

In print
the 1st Friday
of each month

January 2019 - Vol. 23, #11
Online at SUIndependent.com

FREE
PLEASE RECYCLE

THE INDEPENDENT

A voice for Utah



**YOU CAN NOW
TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH SUU**
- See page 3

ALSO THIS ISSUE:



**MORRIS MURDOCK TRAVEL EXPO
ENTERS NINTH YEAR**
- See Page 4



**ARTS TO ZION EXPANDS TO INCLUDE
MUSIC, POETRY, AND MORE**
- See Page 4



**THE MOTHER HIPPS
RETURN TO SPRINGDALE**
- See Page 4

Contents

January 2019 Volume 23, Issue 11

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE.....3	RECREATION.....11
LOCAL NEWS.....4	DOWNTOWN SECTION.....12
OPINION8	MOVIE REVIEWS.....15
OUTDOORS.....10	CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....20

ON THE COVER: YOU CAN NOW TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH SUU. SEE STORY ON NEXT PAGE.

The Independent ~ SUIndependent.com

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

The Independent is published the first Friday of each month. All copies are distributed free of charge at over three hundred area locations throughout St. George, Cedar City, UT, Mesquite, NV & surrounding areas.

To contact us please call: (435) 656-1555 or write to:
P.O. Box 3116, St. George UT, 84771.
Located downtown St. George at 40 N. 300 E. #103

Editor: editor@infowest.com
For advertising - Publisher Josh Warburton's email:
ipc@infowest.com

To submit a calendar event go to SUIndependent.com

The opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and may not represent the opinion of this publication or its ownership. This publication may not be reproduced in part or whole by any means without the prior written permission of the publisher.

© Copyright 2019 The Independent Publishing Company, Inc.

STAFF

Publisher: Josh Warburton

Editor: Jason Gottfried

Graphic Designer: Josh Segovia

Advertising Director: Scott Dunford

Office Manager: Nikki Slade

Distribution Manager: Elliot Lockwood

Please recycle.



JOIN US FOR THE 9TH ANNUAL MORRIS MURDOCK TRAVEL SHOW

DIXIE CONVENTION CENTER

WEDNESDAY, JAN 23RD

FROM 11 AM - 6 PM

Don't miss the fun and entertaining On Stage Alaska[®] presentation by Holland America Line at 1PM & 3 PM

Enter to WIN a 7-day Caribbean Cruise courtesy of Princess Cruise Lines and other fabulous prizes!

\$3 Admission • 2-For-\$5 Admission

Children under 17: FREE

MORRIS MURDOCK TRAVEL

Call your Travel Advisor at

435-628-3633

800-777-1785

595 S. Bluff Street, Suite 4 in St. George, UT

www.morrismurdock.com/expo

NEW YEARS SPECIAL DEEP TISSUE LASER THERAPY

NO SURGERY! NO DRUGS! NO PAIN!

LIVE PAIN FREE FROM Chronic Back, Neck & Spine Pain!



BRING THIS COUPON IN TO RECEIVE ONE LASER TREATMENT

\$17⁰⁰ ONLY

Expires 2/10/19

WILLOW BEND CHIROPRACTIC Dr. Matt Hafen

435-673-0900 • 1054 RIVERSIDE DR. STE. 202



Cool It!

CRYOTHERAPY AND MASSAGE

- Reduce pain and inflammation
- Recover from sports and injury
- Elevate energy and mood

(435)429-1637 www.coolitcryo.com
676 Bluff St Suite 200 St. George UT 84770

SO. EXPOSURE

YOU CAN NOW TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH SUU

By Haven Scott

This new year, southern Utah residents, adults and youth alike, can resolve to learn something new in fun, affordable, and exploratory ways made possible by Southern Utah University's Community on the Go and Community Education program.

Smoothies in St. George, said that she and her husband enjoyed getting away from their busy life as business owners and escaping to Cedar City where they took the Art of Wine Tasting class offered through SUU.



"The instructor is so knowledgeable and made the class fun," Hanna said. "The whole class was an amazing experience, the atmosphere, making new friends with classmates — it was the perfect little distraction for us, and we looked forward to making the drive to Cedar City each week."

Last November, SUU director of ethics and compliance Ann Marie Allen made the journey to Normandy with her father, former Utah House Rep. Kay McIff, to retrace the steps of her grandfather Eldon McIff with SUU Community on the Go experts.

From London's Churchill War Rooms, where WWII missions were planned, to beaches in France where Allied troops came by sea and shops offering French pastries that cannot be found in the U.S., Allen said the best part of the trip was the opportunity to spend quality time with her father while traveling and learning.

"The staff at Community on the Go did an excellent job planning," she said. "In terms of travel arrangements, transportation, the sites that were selected — it was so seamless that it allowed us to really enjoy each other's company without the burden of those logistical details."

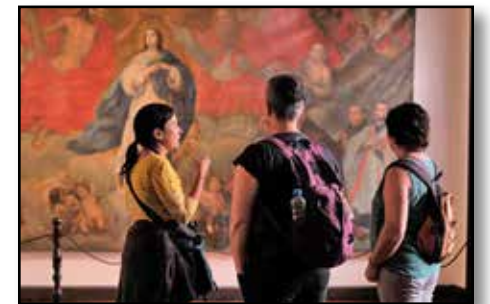


In 2018, Community on the Go took 72 adult travelers on global adventures. Destinations included ancient ruins at Machu Picchu in Peru; timeless villages, hamlets, and castles throughout Transylvania and western Romania; and Broadway plays and art museums in New York City. Like a study-abroad experience for adults, trips are designed for adult community members with SUU faculty serving as trip leaders and guides. Additionally, trips benefit SUU student scholarships.

The university's new Community Education program has also brought exciting, educational experiences in the form of social-based classes. Favorites include the popular Southern Utah Chef, a class where local chefs teach participants how to cook a recipe from their restaurant menu; a Master Astronomer's Program taught by Cedar Breaks National Monument staff; and several parent/youth art and science classes. More than 500 residents have participated in SUU's new Community Education program since its launch one year ago.

"We've experienced such a positive start," said SUU Community and Academic Enrichment executive director Melynda Thorpe. "Community response to our first year of operation is more than we expected, and we are all excited to continue growing SUU's elective learning and travel programs in 2019."

Not all of SUU Community Education participants are from Cedar City. Lori Hanna, owner of Perks Espresso &



SUU Community Education continues its learning opportunities with more affordable, short-term classes beginning in January and February, including social dance, adventure hiking, Southern Utah Chef, cake decorating, travel French, art classes, financial strategies, gardening, landscaping, and several other classes designed to be active, social, and fun. Community on the Go trips in 2019 include China in April, Paris in May, Europe in October, and Christmas in London in December.

For additional information on SUU Community Education classes or to receive a copy of the spring 2019 class schedule, email bewise@suu.edu or visit suu.edu/wise. For help registering for a class, call (435) 865-8529 or stop by the SUU Office of Community and Academic Enrichment at 136 W. University Blvd., suite 3, in Cedar City. For information about Community on the Go trips, visit suu.edu/onthego.



Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Washington County Library System

100

1919 2019

years of library service



From the humble beginnings of pioneers trading goods for books, to today's collection of over 500,000 items, the Washington County Library System has grown into a system with eight branches to serve the residents of Washington County, Utah.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Washington County Library System and celebrations will be scheduled at each branch throughout 2019. Join us in the celebration, and check it out @ your library!



LOCAL NEWS

ARTS TO ZION EXPANDS TO INCLUDE MUSIC, POETRY, AND MORE

By Brian Passey

The Arts to Zion Art and Studio Tour is back and better than ever with a more expansive approach to exploring the arts in southern Utah.

"We're incorporating dance and music as part of the tour for the ticketholders," said Bobbi Wan-kier, executive director of Arts to Zion.

Like previous years, you still have the opportunity to visit local galleries and the more intimate private studios. But this time around, the performing arts aspect

of the event has been amplified with the help of local jazz musician Carlyle Potter, who is the new performance arts coordinator for Arts to Zion. While past tours have featured music — a pianist here, a singer-songwriter with a guitar there — this year's tour promises a wider range of music, dance, and even poetry.

"It started out with adding more music to different venues," Potter said. "When the opportunity arose, we took it."

The event will kick off Jan. 17 with private and home studios open to ticketholders from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The private and home studio tours continue from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Jan. 21. Only select home studios will be open for the tour Jan. 20. They are designated on the tickets as Schedule B. Tourgoers will collect card punches at each stop to be eligible for a prize drawing when they turn in their tickets at the end of the tour.

Included on the tour are the private studios of 11 artists in addition to two commercial artists at their places of

work, Harmons Neighborhood Grocer in Santa Clara and the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm. Wan-kier says the commercial artists emphasize how art is also a business for professional artists.

"The studio tour highlights the amount of talented people we have in southern Utah," says Ron Brown, Arts to Zion board chairman. "Because of the natural beauty we have, it inspires artists and brings a lot of people here."

In addition to the tour, there are a variety of special events during the five-day celebration of the arts.

On Jan. 17, there will be a youth artist tribute from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Roene B. DiFiore Center for Arts and Education, located at 307 N. Main St. in St. George. Potter says this event will feature visual art by both high school and college students, young beat poets, and an all-star student jazz concert organized by Glenn Webb, assistant professor of music at DSU.

Also on Jan. 17, the St. George Art Museum, located at 47 N 200 E, will host an art conversation with Rebecca Hartvigsen and Sherry Meidell at 7 p.m. following a 6 p.m. reception for their show "Friends in Art," which will be exhibited in the museum's Legacy Gallery.

On Jan. 18, there will be additional special events in St. George at DSU's Sears Art Museum Gallery, located at 155 S. University Ave., and Affogato West coffee shop, located at 214 N 1000 E, suite A.

On Jan. 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., pianist Jay Christiansen will perform solo jazz tunes at the Sears Gallery, followed by the Dave Stevens Band performing the music of Dave Brubeck from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the gallery.

Brubeck's music was popular during the beat poet era, and the gallery just happens to be showing the work of the late artist Leo Krikorian in an exhibition inspired by the same era.

The action moves away from Sears Gallery briefly from 4 to 5:30 p.m. that Friday as Nick Adams performs with a backup band at Affogato West. Although Adams got his start in music as part of the pioneering Las Vegas punk band MIA, he'll be covering standards made famous by Nat King Cole during this performance.

And finally, on Jan. 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., the music moves back to the Sears (Story continued on page 7.)



MORRIS MURDOCK TRAVEL EXPO ENTERS NINTH YEAR

By Gary Sorensen

Another year has passed and it is time for the ninth annual Morris Murdock Travel Expo Jan. 23 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Dixie Center in St. George. My life has been so rewarding, and a big part of that is due to the amazing opportunities I have had experiencing this beautiful world.

Traveling exposes you to incredible opportunities to learn and grow. I know I am a different person because of the places to which I have been and the people whom I have met. It is amazing to me to learn about the different cultures around the world. People may have different ways of doing things, but it doesn't mean that we are right and they are wrong. Experiencing something different than we are used to helps us to understand people and their culture. I thoroughly love seeing people in their own environment.



river cruises: one on the Rhone in France and one on the Danube in Germany and Austria. What an amazing way to see the heart of Europe, including the small towns and large cities. I loved seeing the spectacular castles and churches as well as the quaint towns and the narrow cobblestone streets. I enjoyed some wonderful food and a chocolate shop in France with scrumptious samples. Yes, I sampled a lot, and yes, I brought chocolate home!

I have seen so many places that I have previously learned about, but I also learned so much. I did not know much about southern France, but after this river cruise I fell in love with it. Ok, I fall in love with many of the places I visit. Walking through medieval fortresses and seeing structures that are over a thousand years old was so interesting. The beauty of the painted ceilings and the artwork in the churches was breathtaking. There is so much to enjoy and to see no matter where you are traveling (cont. on page 7).



This year, I was fortunate to go to Europe twice and experience two different

THE MOTHER HIPS RETURN TO SPRINGDALE

The Mother Hips will perform at The Bit & Spur in Springdale Feb. 7 at 10 p.m. The Mother Hips are legends and legendary here in southern Utah. Having performed at the Bit & Spur as well as the Zion Canyon Music Festival multiple times, The Mother Hips have developed an incredibly devoted and passionate following over the last two decades.

Twenty-five years into a celebrated career is an unlikely time to switch things up, but the "divinely inspired" (Rolling Stone) Mother Hips have never been ones to follow convention. For their brilliant and exhilarating 10th album, "Chorus," the California stalwarts turned their recording process on its head in order to make their most fully realized and essential collection yet.

Originally signed by Rick Rubin while still just a student at Chico State, The Mother Hips have spent decades at

the forefront of a new breed of California rock and roll — one equally informed by the breezy harmonies of the Beach Boys, the funky roots of The Band, and the psychedelic Americana of Buffalo Springfield — and established themselves as "one of the Bay Area's most beloved live outfits" (San Francisco Guardian) through countless headline shows, massive festival appearances, and dates with everyone from Johnny Cash and Wilco to Lucinda Williams and The Black Crowes. The New Yorker lauded the band's ability to "sing it sweet and play it dirty," and "Chorus" is perhaps the finest example yet of that intoxicating dichotomy, a richly melodic album firmly rooted in gritty rock and roll with the kind of evocative storytelling that The Mother Hips do best.

Tickets are \$20 and are available at the door. For more information, please check out the Bit's Facebook page.



The Mother Hips photo by Jay Blakesberg

CHEZ DEBI
GIFTS & MORE

415 N. State St. #102
Hurricane, UT 84737
(435) 767-8943
www.ChezDebi.com

Instagram, Etsy, Facebook icons

January 25–27, 2019



Morning Launches • Night Glows • Live Entertainment



Check out CasaBlancaResort.com for More Information or Call 877.438.2929

LOCAL NEWS

ST. GEORGE WINE CLUB FOUNDATION RAISES \$45,000 DURING THREE YEARS OF NONPROFIT STATUS

By Marianne Hamilton



As 2018 draws to a close, it's also the close of the St. George Wine Club Foundation's third year as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. In that time, the foundation has returned \$45,000 to the local community through charitable donations, which are made possible via the club's monthly socials.

