-line really elevates the proceedings.

With its tale of gaming and the strengthening of one's self through the art of play, the heart of "Ready Player One" echoes the recently released "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" in a handful of ways. Granted, that movie was more of a comedy while "Ready Player One" amps up the sci-fi/futuristic elements. Still, in both cases, the characters at the center of these films learn quite a bit about themselves and one another. Further still, in the case of "Ready Player One," Wade comes to the realization that perhaps reality is the most important thing in this world, because it's real. That's a worthy (and timely) message, particularly given the climate we're currently living in.

"Ready Player One" isn't the film of Spielberg's career, but it is another shining example of an iconic storyteller continuing to do what he does best. And in the end, even a mid-tier effort from the Beard is something to be cherished.

"The Ritual" (R)

Netflix has

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But

late.

quite frankly, if this hugely popular streaming service is willing to fund projects by iconic filmmakers like Martin Scorsese (watch for "The Irishman" in 2019), and if it continues streaming solid content like "Mudbound" and "Stranger Things," we the film fans should consider ourselves incredibly fortunate. I'll always be a proud supporter of the theatrical experience (it's simply in my DNA), but there's plenty of room for services like Netflix, too. Especially when they drop surprisingly effective titles like the new horror film "The Ritual."

In this atmospheric gem of a genre flick, four college friends head out on a hiking trip through the Swedish wilderness following an unforeseen tragedy. From the get go, a leg injury puts a damper on the excursion, and from that point, things go from worse to downright terrifying as something in the woods declares hunting season on these terrified men. What this thing is and what it wants is best left unspoiled here, but one thing is certain: "The Ritual" will do absolutely nothing to promote tourism in the Swedish wilderness. And given that this is a horror film, that's a good thing.



The setup here is pretty simple, and there's no doubt that "The Ritual" echoes expert works of horror like "The Descent" and the ground-breaking cheapie "The Blair Witch Project," but it all works thanks to solid execution. Credit director David Bruckner ("The Signal") for effectively building tension throughout and for wisely subscribing to the kind of less-is-more approach that would make the likes of Steven Spielberg's "Jaws" proud.

Now I'm certainly not suggesting that "The Ritual" is as good as "Jaws," but it is a reminder that sometimes what you don't see is scarier than what you do see. And further props to team "The Ritual" for not copping out. This is to say that this movie isn't all about the power of suggestion. Rest

assured, it does deliver the creature-feature goods. Without venturing too far into spoiler territory, let's just say that in the end, what we do end up seeing is just as effective as what we don't see. The

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performances in "The Ritual aren't half bad, either, most notably a solid Rafe Spall ("Hot Fuzz," "The Big Short"). As a guilt-stricken man forced to confront his demons head on, Spall brings complexity to the proceedings, and by the end of the picture it's clear that his battle is every bit as emotional and psychological as it is physical.

Again, "The Ritual" is pretty simplistic in terms of its overall premise. Furthermore, the title gives a little too much away. That said, Bruckner directs the crap out of this thing. This movie is spooky and atmospheric, and it offers up a handful of visual gags I won't soon forget. If you're fan of horror, throw "The Ritual" into your Netflix queue now! It's completely worth your time.

"Unsane" (R) ★★★½

There were plenty of us bummed a few years ago at the announcement that writer/director Steven Soderbergh would retire from filmmaking. Lucky for us, though, Soderbergh still puts out more work as a retiree than a lot of working veteran filmmakers do. The independent giant behind "Sex, Lies, and Videotape" follows up 2017's entertaining heist picture, "Logan Lucky" (affectionately referred to in some circles as "Ocean's 7/11"), with the new Hitchcockian psychological thriller "Unsane."

In "Unsane," business woman Sawyer Valentini (Claire Foy) is involuntarily committed to a psychiatric ward after seeking a bit of medical advice. Once inside, she becomes convinced that hospital orderly David Strine (Joshua Leonard) is actually a man whose been stalking her for years on the outside. Of course, no one is quick to believe Sawyer, but then why would they? After all, she is in a psychiatric ward. As the story progresses, Soderbergh ratchets up the tension and asks us to decide for ourselves whether this fiercely independent woman's claims are accurate or if she's completely



delusional.

Shot mostly on an iPhone and over the course of a brisk two weeks, "Unsane" is another one of Soderbergh's more experimental efforts, and for all its crafty production value, tension, and psychological game playing, this movie also emerges as a story about mental illness, harassment, and female empowerment. Above all, though, "Unsane" is a shrewd indictment of our much-talked-about healthcare system. In other words, Soderbergh has quite a bit to say here, and he uses the thriller genre as a means to get to the heart of more serious

matters. А the center of "Unsane" is a fantastic performance by Foy. As a driven woman who refuses to take crap, Sawyer is a character plenty of women will relate too. She wants to be heard and treated with respect. Neither of these come easy to her in the outside world, but once she's committed, these rights are virtually non-existent. Foy brings a toughness to Sawyer, but this wonderful actress is also able to bring an element of mystery to the table, making the psychological aspects of "Unsane" all the more effective. In short, Foy is committed in every sense of the word.

Foy is complemented by a terrific $supporting cast.\, Ex-SNL player Jay Pharoah$ is charming and likable as a ward patient who gives Sawyer plenty of important advice on the inside. As a hospital staff member, a sweet-natured Leonard (of "The Blair Witch Project" fame) has the task of playing an individual who's accused of not being the man he claims to be. A spunky Juno Temple is lively as a loose cannon of a ward patient who's capable of truly awful behavior. And rounding out the cast is veteran Amy Irving as Sawyer's concerned mother. The question is whether any of these characters can truly be trusted, and more to the point, whether any of them actually exist or if they are simply part of Sawyer's so-called delusion. From

standpoint, story screenwriters Jonathan Bernstein and James Greer cleverly deliver a tale that is very much ripped from today's headlines, and from a directing standpoint, the gifted Soderbergh does a solid job of disorienting the viewer. All of that said, it should be noted that there does come a point in "Unsane" when we're clued into whether or not Sawyer is actually one fry short of a happy meal, and admittedly, it's at this point that certain aspects of this movie begin to unravel a bit. Without giving too much away, let's just say that some actions committed by a specific character are a little difficult to buy into.

By and large, though, "Unsane" is an intriguing ride bolstered by a compelling lead performance, a terrific supporting cast,



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and timely themes. And you have to admire Soderbergh for the effort. Even when it doesn't quite hit the target, "Unsane" is a consistent reminder that in this day and age, healthcare is enough to drive anyone crazy.

"Pacific Rim: Uprising" (PG-13) ★★★

When recent Oscar winner Guillermo del Toro ("The Shape of Water") released "Pacific Rim" back in 2013, its less-thanstellar U.S. box-office total led very few to believe that a sequel would even be in the cards. International box-office revenue, however, suggested there was still plenty of room for another huge slice of giant robots vs. giant monsters action. Thus, five years later, "Pacific Rim: Uprising" has been unleashed upon the world.

