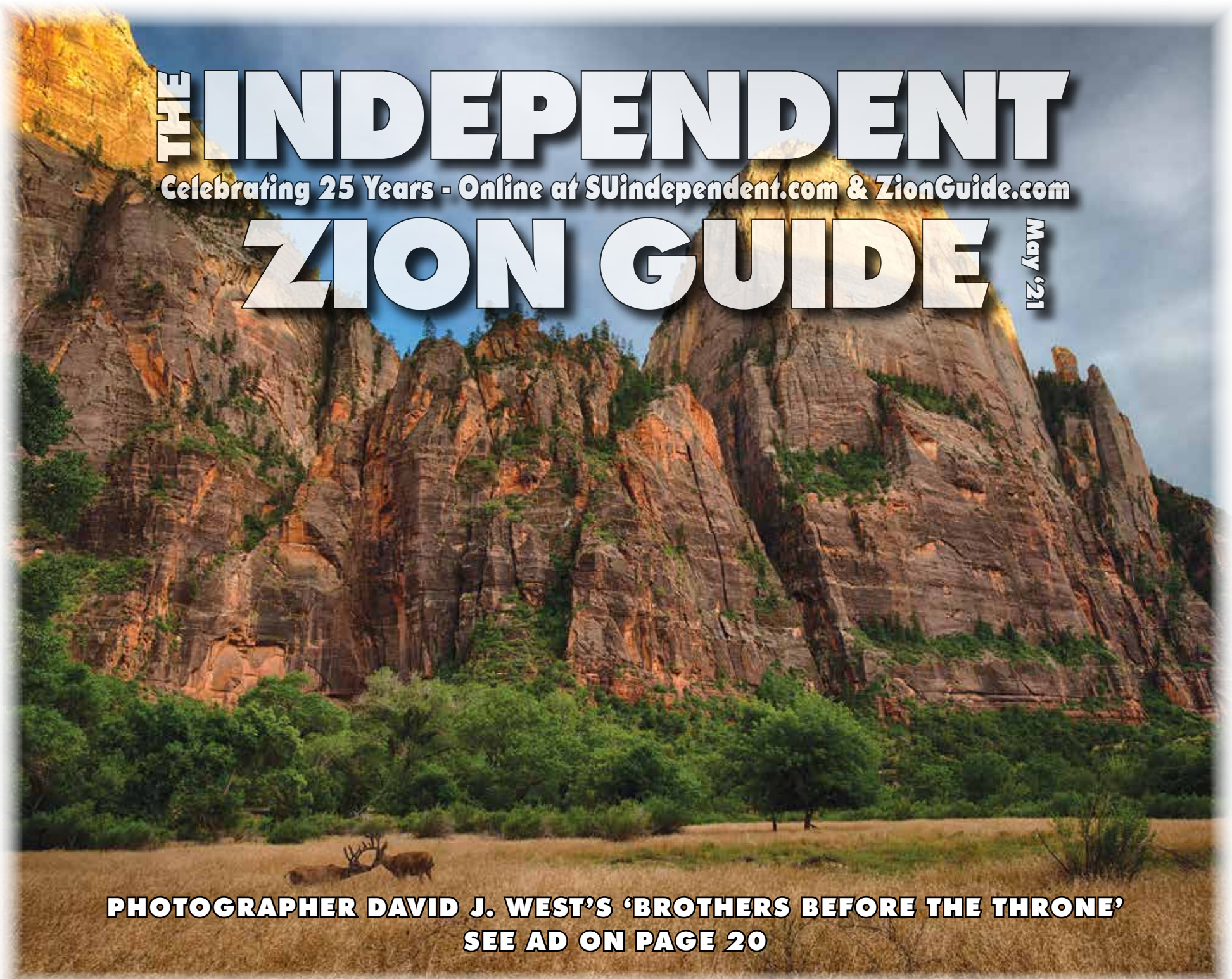


THE INDEPENDENT

Celebrating 25 Years - Online at SUIndependent.com & ZionGuide.com

ZION GUIDE

May '21



**PHOTOGRAPHER DAVID J. WEST'S 'BROTHERS BEFORE THE THRONE'
SEE AD ON PAGE 20**

MORE GREAT HAPPENINGS IN THIS ISSUE:



**DIXIE STATE, RAGING RED JOINING COMMUNITY
TO PRESENT 'MAMMA MIA' - SEE PAGE 4**



**DEEP SAND DRIVING WITH DREAMLAND SAFARI TOURS
- SEE PAGE 4**



**KANAB TOUR COMPANY KEEPS THE EXPERIENCE ALIVE!
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**CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT KAYENTA REOPENS WITH
'THE FULL MONTY!' - SEE PAGE 4**

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EDITORIAL

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By James McFadden



Oh, Mamma Mia! Looking back over the landscape that was 2020, it almost seems like a Dreamland and yet, here we are, almost six months into 2021 and in many ways, we're still reeling from

the turmoil that has changed many of our lives forever.

Nevertheless, there is a Bright Star on the horizon as I look over our May issue, mask mandates are fading away, vaccines are slowly grinding us towards herd immunity, and everything else is starting to feel normal again. And, I can't help but reflect on what it has taken to come this far in one piece, and I can't help but feel hopeful for a brighter year to come. I do not know about you but I'm ready for the Full Monty!

Like many others in southern Utah, it has been nice to see the doors opening back up, smiles slowly creeping back across faces, and greetings from friends that extend past the eyes. And the future

truly does look bright. Maybe we should all drive out to Kanab for a Tour or check out a Concert in the Park! Hey, I even heard Cedar Breaks is opening a little earlier this year!

Southern Utah has so much to offer those who call this amazing place home. Let's not take the moments we have for granted. As exciting as things are becoming again, let's not get ahead of ourselves and forget to appreciate our unique blessings. It is so easy to want to just move forward that sometimes we forget that if we are not careful, we could still easily lose those things we love and care for so much.

That being said, let's not forget how important it is to slow down and smell the roses, take a nice Hike, (I hear Goblin State Park is nice), and enjoy those blessings we are blessed to enjoy.

From all of us here at The Independent, we hope you will all continue to be happy, healthy, and that your lives will be filled with joy.

As you thumb through this issue, you will see, things are truly returning, even if slowly, to normal; or at least to our 'new normal'. There are lots of things to do and see this month so pack up the minivan, truck, or Mercedes's and get out there and enjoy life to the fullest. God knows, we're going to!

Cheers and happy days my friends, it is about to warm up again so enjoy what's left of spring before it's just a memory as well!

Find more editorial daily at SUIindependent.com

Garkane Annual Meeting

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LIVE **LIVE**

Stream Garkane Energy's Annual Meeting event to be entered in a drawing for great prizes. Comment on the live stream feed to be entered. Hear the Co-operative's annual report, and voting results for District 2 & 5 Board of Director elections.

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

- Introduction
- Voting Results
- Annual Report
- Prize Giveaways

CITY OF ST. GEORGE 2021

CONCERT IN THE PARK

Vernon Worthen Park - 300 S 400 E, St. George
 Don't Miss the **Second Monday** of the Month! **April-Sept.**

DICK EARL'S ELECTRIC WITNESS
 Blues
 May 10 @ 7:30PM

ERIC DODGE
 Country
 June 14 @ 7:30PM

FREE ADMISSION

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

Presented by the Arts & Special Events Division of Leisure Services
 For arts information: sgcity.org/arts
 435-627-4510

Park seating is available, bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and the family.

CITY OF ST. GEORGE 2021

MOVIE IN THE PARK

2ND & 4TH FRIDAYS • 50 S. MAIN
SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

Classic movies for adults and children will be shown on the big screen under the stars. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and goodies to enjoy the evening and movie as it begins at dusk.

MAY 28
"Karate Kid"
 1984
 PG 126 min.
 Est. start time for movie: 8:46 p.m.
FREE ADMISSION

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

Presented by the Arts & Special Events Division of Leisure Services
 For arts information: sgcity.org/arts
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EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER'S PERSPECTIVE
By Josh Warburton



Often we take action, and we're not quite sure how it's going to work out. Life is funny that way! It's tough to predict, no matter what you do, to try to control it. But we do all make choices, and those

choices often come back around to haunt us... or help us, as the case may be. And I've made a lot of choices through our 25 years of publishing The Independent.

And while I leave editorial decisions up to our editor, my duties include everything from the administrative level on down. And while we have a very competent distribution manager in Elliot Lockwood, who manages the distribution driver team and the distribution itself from pallets to racks, I have made most of the major distribution decisions over the years. That includes expanding the distribution from just the St. George area initially to Mesquite, Cedar City, Springdale, Hurricane Valley, and out to Kanab, areas we deliver to today. I've always believed that people will travel a little distance for events and entertainment that they enjoy. Including info for all the areas we distribute to, means that our entire audience has had the opportunity to read about performances from the likes of the Utah Shakespeare festival in Cedar City or the fun events held at the Mesquite casinos. Like Casapalooza, or say, Western Legends in Kanab.

It's a fairly monumental effort to get The Independent delivered to over 300 racks in the space of about 36 hours. And those

racks don't magically appear by themselves; somebody has to get permission and place them, and before that somebody, (me), had to buy them.

And that goes back to one of the decisions I made early on. I realized we would need racks at most locations to be seen prominently and have a home where they (hopefully) stay neat and tidy.

So I made the conscious decision, starting 25 years ago, to invest in high-quality racks that would last. While nearly every other publication was out there with cheap wire racks, I admired the tubular steel racks that the Pioneer Shopper had at most of their distribution locations at the time. They were well-made and built to hold up in our harsh sunny climate. In my mind, it gave the impression they were here to stay, and they were, for decades until the classified business all but disappeared due to craigslist and other online options for people to advertise with.

So I took a hand drawing to McArthur Welding, who was more than happy to create racks just for us. They differed from the

slanted rails of the red Shopper racks with strong curved corners not likely to catch on someone's clothes when walking by, and I decided to do them in bright blue to make them stand out! The vast majority of those first-generation racks are still in circulation, albeit with new stickers. Most have been repainted from their original power coats, which held up remarkably well.

This year, and after a few years without the attention they've needed, we've been in the process of refreshing all of our racks with new stickers that reflect our current logos. We've also been refinishing all the old metal racks that need it with new paint jobs. This has been a slow process, but we are getting through them!

So if you see a "new" rack out there in the wild, it may be an "old" rack that's been given new life thanks to its quality construction (and a bit of elbow grease). And if you spot a "weathered" rack of ours out there, please let us know so we can give it the attention it deserves. Here's to making great long-term decisions. Happy reading!



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EVENTS

DEEP SAND DRIVING WITH DREAMLAND SAFARI TOURS

Off-roading Tips from the Pros!

Find the long-form version of this article over on the Dreamland Safari Tours blog.

Deep sand is one of the top terrain traps that you'll encounter in Southern Utah - particularly if you venture off the pavement to explore those amazing local gems that beckon just beyond the national parks.

Here are some sand driving tricks from the expert off-road guides at Dreamland Safari Tours:

We recommend a high clearance four-wheel-drive vehicle with good off-road tires for sand driving. High clearance means a minimum of 10 inches, and it's essential that your vehicle have 4-wheel drive (4x4) rather than all-wheel drive (AWD).

Assuming you have the right vehicle, make sure you are actually in four-wheel drive when you hit the sand - it's easy to forget. You also need the ability to air down your tires, an understanding of sand driving rules, and a robust safety kit in case you get in trouble far off the pavement without cell signal.

Airing down your tires increases surface area and helps your vehicle "float" instead of digging into the sand. We recommend airing down a minimum of 25% compared to highway pressure. If you feel like your truck is really fighting the sand, you may need to air down more.

Momentum through the sand is essential, but that doesn't mean you need to drive fast; you just need to keep forward motion. In the right vehicle, with properly deflated tires, you can crawl slowly through sand and even stop in most places. That said, indecision is a key reason why we see vehicles get stuck: don't go hesitantly into a deep sand patch; make a plan and stick to it.

Speaking of momentum: you may be moving at crawling speed while flooring the



gas pedal; that's okay - as long as you have any forward motion you are not stuck. Once your vehicle has lost all momentum and is no longer moving forward though, you are stuck. At this point you need to get out and fix the problem from the outside. Air down further, dig a trench in front of each tire; crawl under the truck and dig. Only attempt to continue driving once no part of the undercarriage of your truck is touching the sand. If the tires spin but your vehicle does not roll forward, take your foot off the gas immediately so you don't dig yourself a bigger hole. Repeat the steps above.

Necessary off-road tools. Don't leave home without them.

Dreamland guides carry an "adventure kit" to address common problems in the field; it includes many tools and a Garmin InReach satellite communicator. If you venture out on your own, you should bring a tire pressure gauge, an air compressor, a shovel, as well as a paper map, first aid kit, extra drinking water, means to start a fire, and sleeping bags in case you get stuck for the night. Or join Dreamland Safari Tours on an amazing, hassle-free adventure far off the pavement in the backcountry of Southern Utah! Call them at 435-334-6933.



KANAB TOUR COMPANY KEEPS THE EXPERIENCE ALIVE!

Little did the owners of Kanab Tour Company, Tiffany & Cory Unsworth, know what was coming in February of 2020 when they decided to purchase a 12,000 square foot building. They had dreams of enhancing their very fun dream job of guiding guests to beautiful areas of Southern Utah by implementing a coffee shop, bakery, and outdoor goods store into the mix. And then COVID hit. Tours were cancelled, the crew was reduced to a skeleton, and thanks to a Payroll Protection loan, they set to work on the building, using whatever materials they could recycle. Old pallets were broken up to create wall features. Sample flooring from the old furniture store was used to create a floor for the commercial kitchen. Fixtures were procured through salvage sales. The "depression era" of 2020 brought out ingenuity, and little by little, the space was coming to life.

Once travel restrictions were lifted, Kanab Tour Company continued to offer the kinds of experiences they had specialized in since 2014. They offer hiking experiences to remote areas such as the Wave, Buckskin Gulch, and South Coyote Buttes. Other exciting options include OHV tours on back-country trails, such as the Hog Canyon Ride or the popular venture to Peekaboo Slot Canyon! Their guides help visitors get the most out of their visit to National Parks, whether it is through a guided experience up Angels Landing in Zion or an interpretive journey through Bryce Canyon or the North Rim.

Kanab Tour Co. also offers visitors rental options such as a 4-person Polaris Razr to explore the desert trails on your own, a Slingshot to cruise the highways on, Drones and GoPros to capture your experience outside, and more!



In the future, they will offer classes for locals and visitors alike. Topics covered will range from Geology to Astronomy to Poetry to Painting Landscapes! Watch for local experts who are ready to enhance your life with their knowledge!

Though it has taken longer than they would have expected, 2021 has brought the world a fresh start, and Cory and Tiffany and their amazing staff are excited to welcome guests to their new and renovated space! A Grand Opening on Saturday May 29th, 2021 will celebrate the additions of Sunny Creek Coffee and Kanab Outpost to the operations at Kanab Tour Co. headquarters, located at 681 E. Chinle Drive.

Sunny Creek Coffee specializes in sandwiches, soups, smoothies, cinnamon rolls, and, of course, coffee! They will be open for breakfast and lunch, serving from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Kanab Outpost will carry brands such as North Face, Cotopaxi, Under Armour, and Hydro Flask, with many more to come. It will be a great spot to pick up camping gear or outdoor supplies!

The event from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. will include live music performances, giveaways, and slingshot rides.

The next time you swing through Kanab, pop in to see what's happening at Kanab Tour Company. There will definitely be something exciting going on!



DIXIE STATE, RAGING RED JOINING COMMUNITY TO PRESENT MAMMA MIA

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Dixie State University and its premier song and dance performing team, Raging Red, are partnering with talented community members to perform the hit musical Mamma Mia.

raiser for Raging Red. As a recruiting tool for DSU, Raging Red performs for public schools throughout Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Arizona, California. The performance team also entertains at community and civic



The musical will be performed at Dixie State University's OC Tanner Amphitheater in Springdale, Utah from May 20 through June 5. The show will run on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday nights at 8 p.m. with one special matinee performance offered on Saturday, May 29 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at showtix4u.com/events/mammamia.

"This high-energy production is an exciting collaboration between DSU students, faculty and staff, as well as local community theater groups, businesses, professional and amateur actors," Vice President of Student Affairs Del Beatty said. "With a cast of over 50 talented performers, coupled with amazing choreography, the show is incredible!"

This musical performance is being produced by DSU Student Affairs as a fund-

events, Alumni gatherings and local care centers. Raging Red has had opportunities to travel and perform across the country as well as internationally. Members are selected through an extensive audition process and must be enrolled DSU students.

"Presenting a musical with such a large cast, featuring amazing DSU student talent and having adult leads filling the roles of the Dynamos and Dads, will provide a wonderful experience for the audience," Director of Raging Red Geoffrey Reynolds said. "This fun yet touching story showcases the well-known music of ABBA and will have everyone on their feet and singing along."

For more information about Dixie State University visit dixie.edu or, to learn more about Raging Red, go to ragingred.dixie.edu.

BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD FOR THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT KAYENTA

CFAK REOPENS WITH "THE FULL MONTY!"

May 13-22 KayentaArts.com

CFAK IS REOPENING ITS DOORS to the entire COMMUNITY with one of Terrance McNally's best: The Full Monty! (Masks and sanitization guidelines still required)

Terrance McNally passed away from Covid-19 on March 24th, 2020. We feel the loss as one of the brightest stars in the Artistic Achievement Galaxy dimmed. Terrance created over fifty works for the stage, he won four Tony Awards for his writing, and in 2019 he was awarded the special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre.



CFAK will keep your spirit alive through the upcoming production of THE FULL MONTY!

Director, Josh Scott, commented "I was asked over a year ago if I was interested in directing a show at the Center For the Arts at Kayenta. To my surprise, The Full Monty was being considered. This musical has a lot of substance that needs to be shared. Great music and a great story. with some

really great messages like; what it is to be a man, a woman, to be thin or fat, is success only measured financially when we struggle, are we failing, what do we really think of others and ourselves, what relationships are worthwhile, what is love?