From September through June, the St. George Wine Club gathers at various venues throughout Washington County to enjoy live entertainment and socialization. In addition to bringing a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share, each attendee is encouraged to make a \$10 donation, which assists in paying musicians who perform at the socials. The remaining funds are then distributed through the St. George Wine Club Foundation, primarily to local arts and education entities, in denominations ranging from \$500 to \$1,000.

In 2018, the contributions topped \$17,000, a new record for the foundation. Among those benefiting from the donations were the Center for the Arts at Kayenta; Dixie State University's College of the Arts, and the university's Alumni Center; the New Works Festival at Tuacahn Center for the Arts; the Art Around the Corner Foundation; the DiFiore Center's "School of Rock" youth music program; and a number of other worthy causes. Hosts at private venue where socials are held are also welcome to identify a charity to

which the monthly donation will be made. Thus, during the last year, the St. George Wine Club Foundation also funded such organizations as Habitat for Humanity, RSQ Animal Rescue, DOVE Center, and the Utah Food Bank.

Since the St. George Wine Club Foundation was established as a nonprofit in 2015, registered under and administered by A.R.T.S., Inc., co-administrators Doug Hamilton and I have seen continuous growth in the size of the organization and the reach of its giving.



"We've been extremely gratified by the generosity of our members and their willingness to support so many worthwhile groups," Doug Hamilton said. "What started six years ago with a few people gathering in each other's homes to share a glass of wine is now an organization with nearly 1,800 members. And all of them have embraced our model of 'doing well by having fun.'"

The really encouraging thing is that we've established strong connections with the community, and we now receive repeat invitations to host our events at such venues as DSU and Kayenta. We appreciate the fact that these groups understand and appreciate our vision of giving back and support our desire to connect responsible people who happen to enjoy adult beverages.

Kayenta Arts Center executive director Jan Broberg is one such arts administrator who has extended her facility's hospitality to the St. George Wine Club on multiple occasions.

"We love having the club here!" Broberg said. "Their events are always festive and fun, and their members are strong supporters of the arts. Plus, their contributions are a great benefit in helping us to continue presenting wonderful professional productions and concerts to the community."

Susan Jarvis, chair of the board of directors of the Art Around the Corner Foundation, expressed gratitude for the St. George Wine Club Foundation's sponsorship of a pedestal in the current Art Around the Corner outdoor sculpture gallery.

"We're extremely grateful to the Wine Club Foundation for supporting public art," Jarvis said. "Wine Club members contributed a \$1,000 sponsorship, and they are acknowledged on the nameplate for the Cheryl Collins sculpture, 'Emerging,' which has been on display since last April. The Art Around the Corner Foundation looks forward to future collaborations with the St. George Wine Club Foundation."

We are currently finalizing plans for the 2019 socials, which will include a performance at the Kayenta Center for the Arts by the award-winning barbershop quartet the Newfangled Four, the third-annual "Sears Gala Weekend Social" at DSU's Sears Gallery, and a spring social at the DiFiore Center for Arts and Education.

For more information about the St. George Wine Club and the St. George Wine Club Foundation, visit stgeorgewineclub.org.

PATRICK JOSEPH JENNINGS, JAN. 24, 1960-DEC. 19, 2018

Patrick Joseph "Joe" Jennings lived his life with vibrancy and grace.

He came into this world Jan. 24, 1960 at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, the fourth of four siblings. His mother deemed him her "joy pill," and anyone who had the privilege to know him knows he wore the title well.

Peacefully and in the company of family, he left this life Dec. 19, 2018 in Rockville after a long struggle to recover from complications from surgeries meant to repair an old sports injury.

From the first sips of coffee and a bite of peach jam spread over toast, he would carry joy and happiness throughout his whole day. He loved and was made whole by the life he lived: He deeply adored his wife and children, and he loved his restaurant and took great pleasure and satisfaction in cooking wonderful food for other people.

We saw him smiling with an all-knowing nod of living the good life. He was ever grateful for the dream life he lived. He was a fair and conscientious man loved by the family he made at the Bit & Spur Restaurant, where anyone who worked or ate there came to know it was a special place.

Joe was astounded by the beauty of Zion Canyon and the pleasure of hot rocks and a cool dip in the river. He loved to exert himself out on the roads and trails on runs and bike rides. He loved finding new music and enjoyed playing guitar and singing in his impassioned and soulful voice. He was a

voracious reader of everything from novels to magazines to the pages of the morning paper.

He shot an excellent game of pool and loved sports, and in sitting with him and watching a game, you could not help but be infected by his passion and cheer.

You knew you were in good hands when you were with Joe: He put his special touch on everything, from making dinners to creating celebrations, vacations to lazy Sunday mornings with family. He was beloved by his wife and children, his friends and family, his neighbors and employees. His zest for life, his contagious smile, and his bright, ringing laugh will be deeply missed.

Joe grew up in Santa Barbara, California. He graduated from Bakersfield High School and attended San Francisco State University before heading to Zion Canyon to live in Springdale and Rockville.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, Barbara Jennings Hollister, Wilson Kenneth Jennings M.D., and J.J. Hollister III. He is survived by his beloved wife Patricia "Trish" Farnsworth Jennings, his children Hank and June Jennings, and his siblings Bill Jennings, Matt Jennings, Sara Jennings Pelton, Scott Hollister, George Hollister, and Cate Wallenfels Hollister.

Please honor him by reaching out to others, by letting your eyes sparkle, by daring to live your dreams. In lieu of flowers, please donate to your local NPR station, to Doctors Without Borders, or the charity of your choice.



Z-ARTS EXHIBITS THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF JOHN WHITWORTH

By Joyce Hamilton

The Zion Canyon Arts & Humanities Council is pleased to host John Whitworth's photography in the Canyon Community Center gallery in Springdale. The exhibit will remain on display through Jan. 29, 2019.

The son of a national park ranger, Whitworth grew up living in and around some of our country's greatest treasures. It is all too simple for one to understand out how he ended up a landscape and nature photographer. As one whose mind wanders, it has changed his life, providing an escape from the expected and a motivational outlet that has proven irreplaceable, pushing him to seek out adventure and encouraging a drive to experience freedom under his own interpretation.

Zion National Park was the main inspiration that lead him into this medium and continues to be one of the driving forces behind his work. His goal in photography is to create and experience something memorable or unique, or at least somewhat puzzling and to spend days on end in the wilderness trying to bring back something he can personally enjoy — and that will hopefully inspire others as well.

For the most part, he tends to focus on wide and dramatic scenes but also spends much of his time shooting smaller, more abstract possibilities that nature provides,

using photography to hopefully confuse the viewer into wondering what exactly they are looking at. For Whitworth, that is what photography is all about: playing with the camera's ability not just to capture a moment but to create something more.

The Canyon Community Center is located at 126 Lion Blvd. in Springdale. It is open to the public Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. The gallery is closed on Sundays and all state and federal holidays.

To learn more about this gallery show, please visit zarts.org. If you miss the gallery show, you can visit Whitworth's website at johnwhitworthphotography.com.



Find more opinions daily at SUndependent.com

LOCAL NEWS

ARTS TO ZION (CONT.)

Gallery for a VIP party for Arts to Zion ticketholders to celebrate the end of the Krikorian exhibition. The Dave Stevens Band will again provide the music while St. George Dance Company performs jazz dance numbers. This reception will also include light refreshments, a video about Krikorian's art, and a performance by the same student beat poets from the Jan. 18 event.

On Jan. 19, the party moves to Springdale, though the tour continues throughout the area with a fine art walk encompassing three Springdale galleries — Worthington Gallery, David J. West Gallery, and Cable Mountain Lodge — from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tourgoers can get their tickets punched at each of the galleries on the walk.

As the Fine Art Walk is winding down, the music is firing up in Springdale. From 1 to 3 p.m. Ryan Tilby will play solo guitar



at Cable Mountain Lodge, located at 147 Zion Park Blvd. Held in the lodge's new convention center in the old giant-screen theater facility, the event will also feature visual art.

Then from 6 to 9 p.m. at Zion Canyon Brew Pub, located at 95 Zion Park Blvd., there will be an after-hours party featuring The Shawn Owens Project, which performs a variety of jazz styles from smooth jazz to hard bop to Latin.

Of course, the west side of Washington County is also home to a thriving arts community at the Kayenta development in Ivins. The galleries at Kayenta's Coyote Gulch Art Village will get a chance to shine Jan. 20 from 2 to 5 p.m. with another fine art walk, where tourgoers can again get their tickets punched for the prize drawing. This the only day the galleries at Kayenta will have artists in residence. Other galleries on the tour will have artists during each day of the tour.

Finally, on Jan. 21, Arts to Zion turns its focus from art to history in the Silver Reef area of Leeds. It starts off with a mini-powwow featuring local Paiute performers and artists from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Silver Reef Museum, located at 1903 Wells Fargo Road. This is another spot for tourgoers to get their tickets punched for the drawing. There will also be a book signing — featuring a number of local photography and history books — at the museum during this time.

These additional activities beyond the private studio tour highlight ongoing changes within Arts to Zion as an organization. In recent years, Arts to Zion brought in an exhibition from the

Smithsonian in coordination with other organizations throughout the region, all of which led to a number of events with more than 94,000 attendees.

Arts to Zion also helped promote the Oil Painters of America Western Regional Exhibition in 2017, which was held at Illume Gallery of Fine Art in St. George. Brown says that endeavor was so successful that Illume will now host the organization's National Juried Exhibition from May 10 to June 7, and Arts to Zion will again help promote it.

Another collaboration is actually happening in the midst of the tour this year. From Jan. 18 to 20, the Dixie Center will host the new Clay Con West, "a conference for the clay minded, both young and old, amateur and professional, clean and dirty."

From noon to 6 p.m. each day, the Clay Con West will host several demonstrating artists who will present their techniques and share their knowledge about clay. There will also be a number of hands-on workshops. Arts to Zion will promote Clay Con West as part of the regional art tour.

"It's another way for people to experience different types of art," Brown said.

The Arts to Zion Art and Studio Tour is the type of event than can bring in a different kind of tourist than those who come to see Zion National Park or run in the St. George Marathon, Brown said. Arts to Zion utilizes digital marketing to reach art enthusiasts regionally and nationally.

"When people come from outside the area for this, they really want that behind-the-scenes home tour to meet the artists and see their creative process," Brown said. "Our role as Arts to Zion is to promote arts, history, and culture in southern Utah."

Tickets for the tour are \$10. Entrance to all the public galleries is free during the tour, and all the public galleries are ADA-accessible. Free printed maps are available at ticket sale locations, including Arts to Zion/Gallery 35 and the DiFiore Center in St. George, the Springdale Tourism Center, and the Silver Reef Museum in Leeds. For more information, visit artsto Zion.org.

*Brian Passey is a public relations specialist for Scottsdale Arts in Arizona, but he continues to support the arts in southern Utah — where he worked as a journalist for 13 years — for artsto Zion.org and in columns for *The Independent*.*

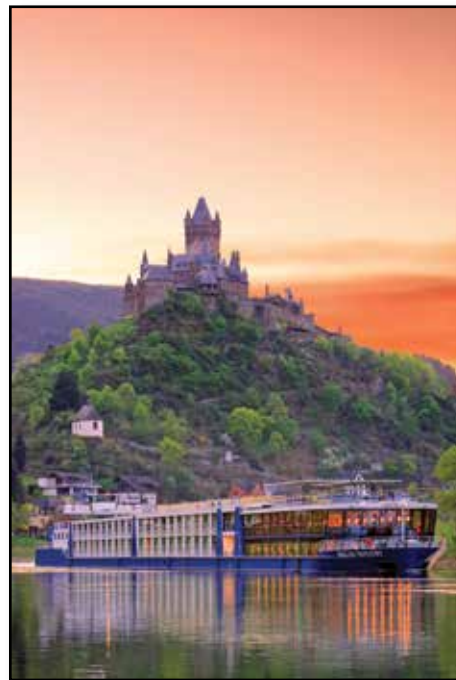
Find more news daily at SUIdependent.com

STAY UP TO DATE ON ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, MUSIC AND LOCAL NEWS AT SUIdependent.com UPDATED DAILY!

THE INDEPENDENT — A voice for Utah —

MORRIS MURDOCK (CONT.)

Every time I travel, my senses are awakened, and it is hard to explain but it makes you different. It makes you think and learn about the people who lived there and built the amazing structures. It makes you think about your ancestors and what they did, not only to form your personal history but to influence their corner of the world.



Whenever someone talks about a destination, I immediately recreate my memories of that place in my mind. I quickly remember the smells, the beauty,

the tastes, the scenery, and the sounds of that amazing trip. It is almost like I am reliving the experience in my mind. Of course, it makes me want to take another trip to places to which I have been and to discover new destinations I have yet to experience.

A great opportunity for you to discover where you want to go is at the Morris Murdock Travel Expo. Come meet with over 45 travel companies from around the world including Princess Cruise Lines, Delta Vacations, Trafalgar Tours, Holland America Line, AMA Waterways River Cruises, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Pleasant Holidays, Viking River Cruises and so many more. There will be amazing travel prizes awarded! The Morris Murdock Travel Expo will feature the fun and entertaining On Stage Alaska Production at 1 and at 3 p.m. There is a small charge of \$3 to attend The Morris Murdock Travel Expo, and there are free brochures from all over the world available. Each travel company has a specific extra value or discount at the expo. Morris Murdock Travel will also give you a \$50 travel gift card on your next seven-day or longer cruise or vacation package. Hope to see you at the Morris Murdock Travel Show! Call Morris Murdock Travel at (435) 628-3633 for more information.

Gary Sorensen is a vice president with Morris Murdock Travel. A local travel writer publishing over 300 travel articles, he also hosts a local travel radio show every Wednesday morning at 8:35 a.m. on NewsTalk 890 AM.

Find more at SUIdependent.com

WHITE MOUNTAIN TRADING POST

Quality Native American Jewelry featuring: Hopi • Zuni • Navajo

**Clean Restrooms • Open 7 days
Beer • Ice • Espresso • Propane
Gift Shop with over 100,000 Items**

Mention this ad for 20% off at the Trading Post

Junction of US 89 & HWY 9 • Tourist info: (435) 648-2030

OPINION

OUR PROBLEM WITH WATER

By Tom Butine

Our “water agencies”, Utah’s Division of Water Resources and the Washington County Water Conservancy District, have the best intentions. They have done a terrific job providing reliable, safe, plentiful, and cheap water.