Taking place 10 years after the events in "Pacific Rim," Earth is now free of the colossal monsters that wreaked havoc on our planet thanks to the collective, asskicking effort put forth by the giant robot



military squad that was Team Jaeger. Of course, in Hollywood you can't keep a big monster down, and in "Uprising," the Kaiju are back, forcing a new Jaeger crew into action. This team is led by Jake Pentecost (John Boyega), son of Stacker (Idris Elba) from the first film, and as this Jaegerparts thief points out at the beginning of "Pacific Rim: Uprising," he is not his father. Of course, through the aid of a scrappy 15-year-old hacker (Cailee Spaney), rival Nate Lambert (Scott Eastwood), and a team of new dedicated Jaeger pilots, Earth might just have a shot at survival ... again!

In some circles, the first "Pacific Rim" was written off as another variation of bombastic, "Transformers" style filmmaking. But that's a bit of an unfair comparison, because if you take the robots out of the equation, del Toro's movie has a joyful spirit about it that elevates it above the lazy, noisy, obnoxious stylings of Michael Bay's hugely popular "Transformers" movies. And in fact, throughout "Pacific Rim," you get the sense that del Toro is just a big kid playing in that sandbox from his youth.

Unfortunately, director Steven S. DeKnight is no Guillermo del Toro, and despite a handful of gleeful moments that are sure to make the 10 year old within giggle with delight, "Pacific Rim: Uprising" lacks the all-out personality and joyful spirit of its immensely entertaining predecessor. And technically, it isn't in the same league, either. The staging of the massive battles, while gigantic in scope, aren't as skillfully constructed. They simply lack the striking attention to detail.

In terms of story, the majority of "Pacific Rim: Uprising" plays as a retread, right down to the cheesy dialogue, although it should be noted that there is an intriguing plot development regarding a rogue Jaeger. And the film also makes a playful effort at doing something a bit different with a returning Dr. Newton Geiszler (Charlie Day.) In both cases, though, neither of these plot developments is as intriguing as it should be.

If "Pacific Rim: Uprising" gets anything truly right, it's in the casting of John Boyega as the film's lead protagonist. With all due respect to "Sons of Anarchy" star Charlie Hunnam, he was the weak link in the first picture. While Jake Pentecost is hardly a character of emotional complexity and depth, Boyega brings a ton of personality and energy to the role. It's the same sort of infectiously likable spirit this terrific actor displayed in "The Force Awakens," and it goes a long way to keep this movie more entertaining than it might have been otherwise. Bovega is a standout amongst a cast that doesn't have a lot of standouts, although Spaney does have a few bright moments to speak of a spunky youngster who wants to do her part in helping save the world.

"Pacific Rim: Uprising" is far from terrible. At its worst, it isn't as entertaining as its predecessor, nor is it as rousing as the predictable but charming Hugh Jackman-headlined "Reel Steel," but at its best its still considerably stronger than the "Transformers" sequels. And if you're a fan of rock em' sock em' robots vs. monsters action, you'll most likely walk away entertained. That said, don't hold your breath for the third chapter that "Uprising" so predictably sets up, because it's not likely to happen. But then, we all said the same thing after the first one came out, so what the hell do I know?



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"Death Wish" (R) ★★

The Charles Bronson-headlined "Death Wish" from 1974 was a product of its time — a gloriously exploitative, seedy, cold, and brutal tale of vengeance in the name of family. This updated version follows a lot of the same beats, but in the end, it's pretty silly by comparison and more akin to those super ridiculous "Death Wish" sequels from the '80s ... only less entertaining.

"In this take on "Death Wish," Bruce Willis is Dr. Paul Kersey, a reputable surgeon who takes on a rather dangerous side hobby after his wife (Elizabeth Shue) and teenage daughter (Camila Morrone) are attacked by a trio of home invaders. Fed up with the police department's lack of leads following the assault, Kersey decides to take the law into his own hands by training himself in the art of gun usage, tracking the men responsible for the attack, and ultimately taking out the garbage.



Goremeister Eli Roth ("Hostel") is at the helm here, and while the man behind "Cabin Fever" finds a few creative opportunities to let loose with his trademark gore (a sequence involving a carjack is certainly a noteworthy highlight), his take on "Death Wish" is pretty much the last thing you'd want a movie of this nature to be: boring! The idea that Kersey is a sort of urban superhero could have been fun, but despite a few occasional moments

— including Kersey's confrontation with a baddie called "The Ice Cream Man," a split-screen sequence that juxtaposes the fine line between saving a life and taking one, and a rousing final exchange between Kersey and his primary foe — "Death Wish" is anything but. Furthermore, this movie owes a debt to M. Night Shyamalan's vastly superior "Unbreakable." Look no further than a depressed Bruce Willis riding the train, rocking the hoodie, and punishing bad guys.

Speaking of Bruce Willis, he looks thoroughly bored in this movie. Seriously, he virtually sleepwalks through this thing. It's a shame, too, because he's Bruce Willis! That said, it'd be lying if I suggested this veteran action star didn't still look supremely badass while firing a gun! All those years as John McClane have taught him well!

As for the supporting cast members, they are all infinitely stronger than the material they've been given to work with here, but if any of these actors deserve to be singled out, it would have to be Vincent D'Onofrio. As Kersey's down-onhis-luck brother, Frank, an often over-thetop D'Onofrio proves to be surprisingly warm and likable in the role.

Overall, "Death Wish" is pretty forgettable. Even with all the guns, it isn't controversial enough to be upsetting or debateworthy in any substantial way. In fact, if the recently released "Winchester" is a tepid, anti-gun-themed ghost story, then "Death Wish" is its dull, pro-gun-themed urban superhero movie counterpart. That said, the edge has to go to "Winchester,"



because at least that film had awesome production design. This movie doesn't even really have that going for it. In the end, you're better off staying home and watching the 1974 version instead.

"I Can Only Imagine" (PG) ★★★

It's difficult to be hard on a film like "I Can Only Imagine" because it's just so gosh darn well-intentioned. That said, this mostly soft, spiritually rousing biopic will be of particular interest to audiences with a fondness for Christian cinema. It'll be of even more interest to fans of the Christian band MercyMe.

This music-tinged drama traces the life of Bart Millard (J. Michael Finley), a man whose turbulent relationship with his abusive father (Dennis Quaid) would ultimately lead him to write a hugely popular Christian ballad called "I Can Only Imagine." From his youth as a musicobsessed kid in the mid-'80s to his teen years as a football-player-turned-musicalperformer to his adult years as a musician navigating through the tricky terrain that is the music industry, "I Can Only Imagine" hits all the prerequisite beats of the quintessential musician biopic.