I look at myself and wonder, what is acceptable and expected of me? Is it to be the breadwinner only? Does my wife or significant other still find me attractive? Is it ok to 'let it go' and be the real me? Are I and others willing to go 'The Full Monty' laying our truth and honest emotions out for public display?" The story is about these everyday guys who find themselves out of work in the steel mills in 1994. They will have you laughing and feeling the pangs of how they come together to produce a show that could ultimately save their relationships as well as their ability to pay child support and their mortgages!

There are mature themes in the show and some mature language, including a strip scene - down to the g-string. This award-winning musical has never been done in the entire southern Utah region! May 13th-22nd, the Lorraine Boccardo black box will be jirating with music, dance, and fantastic actors with all of the bells and whistles you should expect from a professional production that every bachelorette party should attend! This is a grand reopening sort of show that true musical theater diehards will be so glad they attended. Another first-time EVER DONE event at the CFAK! Get your tickets now by calling 435-674-2787 or going online at www.KayentaArts.com

Find more at SUindependent.com

EVENTS

DOCUTAH RE-LAUNCHES 2021 IN-THEATER MONTHLY SCREENINGS!

Pineview Megaplex Provides Exciting Environment for Monthly Screenings and the 2021 DOCUTAH Festival in November

May 3, 2021— Saint George, UT — Dixie State University DOCUTAH International Documentary Film Festival™ today announced the re-launch of its monthly film series. The series had been suspended during the pandemic and although capacity restrictions are still in place, the May through films will be presented live at the Pineview Megaplex theaters in St. George. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased online or at the at the door with space available. All films are followed by a Q&A.



“We know that everyone is anxious to begin experiencing the theater experience again and at DOCUTAH, we wanted to reprise some of the films which were beloved by our audiences from past Festivals,” said Phil Tuckett, Founder and Director of DOCUTAH. “You may have seen them at our Festival or may have missed them because there was so much to choose from, but it’s a great way to get back in the swing.”

May 14 — A Sacred Journey

When one brother is diagnosed with a shattering illness, another brother is forced to face his demons. The family struggles to pick up the pieces and stay together in this powerful portrait of love and what it means to truly care for each other. Director Ernesto Quintero will be in attendance.

June 25 — Lives Well Lived

Forty people aged 75 to 100, with a collective life experience of 3000 years, share their secrets, wit, and wisdom on how to live a meaningful life. Their thoughtful perspectives reveal a treasure trove of life lessons about perseverance, the human spirit, and

staying positive in the midst of the great challenges. Their stories will make you laugh, perhaps cry, but mostly inspire you to think. Director: Sky Bergman

July 30 — Prophet’s Prey

When Warren Jeffs rose to Prophet of the Fundamentalist Church of Latter Day Saints, he took control of a religion with a history of polygamous and underage marriage. He bridged the gap between sister wives and ecclesiastically rape, befuddling the moral compass of his entire congregation. See the film where it all started, Southern Utah.

With the on-camera assistance of Mr.



Krakauer and Sam Brower, another dogged investigator, Ms. Berg fills in a harrowing portrait of Warren Jeffs as a deluded prophet and serial abuser, especially of girls and women who seem locked in another century.”

Director by Amy Berg. Writer Producer Sam Brower will be in attendance

August 27 — The Renaissance of Mata Ortiz

When anthropologist, Spencer MacCallum, walked into Bob’s Swap Shop in Deming, New Mexico in 1976, he had no idea that his life and thousands of lives in a dusty Mexican town were about to change. This documentary is the amazing story of how an American treasure hunter and a Mexican artist, Juan Quezada Celado, transformed a dying desert village into a home for world-class art. The Emmy® winning cross-cultural story of how an American adventurer and a brilliant, self-taught Mexican artist transformed a dying desert village into a home for world-class ceramics.

September 24 —Minding the Gap

Three young men bond together to escape volatile families in their Rust Belt hometown. As they face adult responsibilities, unexpected revelations threaten their decade-long friendship. Director: Bing Liu

October 29 — Everyday Sunshine: The Story of Fishbone

In advance of the Festival, we reprise one of our most popular films ever. A story about music, history, fear, courage and funk. A blistering combination of punk and funk Fishbone demolished the walls of genre, challenged the racial stereotypes and political order of the music industry and the nation. At the heart of the film’s story is lead singer Angelo Moore and bassist Norwood Fisher who show how they keep the band rolling out of pride, desperation and love for their art. Telling it like it is, the iconic Laurence Fishburne narrates Everyday Sunshine.

A new film about Angelo Moore, Forever

Moore, will also premier at the 2021 Festival

In 2020 we were excited to move

DOCUTAH to the Pineview Megaplex and to November. The Pandemic upended those plans, but we are roaring back now by launching our monthly series at this terrific venue and combining the films from 2020 and those being chosen from the 2021 submissions to expand to 100 plus films,” said Della Lowe, marketing Director for DOCUTAH.

“Because St. George is a winter resort venue, the change of dates gives the snowbirds who flock to the area a chance to experience this cultural icon.

Visit docutah.com for more information!

CONCERT IN THE PARK 2021 SERIES BEGINS WITH A BANG

Dick Earl’s Electric Witness Blues
May 10th–7:30 pm
Vernon Worthen Park – 300 South 400 East, St. George

The combination of Dick Earl Ericksen’s stirring harmonica, guitar styling, and raw Blues vocals have been described as “honest and strong, from the depths of a true bluesman’s soul.” He has toured with nationally acclaimed Blues artist Tas Cru, appearing on stages stretching from New York to Memphis to Calgary. Dick Earl frequents the road and the recording studio as an artist, as well as a sideman.

Dick Earl’s Electric Witness blues trio is an astonishing production of layered sounds and

rhythms that turn the purest of hearts to the Blues. The band recently released a self-titled, full length album of original music and will be featured in the opening film at Doc Utah 2021, “Into the Fire.”

Sponsored by the City of St. George with funding from the City of St. George

RAP Tax, the Utah Division of Arts and Museums and the National Endowment for the Arts. Concert in the Park 2021 Series is free to the public. Don’t miss the second Monday of each month April through September. Park seating is available, bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and the family. Presented By The City of St. George. Admission is FREE! For more information call 627-4580.



We provide support, services, and funding for creative individuals and cultural organizations across the state of Utah

For more information, visit artsandmuseums.utah.gov

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COME SEE US FOR A GREAT TIME, ANYTIME!

May Schedule:
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EVENTS

MONTEZUMA AND THE PETTICOATS AND BRIGHT STAR TO PERFORM THIS SUMMER IN KANAB

After a year of closed theaters, two theatrical productions will delight audiences in Kanab, Southern Utah's charming getaway, this summer!



First, on June 18-26, the award-winning Broadway musical BRIGHT STAR will charm audiences with powerful vocals, an unforgettable story, and the toe-tapping sounds of a live bluegrass band.

Inspired by a true story and featuring the Tony®-nominated score by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, Broadway's BRIGHT STAR tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the rich backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and '40s. When literary editor Alice Murphy meets a young soldier just home from World War II, he awakens her longing for the child she once lost. Haunted by their unique connection, Alice sets out on a journey to understand her past—and what she finds has the power to transform both of their lives. With beautiful melodies and powerfully moving characters, the story unfolds as a rich tapestry of deep emotion. An uplifting theatrical journey that holds you tightly in its grasp, BRIGHT STAR is

as refreshingly genuine as it is daringly hopeful.

Directed by Rachelle Robinson, BRIGHT STAR is produced by husband-and-wife performers, Lyndsey and Russell Wulfenstein (The W Duo), whose previous stage productions have consistently delighted sold-out audiences with their focus on delivering uplifting entertainment and memorable experiences.

Tickets are available now at kanabmusical.com

Then on August 5, 6, 7, and 9, the all-original Montezuma and the Petticoats debuts. This musical play takes place in early 1900's Kanab and is inspired by two historical events: i) the election of what would become known as the nation's first all women town council in 1911; and ii) prospector Freddie Crystal's recruitment of the whole town to help him search for Montezuma's hidden treasure supposedly buried near Kanab.

When Freddie Crystal bicycles into Kanab with a map to Montezuma's buried gold, soul-searching Mary decides to help him recruit all able-bodied men to look for the treasure. Though distrusting of Freddie and his tales of gold, Mary sees the treasure hunt as a chance for her and her petticoat friends to win the local election from the stingy and self-absorbed current Mayor so that they can change the course of the poorly run town. Mary's foray into local politics helps her and others confront their own self-doubts, while simultaneously leading to feelings for Freddy—but it may be too late as the Mayor relentlessly pursues arresting Freddie for fraud.

Directed by Tammie Van Dyke, written and produced by Jeff Stott, and musical arrangement by Russell Wulfenstein, Montezuma and the Petticoats is a western comedy that both celebrates and pokes fun at Southern Utah rural life. It's about treasure seeking, falling in love, and accepting one's self—weaknesses and all.

Both shows will be performed at the Kanab High school auditorium.

Tickets can be purchased at www.kanabmusical.com.



KAYENTA ARTS ACADEMY PROVIDES PATHWAY TO GREATNESS

By Dawn McLain

Kayenta Arts Academy (KAA) is an arts education program for youths aged 9 - 17 that runs June 7--July 2; Mon-Fri 9am-3pm; Four Week Class Session.



all while raising money to support Native American Scholarships to Dixie State University. Promoting secondary education for Native American students will create life-long success for indigenous persons. The family-friendly festival will celebrate the depth and beauty of early American cultures through artisan booths, educational workshops, demonstrations and performances that feature music, dance, fine art, unique customs, drum circles and more! This event will be held May 28-30, 2021. For more information on this and everything else, visit www.kayentaarts.com

About Kayenta Arts Foundation and the Center for the Arts at Kayenta

Kayenta Arts Foundation's stated mission is to develop and create an environment that fosters diverse artistic endeavors for educational and cultural enrichment purposes. We launched the Kayenta Arts Academy as a major component of our mission statement: To educate and provide a pathway of development for the young people of our community.

After the educational sessions are complete, our youth actors will then participate in rehearsals as they will all be part of a professional acting experience from July 3--10; Times TBD; Tech & Dress Rehearsals.

Post rehearsal, students will perform before a live audience! We will feature the musical Xanadu July 13-17; MON-SAT 7:30pm +FRI & SAT 2pm for 8 shows total. Students are split into two casts: Red Cast & Blue Cast; each Cast Has 4 Performances. Please note, due to social distancing, we can only accept the first 60 students this year (though we hope to go to 80 students in 2022).

The camp cost is \$350 (cheaper than daycare over the summer!), but no child is turned away due to financial hardship. We have scholarships available to anyone in need. At the same time - feel free to sponsor a few students, we would appreciate the support!

This truly is a tremendous program and the kids just love it and so do the parents! For many kids, this is a first in a lifetime opportunity to work with professional actors. Of course, we say first in a lifetime because once the acting bug gets you - you are hooked!

Finally, we have the Festival of the Americas coming up. This first annual event is a multi-cultural outdoor festival that showcase the cultures of the first peoples of the Americas,



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PORTALS AND PATHWAYS By The Southern Utah Art Guild

The Southern Utah Art Guild (SUAG) would like to invite you to its upcoming "Portals and Pathways" art show featuring over 60 local artists.

The show will run from May 7 through June 3, Monday through Saturday, from 10 AM - 5 PM at the Red Cliff Gallery, 220 N. 200 E. in St. George.

The City of St. George and SUAG supports our talented, local artists and hope you will too by joining us at our awards reception held Friday, May 7, from 6-8 PM. We will offer live music and refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you at the Red Cliff Gallery.

If you would like to showcase your artwork this is a good avenue to begin as we support a variety of media and artistic talent ranging from beginning to professional.

At the Southern Utah Art Guild show you not only have the opportunity to sell your artwork but you have chances to win cash awards at each show. We offer cash awards for each category media - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place, with Honorable Mentions, Best of Show and People's Choice Award. This is a great way to display your artwork, sell your artwork and to socialize with others.

Interested in Joining the Southern Utah Art Guild? - The \$35 yearly membership includes allowing you to showcase, win awards and sell your artwork at the Red Cliff Gallery's approximately 5 art shows per year. Visit www.southernutahartguild.com for the art show schedule, opportunity to apply to the Arrowhead Gallery, attend free monthly educational classes, and receive discount to our artist workshops. If you have an interest in joining or have questions, please contact us at RedCliffGallery2019@yahoo.com

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ArtstoZion.org

FINALLY...THE 2021 ARTS TO ZION TOUR IS BACK

ST. GEORGE — The Arts to Zion TOUR is back and better than ever with a more expansive approach to exploring the arts in Southern Utah. The five-day event runs from July 1-5, 2021 in various locations throughout Washington County and from Ivins to Springdale. The Tour was originally scheduled for January, but due to a spike in cases in Washington County, we postponed until July.

Like previous years, you still have the opportunity to visit local galleries and the more intimate private studios. In addition, live music will be offered. The event will kick off on Thursday, July 1, with the private and home studios open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. through July 5.

Only select home studios will be open for the tour on Sunday, July 4. They are designated on the printed

maps. Tour guests can collect card punches at each stop to be eligible for a prize drawing when they turn them in at the end of the tour.

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

"We are thrilled to highlight so many talented artists that live in southern Utah", said Elise West, Arts to Zion Board chairman. "The beauty of our red rock landscape continues to inspire artists and as this area continues to grow, so does our artist family."

Designed to provide a more complete arts experience, the Desert Pulse Live Music Tour adds a significant amount of music to the event. Line-up to be announced, but in the meantime, visit ArtsToZion.org or check out the event brochure as times and venues are finalized.

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EVENTS

CITY OF ST. GEORGE BRINGS BACK NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSES

Program Returns May 13 at 2450 East Park

ST. GEORGE — In an effort to further connect with the community, the City of St. George will conduct two Neighborhood Open Houses this Spring. The first will be May 13 at 2450 East Park (130 North 2450 East). The second is scheduled for South Mountain Community Church (3158 East 2000 South) on June 10. Both Neighborhood Open Houses will go from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

“Neighborhood Open Houses provide a casual setting for the public to share dialogue with elected officials and City staff to get a better feel for everything that goes on in the city,” said Mayor Michele Randall. “I’m looking forward to meeting with our residents and hearing what they have to say. That helps us make the best decisions for the future of St. George.”

Mayor Randall and all five Council members are expected to attend. City departments that will be represented at the Neighborhood Open Houses include: public works, water, energy services, leisure services, police, fire, golf, human resources, economic development, budget, communications and marketing, finance and legal.

A seven-acre neighborhood park that has a covered pavilion, picnic tables, sand volleyball, basketball courts, an open grass area and a loop walking path, 2450 East Park serves as a fitting location to reach St. George residents who live on the east side of the city.

There will be refreshments and some swag items available at both open houses. Visit sgcity.org for more information!

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EVENTS

UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL ONE MORE STEP CLOSER TO REOPENING!

Agreement with Actors' Equity Association Provides Safety Guidelines for All



CEDAR CITY — The Utah Shakespeare Festival recently finalized an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States, which sets up COVID-19 health and safety protocols for actors, artists, and audience members and opens the door for the Festival to finalize the hiring of actors and stage managers for the 2021 season.

"This puts a feather in our cap and the wind in our sails as we move forward building the 2021 season," said Artistic Director Brian Vaughn. "I'm thrilled we have finally reached an agreement with Actors' Equity and look forward to our full company gathering in a few short days."

Producing Producer Frank Mack agreed: "This is the last step in ensuring that we have an absolutely great 2021 season. We start rehearsals on May 10 for what I expect to be one the best seasons at the Festival ever. It's our 60th anniversary, the season is dedicated to our founder, Fred C. Adams, and it marks a return to producing after missing the 2020 season."

The goal of the agreement is to provide a safe and healthy working and performing environment not just for actors but for all artist, technicians, and audience members. Both organizations agree that goal has been reached.

"The staff of the Utah Shakespeare Festival has been working with the staff at Actors' Equity Association for two months to find a way that we can create the work on our stages in a way that actors, artisans, technicians, and audiences all stay safe," said General Manager Kami Terry Paul. "We now have that plan and will begin implementing it immediately."

The plan is based on the entire Festival company being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and regularly tested. In addition, work and performance areas will be sanitized regularly and all company



members will be required to wear masks at all times except when performing on stage.

For audience members, this means that theatres, seats, and high-traffic areas will also be sanitized regularly. Also, all patrons must wear a mask at all times in the theatre and other performance and seminar spaces (including at The Greenshow). This is in line with the Equity contract and a Utah Department of Health requirement of masks for any group of fifty or more. Because people can't eat or drink without removing their masks, concessions (including water) will not be sold or allowed in the theatres.

Up-to-date health and safety information is available at bard.org/health-and-safety. Playgoers should check the site often as they prepare for their visit to Cedar City.

All testing for the Festival company will be provided by Nomi Health. "Nomi Health is proud to partner with the Utah Shakespeare Festival to bring the arts back to life in Utah," said Mark Newman, founder and CEO, Nomi Health. "Our COVID solutions were born in our home state of Utah, and since then, we've deployed millions of tests and hundreds of thousands of vaccines across the country. The Utah Shakespeare Festival is a cultural institution, and we're excited to support its safe return to the stage so Utahns can once again enjoy the arts."

Of course, all of this is required to keep our actors on the stage and allow our audiences into the theatres again. "Each and every one of our talented artisans is eager to get back to work while safely continuing to create powerful and moving drama for Utah audiences," said Vaughn. "After an incredibly bleak year, I look forward to a resurgence of unity, positivity and possibility as we celebrate sixty years at The Utah Shakespeare Festival."

"Our patrons have been so supportive, already buying lots of tickets for the coming season; and I could not be more joyful in anticipating welcoming our guests back to the Festival after a too-long absence," concluded Mack.

The Festival's 2021 season is June 21 to October 9. Plays will be Pericles, Richard III, The Comedy of Errors, The Pirates of Penzance, Ragtime, Cymbeline, Intimate Apparel, and The Comedy of Terrors. Tickets are available by calling 800-PLAYTIX or visiting www.bard.org.



CEDAR BREAKS SUMMER SEASON OPENS FRIDAY, MAY 28

Visitor Services including information booths, ranger programs, and more are set to begin next month

Cedar City, Utah — After a very busy winter season, Cedar Breaks National Monument is preparing to start summer visitor services on Friday, May 28 (Memorial Day Weekend). Visitor services will look different in 2021 as the park expects construction of the new Visitor Contact Station to begin this summer. The Point Supreme Overlook will be inaccessible during construction, which is expected to last most of

Service expects another busy season at the breaks. Visitors are encouraged to plan ahead and arrive early, particularly in July and August. To meet the needs of park visitors this summer, park rangers will be roving at overlooks, along trails, and at two dedicated information booths daily.