But due to our growth, our prodigious water use, and the dramatic change in Colorado Plateau precipitation, “plentiful and cheap” is ending.

A legislative audit determined Utah’s water data was too inaccurate to help plot a solution. The Division of Water Resources is working to fix that, and the 2015 Municipal & Industrial Water Use Report is an honest and fundamental start. But its scope excludes some key issues, such as agricultural water use, water right security, water use targets, and water management practices.

The Washington County Water Conservancy District repeated the following claims in several recent public messages without factual references and refusing open, public analysis:

—“We need the Lake Powell Pipeline.” The real need is for enough water to enable growth. The Lake Powell Pipeline is a proposed solution to that need. It should not be accepted without an open assessment and a discussion of the risks and affordability.

—“We need a second water source.” It would be nice, but it’s not necessary, and the risk and expense may make it unwise.

—“We reduced our water use by 1 billion gallons over 5 years.” That’s a good start, but it’s only a 1 percent reduction, which is small compared to other states.

—“We use less than 60 percent of other Utah counties.” As the Washington County Water Conservancy District itself has said, disparities in the types of water use and demographics make direct comparisons invalid. No analysis was provided to adjust for these disparities. We compare poorly to other urbanized Utah counties and very poorly to conscientious southwest communities.

—“This is in spite of our county being the hottest and driest in the state.” Dryness is a reason to use the least water, not the most.

—“\$60 million was spent on saving water.” Our analysis of these expenses shows they were not on spent high-impact, low-cost targets like building code changes, water budgeting, tiered pricing, or informative billing.

The unmentioned fact is that the Lake Powell Pipeline might not be built, and we aren’t ready with an alternative. This is how the Washington County Water

Conservancy District is selling the pipeline to taxpayers: “We’re trying hard to save water, we’re doing great, we need the Lake Powell Pipeline. Buy it.” No factual basis is offered. The 12-year, \$33 million (and counting) Lake Powell Pipeline study lacks open consideration of issues and alternatives. Conserve Southwest Utah has been researching and questioning the pipeline and advocating improved water management throughout that period — and has largely been met with silence.

The key issues are as follows.

Water demand

Our water agencies obscure our unsustainable water use by not setting reasonable targets based on achievements elsewhere, not recognizing changes in the Colorado watershed, and not implementing a comprehensive Water Management Plan to manage our water supply and demand in the manner necessary to meet the challenge.

Statewide, roughly 80 percent of water is used in agriculture (largely water-intensive alfalfa for cattle feed, much of it exported), 10 percent on landscapes (mostly grass yards and golf courses), 5 percent inside homes, and 5 percent in businesses.

Washington County uses less on agriculture and more on grass in the process of trying to look like the Midwest instead of the desert.

The Washington County Water Conservancy District is sending a false message that we’re doing great and spending wisely on conservation. Our analysis shows spending is not focused on high-yield projects.

Water supply

Data on our local water supply is lacking, but our analysis indicates that we have enough local water to support our growth with just modest conservation. And an analysis of Utah’s use of its Colorado River allocation indicates that we’re likely already using it all. The state’s own records of our Colorado River usage indicate usage of about twice our lawful allocation (of 1.38 million acre-feet yearly) has been approved, and that allocation is unrealistic based on the 1922 Colorado River Compact assumptions on river flows.

The Lake Powell Pipeline’s water right appears low in priority and at high risk of being preempted by older, more senior rights as demand increases and flows decrease. As our water agencies declare the pipeline’s water right “the most secure on the river,” there is no analysis supporting that, and nobody in authority has even asked for it.

Economics

The financial risk to Washington County’s economy is significant. The governor appointed an Executive Water Finance Board to evaluate the risks and alternatives. The economists’ report submitted to the board found the Washington County Water Conservancy District’s financial analysis to be flawed and unrealistic.

They proposed an open public technical review; the water conservancy district refused.

There is no analysis of “affordability.” We trust the board will force this analysis.

The alternative: Improved management of our local water

This really isn’t an optional alternative: it must be done, sooner or later. While our analysis indicates that there is much more usable water in the county than our water agencies choose to recognize, it also indicates that we can easily cut our water use without impacting our landscaping’s visual appeal, the viability of our agriculture, or our population and economic growth.

Water budgeting, a system of establishing a usage budget for each property based on its use and landscaping, combined with ordinances defining reasonable desert landscaping have reduced water use by 50 percent in other vibrant, growing southwest communities. A cost-benefit-driven Water Management Plan, integrated across the “supply chain” (wholesale and retail) including both supply and demand would be much more effective than current management and planning practices. These efforts can be incrementally undertaken at a fraction of the cost of the Lake Powell Pipeline, avoiding huge financing costs with low risk. It can support our projected growth.

Our water agencies and elected representatives certainly do not support the Lake Powell Pipeline unconditionally, yet they won’t state — or don’t know — under what conditions they support it. Our work with them to reveal and assess their conditions is going much too slowly. Instead, the pipeline is being pushed and marketed with blinders while improving management of our local water is given much talk and little action. We need an open public analysis and honest dialog.

For references, see conserve.wu.org/wp-content/uploads/2018-12-op-ed-our-problem-with-water.pdf.

Tom Butine is the board president of Conserve Southwest Utah. Send questions and comments to board@conserve.wu.org.

Find more opinions daily at SUindependent.com

St George STREETFEST

FUN EAT FOOD TRUCK VILLAGE	ATHLON UNWIND MAIN STREET STAGE	SHOP OVER 30 VENDORS
-----------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------	--------------------------------

FIRST FRIDAY EACH MONTH
EVENT DETAILS
STGEORGESTREETFEST.COM



OPINION

WHAT GIFT AND LESSONS WILL YOU LEAVE CHILDREN AND GRAND-CHILDREN?

By Lisa Rutherford

I often hear it said, “I’m doing it for my children and grandchildren” or “I want my children and grandchildren to be able to live here.” These are used when referencing any number of issues, but here in southern Utah, they are used often when referring to the proposed Lake Powell Pipeline. “We have to have it for our kids and grandkids,” is heard over and over, particularly by leaders.

But what are people really leaving their children and grandchildren? That is the question that came to mind as I watched folks scurrying around, buying this and that to help satisfy perceived needs and provide for those loved kids and grandkids.

Are we really going to set the right example and help their futures? The overuse of water in Washington County, as compared to other southwest areas, is obvious no matter how the comparison is done or how much leaders argue that comparisons can’t or shouldn’t be made and that we just need to get more.

But “big” water use is not the only “big” in our area specifically: Big cars, big yards, big meals, big houses, and big growth are seen everywhere.

Let’s take one “big” item for example.

Nationwide, households have been getting smaller since those of the 1910 era — 4.54 individuals per house to 2.58 now per house — while homes are now 74 percent larger. The average home size jumped to 2,598 square feet in 2013. Thirty years ago, that home was 1,725 square feet while housing more people. I recently heard an elderly couple explaining to friends that their 3,000 square foot home was just right for the two of them. Now, I have to admit that my home is a little less than 2,500 square feet, but I will also admit that I was unaware there was a problem when I bought this home nearly 20 years ago and acknowledge now that the home is much larger than what I need. With knowledge comes awareness.

Not only have home sizes gone up but, as should be expected, so have prices. Prices are so high that many kids are being priced out of the market. So much for doing what’s best for the kids and grandkids, right?

According to Zillow, “The median home value in Washington County is \$304,800. Washington County home values have gone up 15.2% over the past year and Zillow predicts they will rise 2.9% within the next year. The median list price per square foot in Washington County is \$177, which is the same as the St. George Metro average of \$177. The median price of homes currently

listed in Washington County is \$349,900. The median rent price in Washington County is \$1,450, which is the same as the St. George Metro median of \$1,450.” Zillow’s assumptions were made before the recent market challenges but may still hold true.

So although many say they want a great future for their kids and grandkids, purchases of these big homes, which are driving up the construction of more big homes while reducing the number of smaller and more-affordable homes, are creating problems.

People with money are buying huge homes and driving the market. They may not be creating problems for their own kids and grandkids, since perhaps those kids and grandkids will inherit much of the wealth that allows these big purchases, but they’re certainly creating problems for other people’s kids and grandkids who can barely afford to live here where housing affordability is becoming a real issue.

So I guess when leaders and others talk about doing things for their kids and grandkids, they couldn’t care less about those of others who are less well heeled.

House sizes drive costs even more when new homes possess many expensive amenities that could easily be argued are not really necessary — granite, expensive flooring, and fixtures, for example. But size drives more than just costs. Materials to build those big homes must come from somewhere, and many materials come from areas that are being exploited. They have to be produced and shipped. Those activities add carbon to our atmosphere — carbon that’s creating global warming and climate change. Add big vehicles to the mix and it’s becoming a recipe for disaster.

In fact, we’re already seeing those disasters elsewhere and here. Our temperatures are rising while snow for our water supplies lessens and monsoon rains rush down roads and into the river heading down to others, leading pipeline proponents to argue that we need to indebt ourselves and children to the multi-billion dollar Lake Powell Pipeline project — so we’ll have more water that we can just waste.

And these large homes require more energy to heat and cool. How many of these new, big homes come equipped with solar panels? If the sizes of the yards match the sizes of the homes and are replete with equally large lawns, that too will require resources, taking us back again to the proposed Lake Powell Pipeline and our area’s overuse of water.

All of this ties into our “big” egos. People who have done well and made lots of money generally want others to know that. So perhaps this is not really done for the good of the kids and grandkids as much as for ourselves.

It’s certainly not being done for the good of those kids and grandkids who can’t afford to live here in the future.

As we move into 2019, I hope that all will consider what legacy and future they’re really leaving for those who follow.

Lisa Rutherford has lived in Ivins for 17 years. In 2006, she became involved with Citizens for Dixie’s Future (now Conserve Southwest Utah) and rejoined CSU’s board in 2018. She also maintains a Southern Utah Issues Facebook page.

2019 PRECAP

By Peter Funt

Wondering if things will change for the better in the New Year? Here’s a handy clip ‘n’ save precap of news certain to occur during 2019.

Jan. 1: In a New Year’s tweet to the nation, President Trump says he has surveillance showing that Hillary Clinton is continuing to use a private email server. He vows to appoint a special prosecutor to “bring her to justice.”

Jan. 3: On “Fox & Friends,” Donald Trump Jr. discloses that he has broken up with girlfriend Kimberly Guilfoyle and is now dating Judge Jeanine Pirro.

Jan. 27: A Pew poll reveals that 93 percent of politicians are unaware the government has been “shut down” since December.

Feb. 3: At Super Bowl LIII, the NFL suspends 14 players for “socializing” with cheerleaders in the concussion protocol tent.

Feb. 9: Colin Jost delights “SNL” viewers with news that he is engaged to Kimberly Guilfoyle.

Feb. 24: At the 91st Oscars, Steve Carell receives the Irving G. Thalberg Award for “Most films released just before the end-of-year cutoff.”

Feb. 26: A presidential tweet warns that if the government shutdown continues, 18,000 troops might have to be withdrawn from the Mexican border.

March 16: In a tearful announcement, Colin Jost tells “SNL” viewers that he is having the Kimberly Guilfoyle tattoo removed from his buttocks.

April 1: President and Mrs. Trump host the third annual Trump Family April Fools Celebration.

April 27: At the comedian-free White House Correspondents’ Association dinner, author Ron Chernow entertains with a gripping retrospective on “Presidential Tweets Over the Last One-Fifth of a Decade.”

May 11: In an interview with Matt Drudge, President Trump expresses frustration that the Mueller investigation has continued unabated despite the government shutdown, asking, “Is George Soros secretly funding this guy?”

May 26: The New York Times raises the price of its Sunday edition to \$29.95 (higher in outlying areas).

June 12: At a “Show of Unity Conference,” Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden, Gavin Newsom, Kamala Harris and 14 other Democrats announce they are each entering the 2020 presidential race.

June 13: The White House unveils a national MAGA hologram tour featuring a virtual President Trump and music by Elvis.

July 4: At a Fourth of July celebration in Bedminster, New Jersey, Donald Trump Jr. surprises family with news that he is engaged to Fox host Laura Ingraham.

July 22: CNN formally changes its name to BNN: Breaking News Network. According to a spokeswoman, “We believe everything we report is breaking, no matter when it happened or how trivial it might be.”

Aug. 2: Wal-Mart begins its Black Friday Christmas sale.

Aug. 28: Kirsten Gillibrand, Cory Booker, Amy Klobuchar, Chuck Schumer, and LeBron James declare that they are seeking the Democratic presidential nomination.

Sept. 10: President and Mrs. Trump host a White House dinner to celebrate National Hashtag Day.

Oct. 7: Netflix announces that all of its series will now be released in convenient three-minute episodes to facilitate bingeing.

Oct. 24: Two dozen more hopefuls, including James Comey and the comedian Carrot Top, say they are seeking the Democratic presidential nomination.

Nov. 28: Declaring that “No one is above the law,” President Trump refuses to pardon the White House turkey.

Nov. 29: President and Mrs. Trump fly to Mar-a-Lago to celebrate Black Friday.

Dec. 2: The Washington Post quotes sources as saying the Mueller investigation is entering its “final phase” and “should be completed by early 2021.”

Dec. 10: Amazon introduces a team of leading astronomers who will select a planet for its first extraterrestrial headquarters.

Dec. 31: In a New Year’s Eve tweet to the nation, President Trump vows: “The fake government shutdown will not be allowed to disrupt our beautiful 2020 campaign!”

Peter Funt received his degree in journalism from the University of Denver. After 15 years hosting the landmark TV series “Candid Camera,” he writes frequent opinion pieces for The Boston Globe and The Wall Street Journal as well as his weekly column, which you can follow at suindependent.com.

Find more at SUindependent.com



(435) 574-9304

judith@bicyclecollective.org

70 W St. George Blvd

Non-Profit Community Bike Shop
Everybody Welcome!