As expected, "I Can Only Imagine" is also a story about redemption and forgiveness, and it wears its heart unabashedly on its sleeve. The thing is, though, this movie is also routine and

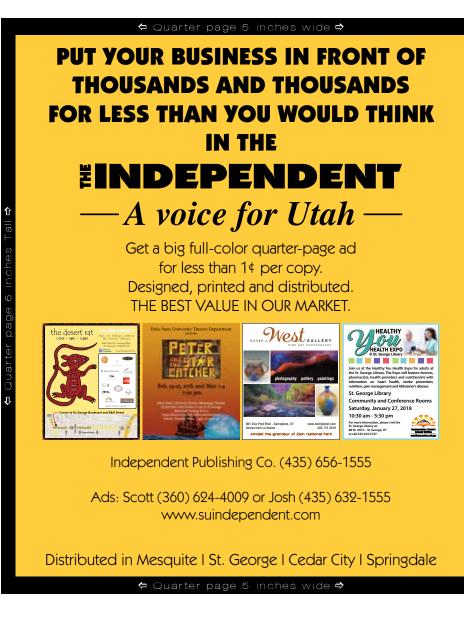


formulaic, and it is often done in by moments that could easily be packaged and sold as Cheez Whiz. Further still, while the fanboy in me enjoyed dialogue odes to the likes of "The Empire Strikes Back," "Return of the Jedi," and "Terminator 2," I can't resist pointing out that references to "Jaws 3D" (1983) and U2's "The Joshua Tree" (1987) felt weirdly out of place because the earlier portions of this movie take place in 1985. Nitpicking, I know, but I couldn't help myself.

Again, there's no doubt that "I Can Only Imagine" has its heart in the right place, and there are certainly moments in the picture that benefit from themes of honor and a sheer lack of cynicism. Look no further than Millard's dealings with Christian recording artist superstar Amy Grant.

"I Can Only Imagine" was directed by Andrew and Jon Erwin, the sibling team behind 2011's abortion-themed "October Baby," and while this picture hits all the beats you'd expect, it does feel oddly truncated. In other words, there's a lot going on here, and not everything feels entirely developed.

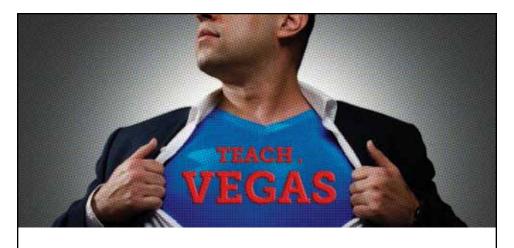
Thankfully, the performances do elevate the proceedings a bit. Newcomer Finley proves to be a nice find. Parts of his turn here reminded me of Sean



Astin in "Rudy." This isn't Shakespeare by any stretch of the imagination, but Finley brings energy and heart to the table, and he's a heck of a lot more engaging than Alex Roe was in the similarly themed "Forever My Girl." Veteran Quaid is given the task of playing a sympathetic monster in the first half of the picture and a man hoping to do right by his son in the second half. For the most part, Quaid pulls it off, even though there are stretches when he can't quite rise above the heavy-handed nature of the writing. In the end, though, it's always a joy seeing this wonderful actor on screen, even when he's playing a character that isn't always the nicest of human beings.

Beyond Finley and Quaid, "I Can Only Imagine" is sprinkled with a handful of solid supporting players, including Cloris Leachman, Brody Rose, Madeline Carroll, and Nicole DuPort. Of the supporting cast, it's country music legend Trace Adkins who appears to be having the most fun as Brickell, a grizzled, wisdom-spouting music-industry pro who sees great potential in Millard.

"I Can Only Imagine" is doing extremely well at the box office, and while it's far from perfect, it's easy to see why many audiences are responding to it. Some folks simply want to be moved, inspired, and enlightened, and there's certainly nothing wrong with that, especially in today's turbulent, cynical world. For me personally, though, this picture is a little too precious. That said, if you're looking for a familyappropriate movie with noble themes and you've already watched "The Greatest Showman" ten times, you could definitely do worse than "I Can Only Imagine."



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RECREATION

UTAH STATE PARKS YOGA SERIES WITH GRANOGI By Eugene Swalberg

The Utah Division of Parks and Recreation is excited to announce the kickoff of the Utah State Parks Yoga Series with Granogi, an outdoor adventure and yoga company.

Utah's 44 state parks are packed full of outdoor adventure options, and Granogi's outdoor yoga is just one more way people can take full advantage of the beauty Utah has to offer. At the same time, they can reap both the physical and mental benefits of yoga.

The Yoga Series kicks off April 28 at Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park and will continue along multiple parks across Utah until concluding at Snow Canyon State Park Nov. 17.

The Utah state parks involved in the series include Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Wasatch Mountain State Park, Jordanelle State Park, Goblin Valley State Park, Red Fleet State Park, Rockport State Park, Snow Canyon State Park, and Antelope Island State Park. Each stop in the series gives visitors a new and exciting opportunity to experience Utah's state parks while participating in a fun and healthy activity. Participants arrive in the morning where they are greeted by a park ranger and given some information about the each park's history, geography, and recreational opportunities.

From there, participants will join Granogi's experienced instructors for group activities, a rejuvenating 1--2 mile adventure hike, a yoga session, and a mediation activity.

Participants are also welcome to stay in each park to for some extra fun after activities have ended but must leave when the park closes for day-use — unless they have also reserved a campsite.

Attendees will also receive a gift bag packed with swag like yoga towels, journals, t-shirts, stickers, and more.

The Utah State Parks Yoga Series is a great way for people to connect with nature, their minds, their bodies, and other people who are interested in both the outdoor and the yoga community.

The full calendar of yoga events and locations can be found online granogi.com/ utahyogaseries as well as at stateparks. utah.gov.

Entry into each of the state parks is included with participation in each yoga series spot. This does not include costs for camping or food, so please make appropriate lodging and meal plans.

Find more opinions everyday at SUindependent.com



THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD DO IMMEDIATELY WHEN YOU WAKE UP By Debi Keys

By starting your morning on the right foot, you will no longer spend the rest of the day feeling rushed, irritable, and behind schedule. Rather than allowing the day to take charge of you, take charge of your day by implementing these three morning routines that will benefit your health inside and out.

Practice gratitude

Do you wake up feeling grumpy in the morning? The first thought you have when you wake up can affect your entire day. Research suggests that focusing on positive thoughts when you first wake up can help you feel better about your day.

Try this: When you wake up, and as you get ready for the day, try to think about five positive things. What are you grateful for? By focusing on the positive, you set your mind up for a happy, productive day rather than a stressed, rushed one.

Stretch

As we age, we start to feel achy and stiff in the morning. However, research shows that when you stretch in the morning, you wake up your entire circulatory system and alleviate stiffness and pain. An article written by Colorado Physical Therapist Specialists suggests that daily morning stretches will reduce pain, improve flexibility, and help you feel better all day long.

Try this: Practice basic stretches and yoga poses for 10 minutes after waking. Stretch your back by reaching your arms as high as you can into the air and then slowly and carefully bending forward to reach towards your toes. Yoga poses like lotus, tree pose, and warrior pose will also improve flexibility and fight stiffness and pain.