About Cedar Breaks National Monument: Established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, Cedar Breaks National Monument preserves the multicolored geologic spectacle of the Cedar Breaks amphitheater, scenic vistas, and natural



the 2021 and 2022 seasons, but services will be provided at other locations in the park.

To help visitors plan for visiting the park this summer, a new 2021 Visitor Guide webpage is available online at www.nps.gov/cebr/planyourvisit/2021.htm. The webpage includes information about ranger programs, information booths, the park store, entrance pass sales, campground operations, and most importantly restrooms. The page will be updated regularly as the season progresses to provide visitors with the most up to date information available.

In 2020, Cedar Breaks experienced record visitation and the National Park

and cultural resources of scientific interest for public appreciation, education, recreation, and enjoyment. Visit us at www.nps.gov/CedarBreaks, on Facebook www.facebook.com/CedarBreaksNPS, and Instagram www.instagram.com/CedarBreaksNPS.

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 423 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us at www.nps.gov, on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice and Twitter www.twitter.com/natl_parkservice.

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OPINION

UTAH'S ECONOMY LEADS THE NATION OUT OF THE PANDEMIC

By Howard Sierer



Utah is number one again: our economic recovery from the pandemic leads the nation.

The federal Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the nation's real gross domestic product fell at a 1.3 percent compounded

rate between 2020's first and fourth quarters. In contrast, Utah actually grew through the pandemic at a 4.3 percent rate, the best in the country. Utah's retail sales increased 8.3 percent, also the best in the nation.

able to COVID-19 itself. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that one-quarter of young adults between the ages of 18 to 24, for whom social interactions are vital, have considered suicide.

Taking factors like these into account, Utah along with other moderate states balanced the need to slow the pandemic with measures that took account of the serious problems caused by the lockdown itself.

The great people of Utah get credit for our low per capita COVID-19 death rate. While some flaunted their disobedience to state masking and social distancing guidelines, most of us chose to follow the common-sense guidance from state and local health officials.

The upshot: the Salt Lake City metro area's job market is the hottest in the nation, ranking first of 53 large metropolitan labor markets, better than other job hot spots such as Austin, Denver, Indianapolis, and Kansas City. The rankings were based on five labor market indicators: the average unemployment rate, the labor-force participation rate, the change in payrolls, weekly wages, and the percentage increase in the size of the workforce.

The Salt Lake City metro area's red hot tech sector benefitted from fewer business shutdowns, moderate COVID-19 health consequences, and a young and well-educated population.

Ogden's labor market was first in the nation among 328 smaller metro areas with fewer than 1 million residents last year while Provo's ranked 17th.

WalletHub's new list of the best small cities to start a business ranked St. George first in the nation with Cedar City second and Washington City fourth. Twenty-seven small Utah cities were ranked in the top 100 out of 1,337 cities around the country with populations under 100,000.

In the past, I've highlighted Utah's outstanding track record that places it first in the nation on a variety of different measures including our nation-leading

early COVID-19 recovery record and the influx of new families and workers attracted by our dynamism.

Moody Analytics explained that "Workers gravitated to these places due to the job opportunities, lower costs and a quieter lifestyle that appealed to some migrants from bigger population centers who were now allowed to work remotely. Coming out of the pandemic, and out of this recession, their edge is probably only going to get larger."

These new workers brought their families with them: Utah was the fastest-growing state in the union, growing 18.4 percent from 2010 to 2020.

The beat goes on!

Find more at SUIndependent.com

WHAT DOES WATER MEAN TO YOU?

By Lisa Rutherford



I have been studying water since 2006 and have gained a new and greater appreciation for water. Now, every time I turn on the faucet I am reminded how miraculous this element is—an element unlike any other.

It's relevant we consider this topic as we enter spring and summer and as we cope with the ongoing drought. March 22 was World Water Day and April 22 is traditionally Earth Day. In fact, the theme of this year's Water Day was "Valuing Water" and asked us all to consider, "What does water mean to me?"

I often ask myself, "Why does water interest me so much? Why am I so disturbed when I see it wasted? Why am I so opposed to securing more water when we have such plenty already? My study has provided some answers and created an aura around it for me.

It's a powerful element physically as we often witness during storms and floods but it's a soothing element, too. Water can have a powerful effect on our emotions. Just think about how you react when you are around water. The sound of waves, waterfalls, or even a fountain can be mesmerizing and soothing. To me it's awesome to realize that the water we have and use now is the same water and virtually the same amount of water that's been on the earth for billions of years.

It is considered sacred by many, as is witnessed by its use throughout the world in ceremonies by a variety of religions. There are many books that deal with water and spirituality.

A focus of *Sacred Water* by Nathaniel Alman is "to remind us of the importance of sacred water in our lives today and throughout the long history of human civilization." Alman quotes anthropologist James A. Swan who asserts regarding the sacred or spiritual nature of water: "A thing or a place becomes sacred ultimately to us when it is perceived as somehow able to energize within us those feelings and concepts we associate with the spiritual dimensions of life."

There are many metaphors and similes that reference water such as "Spiritual life is like living water that springs up from the very depths of our own spiritual experience. In spiritual life everyone has to drink from his or her own well."

Water, because of its essential quality, underlies sacred myths and legends around the world of early Egyptians, Babylonians, Chinese, Africans, Indigenous people of the Americas, to name but a few. Water has held a sacred place in cultures and religions of the world for centuries. Baptism has been an integral piece of Christianity. Ritual cleansing is important in both Judaism and Islam. Water has held great significance in Hinduism because it is believed to have spiritual cleansing powers. The fact that so many

of India's rivers are polluted may challenge that belief until one considers that Hindus believe the water can "cleanse" itself.

So water is more than just nourishment for our bodies. In fact, it can be said, "It's the soul of the Earth"—to coin another metaphor. So, it seems there's more to my appreciation of water and my desire to protect the resource in this desert community in which we live than I had imagined. The water that nourishes our land, our bodies, and our souls is not to be wasted. It is to be valued and protected. Every time I turn on the faucet, I marvel at the product that comes out and know that, rather than needing to get more, we need to protect what we have. But, how DO we treat it?

Do we treat it with the respect it deserves? We let it drip and leak. We water our lawns in this arid desert. We let it run while brushing our teeth, run when we should turn it off and more. Certainly not the way such a special and precious resource should be treated.

Everyday around the world people struggle to get water, some walking miles daily for just enough to meet basic needs while ours flows easily and sometimes wastefully out our taps. Some may question the assertion of water's spiritual meaning but certainly no one can question its importance. Some assert that our water infrastructure providing easy access has led to this lack of value, but I'm sure none of us would want to give that up. How do we value the product and still have it plentiful?

Water has always been a challenge in our dry area of Utah and water projects are nothing new to the citizens of our county. Settlement in the St George, Utah region required back-breaking efforts for water diversion and irrigation.

Author Lyman Hafen made it clear in his book about St. George, *Where Two Streams Meet* that even back in the late 1800s people wanted more water with this quote: "We need more water. And we have two choices: reduce consumption and curtail growth now, or raise the resources and the resolve to transport water from a source many miles away."

"Many miles away" then was 18 miles! They opted for the Cottonwood Canal in 1903 that cost \$14,000.

Even though the people of the late 1800s and early 1900s felt they needed more water due to growth, it was more a matter of moving it than the fact that it was not available.

Their situation was different than ours. They had less people to use available local water. Now we have more people but the same water to satisfy our population and the coming growth.

So what's the plan? Conservation? Managing growth better? Reuse? Nope. Although our water district talks about conservation another pipeline is the focus—not 18 miles long but 140 miles to a diminishing resource outside Washington County—the Colorado River. The \$14,000 county citizens agreed to pay in 1903 (\$777 per mile) would have been around \$418,000 (\$23,222 per mile) in 2021 dollars. At about \$14,300,000 per mile today's proposed \$2 billion (without financing interest!) Lake Powell Pipeline is a heavy lift.

According to officials demand is driving the pipeline's need. Around 2000 we were using over 400 gallons per person per day. Our current usage is about 271 gpcd. Over the past twenty years our per capita water use in Washington County has gone down but it continues to be extremely high compared to other areas.

Our water district says we can't be compared to other areas, and yet, their consultants did just that in the 1998 Water Needs Study, which provided their foundation for the pipeline. They compared us to many other areas and our use compared poorly.

Officials assert the LPP would be a god-send for this county. In fact, our former water district manager argued that we would be running out of water by 2020. Well, folks, it is 2021 and we are not running out of water but do face a situation that requires our focus.

We face a drought condition that requires—in fact, demands!—our concerted effort to manage this essential resource well so that growth can continue to help this county prosper. We do not need to seek more from an unreliable source 140 miles away. We all need to ponder our relationship with water and evaluate how we are using this indispensable, unique element that is the essence of our existence. We need a solid water ethic. So, what DOES water mean to you?



This outstanding accomplishment was achieved while Utah had the sixth-lowest per capita COVID-19 death rate and has the nation's lowest unemployment rate at 2.9 percent.

So how did we do it? In short, our great state government and our great people.

I give a lot of credit to our state government for avoiding the blanket lockdown orders that exacerbated the tragic rise in depression, drug and alcohol abuse, and domestic strife evident in stringent lockdown states.

A working paper from the National Bureau of Economic Research, written by researchers from Harvard, Johns Hopkins and Duke, forecasts that as many as 890,000 premature deaths may result from stringent COVID-19 lockdowns beyond those attribut-

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OPINION

MY BODY, MY CHOICE... OH, REALLY?
By Ed Kociela



I've got this thing about hypocrites, I dislike them as much as I dislike liars.

The thing is, if you are going to make a moral pronouncement, you had better well be consistent and not just go with whatever is most expedient or socially acceptable.

I received my second COVID-19 vaccination Friday. To be honest, I love our medical practitioners and admire their selfless dedication, but I try my level best to avoid them as much as possible, especially when I know they are going to plunge a needle into my arm or elsewhere. And, unlike the first round, I did suffer from some of the dreaded side effects from the second round. But, you know what? It was worth it. I can rest easier knowing that I did something that will not only protect me, but my loved ones, my friends, and those strangers I encounter.

That's why the anti-vaxxers and non-maskers have pushed me over the edge with their refusal to vaccinate by arguing, "My body, my choice."

As my wife pointed out to me, there is also a greater issue at play here. The yappers screaming "My body, my choice" are very likely to also be the ones shouting down the pro-choicers who say the same thing. They do not understand that you cannot have it both ways. If you get to make the choice about what you do with your body, so should everybody else, which means I would expect to see the anti-vaxxers supporting the pro-choice movement and giving financial, physical, and emotional aid to groups like Planned Parenthood, as if that will happen in this lifetime or any other.

Let's be sure to understand that this is not a debate supporting pro-choice or pro-life

factions, or even pre-vaccine and anti-vaccine supporters. Those are two separate arguments, two separate topics for two separate discussions. What we are talking about here is hypocrisy and the question of why one side can use an argument to support itself yet deny others the same argument to support their rights.

But, hypocrisy reigns, especially among the self-appointed moral authorities who represent organized religion and those who are supposed to represent and defend our rights as elected officials. Those hypocrites give up their moral authority when they cross the line into contradictory behavior. The sad thing is that few are able to acknowledge negative truths about themselves or their inability to remain consistent in matters of our personal rights. Theirs, it appears, are more important than ours, a sort of elitism that prevails among those with the loudest voices that eventually result in cult-like behavior. A stinging example is the rush by Republicans to confirm a new Supreme Court justice in the waning weeks of the presidential race while denying the Democrats the same grace months and months before the expiration of the Barack Obama presidency. The bullies won both times, thanks to the bloom of hypocrisy.

It is all based, of course, on our breadth of rationalization, and, of course, our politics, which, by their very nature, make hypocrites of many. As a result, you'd better do your homework before making any moral judgments and be sure that the person you extol is, indeed, representing your set of beliefs. Hypocrisy, you must remember, is based on a foundation of lies to which the hypocrites should be held accountable.

We don't do that, however. We, instead, give them a pass because we like their music or their movies or their politics. How else do you explain the popularity of guys like John Wayne, Ted Nugent, and Donald Trump? As a point of full disclosure, I have never been a fan of those three gentlemen, but you probably guessed that already.

We get a lot of high-handed moralization from both sides of the political spectrum,

without a doubt. But whether it comes from the left or the right, it is simply an indication of our lack of moral firmament.

It is also evidence that we are all, to a certain degree, control freaks. We want people to think the same way we think, to act as we act, to believe what we believe without respect for our individualism, our unique life experiences, our very context, which are relevant to our belief systems. How we are raised, how we are treated by others, how we view ourselves are integral to all of this.

To maintain a level of credibility, however, you must be consistent. If you believe you can make a decision about your body, be willing to allow others to make decisions about theirs, whether it is based on a pro-choice agenda, legalization of cannabis, or sexual identity and preference. Otherwise, your behavior, character, and integrity are open for dissection.

It is your right to decide which religious club you want to join, which political team you want to play for, which lifestyle you wish to pursue as long as you realize we all have the right to those choices. But, when it

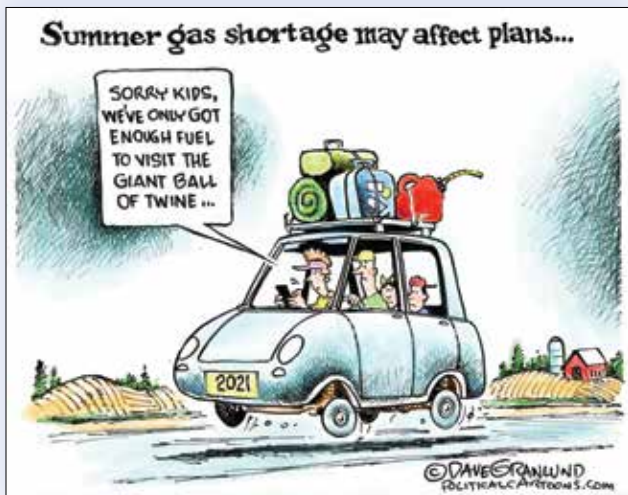
comes to such intimate decisions, you cannot pick and choose who gets to follow their own hearts and who has to abide by your personal morality or judgments. If not, you will be the first plucked when I weed my garden, which often needs weeding.

For the record, if you are adamantly opposed to vaccinating yourself, you will probably be weeded out anyway because it indicates that you think so little of the people around you that you would risk infecting them just so you could make a political statement.

So as far as I'm concerned, you can hook up with Donald Trump and Ted Nugent and take in a John Wayne film festival.

I will be more than happy to stay home and watch reruns of "Grace and Frankie."

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GOBLIN VALLEY STATE PARK

By Tom Garrison

Trails: Entrada Canyon Trail and Carmel Canyon Loop Trail.

Location: Goblin Valley State Park, Utah.

Difficulty: Each hike is easy. There is a short steep section at the beginning of Entrada Canyon Trail and almost all the trail is narrow at the bottom of a natural drainage comprised of hardened mud. The last section of Carmel Canyon Loop is somewhat steep with rock scrambling through a narrow canyon. Carmel Canyon is not well marked, with some trail markers knocked down, and several user trails leading in different directions. Follow the rock cairns.

Average hiking time: Less than one hour for Entrada Canyon Trail and about one hour for Carmel Canyon Loop Trail. Both at a leisurely pace with many photo stops.

Elevations: Entrada Canyon Trail, 4,933 feet trailhead elevation with less than a 100 feet elevation change. Carmel Canyon Loop, 4,893 feet trailhead elevation with about an 85 feet elevation change.

Family friendly: Yes, although probably a bit much for very young kids. Dogs are allowed on a leash.

Getting there: From St. George head north on Interstate 15. About 117 miles later (the mileage depends upon your exact starting point) take Exit 132 near Sulphurdale onto Interstate 70/Highway 89 (which later become Highway 50) going east. Stay on Interstate 70 for approximately 148 miles and exit the Interstate via Exit 149 onto State Highway 24 going south. Remain on Highway 24 for 24 miles and then turn right (west) onto Temple Mountain Road. After five miles turn left (south) onto Goblin Valley Road. Almost seven miles later is the park entrance station and visitor center. After paying your fee and examining the displays at the center, drive past the entrance station for .4 mile and turn right



toward the campground. About .1 mile past the intersection, make the second left turn (the first left goes to the group campsite) into the campground. Unless you have purchased a campsite, the only place to park is in front of the bathrooms. Park there and walk back to the group campsite. The Entrada Canyon Trailhead, marked with a sign, is on the southeast side of the entrance.



Looking for that desert playground with goblins being the most prominent feature? We were and Goblin Valley State park in south central Utah fit the bill.

Encompassing only 3,654 acres, Goblin Valley State Park became an established state park in 1964. It features amazing red sandstone formations, many resembling animals, faces, and portals to alien worlds. The stone formations of Goblin Valley result from millions of years of geological history. The most famous structures are thousands of pinnacles or hoodoos, referred to as goblins. These are formations of mushroom-shaped rock pinnacles, some as tall as several yards. The distinct shape of these formations results from an erosion-resistant layer of rock atop a relatively softer sandstone. Time and the forces of nature—uplift, wind and water erosion created the forms we see today. It is an alien landscape on good old earth.

While Native Americans left their mark in Goblin Valley in the form of petroglyphs, the first Americans to view the valley are believed to be cowboys searching for lost cattle. In the late 1920s, Arthur Chaffin and two companions were searching for an alternate route between Green River and Caineville. They came to vantage point and were awed by what they saw—five buttes and a valley of strange shaped rock

formations surrounded by a wall of eroded cliffs. Chaffin returned in 1949 and spent several days exploring the area he called Mushroom Valley.

Despite its remoteness publicity attracted visitors to the valley. In 1954 it was proposed that Goblin Valley be protected from vandalism. The state of Utah later acquired the property and established Goblin Valley State Reserve. In 1964 it was

designated a state park.

For our first exploration of Goblin Valley State Park, we chose two easy hikes, representative of the entire area. The first, Entrada Canyon Trail is a 1.2 mile one way (you can go out and back) hike featuring interesting goblin formations on the rim of a dried mud drainage. The second, Carmel Canyon Loop Trail, 1.5 miles long, features more perspectives of the goblins and a short colorful narrows section.