+VOLUNTEER AND LEARN
TO FIX YOUR BIKE
+DONATE BIKES, PARTS,
GEAR
+ BUY A PRE-LOVED BIKE
+ EARN A BIKE

Monday *Closed

Tue 11AM - 6PM

Wednesday-Volunteer
Day

Thur 11AM - 6PM

Friday *Closed

Sat 10AM - 2PM

Sunday Closed

*By Appointment Only

OUR GEOLOGICAL WONDERLAND: THE VIRGIN RIVER FLOWS THROUGH HERE

By Rick Miller

The Virgin River was originally named "Adams River" after President John Quincy Adams but was renamed "Virgin River" by John C. Fremont after Thomas Virgin, one of the first explorers in the region. In 2009, the Virgin River was designated as the first "wild and scenic river" in Utah.

The Virgin River is a tributary to the Colorado River, and after a trip of approximately 162 miles from its headwaters near Zion Canyon, it enters the Colorado River at the north end of Lake Mead in Nevada (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Watershed drainage of the Virgin River and its tributaries. The Virgin River is itself a tributary to the Colorado River.

Streams and rivers flow over the surface of the Earth and form part of what is called the Hydrologic Cycle. In effect, this surface runoff moves water and carries various types of sediment that have been eroded from land areas. The moving water also erodes and shapes its own channel. The particular shape of a channel is a function of the type of rock present and the overall topography and the gradient (slope) of the ground surface. Over its course, the Virgin River has produced two main types of channels (Figure 2).

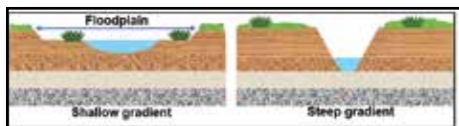


Figure 2. River cross-sections to illustrate the type of channel formed in a shallow gradient and in a steep gradient. In a shallow, relatively flat area, a river will meander and erode its banks from side to side and create a floodplain. In a steeply sloping area, a river will tend to erode downward to form a narrow channel with steep side walls and no floodplain.

Along its route, the Virgin River has managed to erode two spectacular canyons. Much of this erosion occurred during the Ice Ages within the past 2.6 million years when climates were wetter and considerably more water flowed in the region. One of these

canyons is the Narrows in Zion National Park, and the other is the Virgin River Gorge in Arizona. Both of these steep-sided canyons are quite spectacular. In other areas such as near St. George and in Nevada, the river flows in a wider, meandering flood plain.

These changes in flow are the result of the topographic gradient. In the Zion Canyon Narrows and the Virgin River Gorge, the topography and gradient are steeper; therefore, the river flows rapidly and erodes downward to produce a narrow, steep-sided channel. In areas with shallower topography, the river flows more slowly and erodes laterally to widen its banks and form a floodplain (Figure 3).

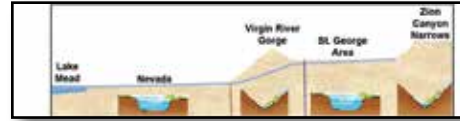


Figure 3. Longitudinal cross-section of the Virgin River. Insets indicate changes in shape of the river channel in response to the gradient. Virgin River Gorge is cut through the Beaver Dam Mountains where they meet the Virgin Mountains. Purple line is the Utah/Arizona boundary. Brown line is the Arizona/Nevada boundary.

In the Zion Canyon area of the uplifted Colorado Plateau, the Virgin River has eroded a very narrow, steep-sided channel in the Navajo Sandstone (Figure 4). A popular place to hike is the Narrows, but it is an exceedingly dangerous place to be trapped during storms with flash flood possibilities and nowhere to escape. A testament to the power and volume of water in such flash floods is indicated by the size of the large boulders in the river channel. Note that there are two types of boulders, which are the result of two different types of erosion. Those transported by the river as part of what is termed "bed load" are generally smooth and somewhat rounded in outline whereas the boulders that have fallen from the canyon walls and have not yet undergone any transport by the water are angular and blocky (see arrows).



Figure 4. The Narrows, Zion Canyon. Left. Steep walls of the Navajo Sandstone, which have been eroded by the Virgin River into a steep, narrow channel. Right. A bit farther down the channel. Note two types of boulders in the river bed, which have resulted from two different types of erosion.

As the river flows out of Zion and reaches the relatively flatter portions around Hurricane and St. George, the velocity of the water decreases. In these areas, it has formed a wider channel and eroded mostly sideways to create a flood plain rather than cutting a steep-sided



Figure 5. Virgin River Falls near Hurricane. River water is still flowing strongly, although the gradient is much less than back in Zion Canyon. The brownish color of the water indicates that it is carrying a sediment load from erosion up-river. During drier seasons, the water is not carrying a significant sediment load and is clearer.



Figure 6. Virgin River in St. George. Here, the river has a shallow gradient and has formed a relatively wide floodplain. During the major storm of 2010, the river channel overflowed into a large portion of its floodplain. Images taken from Riverside Drive looking across the floodplain to the development of Stone Cliff and a bit south facing from approximately the same spot.

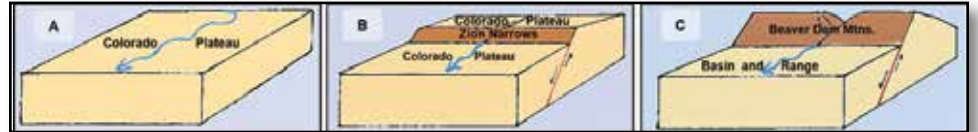


Figure 10. Block diagrams illustrate the formation of the Zion Canyon Narrows and the Virgin River Gorge by the Virgin River. A. Original surface topography of high-elevation Colorado Plateau. B. Fault changes elevation, and river erodes into the plateau surface to form the narrows. C. Farther down stream, faulting and tilting of the rocks of the Beaver Dam and Virgin Mountains in the Basin and Range Province change elevation, and the river erodes to form the Virgin River Gorge.

channel (Figures 5 and 6). During major storms such as ones that occurred in 2005 and 2010, this flood plain becomes partially or completely flooded.

Significant downward erosion occurs again when the river reaches the Beaver Dam Mountains south of St. George and into Arizona. Because of the higher elevation of the mountains, the gradient has increased, and the river has eroded another steep-walled channel, known as the Virgin River Gorge (Figures 7 and 8). The river descends the west side of the mountains and flows out into the Arizona and then Nevada portions of the Virgin River Valley.



Figure 7. Middle portion of the Virgin River Gorge. Younger red rocks in foreground and older brown and gray rocks in the background. The lower and steeper part of the Gorge begins as the highway passes into the darker rocks. Image taken from overpass at exit 18.



Figure 8. Virgin River in lower part of the Virgin River Gorge. Again eroding its way through rocks to form a narrow, steep sided canyon. Note brown water, which is carrying a lot of eroded sediment.

At this point on its journey, the river has eroded its way through two different highland areas, which include the Colorado Plateau and the Beaver Dam/Virgin Mountains (Figure 9). The term used to explain how that occurs is "antecedent stream." In this model, the stream or river



Figure 9. Aerial comparison of the Virgin River in two canyons. Left is Zion Canyon (Angels Landing photo) where the river has eroded through sandstone. Right is Virgin River Gorge where the river has eroded through a variety of rocks including sandstone, shale, mudstone, and carbonate rocks such as limestone and dolostone.

maintains its original course despite changes in underlying topography (Figure 10).

The river gradient decreases again when the river passes out of the mountains. The Beaver Dam tributary enters the river at Beaver Dam, Arizona, and as the river reaches the Nevada Border at Mesquite, it has developed a fairly wide flood plain (Figure 11). The river continues and eventually enters Lake Mead near Las Vegas where it joins with the Colorado River (Figure 12).



Figure 11. Virgin River again with a low gradient and having a wide flood plain near Mesquite. Compare the size of the pebbles in the lower left corner with the larger boulders in Figure 3.



Figure 12. NASA satellite image of Lake Mead and surrounding areas of southern Nevada, including Las Vegas. The northern arm of Lake Mead is the terminus of the Virgin River as it is a tributary to the Colorado River.

As noted in some of the images, the brown water of the Virgin River (as well as the Colorado River) indicates that sediment is being transported and eventually deposited in Lake Mead. So how many years will it take before Lake Mead becomes filled with this sediment and is no longer a viable reservoir?

Find more outdoors everyday at SIndependent.com

RECREATION

EAGLE POINT OPENING WEEKEND 2018/19

Story and photos
by Josh Segovia

Blessed with another winter opening weekend here in southern Utah, Eagle Point had the snowpack to open the entire mountain to hungry pow hunters. There were plenty of turns and good times to be had and probably more to come as we look ahead into the weekly forecast.



Catching up with old friends, picking up where we left off last season, and talking about the great conditions and season expectations are always on the menu. Some of the northwest storm system glazed Eagle Point early in the morning, dropping some flakes and quickly passing by, leaving us with gorgeous bluebird days for the remainder of our stay.

After taking laps around the mountain, we gathered for a mid-day break at the Canyonside Lodge, which is now separated into a dining-style restaurant and a full-service bar area.



The great thing about heading to a less busy resort such as Eagle Point is that you will find pow stashes days after a storm, which was the case here, and I actually didn't get to explore all of them. Good thing this is only weekend one into winter. There will be a lot more as it is expected to be a good season.

You will also have plenty of on-the-mountain lodging options available for your situation and family size, from proximity to the lodge for nightlife, ski-in/ski-out, and modern amenities. There is now an option for you to build your dream mountain home in the newly introduced Aspen Crest community within Eagle Point and also a new snow-making system, which is a first in the resort's history.



I hope you get to make it out with your family and loved ones to enjoy some great outdoor recreation with them, along with making great memories that will last a lifetime. Bundle up and don't be scared to become a part of the snow family if you've haven't had the chance to enjoy stepping into your snowboard or skis for the first time. January is "Learn to Snowboard month," so it will be great opportunity to learn as resort often have great deals for first timers.

I'd like to personally thank Shane Gadbaw, Lane Tucker, Jerry Spitler, Scott Curry, and the great staff at Eagle Point for all of their generosity and making me a part of their snow family. To learn more, head to eaglepointresort.com. I hope to see you out there for some great turns and great photo opportunities. Follow my winter adventures @joshsegovia. Happy winter!



M & S Turquoise

Wholesale to the public

(435) 628-2514

53 East St. George Blvd.

St. George, Utah 84770

FAX (435) 673-2556

E-mail: msturq@msn.com



Your locally owned
and independent
source for news,
entertainment,
and culture
throughout
southern Utah
Online at
SUindependent.com



WEDDING INVITATIONS

*Every wedding
needs amazing invites*

for a LIMITED TIME

qty 500 \$149.00

qty 1000 \$199.00

DOWNTOWN

778 S River Road | 435-674-4484

RIVER ROAD

690 W State St | 435-674-7888

HURRICANE

67 E St. George Blvd | 435-635-7642

ARROWHEAD GALLERY ETC FEATURES CHARLIE KESSNER

By Jo Ann Merrill

Arrowhead Gallery ETC's featured artist for January is Charlie Kessner. Please join him for a featured artist reception Jan. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 68 E. Tabernacle St. in St. George.

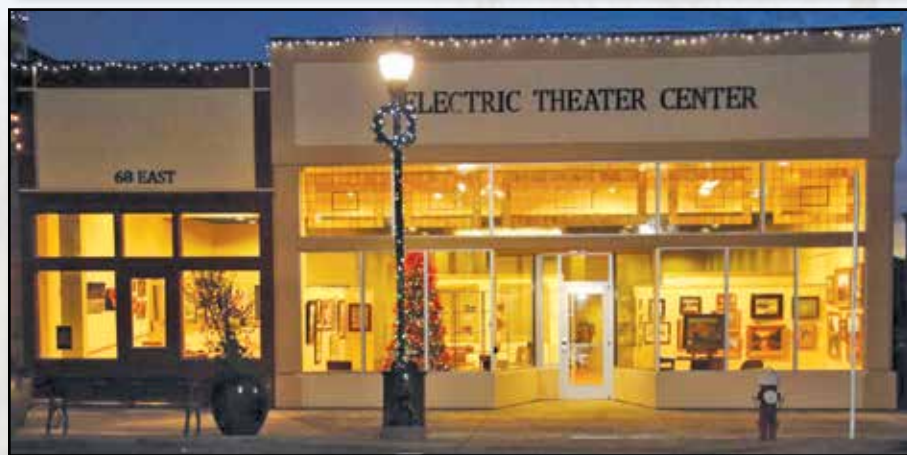
Kessner is a photographer, videographer, climber, and adventurer whose eclectic style has led him to live a life he loves. His inspiration is rooted in a childhood spent surrounded by natural beauty in the jungles and beaches of Oahu, Hawaii. Since then, he has invested his time exploring places from the landscapes of the American

Southwest and Midwest to urban hubs in Europe and to desolate wilderness in Central and South America in pursuit of documenting the natural beauty of this world through the dynamics of nature and its intersection with human play.

Kessner currently lives in St. George where his initial job as a field instructor for wilderness therapy brought him. The canyons and climbs have anchored him to the space while inspiring him to continuously explore and feed his passions.



Starfall Over The Watchman by Charlie Kessner



*"Where you and
the West intersect"*



Visitor & local information • Gift Shop • Free Tours
Phone 435-275-4993 • 97 East St. George Blvd. • St. George, UT 84770



SHOPS & BOUTIQUES
ART GALLERIES & MUSEUMS
DINING
LODGING
ACCOMODATIONS



www.arrowheadgallery-etc.com

68 E. Tabernacle • 435-628-9592 • Tues - Sat 11-6



Also, visit us at...