Drink warm lemon water

Lemon water provides a host of health benefits. Lemons are packed with beneficial nutrients like zinc, vitamin C, and antioxidants. This means that drinking lemon water first thing in the morning can boost your immune system, ease digestion, increase energy, and improve hydration.

Try this: Add half a lemon to a cup of warm water each morning, and sip as you get ready for the day. By implementing these three healthy morning habits, you will prepare your mind and body to face the day ahead in a better mood and better health. Now go take on the day!

Debi Keys is an experienced health and wellness coach and sports nutrition specialist. As a health coach, her goals include helping educate and support clients as they discover the very best version of themselves. In addition to her health coaching practice, Debi is recognized by the International Coaching Federation as a certified health coach. Follow her column, "Your Keys 2 Health" on suindependent.com under "Features."

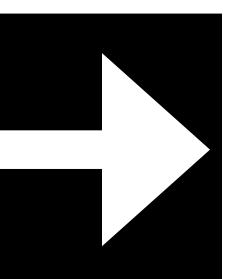


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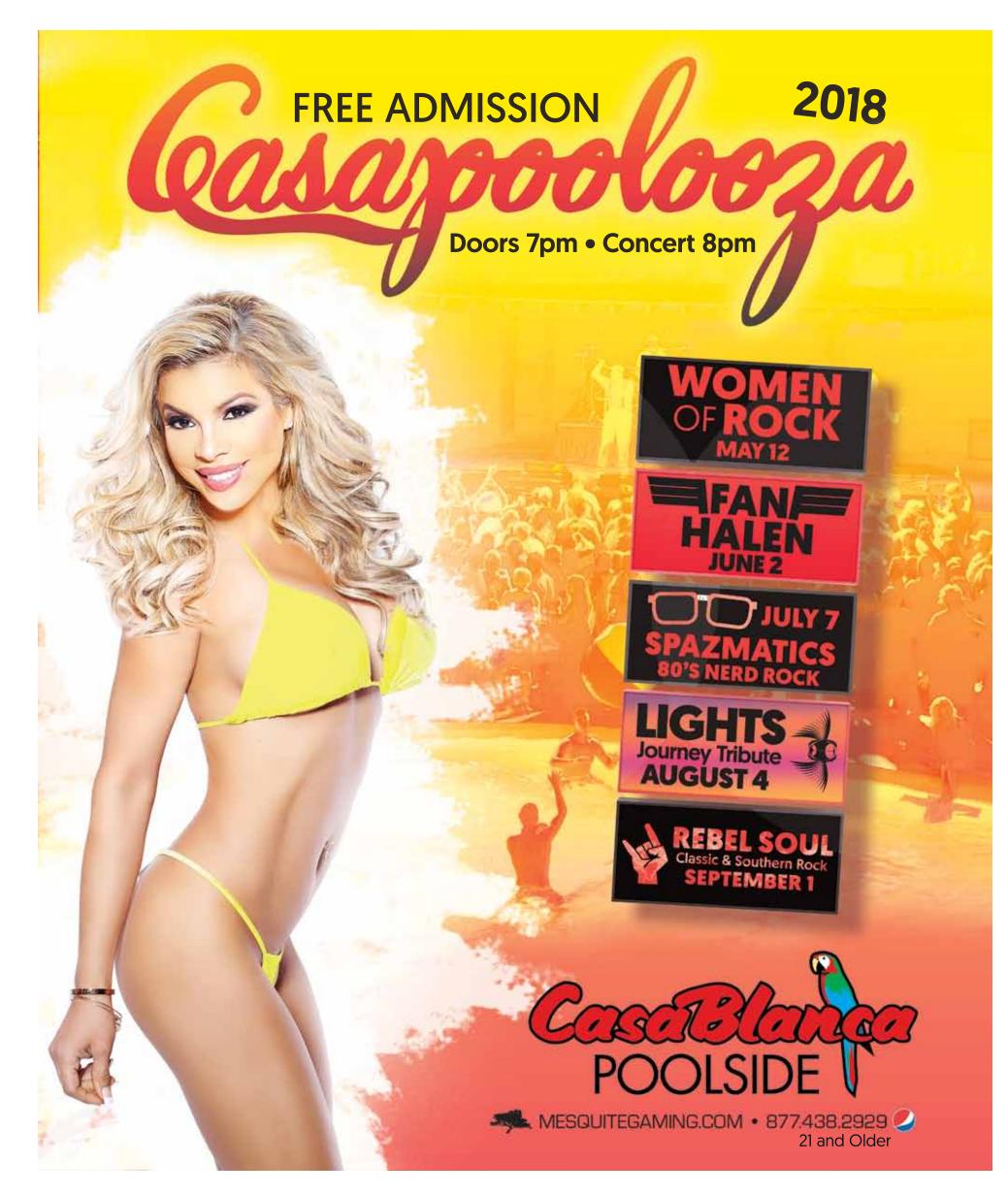




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Multi-Day Events

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

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





BEAVER DAM JAM 2013

Held May 4-6, the Beaver Dam Jam celebrates the music scene in southern Utah, northern Arizona, and southern Nevada. Lawnmower racing finals begin May 5 at 11 a.m. There is free camping for motor homes, RV's, and tents all around and close to the venue. For those who want a little more primitive camping, there is free camping in the Beaver Dam Wash, just north of the venue, which offers a small stream and something other than the desert. In chronological order, the festival lineup is as follows: Aaron & Bonnie, Bottoms Up, Burn Unit, Soul What !?, U2LV, Three Blind Mice, Joe Sherman Band, Beans & Wheels, Vinyl Fusion, Insanity Stew, Cat Fish John, Zam Trip, Naked Waiters, Whiskey Tooth Revival, Tommy Rocker, and Aura Surreal. Admission is \$50 for the weekend or \$20 per day.

ART EXHIBITION: SOUTHERN UTAH WATERCOLOR SOCIETY March 2–April 6. Open Mondays–Fridays. Cedar City Arts, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

PRISTINE LAND EXHIBIT BY MILTON GOLDSTEIN AT SG ART MUSEUM March 2–April 6. Closed Sundays. 47 E 200 N, St. George.

STORY TIME April 6–May 4, Tuesdays– Fridays, 10:30 a.m. Washington County Library System, 220 N 300 E, Washington.

CHAPTER 1 BOOK CLUB May 1 and 3, 5:30 p.m. Chapter 1 Book Club Washington County Library System, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

SUU DISCOVER STORY TIME April 5, 6:30 p.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

PATRICIA GORDON EXHIBITION April 2–6, 9 a.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

E-TEAMS DIXIE JAM COMPETITION April 5 and 6. Dixie High School, 350 E 700 S, St. George.