Our adventure began on a late April morning. Before leaving Deb and I explained to Bob and Willa, our cats, that we would be gone overnight and under no circumstances were they to have some crazy cat conclave while we were gone.

The Entrada Canyon Trailhead elevation is 4,933 feet, the temperature was in the mid-60s, and the sky, of course, a deep Utah blue. There is less than a 100 feet elevation change during this easy hike which took us less than one hour.

There is a short steep section at the beginning of Entrada Canyon Trail and the trail tracks south and a little east following a natural drainage. About ¼ mile in, we passed a service road leading to bike trails. The entire trail past that intersection is a narrow track at the bottom of a hardened mud drainage. Most of the way, goblins are peering down on you from the rim of the

mud walls. It is an easy climb to the rim of the walls, and we took many photos of the goblins.

At the end is a short uphill section to the Goblin Valley Observation Point and parking area. Here most hikers turn around for the return trip. We took a break before our next hike to explore Goblin Valley directly below the Observation Point—an amazing sight. There are literally hundreds of hoodoos and rock formations of all sizes and shapes—the goblins. Most park visitors do not hike the trails, but come directly to the Observation Point, walk down a series of steps, and wander around the goblins.

After communing with the goblins, we proceeded to the Carmel Canyon Trailhead located at the northeastern end of the parking area. The trailhead elevation is 4,893 feet with about an 85 feet elevation change during the hike. This is an easy 1.5 miles loop trail and we started in a counterclockwise direction heading northeast. Beware that Carmel Canyon Loop Trail is not well marked, with some trail markers knocked down, and several user trails leading in different directions. Follow the rock cairns.

In addition to goblins and other formations, the end of this hike features a short section of somewhat steep colorful narrows requiring some rock scrambling.

We finished the hike returning to the Observation Point (it is a loop hike) in about one hour. We then headed back along a paved road to the Entrada Canyon Trailhead and campground and our vehicle. The road passes close to the famous Three Sisters formation and we got some good photos.



Since it was a long drive home, about four hours, we spent the night in Green River, about 45 miles from the park. In 2019 Green River had a population of 856. It is a pleasant town straddling its namesake, the Green River, and alongside Interstate 70. Virtually everyone must work in motels, there at least ten in the town, and eateries.

While other Utah national and state parks receive more visitors and press coverage, don't assume Goblin Valley State Park is something to bypass. It is isolated and receives some visitors, but sans massive crowds. Its' weird goblin inhabitants make it a worthwhile trip.

Find more at SUIdependent.com

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MOVIES

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

THE INDEPENDENT MOVIE REVIEW

By Adam Mast

MINARI (PG-13)
★★★★½



"Minari" Is A Must-See!

"Minari" was the best movie of 2020. Let's put that out there right upfront. Now, it could be argued that this is actually a 2021 release but since I saw it in 2020 and since it did receive a late-December limited release to qualify for the Oscars let's just put that particular argument aside for a minute. What truly matters is that "Minari" is every bit as special as you've been hearing.

This poignant gem tells the story of a Korean family that relocates from California to the Arkansas countryside in an effort to start anew by way of a potentially risky farming venture. Upon arrival, eager Jacob (Steven Yeun) and his conflicted wife Monica (Yeri Han) don't initially see eye to eye on the prospects of their recent endeavor while their children Ann (Noel Cho) and David (Alan S. Kim) simply look to adjust to their new surroundings. An already difficult situation becomes slightly more complicated when grandma Soonja (Yuh-Jung Youn) arrives for an extended visit. What follows is a lovely, heartfelt, funny, and touching portrait of a family and the American dream.

The semi-autobiographical "Minari" was elegantly written and directed by Lee Isaac Chung. Among many other strong attributes, Chung has a real gift for recalling the 80s of his youth in pitch-perfect fashion. Much of the story is told from David's perspective as this precocious youngster attempts to not only adjust to new people, a new environment, and obvious cultural changes but to the arrival of a loving, childlike, and slightly eccentric grandmother. In fact, it's this central bond that gives "Minari" a great deal of heart not to mention a large dose of humor. Beyond that, Chung is able to bring a real sense of authenticity to the proceedings.

The cast here is positively stellar. Yeun (who many will recognize from AMC's "The Walking Dead") is outstanding as a driven father looking to provide for his family all while earning their respect. Likewise, Han is wonderful as Jacob's supportive but concerned wife. She too wants what's best for the family but questions whether or not their big move was the right choice. Cho is terrific as young Ann while an endearing Kim hits all the right notes as an adorable and rambunctious David. Rounding out a stellar ensemble are a good-hearted Will Patton as Jacob's Pentecostal farmhand and a scene-stealing Youn as the world's most lovable grandmother. This terrific actress is an award-worthy standout amongst a brilliant cast and if she doesn't steal your heart as Soonja, you may not have a pulse.

Adding to the overall quality of this outstanding film are the exquisite cinematography by Lachlan Milne and an exceptional score by Emile Mosseri. At the end of the day, though, this well-balanced, honest, and undeniably moving immigration story is all about the tiny nuances. Chung's eye for character detail is next to none and the fashion in which the title of this gentle movie sums up the overall theme of the piece is near perfect. It should also be noted that while "Minari" is certainly sensitive and heartfelt, it never feels overly sentimental or cloying. Further still, while the richly-textured characters in this winning film clearly have obstacles to overcome, "Minari" steers clear of cynicism and that only aids in making this lovely motion picture experience an absolute

must-see!

"Minari" is currently available to stream at a premium price on multiple streaming services including Amazon Prime.

GODZILLA VS. KONG (PG-13)
★★★★½

There's something to said for a dumb movie that's still fun despite its absolute ridiculousness and "Godzilla Vs. Kong" certainly qualifies as such a film. This continuation of Legendary Pictures' monster-verse franchise, which started with Gareth Edwards's "Godzilla" and continued with "Kong: Skull Island" and Michael Dougherty's "Godzilla: King of the Monsters," is -If you'll pardon the pun-- ape shit crazy! That said, this nutty movie coasts along on a heaping dose of a kind of ridiculousness that's more akin to the silly but inviting spirit of the "Fast and Furious" franchise as opposed to the more obnoxious and incoherent stylings of something like the "Transformers" series (with the notable exception of the sweet-natured "Bumblebee.")

In the aptly titled "Godzilla Vs. Kong," the King is plucked from his home and transported to the mainland so that he might duke it out with Godzilla in a bid to save humanity as we know it. Along the way, a team of explorers discovers uncharted terrain that might just lead them to the origins of the world's fiercest Titans. Beyond that, as expected, the identity of the true villain in this piece isn't the monster you might be expecting.

Are there any people in this movie? There are but they aren't particularly interesting nor are they particularly necessary. But then, what were you expecting from a movie called "Godzilla Vs. Kong"? As expected, the human element takes a back seat to the ultimate monster smackdown. On the other hand, this all begs the question, why even include capable actors like Kyle Chandler, Millie Bobby Brown, Julian Dennison, Alexander Skarsgard, Rebecca Hall, Brian Tyree Henry, Demian Bichir in the first place if you aren't going to do anything substantial with them? Thankfully, adorable Kaylee Hottle does bring a bit of dramatic weight to the proceedings as a young girl with a hearing impairment who is not only able to communicate with Kong but is also able to tame the heart of this most misunderstood beast.

"Godzilla Vs. Kong" was directed by Adam Wingard, a filmmaker who cut his teeth on smaller, considerably lower scale horror pictures like "You're Next" and his strongest film, the Dan Steven-headlined thriller, "The Guest." With this movie, Wingard is given a much larger sandbox to play in and he more than makes the most of it. "Godzilla Vs. Kong" has many effective set pieces to speak of including a sequence in which a drowsy Kong has an altercation with Godzilla at sea as well as an epic "Pa-



cific Rim"--inspired throwdown that takes place in a neon-lit Hong Kong. It should also be noted that an iconic Godzilla foe of the past also makes an appearance in this movie, and while I'll refrain from spoilers here, this particular appearance is sure to make most Godzilla fans giddy.

The visual effects are pretty spectacular as is the sound design. Both make for a movie that is best viewed on the biggest screen with the biggest sound possible. I actually took in a screening in Imax and it was quite the experience. Further props are in order to Wingard for coming up with a nifty reason to pit Godzilla and Kong against each other. It's certainly not Shakespeare but no matter who you might be rooting for, you're likely to walk away from the battle fulfilled.

With "Godzilla Vs. Kong," what you see is basically what you get. It isn't high art, folks. This is a big, messy, convoluted monster movie with uninteresting humans and seemingly nonsensical plot developments. Still, there's a lot of dumb fun to be had here, the battles live up to the hype, and tonally, this movie does capture the goofy spirit of those old-school Godzilla sequels, minus the man-in-suit approach of course.

"Godzilla Vs. Kong" is currently playing in theaters.

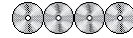
ALBUM REVIEWS

- 👤 - Forget about it
- 👤👤 - Borrow it from a friend first
- 👤👤👤 - Nice to have in your library
- 👤👤👤👤 - You should own this
- 👤👤👤👤👤 - Classic - Buy it now

THE INDEPENDENT ALBUM REVIEWS

By Rob Jones

Album: Black Candy
Artist: Snake Bite Whisky



Every so often in rock n roll you come across that band who really brings that rabid dog attitude to their sound, Snake Bite Whisky is one such band.

If you throw together George Thorogood and The Destroyers, Jackyl, Faster Pussycat, and The Sex Pistols, I think you'd have some idea of what this band sounds like, All of that but harder.



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FEATURED EVENT

THE BEAVER DAM JAM STREET FESTIVAL May 7-9. The music festival starts at 2 PM on Friday and at noon Saturday and Sunday. The Swap Meet starts at 10 AM on Saturday and Sunday with live music, food, and drink. Vendors will be setting up and selling as early as 10 AM on all three days. Beaver Dam Station and Bar, 411 N. Old Highway 91, Littlefield.

PORTALS AND PATHWAYS ART SHOW RECEPTION May 7-June 3, 6 PM. The Red Cliff Gallery will be hosting an Artist Reception on May 7th from 6-8 PM, for the new "Portals and Pathways" art show, and the public is welcome to attend. The Reception will be held at the Red Cliffs Gallery, where "Portals and Pathways" will be hanging. Refreshments and live music will be provided. We ask that attendees mask up and follow social distancing guidelines to keep everyone safe. The art show will run from May 7th to June 3rd, from 10 AM-5 PM, Mon. through Sat. Red Cliff Gallery, 68 E. Tabernacle, St. George.

AMAZING EARTHFEST May 9-15. Join us for a week of online events for presentations on rock art, astrophotography, and Utah's parks, as well as documentary films and film discussions. Amazing Earthfest is a 501c3 nonprofit organization based in Kanab, Utah, established in 2007 to produce an annual public festival celebrating National and State Parks, National Forests, Monuments, and Public Lands of the Colorado Plateau. Our educational festival brings enjoyment and learning opportunities to residents and visitors while enhancing community and economic resilience in Kane County, Utah.

ARMED FORCES CELEBRATION May 13-16, 9 AM. Western Sky Aviation Warbird Museum is hosting their 8th Annual Armed Forces Celebration. This event includes displays of vintage military aircraft from WWII, Korea & Vietnam War Eras, military displays, aviation art, food etc. Admission to the event is \$6 per adult, 17 & under are free. Visiting aircraft will be the B-17 Sentimental Journey and the B-25 Maid in the Shade from the Flying Legends of Victory Tour from the Commemorative Air Force Arizona Base. Western Sky Aviation Warbird Museum, 4196 S. Airport Parkway, St. George.

Their latest album, Black Candy, Has all of the viscous intensity of a full capacity fight at a biker bar. This sleaze metal band comes out swinging with "thunderbird" dialing up the punk influence in their sound, the band continues the assault with "Raised in Hell and Reload, Aim, Kill!"; these should be on a soundtrack for an action movie.

"Hammered" is one of those really killer drinking songs to get your riot on with that I'm sure will amp up the crowd at their shows

"Dead by Dawn" is a personal favorite as this song just drives with a lot of great rhythm and swagger.

"End of the Line" fittingly ends the album and ends it on a great high note that makes you want to start the whole album all over again.

This is a great album. So if you really want a rock album that will kick your ass all over the place and keep you coming back for more, this is it.

You can buy this album on the band's website: www.snakebitewhisky.com

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THE FULL MONTY--THE MUSICAL May 13-22, 7:30 PM. In this Americanized musical stage version adapted from the 1997 British film of the same name, six unemployed Buffalo steelworkers, low on both cash and prospects, decide to present a strip act at a local club after seeing their wives' enthusiasm for a touring company of Chippendales. Tickets are \$35, and \$10 for students. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct., Ivins.

MAMMA MIA! May 20-June 5, 8 PM. ABBA's hits tell the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter, and friendship, creating an unforgettable show. A large cast of non-stop laughs and explosive dance numbers combine to make Mamma Mia. a guaranteed smash hit. A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you'll never forget. O.C. Tanner Amphitheater, 144 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

MESQUITE MOTOR MANIA May 21-23, 9 AM. Features over 900 Cars. Join us for a 3-day, jam-packed weekend in Mesquite featuring vintage cars, new cars, custom automobiles, beloved classics--you name it. We're also giving away \$15,000 in cash/drawings to be given to car show participants. So don't forget to vote for your favorite vehicle. CasaBlanca Resort, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

ULTIMATE OUTDOOR REC EXPO & SOUTHERN UTAH HOME SHOW May 21-22, 10 AM. Every outdoor recreation activity and sport for families and individuals. Over 25 free hands-on activities and workshops. Legacy Park, 5500 W. 700 S., Hurricane.

2021 FESTIVAL OF THE AMERICAS May 28-30, 10 AM. Kayenta Arts Foundation is honored to present an arts festival experience that celebrates the depth and beauty of the early cultures of the Americas with a focus on Native American and Latino American people. We do this through educational workshops, activities and performances that feature music, dance, fine art, unique customs and culinary treasures of the early Americans. Latino Roots is an international touring performance group from Northern Utah that celebrates the brightest music and dance from Latin America and Mexico and will be presenting a beautiful staged production on Saturday evening complete with Andean Flute Performers. Kayenta Center for The Arts, 881 Coyote Gulch Ct., Ivins.

GREGG BAND AT CASABLANCA May 5-9, and June 2-6, 7 PM. Showtimes may vary. Classic Rock, Variety, and dance band. Free. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

CALENDAR

Multi-Day Events

MINING HERITAGE FESTIVAL June 4, 8 PM, and June 5th 10 AM–7 PM. Free Admission. Come celebrate Utah's rich history of mining. Lots of activities, exhibits, demonstrations, mountain biking trails, Beer Garden, Food, Entertainment and much more. Activities for all ages. Check out how miners panned for gold as well as many other interactive activities. Ticketed events: Friday 7 PM Enjoy a delicious Miner's Meal and a fascinating presentation of mining history. Saturday 7:30 PM Clayton Smalley Country Concert. Grab your family and friends (and a comfortable camping chair) and top off the weekend celebration with an amazing country concert. Iron Springs Adventure Resort, 3196 N. Iron Springs Rd., Cedar City.

THE RIDE AT CASABLANCA May 12–16, 7 PM. Showtimes may vary. Singing a great variety of classic rock. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

CEDAR CITY PRCA CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO 2021 June 4–5, 7 PM. Few young people have the opportunity to grow up on a ranch or farm in today's society. Accordingly, Cedar City pays tribute to the rich ranching and farming heritage of its ancestors through the Cedar City PRCA Championship Rodeo. A full contingent of Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association events will include Bareback, Steer Wrestling, Tie Down Roping, Saddlebronc, Team Roping, Barrel Racing and Bull Riding each performance. World Class cowboys and livestock will provide amazing rides and unexpected wrecks that will keep the spectators on the edge of their seats. Add to that a phenomenal Specialty Act, with two cash cows each night and the Rodeo will be an experience to remember. Cross Hollow Arenas, Cedar City 11 N. Cross Hollow Dr., Cedar City.

KID & NICK SHOW AT CASABLANCA May 26–30, 7 PM. showtimes may vary. A fun, high-energy, interactive variety musical group. Free admission. 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

THE RIDE AT CASABLANCA May 12–16, 7 PM. Showtimes may vary. Singing a great variety of classic rock. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

2021 MESQUITE AMATEUR May 31–June 4, 8 AM. Entering its 18th year of competition, the Mesquite Amateur is one of the largest handicapped amateur tournaments in the nation. Located in Mesquite, Nevada, which is established along the northern edge of the Mojave Desert and near the southern edges of the Great Basin, all seven courses provide distinct, challenging styles of desert, arroyo, vista, and canyon play. CasaBlanca Resort & Casino, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

TJ TYLER AT CASABLANCA May 8–23, 7 PM. showtimes may vary. TJ performs virtually every style of music and he plays off of his uncanny resemblance to Frank Sinatra whom he also pays tribute to in his show. Free Admission, must be 21 or older. 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite.

TUESDAYS

STORY TIME AT WASHINGTON BRANCH 10 AM. Washington County Library System, 220 N. 300 E., Washington.

TRIBUTE TO THE KING AT CASABLANCA 6–10 PM. 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.

WEDNESDAYS

GAMER CLUB 3 PM. 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.

STILL LIFE WEDNESDAYS 4 PM. Three still life arrangements. Participants sketch or paint one or all three scenes. This free event is for adults. Art supplies not provided. All skill levels are welcome. Cedar City Library, 303 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

BINGO WEDNESDAY AT THE GRILLE 6–8 PM. Free. There will be prizes given to all the winners. Sand Hollow Resort, 5662 W. Clubhouse Dr., Hurricane.

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CALENDAR

WEDNESDAYS

SINGER'S CLUB LIVE 6 PM. Open mic, sing, guitar, or grand piano. Facebook "Singer's Club" like our Facebook and watch the livestream every Wednesday night. Contact us if you want to perform. Gentry Music & Arts, 771 S. Bluff St., St. George.

THURSDAYS

DESERT COMMUNITY STRINGS AND NEW HORIZONS STRINGS 5:30-7:30 PM. 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 Basement of St. George Medical Building, 736 S. 900 E., St. George.