220 N. 200 E. • Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

www.southernutahartguild.com

ST. GEORGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

DISCOVER • IMAGINE • CREATE

discount programs

- Museums for All
- Military Discount
- Library Access Card



how to use

It's easy and affordable - just show your ETB card and a valid ID to receive FREE general admission (up to 5 people)



museums for all

Museums for All encourages families of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum habits



For more information on museum admission, discount programs, or membership packages, please visit our website: www.sgchildrensmuseum.org

Learn more about the Museums For All program at www.childrensmuseum.org

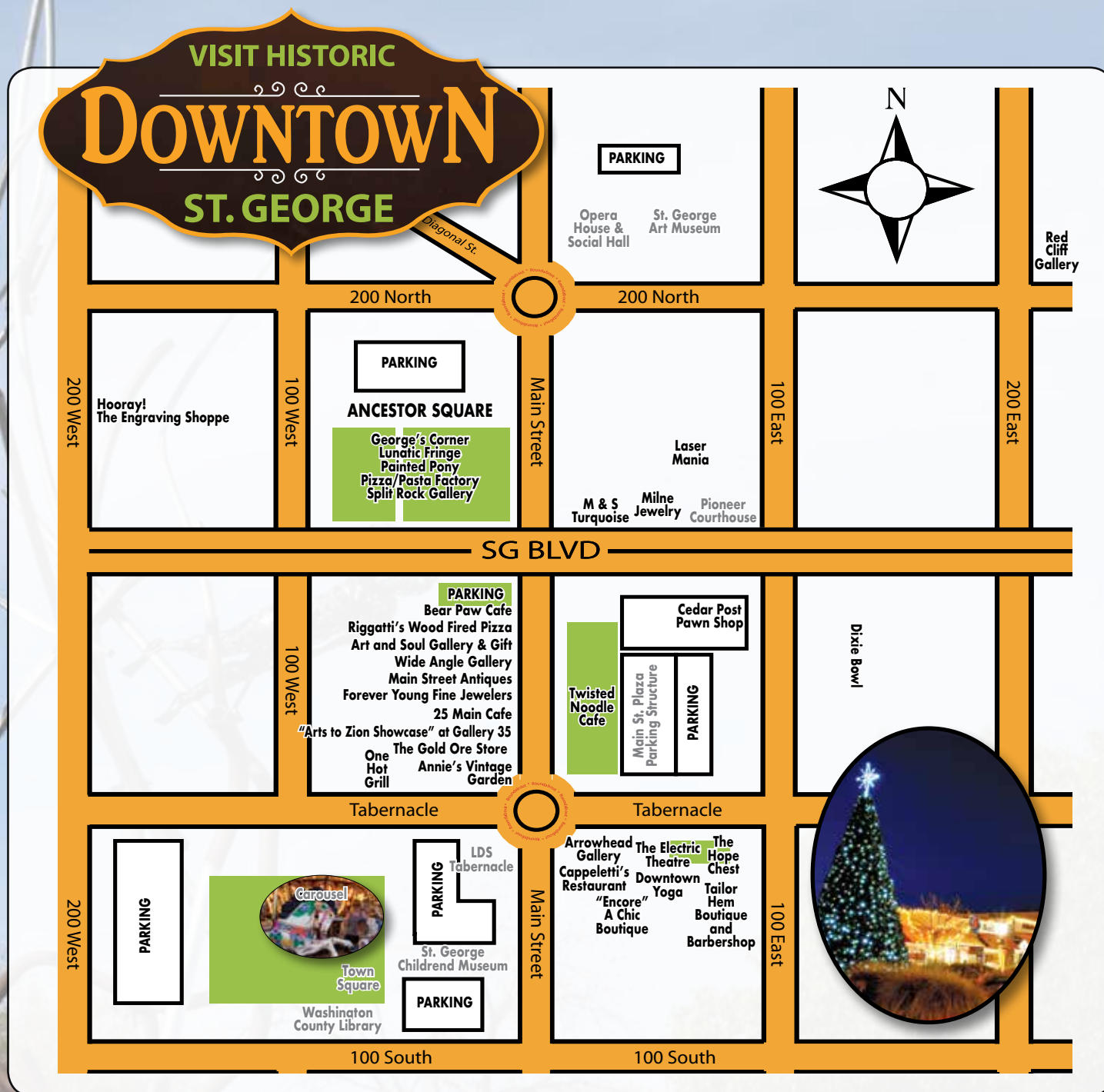
TWENTYFIVE MAIN CAFE AND CAKE PARLOR



- panini • pasta
- pizza • salads
- deli • soups
- smoothies
- coffee • espresso
- tea • cupcakes

main

25 N Main Street
(435) 628-7110
www.25main.com



- Shops and Boutiques**
- Annie's Vintage Garden
 - Bicycles Unlimited
 - Carmell's Cottage
 - Cedar Post Pawn Shop
 - Designer Furniture Gallery
 - Downtown Furniture
 - Encore 'A Chic Boutique'
 - Forever Young Fine Jewelers
 - Hope Chest
 - Jen's Furniture Rehab
 - Lunatic Fringe
 - M&S Turquoise
 - Mainstreet Antiques
 - Milne Jewelry



- Art Galleries and Museums**
- Arrowhead Gallery ETC
 - Art and Soul Gallery & Gift
 - Art Around the Corner
 - Arts to Zion Showcase
 - Authentique Gallery
 - Bedard Fine Art Gallery
 - Brigham Young Home
 - Children's Museum
 - Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum
 - DiFiore Center
 - Gallery 35
 - Main Street Gallery by Fibonacci
 - Pioneer Courthouse
 - Red Cliffs Gallery
 - Roland Lee Gallery
 - Split Rock Art & Design Gallery
 - St. George Art Museum
 - Wide Angle Gallery



Lodging/Accommodations

- Best Western Coral Hills
- Green Gate Village
- Seven Wives Inn
- Super 8
- The Inn at St. George



Restaurants

- Bear Paw Cafe
- Benja's Thai & Sushi
- Capelletti's Restaurant
- George's Corner
- Judd's Country Store
- One Hot Grill

- Painted Pony Restaurant
- Pasta Factory
- Pizza Factory
- Rigatti's Wood Fired Pizza
- Twenty-Five Main
- Twisted Noodle



EXCLUSIVE: TUNE IN EVERY SUNDAY!

Sunday Edition
FREE FROM
SUindependent.com

Featuring:

- Local Community News Opinion Pieces
- A Local Hike in southern Utah Local Features & Stories
- A Community Poll Fun New Stuff Each Week!

The Milne Jewelry Co

The name you've trusted since 1951.

43 E. St. George Blvd • 673-2552

MESQUITE MOTOR MANIA

CAR SHOW



JANUARY 18-20, 2019



Casa Blanca
RESORT-CASINO-GOLF-SPA
MESQUITE NEVADA

Virgin River
Hotel
Casino

 MESQUITEGAMING.COM • 877.438.2929 

MOVIES

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

THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE GUIDE

By Adam Mast

“Welcome to Marwen” (PG-13)
★★★



This is the second time in the last three years that the great Robert Zemeckis (“Back to the Future,” “Forrest Gump”) has set out to tell the true story of an individual whose life was covered to stronger affect in a documentary. The first time was in 2015’s “The Walk,” a recreation of Philippe Petit’s infamous tightrope walk from one twin tower to the other back in the ’70s — subject matter that was thoroughly covered in James Marsh’s exceptional 2008 doc, “Man on Wire.” This time, it’s “Welcome to Marwen,” which delves into the life of hate crime victim Mark Hogancamp — terrain that was covered in Jeff Malmberg’s insightful 2010 doc, “Marwencol.”

In “Welcome to Marwen,” Steve Carell takes on the role of Mark Hogancamp, a man whose life would be turned completely upside down after a vicious hate crime outside a bar nearly claimed his life. After suffering brain trauma, a reclusive Hogancamp would attempt to deal with his PTSD through a most therapeutic endeavor. He would go on to create a miniature World War II village in his back yard and use the meticulously crafted setting and its doll residents to cope with painful issues stemming from the attack.

Unlike the documentary, though, Zemeckis uses every magic trick in his arsenal to put viewers inside Hogancamp’s head space. In “Welcome to Marwen,” we don’t simply hear Hogancamp talk about how the creation of Marwen has helped him through the most difficult time in his life; we straight-up experience it through Zemeckis’ own take on fantasy land.

Whenever Hogancamp is struggling or on the verge of having a meltdown, he slips into the shoes of alter ego Cap’n Hoagie, a fearless soldier whose main goal is to keep Marwen safe from evil forces. But he doesn’t do it alone. He does it through the aid of a team of equally fearless women inspired by a handful of individuals Cap’n Hoagie cares most about in the real world (including Merritt Wever, Janelle Monae, Gwendoline Christie, Eiza Gonzalez, and Leslie Mann).

“Welcome to Marwen” definitely has issues, but it’s far from being the bad movie some would have you believe. This film has taken quite a beating both critically and at the box office, and while it’s certainly problematic in terms of overall execution, its brilliant technical attributes alone make it worth watching. Seriously, the visuals in this picture are astonishing. From the detailed recreation of Marwen itself to the startling fashion in which these sometimes creepy but lifelike dolls resemble their flesh-and-blood counterparts, there’s no doubt that that Zemeckis is a technical master. This legendary storyteller even finds a couple of opportunities to throw in a few weird but oddly enjoyable “Back to the Future” references along the way.

In terms of performance, Carell has proven that he isn’t just a funny guy. He has dramatic chops as well (see his work in “Foxcatcher” and “Dan in Real Life”). While he brings plenty of humanity to the table here, one can’t help but wonder what someone like Tom Hanks or the late Robin Williams might have brought to the table. Still, Carell is good here. He actually shines most when he’s sharing the screen with an undeniably likable and compassionate Wever and a luminous and charming Mann. The chemistry on both fronts works to the movie’s advantage for entirely different reasons.

“Welcome to Marwen” sometimes lacks focus and sufficient secondary character development, and the fantasy elements of the picture often tend to take away from the hard-hitting nature of this film’s more important messages — most notably acceptance, being one’s self, the power of storytelling, and the palpable struggles that affect those suffering from PTSD. Additionally, there are moments in this picture, such as a pivotal courtroom scene in which Hogancamp must face his vicious attackers, that feel like they should have packed a stronger emotional punch. Still, the performances, the technical majesty on display, and a stirring Alan Silvestri score help make up for the film’s shortcomings. Further props to a bittersweet but honest ending that provides a sense of hope as Hogancamp learns that life must go on, even when we don’t necessarily get what we want most. More importantly, though, he learns that sometimes what’s most important was always there to begin with.

“Bird Box” (R)
★★★½



The new Netflix film “Bird Box” has been on a lot of peoples’ minds as is evident by all the memes plaguing social media as of late. It’s a very polarizing movie, too, and we all have an opinion, including yours truly. For my money, this semi-post-apocalyptic thriller is strongest as an intense look at the ups and downs that come with motherhood. As a horror film, I found it a little disappointing despite strong performances and a wickedly intense first that recalls the opening of Zack Snyder’s “Dawn of the Dead” redo.

As “Bird Box” opens, we’re introduced to mom-to-be artist Malorie (Sandra Bullock). This somewhat solitary woman has quite the hardened exterior, and it’s only momentarily breached by her loving sister (an outstanding Sarah Paulson). It seems that these two have had plenty of hardships in their lives, but it’s clear that they can always depend on one another.

Following a trip to the doctor, where nerves stemming from pending motherhood get the better of her, Malorie quickly discovers that being a mom is going to get a hell of a lot harder. It seems that a strange and ominous force has arrived on Earth, and those who gaze upon it are caught in its hypnotic grasp and erratically forced to take their own lives.

Eventually, Malorie seeks refuge with a group of strangers in a barricaded house. Together, these confused and scared individuals attempt to figure out what’s going on, but more importantly how to stay alive. But what are these creatures? Aliens? Angels of death brought upon by the rapture? No one knows for sure, but it becomes completely apparent that the only way to avoid certain death is by way of a blindfold.

Right out of the gate, it should be noted that if you’re looking to be blown away by stellar creature design, Netflix’s “The Ritual” might be more your bag. “Bird Box” leaves more to the imagination.

While there are certainly hints of AMC’s “The Walking Dead” and the aforementioned “Dawn of the Dead” remake here, perhaps the three films “Bird Box” might remind you of most are “The Happening” (unseen force causes suicides), “The Mist” (strangers in a confined space fighting something they don’t understand),

and 2018 hit “A Quiet Place” (substitute keeping quiet for wearing a blindfold). Of course, familiarity is fine given solid execution. And to that end, as a horror film “Bird Box” is a bit of a mixed bag. Again, the first 15 minutes of the film are pretty intense, and director Susanne Bier’s decision to shift the action back and forth from the now to five years forward is an intriguing one.

That said, the “strangers barricaded in a contained space” scenario has been done to stronger affect in countless other movies (Romero’s “Night of the Living Dead,” just to name one), and a couple of really good actors are beyond shortchanged here — among them the wonderful Jacki Weaver, who just sort of appears and is given virtually nothing to do, and Rosa Salazar, soon to be seen in “Alita: Battle Angel,” who just sort of engages in a sudden (and obnoxious) courtship and then takes off.

Elsewhere, there’s an entertaining John Malkovich as an asshole who’s further despised because he often makes more sense than others care to admit, a heartbreaking Danielle Macdonald (“Patti Cake\$”) as a second pregnant woman looking to survive, a lively theory-spewing Lil Rel Howery (“Get Out”) who serves as the film’s comic relief, a solid BD Wong who’s asked to participate in one of the film’s more nonsensical moments, and an outstanding Trevante Rhodes (“Moonlight”) who serves as a voice of reason and compassion in a world going to hell.

Of course, Bullock is the anchor here, and she really is superb in this film. Malorie is a complex sort, a hardened woman who must figure out how to raise a child in an even more unpredictable world. She’s in full-on survival mode for most of



**CENTER FOR THE ARTS
AT KAYENTA**

JANUARY 23–26, 7 PM & 2 PM SAT.

Jake’s WOMEN

A clever, witty comedy about a writer losing his love and his marbles!
Mature language.



**FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION VISIT
KAYENTAARTS.COM**

BOX OFFICE: (435) 674-2787

881 COYOTE GULCH CT., IVINS, UT 84738

MOVIES

the film and not at all out to coddle those she's looking after. It's all about protection and preservation. Of course, there's the exhaustion, confusion, sadness, anger, and even a glimmer of warmth, and Bullock plays all these emotions beautifully. From the seasoned "The Blind Side" star in this picture to Charlize Theron's outstanding turn in the underappreciated "Tully," the perils and pitfalls that come with motherhood have been well represented in 2018.