ART EXHIBITION: LOCAL ARTIST PATRICIA GORDON April 6–30, Mondays– Saturdays, 9 a.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City. ART EXHIBITION: SOUTHERN UTAH WATERCOLOR SOCIETY April 6-30, Mondays-Fridays. Cedar City Arts, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

ARTISTS WITH A CAMERA SPRING 2018 PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION April 6–7, 9–11, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Artists from The St. George Photographers Guild will exhibit their latest work. ARTe Gallery and Framing, 415 S. Dixie Dr., St. George.

CROSSROAD STATION AT VIRGIN RIVER HOTEL April 6–8, 8 p.m. SMG Records Nashville country, rock, and blues band. May be delayed due to televised sporting events. 100 Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite.

GREGG PETERSON BAND AT CASABLANCA Apr. 4–8 7 p.m. Showtimes may vary. Variety and dance band. Free. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

DSU SPRING DANCE CONCERT April 6 and 7, 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, 255 S 700 E, St. George.

TREASURE BY THE CANYON April 6 and 7, 8 a.m. Take home items such as an Apple Watch, GoPro or 55-inch smart TV by participating in a treasure hunt taking place in Bryce Canyon. The hunt begins on Friday at 8 a.m. and ends on Saturday at 4 p.m. A complete list of prizes and corresponding weekends can be found at brycecanyoncountry.com/ treasurehunt.

"**OUR TOWN**" April 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 26, 27, and 28, 7 p.m. Explores the relationship between two young Grover's Corners neighbors whose childhood friendship blossoms into romance. Brigham's Playhouse, 25 N 300 W, Washington.

ADULT MODERN AND BALLET CLASS April 9 and 12, 7:30 p.m. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

BOOK BABIES April 9 and 16, 10 p.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

ADVANCED LIFE SKILLS FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS April 11, 18, and 25, 6 p.m. This class will cover thought, perception, choice and accountability, cause and effect, abundance and gratitude, health and healing, harmony and rhythm. Interactive learning/ education for stress relief and conscious living. Energy psychology and mind management tools will be shared. Sun Tree Home Health & Hospice, 1240 E 100 S Suite 18-B, St. George.

CLARK COUNTY FAIR April 11-15, 10 a.m. ccfair.com. 1301 W. Whipple, Logandale.

DSU BALLROOM DANCE CONCERT April 12 and 13, 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

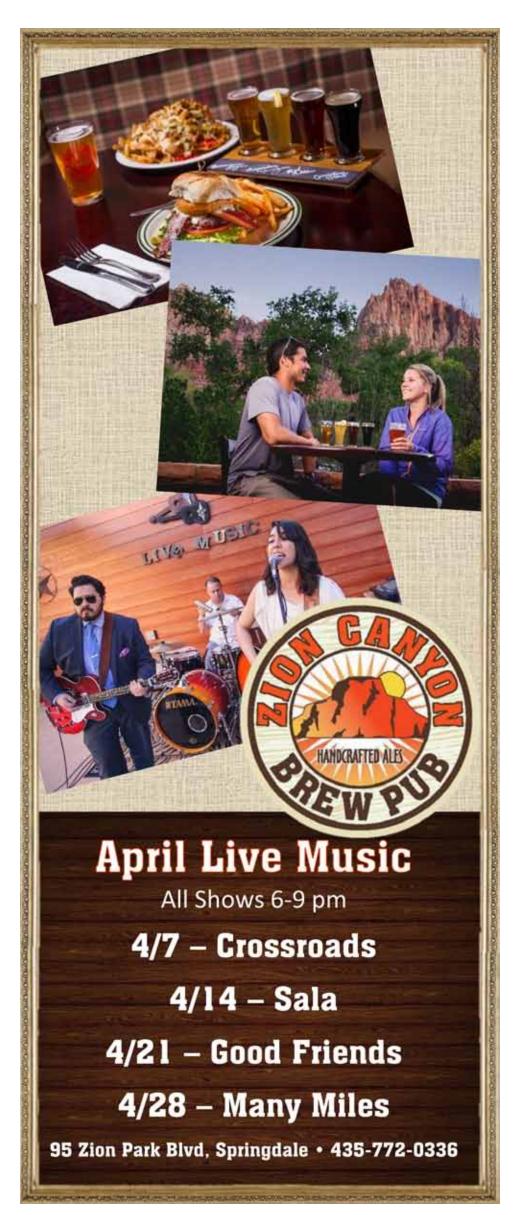
AMERICAN TRILOGY AT CASABLANCA 8:30 p.m. Tribute to Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, and Neil Diamond. (800) 585-3737. Must be 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

DSU ART DEPT. SHOWCASE April 20-May 4, 9 a.m. Eccles Grand Foyer, Sears Art Museum & Gallery, 155 S. University Ave., St. George.

LIVING HISTORY April 23, 26–28, 10 a.m. Silver Reef Museum, 1903 Wells Fargo Rd., Leeds.

DAVID ARCHULETA AT TUACAHN April 27 and 28. Runner-up in Season 7 of "American Idol." 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.

JERRY ANDERSON'S PRIVATE STUDIO April 27 and 28, 10 a.m. Washington Co. artist/sculptor Jerry Anderson's studio will be open. Silver Reef Ghost Town, 1903 Wells Fargo Road, St. George.





KAYENTA STREET PAINTING FESTIVAL April 28 and 29. kayentaarts.com. 800 Kayenta Parkway, Ivins.

TRAVELING ART EXHIBIT: THEY PAINTED IN THE CANYONS May 1–5. 9 a.m. Cedar City Arts, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

COLORADO CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL May 5 and 6, 11 a.m. \$10, free for those under 18 years old. Maxwell Park, Hildale.

BAR G WRANGLERS AT REDSTONE THEATER Mondays–Saturdays, 8 p.m. Country/western show band. \$20. theredstonetheater.com. 29 W. Center St., Kanab.

PIZZA N PAINT NIGHT FOR KIDS 6 p.m. every Friday and Saturday. Fridays are for 4–12 year olds and Saturdays are for 8–14 year olds. Pizza, a movie, and paint supplies are provided. Kids take home their creations. Ms. Traci's Small Scholars, 293 E. Telegraph St. Ste. 103, Washington.

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.

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.

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

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.

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

Events by Day

USMS SWIM TECHNIQUE COACHING 8 a.m. Free. Must pay Sand Hollow Aquatic Center pool entry fee. Current USMS membership required. All level swimmers 18+, individual abilities considered in workout structure. Call Lynne Lund at (760) 844-6288. 1144 Lava Flow Dr., St. George.

STORY TIME WITH GRANDPA STEVE 10 a.m. Washington County Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

PRECISON 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.

GIVE IT A WHIRL POTTERY CLASS 5 p.m. Try out a potter's wheel and learn basics of throwing a pot on the wheel. 2-hour class. All tools and supplies provided. \$30 per person. No registration. The Tilted Kiln, 215 W St. George Blvd., St. George. **ST. GEORGE DANCE COMPANY CLASS** 7:30–8:45 p.m. Ballet for adults, intermediate to advanced. Open to the public. Visit saint-georgedance.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 & ORCHESTRA CHILDREN'S STORY TIME 10 a.m. Frontier Homestead State Park, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City.