KARAOKE NIGHT AT SAND HOLLOW RESORT 7:30 PM. Every Thursday night. Located in the Grille. Prizes available. Sand Hollow Resort, 5662 W. Clubhouse Dr., Hurricane.

KARAOKE WITH DJ LANCE AT MIKES TAVERN 9 PM. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

FRIDAYS

LIVE MUSIC AT PEEKABOO WOOD FIRED KITCHEN 7-9 PM. Free. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

CHARACTER SKETCHES 6:30 PM. Weekly non-instructed, non-mentored event during which live models are dressed as characters from literature. Participants sketch or paint the models. This is a free event for adults. Art supplies not provided. All skill levels are welcome. Cedar City Library, 303 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

DJ EZ LIVE AT MIKES TAVERN 9 PM., 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

SATURDAYS

MONTHLY LAWNMOWER RACES 10 AM. The first Saturday of each month starting at 10 AM Arizona time, and joining in for karaoke four nights a week, Wednesday through Saturday, beginning at 5 PM at the Beaver Dam Bar. 411 N. Old Highway 91, Littlefield.

TUACAHN SATURDAY MARKET 10 AM. Every Saturday local artists, crafters, and vendors to come and show off their work. 1100 Tuacahn Dr., Ivins.

TAI CHI DRAGON QIGONG AT SANTA CLARA LIBRARY 10:30-11:30 AM. 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.

Events by Date

Fri, May 7

FIRST FRIDAYS AT LEGACY PARK 6 PM. The first Friday of every month, Legacy Park in Hurricane comes alive with food trucks, vendors, live music and carnival rides. Fun for everyone. 5500 W. 700 S., Hurricane.

CEDAR CITY SLOW ROLL 6 PM. Kick-off the summer with the Slow Roll community bike ride. Join the Cedar City Active Transportation Committee for a family-friendly block-party experience, with bands, food trucks, popsicles, and-weather permitting-the fire department's hose to keep you cool. The Route will follow the rounds around the Southern Utah University Campus. Begins at 300 W. University Blvd. Parking available in the SUU PE Parking lot. Admission is free and all non-motorized wheels are welcome. Southern Utah University, 351 W. University Blvd., Cedar City.

TOM BENNETT AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 PM. Free. Tom Bennett is a traveling Folk Singer from SLC. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

KARAOKE WITH DJ JANELLE AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 PM. First Friday of every month. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Sat, May 8

KANAB MOTHER'S DAY 10K 7 AM. The Kanab 10K is one of the most beautiful runs in the world. All participants will receive a swag bag and race shirt. Winners will receive one-of-a-kind trophies. Don't miss this opportunity for an incredible run through Southern Utah's best-kept secret. All participants will need to be at Kanab City Park (100 E. 500 N.) between 6-6:45 AM to catch a bus to the starting line. Last ride leaves at 6:45. No exceptions. The race MUST begin at 7 AM. City of Kanab, 76 N. Main, Kanab.

VAN FEST USA 10 AM. Born and bred out of the majestic scenery of Southern Utah, Van Fest USA is a one-of-a-kind festival for the nomadic at heart. Get real, tangible van build ideas and inspiration in a physical venue. We gather only the most unique builds and individuals to help introduce you to this amazing van life community. If you've scrolled past those beautiful van builds on social media and you've wondered what they're all about, come to Van Fest, we can't wait to see you. Legacy Park, 5500 W. 700 S., Hurricane.

LARRY BAGBY AT WING NUTZ 7 PM. 250 N. Red Cliffs Dr., St. George.

SPIRIT OF POLYNESIAN LUAU 6 PM. Come enjoy music from the Siva Pasefika Band, a traditional polynesian plate, dances from all groups (including our performing teams PELE and MANA), and enjoy the great scenery in Zion with the cliffs around the O.C. Tanner Amphitheater. Prices are: Adult (13+) \$15 and Child (2-13) \$10 O.C. Face masks that cover your nose and mouth are required for everyone in attendance at all times, except while partaking of food or drink.

Tanner Amphitheater, 144 Lion Blvd., Springdale.

WORKINGMAN BAND AT BLUES KATZ 8 PM. \$5 cover at door, 307 N. Bluff St., St. George.

LIVE COMEDY AT THE ELECTRIC WITH PETE JR AND RYAN ERWIN 8:30 PM. Fresh off filming their stand up comedy specials, Pete Jr. and Ryan Erwin are co-headlining the Electric Theater. 68 E. Tabernacle St., St. George.

Fri, May 14

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

REALITY CHECK-2021 SUNSET CONCERT SERIES 8 PM. Sand Hollow Resort, 5662 W. Clubhouse Dr., Hurricane.

SPEED DATING WITH DJ LANCE Mike's Tavern, 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Sat, May 15

STG SK8 COMPETITION 10 AM. Join the City of St. George's Leisure Services Department for the Street Sk8 Competition. Skaters will be divided into ages groups. Divisions will be 8 years old and younger, beginner, intermediate, and open. Each age group will have a jam session where the judges will watch all of them skate at once and pick the 3 best skaters to do individual rounds for prizes. Participants must wear a helmet in order to compete. Pricing Information. Pre-Registration: \$15 which guarantees participants a T-Shirt - until May 12th at 6 PM. Day of Registration: \$25, shirts will be given out as available. Recreation Center 435-627-4560. Skate Park, 171 E. 1160 S., St. George.

SWEET SPOT MUSIC FESTIVAL 1-11 PM. Second annual Sweet Spot Music Festival held in beautiful Kanarrville. Kanarrville Mountain Rd., Cedar City.

KANAB REDROCK ROADRUNNERS SHOW AND SHINE 5 PM. Bring yourself, your car, your friends, and their cars too. Third Saturday of each month May-September. This event is free. Stop on by and see many classic, and new, beautiful cars. Kanab Utah, Junction of Main and Center Street, Kanab.

1940'S HANGAR DANCE 6:30 PM. Come out and dance the night away to the music of the 1940's performed by the Rebel Jazz Band. 1940's attire is encouraged but not required. This year at the dance we will be commemorating the 80th anniversary year of the attack on Pearl Harbor. In addition to the live swing music there will be Hawaiian entertainment and refreshments. The B-17 Sentimental Journey & B-25 Maid in the Shade will be on display. Dance lessons will be at 6:30 PM with the band starting at 7 PM. Western Sky Aviation Warbird Museum, 4196 S. Airport Parkway, St. George.

ELI YOUNG BAND 7 PM. Join us for a night of boot-stomping, chart-topping country music live in festival city USA. In response to Covid-19, we have made "Pre-Registration" available so you can reserve your tickets now without having your card charged until we confirm that this event will occur as planned. No risk of losing your money to a cancelled or postponed event. If it doesn't happen, you don't ever pay. Festival Hall and Heritage Theater, Cedar City 105 N. 100 E., Cedar City.

RIVERHOUSE BAND AT WING NUTZ 7 PM. Classic and southern rock with country blues. 250 N. Red Cliffs Dr., St. George.

FIRA BAND AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 PM. FIRA is a duo consisting of Hannah Fira and Michael "Vette" Rodd. Their rock opera album, "From Vegas With Blood", is an original blend of metal and dance music based around a storyline. The songs are written with a plot that follows the characters "Fira" and "Vette" as they set off on an adventure to save their realm. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Sun, May 16

ARMED FORCES DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT 7 AM. 4 Person Shamble. Shotgun Start. \$60 Per Player/\$240 Per Team. Entry Fee Includes: Tournament Fee, Food, and Prizes. Palms Golf Club, 550 Peppermill Palms Blvd., Littlefield.

Mon, May 17

DICK EARL AT CONCERT IN THE PARK IN THE PARK 7:30 PM. Free. Dick Earl is a blues and rock and roll musician from St. George. Park seating. Vernon Worthen Park, St. George.

Wed, May 19

CHARLIE KESSNER AT WING NUTZ 7 PM. Island Vibe. 250 N. Red Cliffs Dr., St. George.

Fri, May 21

COUNTRY DANCE LESSONS AT MIKE'S TAVERN 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Sat, May 22

TOM BENNETT AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 PM. Tom Bennett is a traveling Folk Singer from SLC. 250 N. Red Cliffs Dr., St. George.

ADULT PROM NIGHT AT THE ONE AND ONLY 8 PM. Tickets \$5 and must be purchased in advance. Prom King and Queen 2021 will be crowned. Prom or Nice dress Attire. No Tickets at the Door. 21 and older event. 64 N. 800 E. #2, St. George.

APOLLO'S ARMY/THE ROBOT'S GUIDE TO LIVING AT BLUES KATZ ROCK N ROLL GRILL 8 PM. Door's open at 7 PM., show starts at 8 PM. Come rock out with Apollo's Army and the Robot's Guide to Living. 307 N. Bluff St., St. George.

REALITY CHECK AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 PM. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Fri, May 28

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

DICK EARL AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 PM. Free. Dick Earl is a blues and rock and roll musician from St. George. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

DOCUTAH MONTHLY-A SACRED JOURNEY 7 PM. When one brother is diagnosed with a shattering illness, another brother is forced to face his demons. The family struggles to pick up the pieces and stay together in this powerful portrait of love and what it truly means to care for each other. Megaplex Pineview Theaters, 2376 Red Cliffs Dr., St. George.

MOVIE IN THE PARK-KARATE KID 8:30 PM. St. George Town Square becomes an outdoor movie theatre for the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Classic movies for adults and children will be shown on the big screen under the stars. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and goodies to enjoy the evening and movies as it begins at dusk. Town Square, 50 S. Main, St. George.

FRICITION AT MIKES TAVERN 9 PM. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Sat, May 29

FRICITION AT WING NUTZ 7 PM. 250 N.

Red Cliffs Dr., St. George.

Thurs, June 3

CHAPTER 1 BOOK CLUB 5:30 PM. Washington County Library System, 88 W. 100 S., St. George.

SETH TURNER AND THE HIGH DESERT DRIFTERS LIVE AT MIKES TAVERN 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.

Fri, June 4

RIVERHOUSE BAND AT PEEKABOO KITCHEN 7 PM. Classic and southern rock with country blues served up hot as Brit or American groove. 233 W. Center St., Kanab.

MOONLIGHT FIREHOSE FRENZY 5K 9 PM. St. George Races and the St. George Firefighter's Association are joining forces to make one of the coolest 5k's in town-the Moonlight Firehose Frenzy. This race will take runners through the streets of Historic Downtown St. George. Throughout the course, the St. George Firefighters will have their Fire Trucks out spraying runners with water as they pass by. Foam pit party after the race starting at 9 PM. Live music. St. George Main Street, St. George.

KARAOKE WITH DJ JANELLE AT MIKE'S TAVERN 9 PM. First Friday of every month. 90 W. Hoover Ave., Cedar City.



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Springdale Utah Town Map

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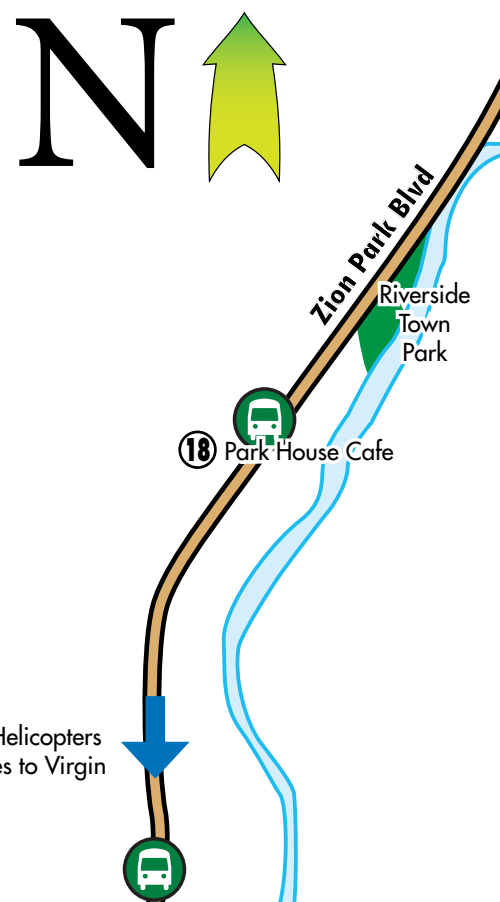
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P Paid parking lots can be found on Lion Blvd, behind Whiptail Grill Restaurant at 445 Zion Park Blvd, and a number of other locations throughout Springdale.

Other spots of note in Springdale include the library (located on Lion Boulevard, next to Town Hall), tennis/pickleball courts (also on Lion Blvd), and the Virgin River, which has numerous locations of access, but Riverside Park is one of the best.

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GUIDE TO UTAH'S LIQUOR LAWS

If you order an alcoholic drink at the restaurant bar, don't be surprised when the bartender asks you to order some food with your drink. In Utah, restaurants may only serve alcoholic beverages with food. Customers don't have to order food each time they buy another drink. The beer sold in grocery stores and gas stations, and tap beer is a bit weaker in Utah, limited to 3.2% alcohol content by weight (4.0% by volume), about 0.5% less than a typical American domestic beer. You can buy full-strength beer, along with liquor and wine, in a state-operated liquor store. Please remember to tip your servers and drink responsibly! The Utah State Liquor Store in Springdale is located inside the Switchback.

SPRINGDALE'S FEATURED RESTAURANTS FROM ZION GUIDE

Restaurant <i>(Listed by address from ZNP Entrance)</i>	Address	Phone	Drinks/Vegan <i>(W)ine, (B)eer, (M)ixed Drinks (E)spresso, (V)egan items on menu</i>	Hours	WI-FI
Red Rock Grill	1 Zion Lodge	435-772-7760	W, B, M, E, V	6:30-10:30am, 11:30am-3pm, 5-10pm daily	Yes
Zion Canyon Brew Pub	95 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0336	W, B, V	Noon-10pm daily	Yes
Happy Camper Market	95 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-7805	B, V	8am-8pm daily	Yes
Thai Sapa	145 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0510	W, B, E, V	11:30am-9:30pm daily	No
Perks Coffee Shop	147 Zion Park Blvd	435-668-0446	E	7am-4pm daily	No
Café Soleil	205 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0505	W, B, M, E, V	7am-9pm daily	No
Spotted Dog Cafe	428 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0700	W, B, M, E, V	7-11am, 5pm-9pm daily	Yes
Whiptail Grill	445 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0283	W, B, V	Noon-9:30pm daily	Yes
Blondie's Diner	736 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0595	B, V	11am-8:30pm Mon-Sat	Yes
Bamboo Chinese Restaurant	828 Zion Park Blvd	435-703-2882	V	11:30am-10pm daily	Yes
Zion Pizza & Noodle	868 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3815	W, B, V	4pm-10pm daily	No
Oscar's Cafe	948 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3232	W, B, E, V	7am-9pm daily	No
Switchback Grille Restaurant	1149 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3700	W, B, M, E, V	5-8pm daily	No
Jack's Sports Grill Restaurant	1149 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3700	W, B, M, V	Noon-9pm daily	No
Bit & Spur Restaurant & Saloon	1212 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-3498	W, B, M, E, V	5pm-11pm daily	Yes
Park House Café	1880 Zion Park Blvd	435-772-0100	W, B, V	8am-2pm daily	Yes

See detailed restaurant listings for Springdale and the greater Zion National Park area at ZionGuide.com.

Welcome To Zion from Zion Guide!

Safety Tips For Zion

Emergencies

For 24-hour emergency response, call 911 or (435) 772-3322. The Zion Canyon Medical Clinic is located in Springdale near the south entrance to the park. For hours, please call (435) 772-3226. Other medical clinics are located in Hurricane. The nearest hospitals are in St. George, Cedar City, and Kanab.

Hydrate and use refillable water bottles

It is easy to get dehydrated while hiking and walking in the desert, so pack along extra water, and be sure to take rest and water breaks on long hikes. There are a number of places to refill your water bottles in Zion National Park including the visitors' center and Zion Lodge as well as a new hydration station at the Springdale bus stop in front of The Bumbleberry Inn and Zion Canyon Brew Pub.

Be cautious near steep cliffs

Falls from cliffs on trails can result in death. Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks because there may be hikers below you. Stay on the trail. Stay back from cliff edges. Observe posted warnings. Please watch children.

Watch for flash floods

All narrow canyons are potentially hazardous. Flash floods, often caused by storms miles away, are a real danger and can be life threatening. You are assuming a risk when entering a narrow canyon. Your safety is your responsibility.



Tips To Minimize Your Impact

Pack it in, pack it out & use recycling bins

Each month, Zion National Park pays many thousands of dollars to haul away waste collected from garbage cans and recycling bins. Your experience and that of everyone who visits Zion Canyon can be improved by never littering and making sure you pick up any trash you see along the way. Recycling bins are placed strategically throughout Zion Park, and it is highly encouraged for everyone to use them.



Please stay on the marked trails

Hiking off trails can lead to loss of vegetation, soil compaction, erosion, and unsightly scars on the landscape. Remember, if you bring it in, please pack it out.

Go before you go

It is always a good idea to use the restroom before you begin a hike since facilities are limited to select locations. If you do need to take care of your business, please pack it back out.

Be respectful to the wildlife

Feeding, harming, or capturing wild animals is illegal and can cause injury or death to the animal. Animals can become aggressive beggars when fed.

Please leave it how you found it

It is illegal to remove anything from Zion National Park, including flowers, rocks, or anything else that you might find. Do not write or carve on natural surfaces.

Tips To Maximize Enjoyment

Go on a less crowded hike

The most visited Zion hikes have a lot of competition. If you'd rather not feel like you're in the line at a theme park, consider seeking out a less traveled path. Check out our feature, Less-Traveled Zion Hikes, in this issue.

To avoid the crowds, go early or late in the day

Consider getting up extra early or trekking out midday after the initial rush has flooded in.

Consider coming back again in the low season

Starting in the late fall, the number of visitors to Zion Canyon starts to dwindle, and by December it's significantly less than in the heat of the summer. It is simply a different experience to see Zion in the winter with the snow-capped monoliths. Most hikes are still accessible and are less crowded. You can also drive to the Temple of Sinawava parking lot. The shuttles stop running from November until March.