Some of the more silly stuff in "Bird Box," including Wong's fate and a ridiculous car ride to a local supermarket, offset the fear factor. Furthermore, the film's more predictable moments, including a new stranger looking to join the group, would have been best left on the cutting room floor despite a pretty good turn by Tom Hollander. Still, this immensely popular thriller has a lot going for it, most notably a superb Bullock as one intense mama bear.

"The Mule" (R) ★★★★

At nearly 90 years old, the legendary Clint Eastwood is still making movies! Good ones, at that! With his latest film, "The Mule," we're treated to a twofer as the man with no name not only directed this picture but stars in it as well. And no matter how you might feel about Eastwood's politics, this seasoned veteran remains one hell of a storyteller. His body of work is so

impressive, in fact, that it would be a crime to simply dismiss him as "That crazy old dude who once had a conversation with an empty chair." After all, we're talking about the man who gave us "Dirty Harry" and "Unforgiven."

In "The Mule," Eastwood is Earl Stone, a no-nonsense but playful Korean war veteran who's saddled with a lifetime of regret. He has an ex-wife (played by veteran Diane Wiest) who can't stand him and a daughter (Alison Eastwood) who's equally dismissive, but despite all the family dysfunction, Earl is hoping he can make things right in his golden years. The thing is, this man has a misguided idea of what the concept "making things right" actually means.

In an effort to prove his worth to a family that barely wants to speak to him, save for a loving granddaughter (Taissa Farmiga) who always appears to give grandpa the benefit of the doubt, this somewhat delusional old timer opts to become a drug mule for a Mexican drug cartel in an effort to buy his family's love ... and a badass new truck! Crazier still, Earl's laid-back demeanor and "I'm going to say what's on my mind" sensibility make him the perfect man for the job. He becomes so good as a transport driver and is so seemingly oblivious to the actual danger



he's in that the various members of the cartel who he encounters along the way don't always know how to react to him.

Admittedly, "The Mule" took me by surprise, because while it is a slow burn, it isn't the tension-filled movie the trailer would have you believe. In fact, there's more laughs in this picture than there is tension. Most of those laughs come in the form of Earl's "I don't give a shit" attitude, but it's that very attitude, for better or worse (mostly worse), that make him good at what he does. Even a high-ranking cartel kingpin (wonderfully played by the great Andy Garcia) takes notice of it and recognizes that perhaps even his own deadly men could possibly learn a thing or two from the way a carefree Earl carries himself.

Eastwood is really good in this picture, and if he chose to end his career with this performance, it would be a stronger showing than Robert Redford's much talked-about swan song, "The Old Man and the Gun," although it should be noted that I liked that film, too. What's interesting to note here is that Eastwood sort of serves as both the protagonist and the antagonist. True to form, this legendary performer is hell bent on taking a non-PC approach in a very PC world, and that's sure to ruffle feathers. Look no further than a scene in which Earl crosses paths with a lesbian biker crew and another in which, while on a drug run, he pulls over to help a black couple change a tire on the side of the freeway. In both scenes Earl uses words that could be best described as derogatory in nature. The thing is, though, "The Mule" is pretty unapologetic in its approach with such moments. Furthermore, this film isn't necessarily condoning or condemning Stone's behavior in any way. It's simply presenting this man the way he is. And rest assured that this undeniably flawed character does answer for the majority of his sins.

Per usual, Eastwood is impeccable when it comes to casting. In addition to fine work from the likes of Garcia, Wiest, Cooper, Farmiga, and Ignacio Serricchio, "The Mule" is peppered with wonderful character actors including Michael Pena, Laurence Fishburne, and Clifton James Jr.

As for Eastwood the director, he's still got it, most notably during the character beats. The strained but growing bond between Earl and a stern cartel drug enforcer (Serricchio) is among the film's most interesting. Likewise, an exchange between Earl and the federal agent (Bradley Cooper) assigned to bring him to justice could have come across as silly, but as played, it's pretty darn poignant. Equally effective are the heartbreaking moments between Earl and his ex-wife, Mary.

"The Mule" doesn't necessarily showcase Eastwood at his very best. There are missteps along the way: occasional melodramatic overload, out-of-place laughs, an uncomfortable scene involving Earl and a pair of prostitutes, etc. But at the very least, this movie represents a storytelling icon who even in his late 80s clearly still has some gas left in the tank.

"Bumblebee" (PG-13) ★★★★

After watching the affectionate adventure film that is "Bumblebee," it's clear that the only thing director Travis Knight likes more than Transformers is the '80s! In addition to more obvious winks at movies such as "The Breakfast Club," "Bumblebee" plays like an Amblin greatest

hits package, and as I'm a huge fan of that studio during that particular decade (see "Batteries Not Included," "Harry and the Hendersons," "The Goonies," "Back to the Future," etc.), I was an easy sell.

Knight, a meticulous artist who cut his teeth on animated features for LAIKA, also has a bit of fun with an '80s-centric soundtrack paying homage to the The Smiths, Simple Minds, Steve Winwood, and Rick Astley, just to name a precious few.

What's also easy to warm up to here is that after over a decade of Bayhem-infused "Transformers" carnage, someone finally made a "Transformers" movie that feels like it's more in touch with its target audience. Translation: No pimp-bots, no half-naked girls straddling motorcycles, and no Decepticons teabagging John Turturro.

Not that those things don't have a place. They simply don't feel at home in a "Transformers" movie. With the 1987-set "Transformers" prequel "Bumblebee," Knight and crew opt to pull at the heartstrings a bit with this "E.T."-like tale of 18-year-old Charlie (Hailee Steinfeld) and her bond with a beguiling Transformer masquerading as a VW bug. With Decepticons and a bitter military man (John Cena) hot on his trail, though, Bumblebee will have his work cut out for him. Thankfully, he has a selfless human friend in lovable Charlie to look out for him. And Charlie, in turn, has secret crush Memo (played by Jorge Lendeborg Jr.) looking out for her. Together, this trio will do their best to keep each other safe all while setting out to protect the planet from a most villainous foe.

Make no mistakes. Knight doesn't completely ditch the explosion-heavy bravado of Bay's less eloquent installments in this franchise. He simply opts to complement those explosions with a lot more heart. Furthermore, the geography at the center of his set pieces prove to be considerably more accomplished. Be it an epic battle on Cybertron, which has a bit of a "T2" future war ring to it, or a handful of robo-brawls on Earth, the action here is a welcome change of pace in that we can actually see and feel what the hell is going on.

Adding to the heart and innocence of it all is an immensely appealing Steinfeld as an awkward, fatherless teen trying to find her place in the world. In the hands of a lesser actress, her Iron Giant-like rapport with Bumblebee might have fallen flat, but Steinfeld makes us believe by way of a performance brimming with emotion and undeniable likability.

Is "Bumblebee" perfect? No. A dependable John Cena isn't given a heck of a lot to do, and his arc is a bit obvious. The mean girls in Charlie's life are stock and one-note, and the film offers up a fair share of cheesy moments. But no matter, because again, the core Charlie/Bumblebee bond, the skillfully executed action sequences, the fitting '80s vibe, and the overall adorable (and playful) nature of the proceedings make this smaller scale "Transformers" movie the highlight of the franchise. More importantly, though, you can take your kids to this one and not feel embarrassed about it.



Beautyrest **Visco** **Serta** **ENGLANDER** **Gel Hybrid** **icomfort**
Memory Foam Sleep System by Serta

SLEEP CHEAP! **DISCOUNT MATTRESS STORE**
"We Beat Anyone's Prices, Guaranteed!"

SUPER VALUES!

QUEEN PILLOW-TOP MATTRESS SETS \$199!

SENIOR DISCOUNTS

HEAVY-DUTY TWIN MATTRESSES \$99!

Orthopedic Luxury Firm Pillowtop

QUEEN SET \$199
TWIN SET\$149
FULL SET.....\$179
KING SET.....\$299

Beautyrest Alpine Valley Plush

QUEEN SET \$399
TWIN SET.....\$349
FULL SET.....\$379
KING SET.....\$599

Bring in this ad for a FREE PILLOW with purchase of a new mattress!

Orthopedic Plush

QUEEN SET \$299
TWIN SET\$219
FULL SET.....\$249
KING SET.....\$399

Serta Shooting Star FIRM with Gel Memory Foam

QUEEN SET \$499
TWIN SET.....\$399
FULL SET.....\$479
KING SET.....\$699

CLEARANCE SALE!
Twin **GEL** Memory Foam Mattress only **\$149**
Full **GEL** Memory Foam Mattress only **\$189**
While supplies last!

Largest In-Stock Selection of Mattresses GUARANTEED!

435-256-6440
969 N. 3050 E. St. George • North of Costco
www.DiscountMattressStore.net

Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

MOVIES

"Aquaman" (PG-13)

★★★½

Born of both the land and sea, "Aquaman" is a somewhat polarizing superhero property thanks in part to the depiction of the character in those old-school "Superfriends" cartoons and at the hands of constant ribbing in HBO's "Entourage." Of course, the powers that be were probably wise to cast bigger-than-life alpha male Jason Momoa in the role, because at the very least, his over-the-top, charismatic, and altogether loose take on the character keep this movie from drowning in a sea of self importance. "Aquaman" has no interest in being serious, but at the same time, it has more upstairs than Marvel's equally goofy but inferior misfire, "Venom."

As "Aquaman" opens, we learn of this hero's origin as his alter ego Arthur Curry is born of a forbidden love between woman of the sea Atlanna (Nicole Kidman) and man of the Earth Tom Curry (Temuera Morrison). As Arthur grows into adulthood, he is essentially stuck between two worlds but opts to live the majority of his life as a mainlander. Of course, he gains a little notoriety thanks to his part in a handful of seabound heroics as well as having had a hand in helping save the world in a very subpar "Justice League" movie.

When contention arises between him and his estranged Atlantis-dwelling brother, King Orm (Patrick Wilson), a reluctant Arthur joins forces with water-warrior Mera (Amber Heard) in an undersea adventure that will find him fighting for both mankind and a crown that he isn't altogether interested in wearing.



"Aquaman" was directed by James Wan, and you have to give the lively "Conjuring" director this: He's got energy to spare! "Aquaman" is a massive, campy, comic-booky epic that refuses to take itself too seriously. It has a flavor more akin to the '80s take on "Flash Gordon" than it does something like the more serious masterwork that is "The Dark Knight." It also has a few elements that are reminiscent of "Tron: Legacy" and George Lucas' "Star Wars" prequels. Not that any of this is necessarily meant to be taken as a negative. The dopey theatrics and offbeat nature of "Aquaman" actually complement the colorful world Wan has created here. Furthermore, you'll see every cent of the budget right there on the screen, particularly if you go to see this film in the IMAX format.

But for all its visual bravado (some of the effects are good and some not so good) and skillfully executed set pieces (none more exciting than a high-octane rooftop chase), there are times when the cheesy dialogue and Momoa's alpha male surfer-dude demeanor do wear thin. Furthermore, despite her beauty and sense of humor,

Amber Heard is a bit of a blank, and the fact that her warrior and Momoa's reluctant hero fail to generate chemistry doesn't help matters. Even a silly European courtship sequence fails at attempting to showcase sparks that aren't really there.

From a story standpoint, "Aquaman" throws in everything but the kitchen sink. Again, this movie is loose and fun, but there are things that simply don't work, high among them an undercooked subplot involving Black Manta sporting a costume resembling that creepy robot in "Rocky IV," which is ironic given that "Aquaman" also co-stars Ivan Drago himself. To call this plot thread secondary would be a gross understatement. Clearly, this character has been groomed to have a more pivotal role in future "Aquaman" adventures, but he's virtually wasted in this picture. The primary conflict here is the Shakespearean contention between estranged brothers — and truth be told, that was a wise choice.

Also lacking in "Aquaman" is any sort of real drama with the notable exception of Nicole Kidman, who brings a level of class and emotional weight that the rest of the movie isn't really interested in. Kidman has a couple of moments with both Morrison and Momoa that bristle with a surprising amount of heart.

Beyond Momoa, Heard, Wilson, Morrison, and Kidman, "Aquaman" is peppered with a supporting cast that includes mentor Willem Dafoe, king Dolph Lundgren, and villainous Yahya Abdul-Mateen II.

From a technical standpoint, there's plenty of production value to speak of in "Aquaman" including wonderfully colorful costume design and a barrage of eye-popping effects that are best when used to showcase the kind of spectacular underwater landscapes that would make the makers of "Finding Nemo" and "The Abyss" proud. So with all the money spent on this picture, it's incredibly disappointing that very little was spent to make characters sound cool when they're talking underwater. Instead, everyone sounds like they were ADR'd in someone's garage. Likewise, the score by Rupert Gregson-Williams (clearly no relation to John) is a crushing disappointment, failing to give "Aquaman" a properly rousing theme.

"Aquaman" is mixed bag, overall. Yes, it's stronger than "Batman v Superman," "Justice League," and "Suicide Squad," but even with its numerous flaws, "Wonder Woman" emerges as a stronger film. Yes, "Aquaman" has a much welcome (and goofy) sense of humor. Yes, it's batshit insane. And yes, it moves at a brisk pace. But the fact remains that there isn't a performance in this picture that measures up to Gal Gadot's, and there isn't a single sequence here that's as rousing as Wonder Woman's charge on the World War II battlefield. Still, you could do much worse than the bombastic underwater spectacle that is "Aquaman." There's little doubt that DC and Warner Brothers have taken a step in the right direction with this silly, over-the-top comic book come to life.

"Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse"
(PG)

★★★★½

Sam Raimi's "Spider-Man 2" is not only the best "Spider-Man" movie ever produced but it's also the third best superhero movie ever made (behind Richard Donner's "Superman" and Christopher Nolan's "The Dark Knight," respectively). So it's actually saying a lot that the creative, exhilarating,

Beaver Dam Station & Bar

INVITES YOU TO COME PLAY

Relax, Recover & Restore!

Save up to **\$10**

when you combine a massage with any of our **spa treatments**

Steam bath, salt scrub, body wrap, & more!

BOOK ONLINE at

www.healingmountain.edu

Gift Certificates Available Online

297 N. Cove Dr, Cedar City, UT 84720

Massage & Bodywork 50 min.