FRONTIER STORY TIME 10 a.m. Each Tuesday, preschool children can learn about the past through stories and history-related events. A different story and activity is featured each week. Free. (435) 586-9290. Frontier Homestead State Park Museum, 635 N. Main St., Cedar City.

MEMORY MATTERS EARLY STAGE MEMORY LOSS SERIES 10:30 a.m. 10-week course begins Feb, 6. The course is designed to benefit those with an early stage memory loss or dementia diagnosis and their care partners. During the second hour of the class, participants may attend either a cognitive training group or a care partner training and support group. St. George Branch Library, 88 W 100 S, 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.

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.

PAINT NITE 6 p.m. Thursdays. Use the code "SUTAH" for 35% off. 21 and older. Sand Hollow Resort, 5662 W. Clubhouse Dr., Hurricane.

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.

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. **TRIBUTE TO THE KING AT CASABLANCA** 6–10 p.m. Starring John Brooks. Must be 21 or older. Free. "Voted Best of Las Vegas 2013 "Best Elvis Tribute Show" and "Best Lounge Performer." CasaBlanca Skydome Lounge, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

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.

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

STORY TIME WITH MRS. MANN 10 a.m. Washington County Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

STORY TIME 11 a.m. Washington County Library System, 36 S 300 W, Hurricane.

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.

BEREAVEMENT/GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP 4 p.m. For caregivers, 6 group support lessons for stress relief and wellness. Sun Tree Hospice, 1240 E 100 S Suite 18-B, St. George.

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

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.

PAINT NITE AT 'BOUT TIME PUB & GRUB 6 p.m. No experience necessary. Use the code SUTAH for 35% off. Drinks purchased from the venue separately, no BYOB. 21 and up. 929 W. Sunset Blvd., St. George.



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WEDNESDAYS

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.

MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION CLASS 6 p.m. Free. Discussion of mindfulness and periods of meditation. All experience levels welcome. Offered by Dr. David Tate and Caroline Kiss. Grace Episcopal Church, 1072 E 900 S, St. George.

ADVANCED LIFE SKILLS FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS April 4, 6 p.m. Learn seven principles of that govern mind, body, & soul experience. Class covers thought, perception, choice and accountability, cause and effect, abundance and gratitude, health and healing, harmony and rhythm. Sun Tree Home Health & Hospice, 1240 E 100 S Suite 18-B, St. George.

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.

ELECTRIC LINDY NIGHTS 7:30 p.m. Red Rock Swing Dance offers beginning and intermediate classes in a progressive fashion with each class building on the last. The first hour will be the lesson followed by a social dance. Enter from the rear of the building. Classes are held downstairs. The Electric Theater, 68 East Tabernacle, St. George.

THURSDAYS

MENTAL HEALTH CLASSES 5:30 p.m. Free. National Alliance on Mental Illness offers classes for families and loved ones coping with mental illness. Peer to Peer and Family to Family classes taught by trained volunteers in recovery. Support group for Peer to Peer Sept. 7. Support group for Family to Family Sept. 4. Washington County Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

PAINT NIGHT AT SAND HOLLOW RESORT 6 p.m. No experience necessary. Use the code SUTAH for 35% off. Drinks purchased from the venue separately, no BYOB. 21 and up. 5662 W. Clubhouse Dr., Hurricane.

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.



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.

MOMS 'N TOTS PLAYTIME 11 a.m. Washington County Library System, 36 S 300 W, Hurricane.

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

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

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.

KARAOKE AT OASIS GOLF CLUB 5–9 p.m. Full bar and grill. Hosted by singer Gayle Louise. 100 Palmer Lane, Mesquite.

SUU DISCOVER STORY TIME 6:30 p.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

SATURDAYS

GUIDED SATURDAY MORNING HIKE 7 a.m. Venture into the stunning outback that surrounds St. George on a guided half-day hiking tour (4–5 hours). Scheduled hiking tours begin at the St. George Adventure Hub (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.

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., lvins.

YEAR ROUND FARMERS MARKET 9 a.m.noon every Saturday. Cedar City's year-round downtown farmers market. 50 W. University Blvd./Center St., Cedar City.

CEDAR SATURDAY MARKET 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday. Food, artisans, drawings, bingo, and more. Held indoors during winter. (435) 463-3735. IFA, 905 S. Main St., Cedar City.

TAI CHI DRAGON QIGONG AT SANTA CLARA LIBRARY 10:30–11:30 a.m. Fullbody 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.

DJ THIS GUY DAVE AT BUCKSKIN TAVERN 9 p.m. Large dance floor with cheap cold drinks available. 2321 N. Highway 89a, Fredonia.

Events by Date

ST. GEORGE STREETFEST 6 p.m. On the first Friday night of every month, downtown St. George transforms into a multi-stage outdoor concert venue and street market. Town square, 50 S. Main, St. George.

DULCE AT EVEN STEVENS 7 p.m. Free. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.

TUACAHN TITAN GUITAR ENSEMBLE 7 p.m. Tuacahn High School, 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins

HOLY REVOLVER AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 p.m. Holy Revolver plays Amercicana, Alternative Rock, and is based out of Salt Lake City. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

GRAND CIRCLE NEW MUSIC 7:30 p.m. Eccles Fine Arts Center, S 700 E, St. George.

TOM BENNETT AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Tom Bennett sings country and is based out of SLC. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George. **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.



SPRING CARNIVAL & GREAT WHITE WEEKEND 9 a.m. Cardboard sled race, around the mountain, bikini slalom, and pond skimming. Brian Head Resort, 329 S. Highway 143, Brian Head.

BASIC DRAWING CLASS 10 a.m. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

SAFETY ORANGE & THE WAYNE HOSKINS BAND AT THE LAST CHAIR SALOON 4 p.m. Brian Head Resort, 329 S. Highway 143, Brian Head.

CROSSROADS AT ZION CANYON BREW PUB 6–9 p.m. Crossroads is a classic rock and country cover band hailing from southern Utah. 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

SARAH JANE AT EVEN STEVENS 7–9 p.m. Free. Sarah Jane Birch has a beautifully powerful voice with a stage presence that mesmerizes audiences. 471 E St George Blvd, St. George.

JOHN DENVER TRIBUTE AT CASABLANCA 7:30 p.m. Tribute artist Jim Curry has performed Denver's music in sold out shows throughout the country and has emerged as today's top performer of Denver's vast legacy of multi-platinum hits. (800) 585-3737. Must be 21 or older to attend. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

PIANIST BRANDON LEE AND VOCALIST MCKENZIE LEE AT KAYENTA 7:30 p.m. Musical theater favorites. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins. HOLY REVOLVER AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. Holy Revolver plays Amercicana, Alternative Rock, and is based out of Salt Lake City. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

DJ VEXIFY AT MIKE'S TAVERN April 7 and 20, 9 p.m. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

TREVOR GREEN AT BIT AND SPUR SALOON 10 p.m. Spirited, deep, and thought provoking are just a few words to describe the artist known as Trevor Green. 21 and over. Bit and Spur Saloon, 1212 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.