Check out Kolob Canyons and Kolob Terrace Road

With gorgeous open spaces and plenty of dirt roads to explore, Kolob Terrace Road is one of Zion's best kept secrets. You'll notice the air getting cooler as you gain elevation, and you'll find plenty of beautiful views worth stopping at for a quick photo op. The Kolob Terrace Road turnoff is in Virgin, so watch for signs. Portions of the Kolob Canyon District of Zion National Park are reached via Exit 40 on Interstate 15.



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Top Things To Do In Zion

Get some great hiking in

Zion National Park is known for its scenic landscape and unrivaled hikes. No matter your fitness level, there are hikes here for you. Please go to ZionGuide.com to see the details on many area hikes.

Spend a day in Springdale

Springdale is unique to our national park system in that it is almost completely surrounded by Zion National Park. So when you're in Springdale, you're right in the middle of Zion Canyon.

Catch an event

Not only does Zion Brew Pub have live music every Saturday, the property also hosts a handful of events throughout the year, as do the Bit and Spur restaurant, Tanner Amphitheater, Bumbleberry Inn, Wildcat Willies, and several other locations.

Try a guided tour

Jeep, helicopter, ATV, canyoneering, horseback riding, or mountain biking, guided tours are all available. Many of these tours take you outside Zion National Park boundaries and give you a unique perspective on Zion's canyons and plateaus from surrounding areas of southern Utah. Check out ZionGuide.com for listings and ads.

Visit the east side of Zion and spend a day in Kanab

The east side of Zion is generally less crowded, making hikes more accessible and private. These are some of the most enjoyable hikes in the canyon. You can spot wildlife you won't see elsewhere in the canyon. The city of Kanab, situated east of the canyon, is full of unique attractions, like the Little Hollywood Movie Museum and the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary.

Take lots of pictures, leave only footprints

Be sure you've got extra charged batteries, smartphone cables, and memory cards so you can capture all the magic of Zion National Park. Additionally, there are numerous photo tour and guiding companies to assist you. Thank you for visiting the Zion National Park area.



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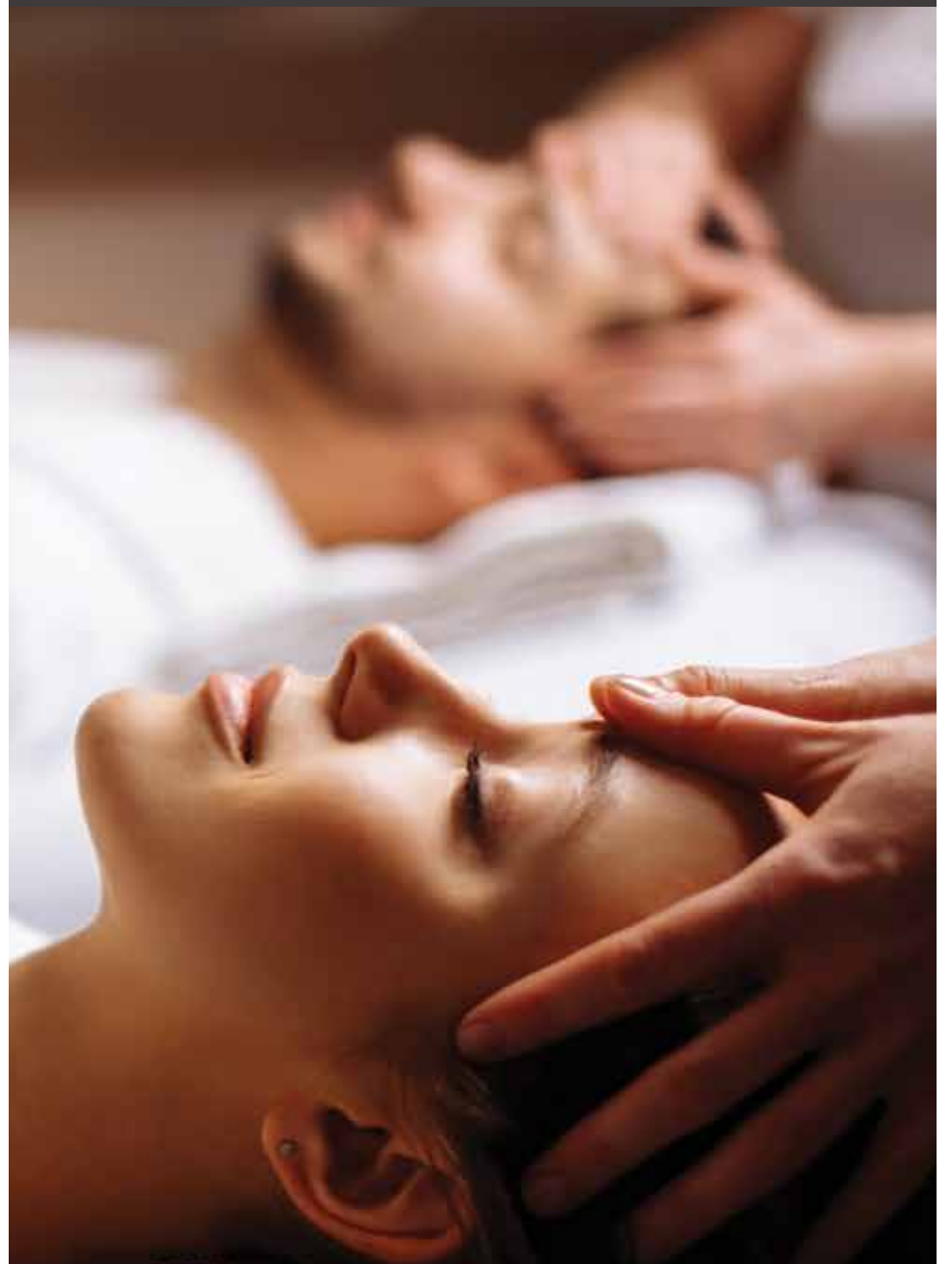
ST. GEORGE 1515 Sunset Blvd. 615 E. St. George Blvd	WASHINGTON 740 W. Telegraph #3 HURRICANE 1065 State St.	SPRINGDALE 147 Zion Park Blvd. CEDAR CITY 750 S. Main St.
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Zion Canyon Shuttle & Parking Info

PARKING & SHUTTLE INFO

There are two shuttle routes. The first is in the park. It requires a ticket that must be purchased in advance only at recreation.gov (Ticket information is on the nps.gov website). It runs from the visitor center up the Scenic Drive to destinations like the Zion Lodge and trailheads, including Emerald Pools, West Rim Trail, and Temple of Sinawava where hikers depart for the Narrows. Face masks must be worn on the shuttle buses and in queue lines.

The second shuttle route will begin operating for the 2021 season on March 13, 2021. This shuttle is free and located in the Town of Springdale. It stops at 9 locations in town and picks up and drops off visitors at the park's pedestrian/bike entrance.

Tickets must be purchased online at Recreation.gov or using the Recreation.gov mobile app. Shuttle Tickets are not sold at the park. The non-refundable ticket fee is \$1 USD.


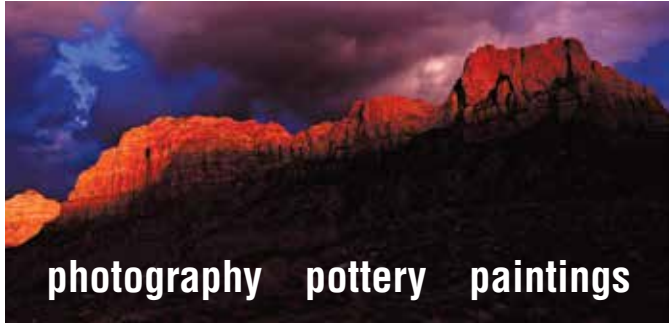
SHUTTLE SERVICE OPERATIONS UPDATES FOR 2021

SPRINGDALE, UT – The following provides an overview of upcoming shuttle service operations in Zion National Park that will occur in February, March, and April 2021. The park always recommends that visitors plan ahead and check the park website before their visit at nps.gov/zion to see what activities are currently available and what facilities may be open or closed. As in any winter season, visitors should check and plan for conditions such as ice, snow, and cold temperatures.



During shuttle and non-shuttle times, parking will fill early. Once full, additional vehicles can only be allowed in that area after parking spaces become available. With high vehicular traffic expected, walkers and cyclists must adhere to safety requirements along roadways and proceed single file to reduce potential conflicts with vehicles. Likewise, motorists must pay attention to pedestrian and bicyclist safety in road corridors. If traffic becomes too congested, entry to portions of the park may be temporarily suspended until traffic clears. This ensures access to emergencies by first responders along the Park road corridors. There is additional parking in Springdale.

Visitors who can be flexible with their schedule are encouraged to visit weekdays rather than Saturday or Sunday. Consider arriving early or after 3:00 p.m. to avoid high use conditions. Visitors should have alternate plans in the region in case their intended destination or activity is not available when they arrive.

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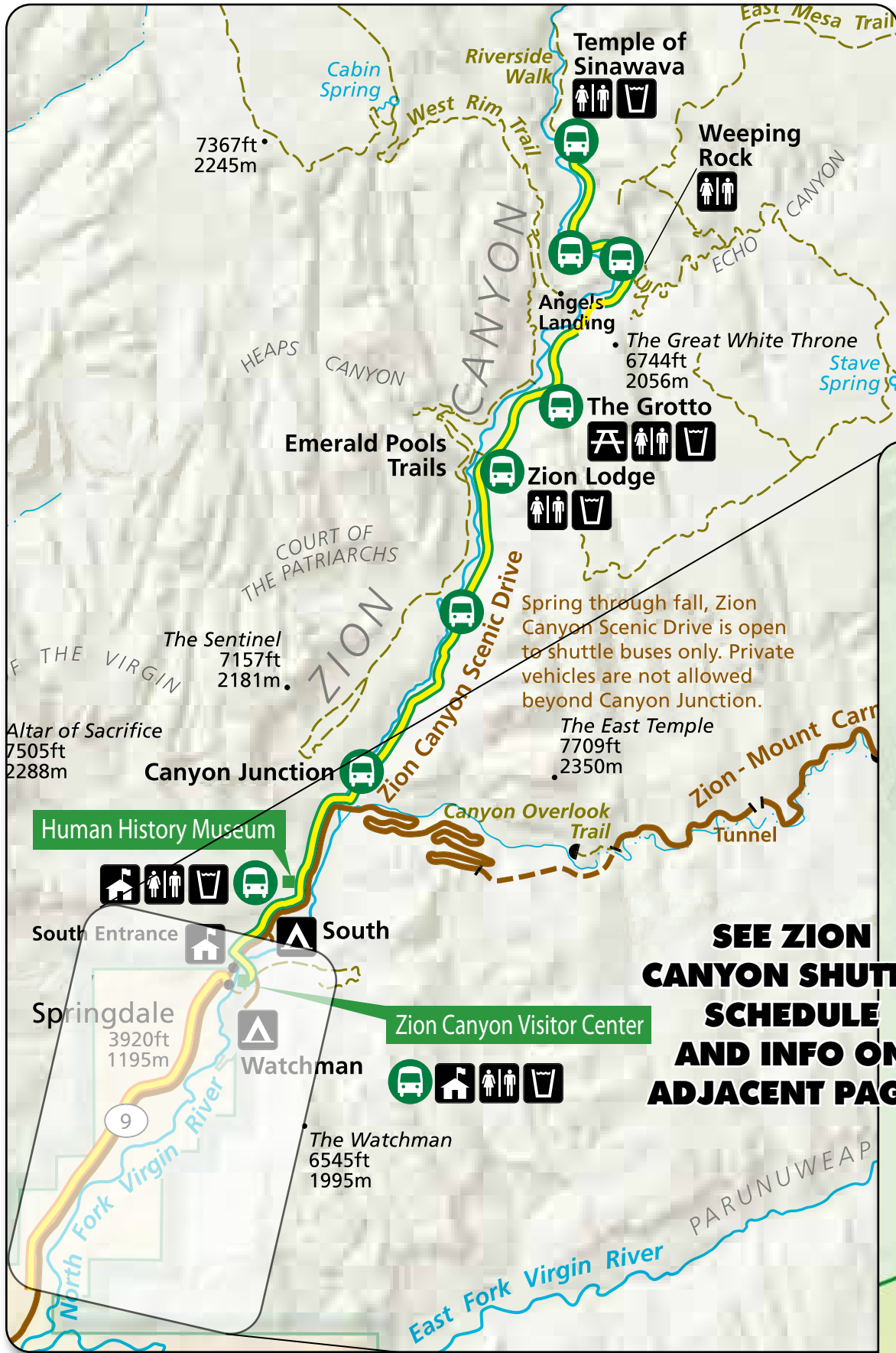
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Springdale Shuttle Map



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Zion Area Town & Cities

Cedar City



To get to Cedar City from Zion National Park, take State Route 9 from the park's south entrance to I-15 north. The overall distance is about 57 miles, about the same as traveling to St. George. Cedar City is home to Southern Utah University. It has a population of about 31,000 and an elevation of almost 6,000 feet, making it cooler in the summer. Named "Festival City," it is a popular summer destination in the area with a variety of noteworthy annual events.

The world-renowned Tony, Emmy, and National Governor's Association Award-winning Utah Shakespeare Festival attracts about 120,000 patrons each year. The 2018 season runs through Oct. 13 and features "Henry IV Part One," "Othello," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," and other plays by Shakespeare as well as a few by other playwrights. The festival also puts on an event through Sept. 8 known as the Greenshow, a free lighthearted outdoor entertainment event including singing, dancing, and more. Visit bard.org for a schedule of plays.

Cedar City is also home to the Neil Simon Festival, which runs through Aug. 11. This year's offerings include Simon's "Biloxi Blues" and "Jake's Women" in addition to a few other shows. Visit simonfest.org for more information.

Cedar Breaks National Monument is only 23 miles east of the city along Highway 148. At 10,000 feet, it offers scenic meadows and forests along with breathtaking views of the natural amphitheater below. The nearby Duck Creek Village is a nice place to visit to refuel and purchase supplies or simply pause for a picnic.

Brian Head Ski Resort is located about 45 minutes east of Cedar City. Although it is a ski resort, summer activities there are plentiful and range from hiking and biking to live music and festivals. And at nearly 11,000 feet, it is the highest-elevation ski

resort in Utah, so the climate is much cooler. More information is available at brianhead.com.

Bryce Canyon National Park isn't in Cedar City — it's about 76 miles east of Cedar City and 83 miles from Zion. Like Brian Head, with higher elevations it's cooler than Zion. So at such a short distance, visitors to Zion or Cedar City would be well advised to take a day and drive to Bryce Canyon National Park for a change of scenery and climate, hitting two of the nation's most spectacular national parks in one trip.

More ideas for local recreation in Cedar City and the surrounding area are available at cedarcity.org, cedarcitychamber.org, and visitcedarcity.com.

Hurricane Valley



Situated between Zion National Park and St. George, the town of Hurricane is a mere 23 miles east on State Route 9 with an estimated population of about 16,000.

Sand Hollow Resort is home to more than just a golf course. Sand Hollow Reservoir affords visitors opportunities for boating and other watersports while sand dunes are a popular destination for ATV enthusiasts. For golfers who want even more variety, Sky Mountain Golf Course and Copper Rock Golf Course are also nestled within Hurricane Valley.

The Sand Hollow State Park and Quail Lake State Park are two more recreation destinations in Hurricane Valley, each boasting warm waters and magnificent red rock camping scenery.

The Southern Utah Sports Shooting Park is a public facility near the Washington County Fairgrounds. With five ranges to choose from, visitors can enjoy everything from skeet and clay shooting to rifle, handgun, and trap shooting.

Find more at cityofhurricane.com and hvchamber.com.

Kanab and Fredonia



Kanab has a population of about 4,500, and just across the Arizona state line, Fredonia has a population of about 1,300. Both towns are easily accessible from Zion National Park by departing from the park's east entrance along State Route 9 and following Highway 89 south. Kanab is about 40 miles away, and Fredonia is only 10 miles further.

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in nearby Angel Canyon is home to about 1,600 animals, from cats and dogs to rabbits, horses, pigs, and more. It has engaged in high profile rescue work over the years, taking animals after Hurricane Katrina as well as dogs rescued from Michael Vick's dogfighting kennels, saving them from euthanasia. The sanctuary offers a variety of free tours and features one of the area's best buffets, which is open to the public.

Moqui Cave, another geographical landmark created by sandstone erosion, was used by the Anasazi for shelter. Now privately owned, it houses dinosaur tracks, fluorescent minerals, fossils, and Native American artifacts along with a gift store.

The Western Legends Round-Up, held the week of Aug. 20, is a celebration of Western heritage with an emphasis on Kanab's historic role as a backdrop for Western films. Live music and a BBQ competition are a part of the festival along with more immersive activities like campfire breakfasts and Dutch oven dinners.

A popular destination for photographers and ATV enthusiasts alike, Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park comprises dunes made from the pink Navajo Sandstone frequently seen throughout southern Utah. Due to how the geography directs winds, they have deposited sandstone particles in this area for thousands of years, resulting in the dunes. This unique area contains rare and endangered species only found here: the Coral Pink Sand Dunes tiger

beetle and Welsh's milkweed.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument stretches over a million acres from Glendale and Kanab to the eastern part of the state. A visitors' center is located in Kanab.

Just south of the Utah border and west of Fredonia in the town of Kaibab is Pipe Spring National Monument, where Pipe Spring enabled the Ancestral Puebloans and Kaibab Paiutes to survive the heat and aridity of the northern Arizona desert for over 1,000 years.

For more information, visit zionguide.com, visitsouthernutah.com, and fredoniaaz.net.

Mesquite




Although it's in Nevada, the city of Mesquite is only 80 miles from Zion National Park. Simply head east on State Route 9, then take I-15 south. Situated directly between St. George and Las Vegas, Mesquite offers all of the amenities and entertainment found in Vegas with none of the traffic, crime, or pollution. For a town of only about 18,000, Mesquite has a lot going on.

CasaBlanca Resort is a hotel, casino, golf course, RV park, and performance venue rolled into one. Its free Summerpalooza event series hosts poolside concerts featuring the best Vegas talent, and the CasaBlanca Showroom regularly houses some of Sin City's best tribute acts — not to mention an annual Elvis impersonator contest.


Eureka Casino Resort is another golfing and gambling destination in Mesquite. It operates the Rising Star Sports Ranch, which is home to Mesquite's NABP League basketball team, the Nevada Desert Dogs.