★ **Student Practitioner \$30**

Advanced Student **\$35**

Licensed Massage Therapist **\$40**

435-586-8222

Mon-Thur 9-5 pm

Fri-Sat 10-6 pm

Sunday 1-5 pm



HEALING MOUNTAIN MASSAGE SCHOOL®



Next Program Begins **January 14, 2019**, Schedule your tour today!



Crystal Merkabas - Beautiful tools for meditation

- Rare Crystals from around the world
- Essential oils, Gem Stones & Sage
- **Affordable** Crystal Necklaces, Earrings, Bracelets, Vegan Soaps, Gifts & More

435-586-8222

297 North Cove Dr, Cedar City, UT 84720

healingmountaincrystals.com

MOVIES

high-energy effort that is “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” stands as the second-best big-screen “Spider-Man” effort to date. Where this vibrant film fits on the list of all-time great superhero movies has yet to be decided — it’s too early to place it. But I’ll say this: For my money, “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” is the strongest animated feature of 2018.



This appropriately zany but breathtaking homage to nearly every incarnation of Spider-Man you’ve ever heard of follows teenager Miles Morales (voiced by Shameik Moore), a typically awkward teen who finds his body changing after being bitten by a radioactive spider. You’re probably thinking to yourself that you’ve heard this story before, but trust me when I tell you that you’d only be partially correct, for the city at the heart of the world that “Into the Spider-Verse” paints a portrait of is only one of many realities that each include their own unique versions of the famed webslinger.

When the villainous Wilson Fisk, aka Kingpin (voiced by Liev Schreiber), hatches a sinister plan that puts the entire city in danger, multiple Spidey-types ultimately find themselves transported to Morales’ reality, including a considerably older and not necessarily wiser Peter Parker (voiced by Jake Johnson) who ultimately serves as a mentor to a teenager dealing with powers he doesn’t entirely understand. Eventually, Parker and Morales must join forces with their fellow webslingers in an effort to save the city and get back to their respective realities. And this synopsis barely scratches the surface, because there’s a hell of a lot going on in this wildly creative and appropriately meta Marvel movie.

“Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” was shepherded by Chris Miller and Phil Lord, the dynamic duo behind the big-screen adaptation of “21 Jump Street” and “The Lego Movie,” and they bring the same sort of loose, high-energy sensibility that they bring to most of their projects.

The animation in this picture is breathtaking. But more importantly, it’s fresh and unique. While I greatly enjoyed “The Incredibles 2,” “Ralph Breaks the Internet,” and “The Grinch,” among others, the style here offers something completely different, comparatively speaking. “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” pops, even if you choose to see it in 2D. What’s more, this film occasionally takes on the individual styles of its various central webslinging characters, making “Into the Spider-Verse” even more ambitious.

Beyond that, the cast is terrific. Moore is super appealing as a teen making that transition to manhood while Johnson is both a smart-ass and vulnerable in equal measure as Morales’ reluctant teacher. And

as expected, both characters learn a great deal from one another, making this zany journey even more appealing.

The supporting cast includes the likes of Steinfeld, Schreiber, Lily Tomlin, Luna Lauren Velez, Zoe Kravitz, John Mulaney, Nicolas Cage, Chris Pine, Kimiko Glenn, Kathryn Hahn, and Lake Bell. Each player brings something wonderful to the table, most notably Brian Tyree Henry as Morales’ loving and hardworking father and Mahershala Ali as Morales’ sensitive but underachieving uncle.

Plenty of trope subversion goes along with big-time surprises, winks, and a gloriously meta vibe that’s as clever as it is smile inducing — watch for a wonderful cameo by the late Stan Lee and an outstanding post-credits stinger that serves as pitch-perfect throwback to Spider-Man of old. Thing is, there’s plenty of heart to go along with all the cheeky stuff, and further still, the noble message that we all have the potential to be heroes with or without masks is an inspirational one indeed.

Last year, “The Lego Batman Movie” emerged as both my favorite animated feature and my favorite superhero film of the year. So it’s pretty amazing that I could say the same about “Into the Spider-Verse” this year. Yes, it’s chaotic and moves from one moment to the next seldom giving viewers a chance to breathe. But rest assured that there is a method to the madness. Furthermore, it isn’t afraid to simply be a cartoon. “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” is a joyful bundle of energy and sits alongside 2018’s best films.

“Ralph Breaks the Internet” (PG)

★★★★

“Creed II” wasn’t the only heavy-hitting sequel to open up over the Thanksgiving break. Ralph, as in “Wreck-It Ralph,” also made his highly anticipated return to the big screen, and while his latest adventure lacks the overall charm of its predecessor, there’s still plenty of fun to be had here.

In the years that have passed since the first film, Ralph (voiced by John C. Reilly) and Vanellope (voiced by Sarah Silverman) have become the best of pals. In fact, they’re downright inseparable. The plot is set into motion when Ralph, out to give Vanellope the grandest of adventures, finds himself the accidental cause of damage to “Sugar Rush,” the game that his best friend calls home. In an effort to repair the old-school arcade relic, Ralph and Vanellope travel to the technological Mecca that is the internet for their very first time in a valiant effort to find an all important broken piece that will restore “Sugar Rush” to its former glory. If they are unsuccessful in their quest, Vanellope and the many characters who reside in that game will find themselves homeless.

Props to the makers of “Ralph Breaks the Internet” for not simply rehashing the first picture. It’s certainly more chaotic and less concise than its predecessor, but it benefits from wonderful animation, great energy, moments of unexpected seriousness, an offbeat sense of humor, and colorful vocal work.

Reilly and Silverman have spvot-on chemistry in this picture, and that would probably explain why the storytellers behind this follow-up chose to make the focal point of the proceedings their unwavering bond. Yes, “Ralph Breaks the Internet” offers up Internet gags galore, pop cultural references (mostly of the Disney variety), and a couple of obligatory callbacks to “Wreck-It Ralph.” But even while our fearless heroes are on

their journey to save “Sugar Rush,” the main thrust of the plot finds Ralph having to deal with the very idea that his best friend would rather stay in this new place rather than return to her home, even if it means no longer hanging out with her best friend. In fact, Ralph is so insecure and terrified at the thought of being alone that he makes a few decisions that threaten the very livelihood of the Internet itself. This leads to a final act that is as epic as it is poignant.

Along the way, “Ralph Breaks the Internet” takes an opportunity to suggest that, for all its importance in the modern world, the Internet certainly has its downside. This film even goes so far as to give a glimpse at the negative effects of cyberbullying. Yes, there are certainly surprisingly heady themes in this film, themes I actually wish “Ralph Breaks the Internet” would have delved in to even further. But the fact that such contemporary issues are addressed at all is a pretty bold, and welcome, move.



Again, “Ralph Breaks the Internet” isn’t quite as consistently charming (or funny) as its predecessor, and it’s not quite as exhilarating as Steven Spielberg’s big-screen adaptation of the similarly themed “Ready Player One.” But there are still plenty of moments that make this colorful movie worth seeing in the theater. Be it Vanellope’s righteously hilarious run-in with a handful of iconic Disney princesses, the sight of Ralph facing his own insecurities head-on, a post-credits stinger for the ages (particularly if you’re looking forward to next year’s “Frozen 2”), and an undeniably clever Vanellope-headlined musical number, this “Wreck-It Ralph” follow-up is sure to make you smile while reminding you that the Internet can be both a blessing and a curse.



MASSAGE, YOGA, & FINE ART



Photo by Molly Wald

Call to book your appointment today:
435-644-8942 office, 435-899-9436 cell
67 West 200 South • Kanab, UT. 84741



Or request an appointment on Yelp.



STAY UP TO DATE ON
ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, EVENTS,
THEATER, MUSIC, RECREATION,
DINING, LOCAL NEWS
AND MORE AT
SUIINDEPENDENT.COM
UPDATED DAILY!

THE INDEPENDENT
— A voice for Utah —





M E S Q U I T E , N E V A D A

MUSIC FEST 2019

THREE DAYS OF GREAT CONCERTS

MARK PRESTON FEB 4TH
FORMER LETTERMAN AND THREE-TIME GRAMMY NOMINEE

LADIES OF SOUL FEB 5TH
CELEBRATING NANCY, DIONNE, WHITNEY AND ARETHA!

THE EVERLY BROTHERS EXPERIENCE FEB 6TH
FEATURING THE ZMED BROTHERS WITH THEIR BAND "THE BIRD DOGS"

Doors 6:30pm • Show 7:30pm

startickets
Call 800.585.3737

Tickets can also be Purchased at
the CasaBlanca Front Desk
Live entertainment tax included

TICKET INFORMATION
Advanced GA: \$25
Day of Show GA: \$27
Advance VIP: \$30
Day of Show VIP: \$32
Mutli-Show Packages Available

CasaBlanca
SHOWROOM

CasaBlancaResort.com • 877-438-2929

CALENDAR

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.

JOHN WHITWORTH PHOTOGRAPHY 10 a.m. Whitworth is drawn to capture landscape and wildlife images with his camera. Canyon Community Center, 126 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

ULTIMATE OUTDOOR RECREATION EXPO Jan. 4-5, Noon. Featuring archer: "Frank Addington, the aspirin buster," ninja warrior course, kids' fishing pond, paddle board and kayak testing pool, plus boats, RV's, trailers, preparedness products, etc. Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr., St. George.

24/7 DAD Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, and Feb. 6, Noon. Free five-session course for fathers and father figures filled with activities to increase your capacity in caring for yourself, your children, and your relationships. Must be 18 or older to attend. First session is required for enrollment and incentive eligibility. If you would like to attend the first session but are unable to attend the first session, email ruben.garcia@usu.edu. Switchpoint Community Resource Center, 948 N 1300 W, St. George.

SENIOR CITIZEN AND CAREGIVER EXPERIENCE Jan. 11-12, 8 a.m. Free screenings and activities. Dixie Convention Center, 1835 S. Convention Center Dr., St. George.

ST. GEORGE SENIOR LIVING EXPO Jan. 11-12, 8 a.m. Pickleball, free health screenings, movie corner, bingo, and more. Dixie Convention Center, 1835 S. Convention Center Dr., St. George.

ARTS TO ZION TOUR Jan. 17-18, 10 a.m. 35 N. Main St., St. George.

MESQUITE MOTOR MANIA Jan. 18-20, 8 a.m. Free. Vintage cars, new cars, custom automobiles, beloved classics, \$15,000 in cash and drawings to car show participants. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

FESTIVAL DEL SOL 2019 Jan. 19-21, 9 a.m. Mountain bike festival that focuses on trails in St. George. All rides will meet at Red Rock Bicycle Co., 446 W 100 S, St. George.

MESQUITE BALLOON FESTIVAL Jan. 25-27, 7:30 a.m. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

CHASE & THE PURSUIT AT CASABLANCA Jan. 4-6, 7 p.m. Showtimes may vary. Rock, top 40, dance, and country variety band. Skydome Lounge. Free admission, must be 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

CJ SIMMONS AT RIVER LOUNGE Jan. 4-6, 7 p.m. Showtimes may vary. Country classics, new country, and originals. Free admission. Must be 21 or older. 100 Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite.

TERRY WAYNE PROJECT AT CASABLANCA Jan. 16-20, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. R&B, funk, dance, oldies, and classic rock. Free admission. 21 or older. Skydome Lounge, 950 West Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite.

JAMIT AT CASABLANCA Jan. 9-13, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. Classic and modern rock, R&B, pop, country, and more. Free admission. Must be 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

VOODOO COWBOYS AT VIRGIN RIVER HOTEL Jan. 9-13, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. Playing country and rock and roll. Free. 21 or older. 100 Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite.

THE RIDE AT RIVER LOUNGE Jan. 16-20, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. Classic rock and more. 100 Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite.

GREGG PETERSON BAND AT CASABLANCA Jan. 23-27, 8 p.m. showtimes may vary. Variety and dance band. Free. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

MOST WANTED AT VIRGIN RIVER LOUNGE Jan. 23-27, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. Playing classic rock, disco, oldies, country, and everything in between. Free. 21 or older. 100 Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite.

KID & NICK SHOW AT CASABLANCA Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. A fun, high-energy, interactive variety musical group. Free admission. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

PSYCHOBILLY AT VIRGIN RIVER HOTEL Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 7 p.m. showtimes may vary. Cover band playing a variety of dance music from country to classic rock. Free. Must be 21 or older. 100 Pioneer Blvd., Mesquite.

IN BLOOM SOLO GALLERY SHOW Feb. 1-2, 10 a.m. Featuring Utah artist Gabe. The DiFiore Center, 307 N. Main St., St. George.

NEW HORIZONS BAND FOR SENIOR ADULTS Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1 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.

NEW HORIZONS STRINGS FOR SENIOR ADULTS Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3 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.

JERRY ANDERSON'S PRIVATE STUDIO Nov. 23, and 24, 10 a.m. Washington Co. artist/sculptor Jerry Anderson's studio will be open. Silver Reef Ghost Town, 1903 Wells Fargo Rd., St. George.

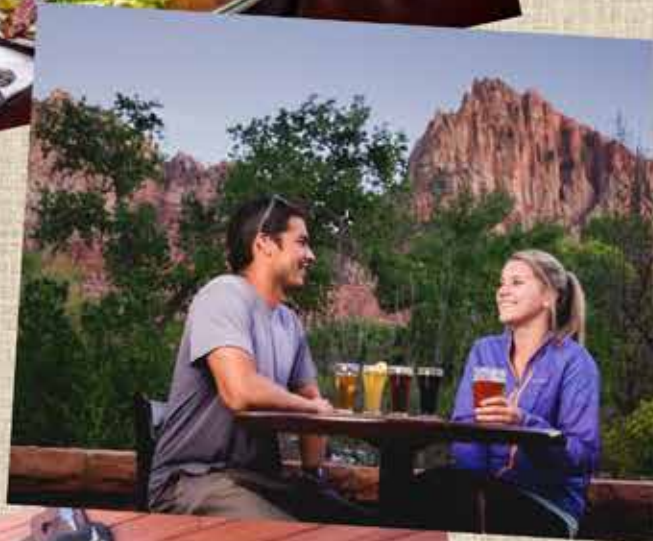
LIVING HISTORY AT SILVER REEF GHOST TOWN Fourth weekend of everymonth. 10 a.m. Silver Reef Museum, 1903 Wells Fargo Rd., Leeds.