LISA MAC AT EVEN STEVENS Noon. Lisa Mac has become known for her powerful, soulful voice and poignant blues-rock songwriting. Even Stevens, 471 E. St George Blvd., St. George.

Mon, April 9

PAINT NIGHT AT EVEN STEVENS 6 p.m. No experience necessary. Use the code SUTAH for 35% off. Drinks purchased from the venue separately, no BYOB. 8 and up. 471 E St. George Blvd., St. George.

DSU DANCE CLASS SHOWING 7 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

STANLEY BERNATH AT KAYENTA 7 p.m. Jewish Holocaust survivor Stanley Bernath speaks. 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.



PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB 2:30 p.m. Washington County Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

SUICIDE CERTIFICATION 4 p.m. With Dept. of Health. St. George Area Chamber, 136 N 100 E, St. George.





JAZZ IMPROV CLINIC 6 p.m. Free. difiorecenter.org. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

D-QUEEN PAGEANT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

STRING CHAMBER CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

SALA LIVE AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 p.m. 90 W. Hoover Ave, Cedar City.

Wed, April 11

GARY HUFF AT GEORGE'S CORNER 7 p.m. Free. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George. PIANO RECITAL 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S

700 E, St. George. PREACHER LAWSON 7:30 p.m. Eccles

Center, S 700 E, St. George.

Thurs, April 12

OSU CONCERT Heritage Center Theatre, 105 N 100 E, Cedar City.

HEALING POWER OF PLANT FOODS COOKING CLASS 6 p.m. April Ashcroft will demonstrate delicious ways to incorporate more plant foods into your diet. DSU, 225 S 700 E, St. George.

COMEDY NIGHT AT EVEN STEVENS 7-9 p.m. Free. Live comedy. 471 E. St. George Blvd., St. George.

BRASS CHAMBER MUSIC 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.



WOODWIND AND BRASS CHAMBER MUSIC 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George

KARAOKE WITH DJ DWAYNE AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 p.m. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City



D-WEEK CARNIVAL 6:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

JON STONE AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 p.m. Free. Multi-instrumentalist Jon Stone from Louisiana plays acoustic folk on violin, mandolin and other strings. 233 W. Center St., Kanab

NATIVE GRASS BAND AT KAYENTA 7 p.m. Americana bluegrass. 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, lvins.

St. GEORGE DANCE CO. "ON A ROAD THAT KNOWS ME" 7 p.m. Choreography by Summer Belnap Robertson inspired by poetry of Candy Lish Fowler with a performance by Southwest Dance Company. saintgeorgedance.com. Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

STRING RECITAL 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT 3 p.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N 100 E, Cedar City.

SALA AT ZION CANYON BREW PUB 6-9 p.m. Free. Southern Utah native, Sala is Hall and Oats meets Mayer Hawthorne; contemporary and the best of the oldies. Think top 40 pop with a mix of golden era hits and you'll get an idea of what her band is bringing to the table. 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

NORTH

MIKE AND ELAINE AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. This multi-instrumentalist couple are also in local band Soul What !? and cover a range of musical styles in many genres. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

ANNIE SCHUTZ AT EVEN STEVENS 7-9 p.m. Free. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.

ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center Black Box Theatre, S 700 E, St. George.

SOUTHERN NEVADA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AT CASABLANCA 7:30 p.m. Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms concert. Ages 5 and up. (800)-585-3737. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

SOUTHWEST CHORAL FESTIVAL CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

SECOND SATURDAY SWING DANCE 7:30 p.m. Lessons held just before the dance 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$5 per person, +\$1 for lesson. Dance from 8:30-10:30 p.m. Washington City Community Center, 350 E 200 N, Washington.

KRISTEN CHENOWETH AT TUACAHN 8 p.m. Emmy Award-winning singer. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.

Sun, April 15

NICK ADAMS AT EVEN STEVENS Noon-2 p.m. Free. Nick Adams is a singer/songwriter based out of St. George. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George

Mon₇ April 16

VOICE RECITAL $\overline{5}$:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

AZZ EDUCATION AND JAM SESSION 6 p.m. Free, 307 N. Main St., St. George,

DANCE IMPROV CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

1093_7 April 17

SUMA CREATE PLAYDATE 11 a.m. 13 S 300 W, Cedar City.

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.

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY 5:30 p.m. Showcase your talent in music, dance, spoken word poetry or comedy. Prizes awarded in teen and adult categories (9th grade and up). Light refreshments will be served. Performer sign-up begins at 5:30 p.m. Performances begin at 6. (435) 986-0432. Santa Clara Branch Library, 1099 N. Lava Flow Drive, St. George.

JAZZ CLASS 6 p.m. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George

PAINT NITE AT IRON GATE WINERY 6 p.m. No experience necessary. Use the code SUTAH for 35% off. Drinks purchased from the venue separately, no BYOB. 21 and up. 59 W. Center St., Cedar City

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CHAMBER CONNECT FEATURING KEVIN LEWIS, 11:30 a.m. (435) 628-1650, susi@ stgeorgechamber.com \$15 Chamber members. \$20 nonmembers. Holidav Inn. St. Georae

NEW WORLD DRAMA SERIES STAGED READING AT KAYENTA 6:30 p.m. Awardwinning dramas presented as staged readings. 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

JOHNNY RAVENSCROFT AT GEORGE'S CORNER 7 p.m. Free. W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

PIANO ENSEMBLE 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

Thurs, April 19

TEEN BOOK CLUB 3:30 p.m. Hurricane Library , 36 S. 300 W., Hurricane.

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

BOOK CLUB 4 p.m. "The Last of the Wine" by Mary Renault. St. George Art Museum, 47 E 200 N, St. George.

BOOK ENDS BOOK CLUB 4:30 p.m. Washington County Library System, 220 N 300 E, Washington.

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT EVEN STEVENS 6:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Live music and comedy. Even Stevens, 471 E St. George Blvd., St. George

FLUTE AND GUITAR CHAMBER MUSIC 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

DWIGHT YOAKAM 8 p.m. Tuacahn Amphitheatre, 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.



DSU ART DEPT. SHOWCASE RECEPTION 7 p.m. Sears Art Museum & Gallery, 155 S. University Ave., St. George.

LINDSAY WHITE AT EVEN STEVENS 7 p.m. Singer/songwriter based in San Diego. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.

COYOTE TALES FUNDRAISER 7 p.m. Hear invited storytellers' tales on the theme. "Art Matters" during a cocktail reception to benefit the Kayenta Arts Foundation. 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

ST GEORGE CHAMBER SINGERS AT KAYENTA 7:30 p.m. Brahms, Britten, and Bach concert. 881 Coyote Gulch Ct, Ivins.