For more information, visit mesquitenv.gov or mesquitenvchamber.com.




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Zion Area Town & Cities

Mt. Carmel, Glendale, and Orderville



The towns of Mt. Carmel, Glendale and Orderville are east of Zion National Park and north of Kanab and are collectively referred to as Long Valley. These towns are very small. However, being centrally located, they serve as waystations for those traveling to Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Bryce Canyon, Kodachrome State Park, or the Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park.

This area is a little off the beaten path, so venturing into Long Valley immerses one in the resplendence of some of Utah's most untouched outdoor beauty. The three towns are located on Scenic Highway 89, part of the Utah Heritage Highway 89. Opportunities abound for hiking, boating, camping, and more. There are inns, cabins, and lodges in the area for those looking for a place to rest, and the Thunderbird Lodge offers not only rooms but the Thunderbird Golf Course and the Thunderbird Restaurant.

For more information, visit visitsouthernutah.com/glendale-orderville or zionguide.com

St. George



St. George can be reached by traveling 56 miles west on State Route 9 from Zion National Park's south entrance. With a population of nearly 85,000 people, it is the largest city within 100 miles of Zion. Before it was settled, the area was home to Ancestral Puebloans — forbears of the modern Hopi, Zuni, Pueblo, and Southern Paiute nations.

The St. George area is a destination

for rock climbers, boulderers, and mountain bikers. It offers multiple golf courses and spas as well as opportunities for boating, fishing, horseback or ATV riding, and myriad other outdoor activities.

Snow Canyon State Park and the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve are both located near St. George, and each offers its own unique scenery that's a bit different from that in Zion.

There are often theatrical offerings from local companies including Tuacahn, The Stage Door, The Space Between, and Brigham's Playhouse. Kayenta Art Village and Dixie State University also frequently host concerts, plays, and other cultural events throughout the year.

The St. George Children's Museum is conveniently located downtown right next to both St. George's largest splash pad and another interactive water feature for kids and adults alike — which can be a fun relief from the desert heat. The children's museum does not charge admission (although donations are accepted) and houses exciting kids' activities including a performers' stage, a medieval dress-up area, full-body interactive video games, a dinosaur room, a physics experiment room, and much more.

The Dinosaur Discovery Site is an all-ages dinosaur museum. Located at Johnson Farm, it boasts genuine dinosaur tracks found on site where they are safeguarded, maintained, and on display for the public.

There are numerous art galleries

throughout the St. George area. Of note are Arrowhead ETC, located downtown next to the Electric Theater, and the St. George Art Museum, which houses everything from abstract art to desert landscapes in a variety of media ranging from sculpture to paintings, photography, and beyond.

The Red Hills Desert Garden offers a sampling of native flora set amidst a small outdoor aquarium that is host to several species of native fish. It is set adjacent to one of St. George's most popular hiking and scrambling areas, Pioneer Park, from which one can take in breathtaking views of the entire city.

St. George is also home to over 30 excellent and well maintained public parks. Local favorites include the newly-renovated Vernon Worthen Park and Thunder Junction, which features a train ride, permanent metallophones, and a huge volcano that "erupts." Find a full list at sgcity.org, and visit visitstgeorge.com and stgeorgechamber.com for more ideas for local recreation.

Springdale



Springdale sits at the south entrance to Zion National Park, and

unless patrons enter through the east entrance, they must travel through it to reach the park.

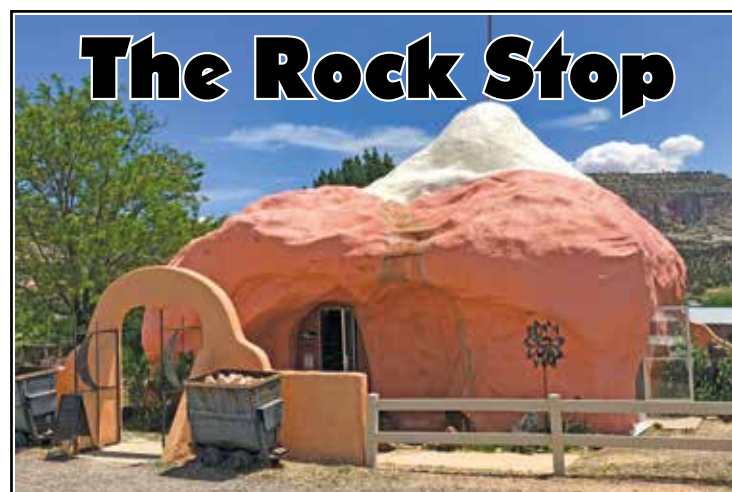
While Zion National Park is a national tourist attraction, locals often come to Springdale just for the high-quality restaurants, and the Bit and Spur Saloon is one of few southern Utah venues that consistently attracts touring bands. Locals also routinely come from Cedar City and St. George simply to enjoy Springdale's top-notch spas, inns, and hotels.

From the Conviction Stout and Springdale Amber to the Ascender Hefeweizen and Zion Pale Ale, The Zion Brew Pub offers seasonal and flagship brews freshly concocted by the Zion Brewery, southern Utah's craft brewery. With an authentic wood-paneled pub feel indoors, the pub also regularly features frequent live music outdoors on the patio — right next to the Virgin River and backed by the grandeur of the canyon walls.

The O. C. Tanner Amphitheater is home to the annual Zion Canyon Music Festival in late September and provides a venue for other festivals and performances as well. For a schedule of events, visit octannershows.com.

For more information on what's going on in Springdale, visit springdaletown.com or zionguide.com.

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LOCALS' GUIDE TO HIKING PREPAREDNESS

National parks are seeing an uptick in helicopters carrying unfortunate hikers out of precarious situations.

In the past decade the number of incidents requiring search and rescue or medical treatment increased much faster than the increase in visitorship. The majority of those rescues occurred in Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks, and most hikers who end up getting into trouble are either in their 20s or are older than 60.

Despite our highly skilled and dedicated rescue teams' valiant efforts, not everyone made it out of their predicaments safely. Twelve people lost their lives in Utah's national parks in 2017 alone.

It's hard to imagine one wanting a vacation amid the splendor of our national parks to involve search and rescue teams or a close encounter with death.

Zion National Park is often referred to as an outdoor Disneyland. But this is the wilderness, and it's far less forgiving than any theme park. Here are some tips for how to safely enjoy your time in Zion Canyon.

Bring water

You lose more water through perspiration than you realize, and if you are used to a more moist climate — and nearly any climate is less arid than southern Utah — you can become dehydrated quickly without realizing it.

The National Park Service recommends that hikers bring one gallon of water per hiker per day. There are fill stations throughout Springdale and the park that provided filtered water at no charge.

Natural water sources in the park such as creeks and streams are not reliable sources of clean drinking water. If you find yourself in a situation wherein you need water but have none, it is strongly advised that any locally-sourced water intended for consumption first be filtered, boiled for at least 10 minutes, or treated with iodine before consuming.



Wear appropriate clothing

While most paths and trails are well maintained, this is the great outdoors, and a little loose gravel or slickrock can lead to injury — or worse. Think of appropriate footwear as an insurance policy — and if you are a little nervous, a hiking stick never hurts. Also, dress lightly if it's going to be hot, but be sure to use appropriate sun protection like sunscreen and large-brimmed hats, because suffering from sunstroke or severe sunburn during an already taxing hike can be brutal.

Hike at your skill level, and don't take risks

Trails in Zion range from short and easy to long and challenging. Don't overestimate your ability and endurance level. And don't engage in horseplay or other activity that might endanger yourself or others. Some of Zion's hikes are steep, and you wouldn't be the first

person to tumble down a hill — or worse, fall off a cliff. Zion is beautiful, but it's also dangerous, so respect yourself and others by respecting the terrain.

Leave wildlife alone

Animals instinctively avoid humans, but the area is home to everything from poisonous snakes to mountain lions. Never approach local wildlife — and never try to feed them. This can result in injury to visitors, and numerous visitors have required stitches after attempting to hand-feed animals. But when humans feed wildlife, it's also not good for the animals, who are already best suited to feed themselves.

Hike sober

Sometimes relatively stationary outdoor activities like boating or camping involve enjoying an adult beverage or two. But when you're hiking the varied terrain of our national parks, you don't want your coordination, balance, or judgment to be impaired to any extent. Zion Canyon, Springdale, and Kanab are home to several fine restaurants and bars — but visit them for a cocktail after your hike, not before.

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Zion Area Annual Events Calendar

Currently, some events are canceled or postponed due to the Covid19 pandemic. Please check before attending any events.

April Washington County Fair
Parade, Rides, Rodeo, Concerts, and so much more! Legacy Park, 5500 W. 700 S., Hurricane.

May Kanab 10K
A beautiful course sanctioned by USA Track and Field along Hwy 89 from Moqui Cave to the Kanab City Park.

May Amazing Earthfest
Southern Utah's festival of learning, arts, and outdoor adventure.

June Jacob Hamblin Days Festival
A fun festival to celebrate the pioneer and Western heritage of Kanab and Kane County.

July Kanab 4th of July Celebration
Celebrate the nation's Independence Day small-town style in charming Kanab, Utah! Parade, vendors, entertainment and festivities throughout the day into the evening.

July Springdale 4th of July Celebration
Celebrate Independence Day with the Springdale community. Kick off with a parade followed by a barbecue, live music and activities for the whole family to enjoy.

July 24th of July Celebration
Celebrate the state of Utah with a pioneer dinner. Get ready for the fourth annual Kabob-a-Que.

August Symphony at the Grand Canyon
Symphony of the Canyons performs on the patio at the North Rim Lodge. Bring a picnic dinner and listen as the sun sets over the Grand Canyon.

August Kane County Fair
Offering many wonderful events for the whole family. Most of the events are free so dont miss out.

August Western Legends Round-up
Kanab's celebration of film, music, poetry, and Western heritage.

September Big Water Dinosaur Festival
Celebrating past and present dinosaur discoveries in the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument.

September Demolition Derby
Cars, trucks and "figure 8s" with up to 18 cars demolition derby with events for the entire family, including the Power Wheels Derby for kids and the wife-carrying contest!

September Carmel Mtn. Music and Art Festival and Car Show
Check out fancy cars and enjoy live entertainment, vendors, food and kid-friendly activities.

September Glendale Heritage Apple Festival
The Glendale Heritage Apple Festival was started to celebrate Pioneer Heritage and the many talents that are in this small town.

September Duck Creek End of Summer Bash
6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Duck on In Saloon in Duck Creek Village. Come spend your Labor Day Weekend in Duck Creek enjoying live music.

September Zion Canyon Music Festival
Enjoy the beautiful fall season in Zion as the canyon is filled with music. The Zion Canyon Music Festival features music, art and an exquisite backdrop.

October Red Rocktoberfest
Art, food, live music and poetry, dancing, wagon rides, photography, games and activities for the kids, all on the main drag in Kanab. German food.

October Zion Rocktoberfest
Celebrate the start of fall in Zion mixed with traditional Oktoberfest aspects. The event will feature live rock and folk music and many other activities.

Nov.-Dec. Zion Joy to the World
Enjoy a wonderland of events in a weekend celebrating winter. Be a part of a community tree lighting, craft fairs, musical events and the fourth annual Light Parade.

November Butch Cassidy 10K Run
This 10K/5K scenic race brings together community, and not just with running. Stay after for some Grafton fun with what is promised to be a party.

November K-town Turkey Trot 5K
Taking place in Kanab on Thanksgiving morning, bring the whole family for this early morning fun run/ walk to make room for that delicious dinner later in the day!

November Plein Air Art Invitational
Be a part of a week of lectures and demonstrations from some of the finest plein air artists in the country. Enjoy painting sales, exhibits and workshops.

November Christmas Light Parade and Festival
An annual light parade on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Gourmet s'mores school held on Main Street followed by music, caroling, hot cocoa and a wishing lantern launch.

November Zion Canyon Arts and Crafts Fair
Visit Zion for the 26th annual arts and crafts fair put on by Z-Arts. Spend the weekend touring the different vendors and craft booths.

December Windsor Castle by Night
Held at historic Pipe Springs National Monument, the Castle by Night is an opportunity to enjoy a historic recreation of an 1860's early settlement by candlelight and music.

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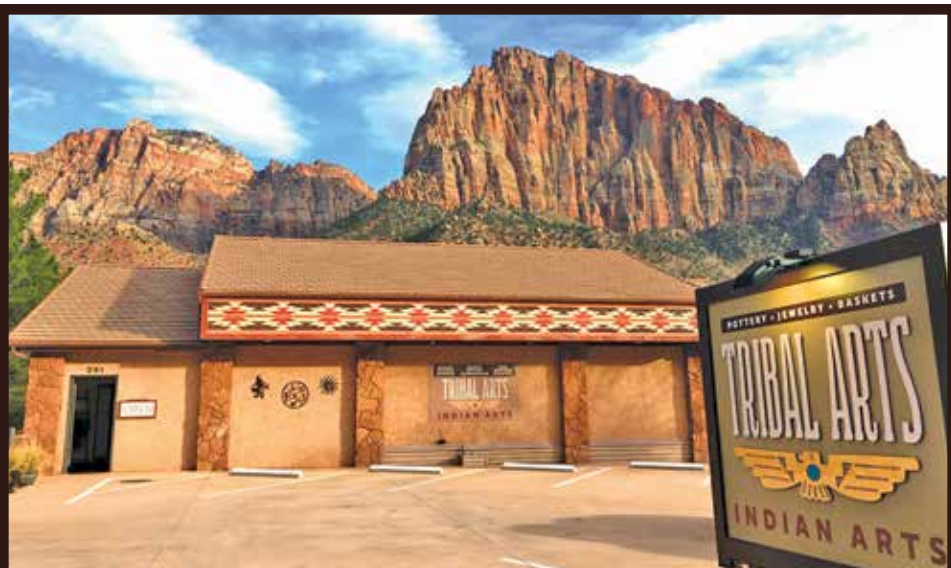
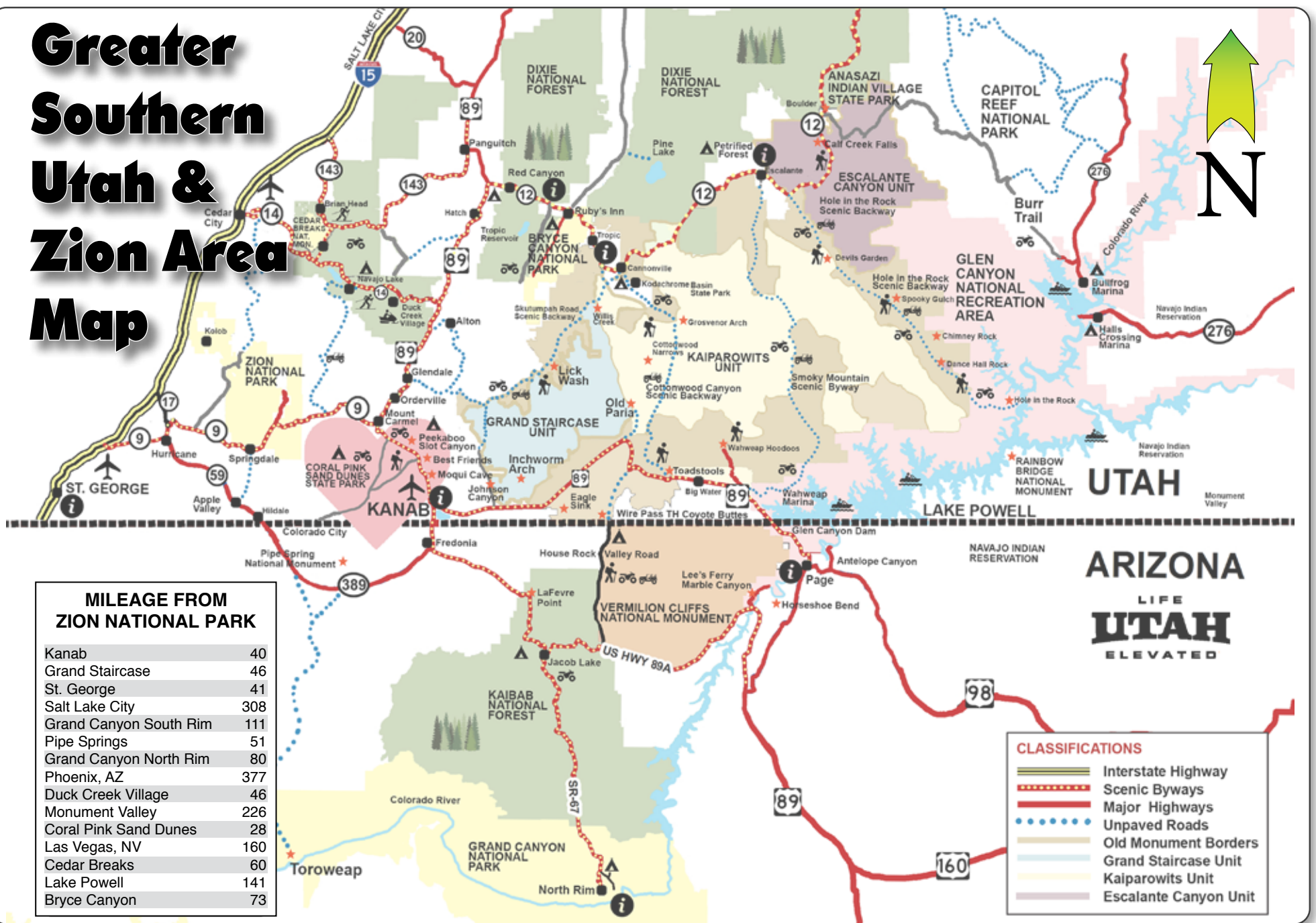
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ANASAZI STATE PARK MUSEUM - This ancient Indian village in the heart of Utah's canyon country was one of the largest Anasazi communities west of the Colorado River. The site is believed to have been occupied from A.D. 1050 to 1200. The village remains largely unexcavated, but many artifacts have been uncovered and are on display in the newly remodeled museum. Anasazi State Park is in the picturesque town of Boulder on State Route 12. Group and individual picnic areas are available. There is no camping. (435) 335-7308.