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 Rd., Kanab.

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



January Live Music

All Shows 6-9 pm, No Cover

1/5 – Wirelefant

1/12 – Mike & Elaine

1/19 – Buena Onda

1/26 – Tom Bennett

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

CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Events by Day

SUNDAYS

SOUTHERN UTAH MORMON TRANSITION/SUPPORT GROUP 1-2:30 p.m. Held Sundays from 1 to 2:30 p.m., this weekly support group is for individuals questioning their Mormon faith and looking to join like-minded people in open discussion on navigating a faith transition. The group meets in at the north end of the building by the pharmacy in the community room at Smith's, located at 565 S. Mall Dr. in St. George.

MONDAYS

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.

PRECISION HEARING AND MEMORY MATTERS MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE 1 p.m. The Precision Hearing Monday Matinee series is a new, free community event that is bringing back the classics featuring memorable film favorites from the 1950's and 60's. The Electric Theater, 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

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.

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.

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 saintgeorgedance.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.

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. Designed to aid the person with memory loss and their primary care partners and includes presentations on legal and financial preparation, pharmaceutical and alternative remedies, brain health, and nutrition. Falls Event Center, 170 S. Mall Dr., St. George.

STORY TIME WASHINGTON BRANCH 11 a.m. Washington County Library System, 220 N. 300 E., Washington.

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.

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.

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

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

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

WEDNESDAYS

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.

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.

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.

THURSDAYS

TODDLER TIME Thursday's and Friday's, 11 a.m. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

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.

DESERT COMMUNITY STRINGS 6:30 p.m. Open to all ages and abilities. If you used to play a stringed instrument and would like to get back to the joy of music, this group is definitely for you. desertstrings.org St. George Medical Building, 736 S 900 E, St. George.

TOM RUSSELL

Singer, songwriter, painter, essayist

Country Folk Americana Performance

Friday, February 8, 2019, 7 pm

Canyon Community Center
126 Lion Blvd.
Springdale, Utah
\$15/non-members,
\$10/Z-Arts members
Tickets & more info at:
www.ZArts.org

Saturday, February 9, 2019, 7 pm

Center for the Arts at Kayenta
881 Coyote Gulch
Ivins, Utah
\$30
Tickets & more info at:
www.kayentaarts.com

www.tomrussell.com








CALENDAR

THURSDAYS

JOYFUL YOGA 6:30 p.m. Kundalini Yoga as taught by Yogi Bhajan. Free, donations accepted. Sage Hills Healing Center, 6232 W. Sage Hills Dr., Cedar City.

INDUSTRY 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.

KARAOKE WITH DJ JANELLE AT MIKES TAVERN 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

FRIDAYS

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

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 vistor-center@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.

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.

SUP YOGA AT QUAIL 10 a.m. Join Michelle Ennis and DIG Paddlesports UP Yoga Friday mornings. Experience the Bliss of Yoga on the water while laughing, getting wet, and having a great time. Whether you are an experienced yogi or you just want to try something new, challenging, and fun, this class is for everyone. Feel at ease while you are guided to move and balance. Taught by a certified Stand Up Paddle Yoga instructor in a safe and supportive environment. Classes are 90 minutes and include SUP instruction, warm up, flow, playtime, and savasana on the water. Quail Creek State Park, 472 N. 5300 W., Hurricane.

TODDLER TIME Thursday's and Friday's, 11 a.m. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

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.

LIVE MUSIC AT PEEKABOO WOOD FIRED KITCHEN 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

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

DJ JANELLE AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 p.m. 21 and over, 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

SATURDAYS

LIVE MUSIC AT ZION CANYON BREW PUB 4–7 p.m. Free. Zion Canyon Brew Pub, 95 Zion Park Blvd., Springdale.

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., Ivins.

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. Full-body energetic healing. Admission is free. No experience needed. Tai Chi Dragon Qigong is good for all ages and all levels of health and mobility. Santa Clara Library, 1099 N. Lava Flow Dr., Santa Clara.

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

KANAB OUTDOOR MARKET 4 p.m. Local crafts, produce, live entertainment, and more. Comfort Suites, 150 W. Center St., Kanab.

Events by Date

Fri, Jan 4

LEO KRİKORIAN EXHIBIT 9 a.m. Krikorian was one of America's great painters and photographers. DSU, 225 S 700 E, St. George.

HEALTHFIX GLOBAL SOFT LAUNCH 5 p.m. Try products and learn steps to financial freedom. Dixie Convention Center, 1835 S. Convention Center Dr., St. George.

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.

JOE KELLY DUNN AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. 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.

Sat, Jan 5

ADDICTS COMEDY TOUR PRESENTS ANDY GOLD 8 p.m. A prolific writer, Gold shares colorful jokes about life, dating, jail, rehab, family, and recovery. Hilton Garden Inn, 1731 S. Convention Center Drive, St. George.

DAVE COMPTON AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA AT CASABLANCA 8:30 p.m. Selections from Puccini, Verdi, Donizetti, Mozart, Rodger & Hammerstein, Webber, Queen, and ABBA will be highlighted. Concert artists include international opera singers and Las Vegas Strip performers. Purchase by phone at (800) 585-3737. Must be 21 or older to attend. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Tues, Jan 8

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

Wed, Jan 9

PARENTING THE LOVE AND LOGIC WAY 9 a.m. Free class teaches parents how to raise responsible kids and enjoy parenting. Must be 18 or older to attend. m.bristol@usu.edu. Department of Workforce Services, 162 N 400 E, St. George.

MARRIAGE MADE EASY 3 p.m. In this Livecast, enjoy the first 3 of 20 topics that will allow you to listen more fully to your partner, see him for who he truly is, and illuminate and heal from your past with him. Chez Debi, 415 N. State St., Hurricane.

COMEDY NIGHT AT THE FALLS 7 p.m. Featuring comedian Tobe Hixx. 170 S. Mall Dr., St. George.

MERRILL CAMPBELL AT GEORGE'S CORNER 7 p.m. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Thurs, Jan 10

CANYON VIEW HIGH BROADWAY REVUE 6 p.m. 166 W 1925 N, Cedar City.

Fri, Jan 11

ENTERPRISE ELEMENTARY TALENT SHOW 4 p.m. Enterprise High School, 565 S 200 E St., Enterprise.

SAFETY ORANGE AT TOADZ 9 p.m. Beach rock/reggae. 432 N 100 W, Cedar City.

Sat, Jan 12

SOUTHERN UTAH WEDDING SHOWCASE 10 a.m. Wedding Show. Dixie Center, 1835 Convention Center Dr, St. George.

FREE MOVIE NIGHT 7 p.m. Crescent Moon Theater, 150 S 100 E, Kanab.

SECOND SATURDAY SWING DANCE 7:30 p.m. Swing Dance lesson followed by two hours of swing dance music. DSU, Whitehead Education Building, 865 E. 100 S., St. George.

JORDAN YOUNG AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Jordan Young is a blues musician from SLC. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Tues, Jan 15

NEIL BERG'S 101 YEARS OF BROADWAY 7:30 p.m. Recreates the biggest moments from Broadway shows such as "The Phantom of the Opera," "Les Miserables," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Jekyll and Hyde," and "Wicked." Cox Performing Arts Center, 325 S 700 E, St. George.

Wed, Jan 16

LAWRENCE RASMUS AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Thurs, Jan 17

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

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

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

The St. George Arts Commission invites you to the Tenth Annual

SWEETHEART Swing

Thursday
February 14, 2019
7:00-10:00 PM
St. George Children's Museum
86 S. Main – 3rd Floor

Tickets \$15 per person
Valentine refreshments all evening
Live Dance Music by
The Rebel Jazz Band

Limited Number of Tickets Available
Beginning Saturday, Jan. 11, 2019:
St. George Art Museum
Mon-Sat 10am to 5pm
47 E. 200 N., St. George

CALENDAR

Fri, Jan 18

JON STONE AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 6:30 p.m. Free. Multi-instrumentalist Jon Stone from Louisiana plays acoustic folk on violin, mandolin and other strings. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

Sat, Jan 19

FREE MOVIE NIGHT 7 p.m. Crescent Moon Theater, 150 S 100 E, Kanab.

MOUNTAINTOP SOUND AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Steven Swift and April McPherson make up the Roots-Indie Americana of Mountaintop Sound, bringing you raw harmonies & fun melodies to tap your toes to. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Wed, Jan 23

MORRIS MURDOCH TRAVEL EXPO 11 a.m.-6 p.m. \$3. On Stage Alaska Production at 1 and at 3 p.m. Morris Murdoch Travel will also give you a \$50 travel gift card on your next seven-day or longer cruise or vacation package. (435) 628-3633. Dixie Center, St. George.

ALMEDA AT GEORGE'S CORNER 7 p.m. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

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

Thurs, Jan 24

DEA 360 9 a.m. Free training addressing pills-to-heroin epidemic. Dixie Applied Technology College, 610 S. Tech Ridge Drive, St. George.

Fri, Jan 25

READER'S CIRCLE BOOK CLUB 3 p.m. Washington County Library System, 36 S. 300 W., Hurricane.

JOSH WARBURTON AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 6:30 p.m. Free. Josh Warburton performs originals and classics in the folk, blues, and rock genres with unique vocals and acoustic guitar. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

Sat, Jan 26

NATIVE GRASS BAND CONCERT 6:30 p.m. nativegrassband.com. Tickets \$20 if ordered before Jan. 25. North Event Center, 475 N. Highway 89, Orderville.

JOHNNY RAVENSCROFT AT GEORGE'S CORNER 8 p.m. Free. W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

FORTUNATE SON AT CASABLANCA 8:30 p.m. Tribute to Creedance Clearwater Revival. Purchase by phone at (800) 585-3737. Must be 21 or older to attend. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

Mon, Jan 28

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.

Wed, Jan 30

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION VISIT 9 a.m. On the last Wednesday of each month, the Social Security Administration sends a representative to the Mesquite Senior Center to meet with residents who may have questions or concerns regarding Social Security. Senior Center, 102 W. Old Mill Road, Mesquite.

JERRY SEARE AT GEORGE'S CORNER 7 p.m. 2 W. St. George Blvd., St. George.

Thurs, Jan 31

PARENT NIGHT 7 p.m. Collin Kartchner Cedar High School, 166 W 1925 N, Cedar City.

Fri, Feb 1

JON STONE AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 6:30 p.m. Free. Multi-instrumentalist Jon Stone from Louisiana plays acoustic folk on violin, mandolin and other strings. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

BOSTON BRASS 7:30 p.m. Performing classical arrangements to jazz standards. Cox Performing Arts Center, 325 S 700 E, St. George.

Sat, Feb 2

TRIBUTE TO PINK FLOYD AT CASABLANCA 8:30 p.m. The Best of "The Wall" and "Wish You Were Here" plus "Dark Side of the Moon" in its entirety performed live by The Albumpalooza Floyd Band. Purchase by phone at (800) 585-3737. Must be 21 or older to attend. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

STAY UP TO DATE ON
ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, MUSIC
AND LOCAL NEWS AT
SUNDEPENDENT.COM
UPDATED DAILY!

INDEPENDENT
— A voice for Utah —

Find Your Loan. Find Your Happy.



We offer installment loans from
\$295 to \$1,890*




Come see us at one of our 5 locations in Southern Utah to discuss a loan for you:

- 568 S. Main St. • Cedar City • 435-586-1095
- 310 S. 100 E #12 • Kanab • 435-644-8904
- 787 S. Bluff St. • St. George • 435-674-0293
- 520 W. Telegraph St. • Washington • 435-635-8214
- 929 W. Sunset Blvd. • St. George • 435-656-8018

*All loans are subject to credit limitations and our underwriting policies including verifiable ability to repay. Actual loan proceeds may vary based upon loan terms. Dollar amounts are rounded to the lowest whole dollar and are subject to change.

Military Lending Act Notice

Due to changes in the Military Lending Act regulations, we regret that we are no longer able to make loans to the Armed Forces serving on active duty or active Guard or Reserve duty or the Spouse or Dependent of such person. If this applies to you, please disregard this offer. We support and are grateful for the service and sacrifice of all service members.

Clip-n-SAVE COUPONS

A SUPPLEMENT TO **The Independent** FREE
Utah Country's Complete Guide To Arts-Music-Entertainment-Culture & More

Clip-n-SAVE COUPON

The Milne Jewelry Co. *The name you've trusted since 1951.*
 43 E. St. George Blvd • 673-2552

MOST WATCH BATTERIES ONLY \$5



Includes installation. Top quality batteries used. Lithium and special batteries \$6-\$8.

Clip-n-SAVE COUPON

Open 7 days/Wk
Call for appt./times



\$5 off 50 minute student massage

HEALING MOUNTAIN MASSAGE SCHOOL*
 297 N. Cove Drive, Cedar City 800-864-0012
 www.healingmountain.edu 435-586-8222

No other purchase necessary with this coupon. Not good with any other offer, discount or special.

**Advertising Sales
Reps needed**
 - So. Utah areas
 • Experience preferred

Email resume to
ipc@infowest.com

TAXI USA
 "Anywhere you want to go"
24/7



(435)656-1500
 www.calltaxiusa.com

Modern & Elegant Wordpress Websites by
THE INDEPENDENT
 — A voice for Utah —

- ✓ Project Start – Preparation
- ✓ Project Kick off
- ✓ Development
- ✓ Set up Hosting Account
- ✓ Set Up Website Content
- ✓ Quality Assurance
- ✓ Code Quality
- ✓ Page Content
- ✓ Optimized User Experience
- ✓ Responsive and Mobile Friendly
- ✓ Launch
- ✓ Analytics
- ✓ Search Engine Optimization
- ✓ Speed and Performance
- ✓ Usability
- ✓ Social Media

(435) 656-1555
 ipc@infowest.com

Love The Independent but wish there was more?
 Well there is, online at **SUindependent.com**.
 With new content everyday, seven days a week!
 Plus subscribe to our special Sunday Edition...

Sunday Edition
FREE FROM
SUindependent.com



Sign up now and get your first month of internet for only **\$1.00**

Fast just got Faster



Internet



Security



Phone

InfoWest™

The Internet People™
 435-674-0165
 www.infowest.com