SYMPHONY BAND CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

DJ VEXIFY AT MIKE'S TAVERN April 7 and 20, 9 p.m. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Soit, April 21

DIXIE POWER KITE FESTIVAL 10 a.m. Kite flying, games, vendors, entertainment, etc. DSU Encampment Mall, 225 S 700 E, St. Georae

RSQ DOGS+ FUNDRAISING YARD SALE 10 a.m. Many items half price from noon to 1 p.m. 1838 W 1020 N. St. George

ZION CANYON EARTH DAY CELEBRATION 1-7 p.m. Silent auction, food vendors, beer and wine garden, and live music. Free. jgwhancock@gmail.com or (435) 773-2485. 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

GOOD FRIENDS AT ZION CANYON BREW PUB 6-9 p.m. Free. A "Band" that evolves when 4 friends, all of whom are in separate working bands - get a chance to get together and have fun. No set lists, no routine, just a good time. Covering classics from country to rock. 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

TOM BENNETT AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 p.m. Free. Tom Bennett is a blues man from SLC. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

EMILY STEVENS AT EVEN STEVENS 7–9 p.m. Free. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.

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DSU ORCHESTRA 7:30 p.m. Cox Center, 325 S 700 E, St. George.

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

BRIAN WILSON AT TUACAHN 8 p.m. 1100 N. Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

BONE CHERRIES CD RELEASE PARTY AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 p.m. 90 W. Hoover Ave, Cedar City.

INSANITY STEW CD RELEASE PARTY AT FIREHOUSE BAR 9 p.m. CD release party with special guest Jerry Allen. 1476 West Sunset Blvd, St. George.



RED ROCK CACTUS HUGGER Bike race. Green Valley Raceway, St. George.

JERRY ALLEN AT EVEN STEVENS Noon-2 p.m. Free. Jerry Allen is based out of St. George and cites Matchbox 20 and The GooGoo Dolls as influences. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.



PAINT NIGHT AT EVEN STEVENS 6 p.m. No experience necessary. Use the code SUTAH for 35% off. Drinks purchased from the venue separately, no BYOB. 8 and up. 471 E St. George Blvd., St. George.

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.

JAZZ CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.



PERCUSSION CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP 7 p.m. Washington County Library System, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

MASON COTTAM AT GEORGE'S CORNER 7 p.m. Mason's music can be described as an eclectic breed of a folk, acoustic rock, jazz sound which incorporates cultural influences in a seamless, infectious harmony. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

DSU CHORAL CONCERT 7:30 p.m. Eccles Center, S 700 E, St. George.

Thurs, April 26

STORY TIME 10:30 a.m. Cedar City Library, 303 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

"THE NEXT STEP: COPING WITH LOSS" 6 p.m. This class discusses how to honor the loss, seek help, and consider new possibilities, encouraging gentle steps designed to refuel your emotional reserves, also for adults who are counseling or supporting children who have been traumatized by loss. DSU, 225 S 700 E, St. George.

CHS ART SHOW AWARDS RECEPTION 6:30 p.m. Cedar High School, 166 W 1925 N, Cedar City.

MR. CP'S JAZZ JAM AT EVEN STEVENS 6 p.m. Free. 471 E. St George Blvd., St. George.



READER'S CIRCLE BOOK CLUB 3 p.m. Reader's Circle Book Club Washington County Library System, 36 S 300 W, Hurricane.

MOVIE IN THE PARK Dusk. susi@stgeorgechamber.com, (435) 628-1650. Washington City Veterans Park, 111 N 100 E, Washington.

JOSH WARBURTON AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 p.m. Free. Josh Warburton covers folk, blues, and rock with unique vocals and acoustic guitar. 233 W. Center St., Kanab. SHANNON BIRCH VOCAL STUDIO STUDENT NIGHT AT EVEN STEVENS 7–9 p.m. Free. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George. TYLER PRESTON AT GEORGE'S CORNER

8 p.m. Free. W. St. George Blvd., St. George. **INDIGENOUS AT BIT AND SPUR SALOON** 10 p.m. Indigenous front man Mato Nanji dedicates his latest release Time Is Coming (on Blues Bureau International) to the indigenous youth and all young people on the indigenous reservations. 21 and over. Bit and Spur Saloon, 1212 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.



2018 INTERMOUNTAIN CUP CACTUS HUGGER 8 a.m. 8.5-mile bike race. Cryptobiotic and Hurricane Cliffs trails, Hurricane.

MANY MILES AT ZION CANYON BREW PUB 6–9 p.m. Based in Southern Utah, in the St. George /Zion Canyon area, Many Miles unique sound is best described as a blend of John Mayer, Amy Winehouse, Adele and Dave Matthews Band. 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

AUSTIN ROY AT EVEN STEVENS 7–9 p.m. Free. Even Stevens, 471 E St George Blvd, St. George.

COUNTRY ARTIST TRIBUTE SHOW AT CASABLANCA 8:30 p.m. Featuring Frank Garrett as Eric Church, Kaylee Starr as Taylor Swift, and Keith Ormrod as Kenny Chesney. (800) 585-3737. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Sun, April 29

NICK WELCH AT EVEN STEVENS Noon-2 p.m. Free. 471 St. George Blvd., St. George.

Mon, April 30

RESCUE ME FUNDRAISER 7 p.m. The Prime Time Performers Dance Team is sponsoring a "Rescue Me" fundraiser for the Washington County Search & Rescue. Tickets \$5, family tickets 5 for \$20 or 8 for \$30. Hurricane Fine Arts Center, 92 S 100 W, Hurricane.

Tues, May 1

SUSAN CASEY AT SUU 11:30 a.m. Hunter Conference Center, Cedar City.

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.



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DIFIORE CENTER COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE 6 p.m. 307 North Main Street, St. George.

PAINT NITE AT IRON GATE WINERY 6 p.m. No experience necessary. Use the code SUTAH for 35% off. Drinks purchased from the venue separately, no BYOB. 21 and up. 59 W. Center St., Cedar City.

Wed, May 2

CHAMBER INSPIRATION LUNCHEON FEATURING TIFFANY GUST 11:30 a.m. (435) 628-1650, susi@stgeorgechamber.com \$15 Chamber members, \$20 nonmembers. Holiday Inn, St. George.



TEEN BOOK CLUB 4:00pm Cedar City Library, 303 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

Fri, May 4

"WEIRD AL" YANKOVIC AT TUACAHN 8 p.m. "Weird Al" Yankovic forgoes his usual high-octane, big-production show for an intimate evening of music, focusing on original (non-parody) songs from his 14-album catalog. Special guest Emo Philips. 1100 Tuacahn Drive, Ivins.

Sat, May 5

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY Washington County Library, 88 W 100 S, St. George.

BASIC DRAWING CLASS 10 a.m. DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

COLORADO CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL May 5 and 6, 11 a.m. \$10, free for those under 18 years old. Maxwell Park, Hildale.

BEANS AND WHEELS AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

JAY LENO AT TUACAHN 8 p.m. 1100 Tuacahn, Ivins.

BEANS AND WHEELS AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

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