BAKER - Baker Reservoir is a small lake on the Santa Clara River four miles north of Veyo on Utah State Route 18. It is a 63-acre lake with an average depth of about 20 feet. Many people come to the reservoir to camp at one of its 10 campsites and to fish. The reservoir is stocked with rainbow trout and contains brown trout, green sunfish, crayfish, redbreasted shiner, and mountain sucker. It has picnic areas and vault toilets. There is a fee for visiting the reservoir and no boat ramp.

BYRCE CANYON - Bryce Canyon National Park is a scientist's laboratory and a child's playground. Because Bryce transcends 2,000 feet of elevation, the park exists in three distinct climatic zones: spruce/fir forest, ponderosa pine forest and pinon pine/juniper forest. This diversity of habitat provides for high biodiversity. Here at Bryce, you can enjoy over 100 species of birds, dozens of mammals, and more than a thousand plant species. (435) 834-5322.

CEDAR BREAKS - Sitting at over 10,000 feet and looking down into a half-mile deep geologic amphitheater. Come wander among timeless bristlecone pines, stand in lush meadows of wildflowers, ponder crystal-clear night skies and experience the richness of our subalpine forest. Just four miles off Utah Highway 148, you'll find the Cedar Breaks National Monument parking lot.



CORAL PINK SAND DUNES - At an elevation of 6,000 feet and 12 paved miles off U.S. Highway 89 near Kanab, this park provides a fantastic setting for camping, hiking, OHV riding or just playing in the sand. A 265-acre conservation area prohibits motorized vehicles in order to protect the Coral Pink beetle (found nowhere else in the world) and its habitat. The mule deer, jackrabbit, kit fox, coyote, and many small rodents also make the park their home. (435) 648-2800.

DEAD HORSE POINT - Dead Horse Point State Park is perhaps Utah's most spectacular state park. Dead Horse Point is a promontory of stone surrounded by steep cliffs near Moab. The overlook at Dead Horse Point is 6,000 feet above sea level. Two-thousand feet below, the Colorado River winds its way from the continental divide in Colorado to the Gulf of California, a distance of 1,400 miles. (435) 259-2614.

DINOSAUR TRACKS - The St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm is home to exceptionally well-preserved dinosaur tracks, some displaying skin impressions. These tracks, along with hundreds of fossil fish, plants, rare dinosaur remains, invertebrates' traces, and important sedimentary structures, show evidence that this site was produced along the western edge of a large, Early Jurassic (age between 195-198 million years ago) freshwater lake. (435) 574-3466.

ENTERPRISE - There are two reservoirs in the Bull Valley Mountains 10 miles southwest of the town of Enterprise. The main one is Upper Enterprise Reservoir, about 250 acres with an average depth of about 50 feet, while Lower Enterprise Reservoir is 79 acres. Many come to the reservoir to camp, fish hike, and boat. The Honeycomb Campground is situated between both lakes and has 21 campsites and flush toilets. There is a boat ramp on Upper Enterprise Reservoir and several fishing areas around both reservoirs. Fishermen will find rainbow trout and smallmouth bass here. Fees are charged.



FOUR CORNERS - The Four Corners is the only place in the U.S. where four states come together at one place: Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. Here, a person can put each of their hands and feet in four states at the same time. The unique landmark is on Navajo Nation land and is open for visits from the public. West of U.S. Highway 160, 40 miles southwest of Cortez, Colo. (928) 871-6436.

GRAND CANYON - A World Heritage Site encompassing 1,218,375 acres on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona. The land is semi-arid and consists of raised plateaus and structural basins typical of the southwestern United States. (928) 638-7888.

GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT - Nearly 1.9 million acres of America's public lands and located between Bryce Canyon and Glen Canyon Recreational Areas. From its namesake Grand Staircase of cliffs and terraces across the rugged Kaiparowits Plateau to the beauty of the Escalante River Canyons, the Monument's size, resources, and isolated location provide amazing opportunities.

GUNLOCK - In scenic red rock country, 15 miles northwest of St. George, lies the 240-acre Gunlock State Park and Reservoir where year-round boating, water sports, and quality fishing for bass and catfish attract visitors. Facilities include boat launching ramp and pit privies. (435) 628-2255.

LAKE MEAD - Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a wealth of things to do and places to go year-round. Its huge lakes cater to boaters, swimmers, sunbathers and fishermen, while its desert rewards hikers, wildlife photographers, and roadside sightseers. It is also home to thousands of desert plants and animals adapted to survive in an extreme place where rain is scarce and temperatures soar. (702) 293-8990.

LAKE POWELL - In Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is one of the world's great places for houseboating! The 186-mile-long lake offers sandy beaches, cool blue water, and exceptional red-rock scenery. It is excellent for boating, skiing, kayaking, and fishing. Boat or hike to Rainbow Bridge, or explore any of its many canyons or sand dunes. (928) 608-6200.

PINE VALLEY - Pine Valley Reservoir is a beautiful place for fishermen to fish brook trout and rainbow trout. The reservoir is near the Pine Valley Recreation Complex, which has over 150 campsites with picnic and restroom facilities. This area is greener than most other parts of southwestern Utah with pine and pinon trees, and many come to enjoy camping and hiking. It is west of the town of Central. (435) 652-3100.

QUAIL LAKE - Quail Creek State Park provides excellent year-round camping, picnicking, boating, and trout and bass fishing in sunny southwest Utah. The park is three miles east of the Interstate 15 Hurricane exit on Utah State Route 9. Facilities include 23 campsites, modern restrooms, a fish cleaning station, and two covered group-use pavilions. (435) 879-2378.

SAND HOLLOW - Looking to fish? Swim? Ride your ATV in the sand? Do all that and more at Sand Hollow State Park, located between St. George and Hurricane. Bring your boat, a picnic, and some fishing gear for a fun day on the reservoir, or watch the kids swim while you relax on the beach. Load up your RV or tent and settle in for a nice campout, or ride your ATV in the dunes of Sand Mountain. (435) 680-0715.



SNOW CANYON - Named after early Utah leaders Lorenzo and Erastus Snow, Snow Canyon State Park begins just outside of Ivins and stretches northward. Spectacular scenery includes towering red and white sandstone cliffs, black lava formations, and even a waterfall that appears during heavy rain. Snow Canyon offers 16 miles of hiking trails, beautiful sand dunes, technical rock climbing sites, horseback riding, year-round camping, nature studies, and wildlife viewing. This park is a favorite for locals and visitors alike. (435) 628-2255.

ZION - With breathtaking views, numerous hiking attractions of all difficulty levels and some of the most spectacular scenery on earth, Zion National Park and its surrounding areas attract thousands of visitors every year. This natural wonder is not only a mecca of recreational activity, but Zion and nearby Springdale host numerous cultural activities, as well. There's something for everyone in Zion - whether you're looking for a challenging hike or a fun excursion for the family. (435) 772-3256.



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Trail Closures (as of March 1 '20)

The Weeping Rock Trail, Hidden Canyon Trail, and Observation Point Trail (East Rim from Weeping Rock) are closed due to rockfall damage. These closures are indefinite at this time. Lower Emerald Pools Trail is closed for trail repairs until Spring 2020.

Hiking is popular in Zion National Park, and popular hikes are seeing record visitation at peak days and times. For a less congested trek, consider these less-traveled hikes.

Northgate Peaks

By Don Gilman

The Northgate Peaks trail in the Kolob Terrace section of Zion National Park is an amazing trail with spectacular views. The trail itself is nearly flat, making it a perfect hike for families.

To reach the Northgate Peaks trailhead, take State Route 9 to the town of Virgin. Turn left onto Kolob Terrace Road. Drive for 15.7 miles through increasingly spectacular country until the short spur road (on the right) for the Wildcat Trailhead is reached. Drive a few hundred feet to the large parking area.

The trail heads east across grassy plains and stands of Ponderosa Pine with dynamite views of the towering Pine Valley Peak to the west. Soon the trail will be fully in the forest with limited views. After 0.9 miles, the junction with the Hop Valley trail is reached. Continue east, and 0.1 miles further, the junction with the Northgate Peaks Trail is reached. Head south on this trail for another 1.1 miles until the end of the official trail is reached at a rocky basalt bluff with epic views of the Northgate Peaks to the east and west and of North Guardian Angel to the south.

For families with young children, this makes an excellent turnaround spot.

Gifford Canyon

By Bo Beck

Gifford Canyon offers a nice stroll through a sandy wash and is very charming when water is running. This hike is nearly 3 miles long and will take about 2 hours to finish.

To start this hike, park in the lot located immediately east of the Zion/Mt. Carmel Tunnel. The trail begins at the backside of the restrooms at the back of the parking lot. There will be a steep, sandy path to climb down before you enter Pine Creek slot. Follow the path upstream for almost 75 feet, and look for a 15-foot wall of slickrock. You can scramble up the rock or look for the beaten path on the backside of the rock.

On top of this wall is a narrow dirt path that is crowded by rock and vegetation. It winds around the mountain to a dead end with a beautiful view of the mountain where the Canyon Overlook Trail is located, opposite is Gifford Canyon.

The path will lead past stone bridge and to another minor slickrock climb. At the end of the canyon, there is a circle of cliffs preventing further exploration without climbing up the sandstone.



Chinle Trail, photo by Doug Dolde

Chinle Trail

By Greta Hyland

Chinle Trail is an off-the-beaten-path trail located in the lower elevation west desert wilderness area, offering wide vistas, desert landscapes, and a reprieve from the more touristy trails in the park. Though it's a long trail, it's a mellow hike that can be cut off whenever you feel like turning around. It's a great hike with kids because it's not treacherous, slippery, or steep. Avoid it after snow or rain as it will be muddy.

The Chinle Trailhead starts outside of Zion, south of Springdale. If you are coming from St. George, the turn is about a block before you hit the apple orchard and stand as you leave Rockville off of State Route 9. There is a parking area off the right of Anasazi Way near the Anasazi Plateau housing development. If you hit houses, you missed it. And yes, the trail starts below the housing development and takes you right through it. Don't worry though, it doesn't

last long.

Shortly after you get through the housing development, you will hit a sign letting you know you are entering the Zion Wilderness. At this point, you can breathe a sigh of relief, because you have gotten away from civilization to enjoy nature, and chances are that you won't see another soul until you return to your car.

Many Pools

By Candice Reed

The route is moderate with a gentle uphill climb to an alcove, but plan for a strenuous hike if you continue to the East Rim.

The route begins right off the highway. Drive to the pullout near the second drainage on the north side of the State Route 9, about 0.8 miles after the smaller tunnel. Walk carefully along the road about 150 yards and drop down into a sandy bowl on the north side of SR-9. There is a trail for a short distance, and then the sand turns into large

flat stones that you can pick and choose to walk on, depending on your sense of balance. A short distance off the road, filled pools carved into the rocks appear. Ponderosa Pines and Juniper trees twisted by the wind are a good backdrop to the reds and whites ribboned through the rocks.

Hidden Canyon

By Bo Beck and Tanya Milligan

Hidden Canyon features steep ascents, narrow foot paths, and switchbacks on a narrow cliffside with exposure at high elevations. Some parts have chains to use for assistance. Be cautious near slippery sandstone areas with steep dropoffs. Expect full sun in most places after the early morning. Once you are into the canyon, it is shady and surprisingly cool.

This impressive 2.2-mile roundtrip hike begins at the same busy trailhead as Weeping Rock, Observation Point, and the East Rim. Begin at the Weeping Rock Trailhead, which quickly splits to the left. The trail you want to follow bears right toward the East Rim, Observation Point, and Hidden Canyon. Watch for a sign that indicates the direction to Hidden Canyon.

A well-traveled path takes trekkers between sheer sandstone walls rising up hundreds of feet, made up by some of Zion's most famous landmarks: Cable Mountain and the Great White Throne. Once beyond the end of the actual trail and into the slot canyon, look for small sandstone caves and a 20-foot long arch. Be careful to only explore as far as you know is safe for you! Few should ever venture past the freestanding arch.

Sandstone pools at the end of this hike are a favorite spot of the delightful and boisterous canyon tree frogs. Look for the tiny gray creatures near the water, and listen for their loud trilling. Past the pools is the end of the Hidden Canyon Trail.

Overlook Trail

By Charlotte Emett

The Overlook Trail is a short, beautiful hike located on the east side of Zion National Park, just outside the Mt. Carmel tunnel. The hike is about one mile roundtrip, and it usually takes people about an hour. It is definitely one of the easier hikes in Zion, but it's still considered a moderate-level hike due to a few exposed areas and sandstone pathways, which can be slippery.

The Overlook trailhead lies right outside of the Mt. Carmel tunnel by the ranger booth. Exit the tunnel too quickly and you'll miss it.

It begins with a staircase carved out of the sandstone leading up and away from the road. Soon, you'll be walking along the side of the mountain and looking down into a thin crevice known as Pine Creek Canyon. At about halfway, you'll walk across a bridge that wraps around a corner and leads to an area of recessed rock wet with the moisture that caused it to erode and be filled with ferns growing out of the sandstone.

Please check with nps.gov for current conditions, restrictions, and access. Be careful and have fun!



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Trail Closures (as of March 1 '20)

The Weeping Rock Trail, Hidden Canyon Trail, and Observation Point Trail (East Rim from Weeping Rock) are closed due to rockfall damage. These closures are indefinite at this time.

Warning: These hikes are very popular and often overcrowded. While they are well worth doing, expect them to be a little congested.

If you are feeling up to some of the more **difficult** hikes, try some of these popular hikes.

Angels Landing via West Rim Trail

Possibly the most popular hike in Zion, Angels Landing takes around four hours to complete and covers just under 5 1/2 miles. As you work your way up the 1,488-foot change in elevation, you'll want to look out for long drop-offs. This hike is not for young children or people with a fear of heights. Be sure to enjoy, but be careful along the last section of the hike, which is a steep, narrow ridge to the summit. The hike starts at The Grotto.

Observation Point via East Rim Trail

This hike climbs through Echo Canyon to a viewpoint of Zion Canyon and offers access to Cable Mountain, Deertrap, and East Mesa trails. Plan for at least half of a day as this hike takes around five hours to complete and stretches over 8 miles. The 2,148-foot change in elevation from start to finish has long drop-offs, so be careful. Like Hidden Canyon Trail, this hike starts at Weeping Rock.

The Narrows via Riverside Walk

A full-day hike at 8 hours, the Narrows can pose extra dangers depending on the weather. High water levels can prevent access to the Narrows, so be sure to check with the visitor center before beginning this 9 1/2-mile hike. You'll start this hike at Temple of Sinawava.

Kolob Arch via La Verkin Creek Trail

Getting to Kolob Arch via the La Verkin Creek Trail follows Timber and La Verkin creeks and connects to the trail to Kolob Arch, one of the world's largest freestanding arches. A full-day hike, it will take around 8 hours to finish the 14-fourteen mile trip. This hike starts at Kolob Canyons Road.

If you are looking for something more **moderate**, try some of these mid-range hikes.

Watchman Trail

Starting at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, this hike takes about two hours and covers just under 3 miles. The 368-foot elevation has some minor drop-offs and ends at a view point for Tower of the Virgin, lower Zion Canyon, and Springdale.

Middle Emerald Pools Trail

A two-hour hike, Middle Emerald Pools has long drop-offs. The unpaved trail to the Middle Emerald Pools has loose sand and slippery rocks. You'll cover two miles in 2 hours over the course of a 150-foot elevation gain. The hike starts at Zion Lodge.



"Observation Point Revisited" photo by David J West.

Upper Emerald Pool Trail

Starting at Zion Lodge, this is a shorter trail covering one mile in about an hour. You will rise 200-feet in elevation, and there are minor drop-offs.

Kayenta Trail

This two-hour hike starts at the Grotto and goes for two miles. You'll gain 150 feet in elevation, and the trail does have long drop-offs. This unpaved climb connects the Grotto to the Emerald Pools trails.

Canyon Overlook Trail

Starting at Zion-Mt. Carmel Highway, this one-hour hike provides a 163-foot gain in elevation over the course of a mile. This rocky and uneven trail ends at a viewpoint for Pine Creek Canyon and lower Zion Canyon. While this trail is mostly fenced, there are long drop-offs.

Taylor Creek Trail

You'll begin this five-mile hike at Kolob Canyons Road. It should take around 4 hours to complete and provides a 450-foot gain in elevation. Larger groups may need to split up, as this hike limits 12 people to a group. It follows the Middle Fork of Taylor Creek past two homestead cabins to Double Arch Alcove.

Timber Creek Overlook Trail

A quick hike, the Timber Creek Overlook Trail covers just one mile and 100 feet in elevation gain. It can be done in about 30 minutes. The trail follows a ridge to a small peak with views of Timber Creek, Kolob Terrace, and Pine Valley Mountains.

Trail is wheelchair accessible and is open to both bicycles and dogs.

Archeology Trail

Also starting at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, this short half-hour hike covers just under half a mile and rises 80 feet in elevation, making it a short but steep trail. This trail offers trailside exhibits and views of several prehistoric buildings.

Lower Emerald Pool Trail

This paved trail leads to the Lower Emerald Pool and waterfalls. It also connects to the Middle Emerald Pools Trail. It should take about an hour and covers just over one mile with 69 feet in elevation gain.

Grotto Trail

Starting at Zion Lodge or the Grotto, this trail connects the two locations and can be combined with the Middle Emerald Pools and Kayenta trails to create a 2 1/2-mile loop. The non-loop version should take about 30 minutes and rises 35 feet over one mile.

Weeping Rock Trail

A short but steep hike, the Weeping Rock Trail offers trailside exhibits. This paved trail ends at a rock alcove with dripping springs. It rises 98 feet over just under a half mile. It can be completed in about 30 minutes.

Riverside Walk

Starting at Temple of Sinawava, this 1 1/2-hour hike cover just over two miles and rises 57 feet in elevation. While it is wheelchair accessible, there are minor drop-offs. The trail, which is paved, offers trailside exhibits as it follows the Virgin Rivet along the bottom of a narrow canyon.

You can find lots more hiking and other visitor information at ZionGuide.com and SUindependent.com. Be sure to read our preparedness and safety article on page 24 in this issue before you start your trek. Be safe and have fun!

Those looking for something **less strenuous** should check out these easy hikes.

Pa'rus Trail

Starting at the Zion Canyon Visitor Center, this two-hour hike covers 3 1/2 miles and rises 50 feet in elevation. A paved trail that follows the Virgin River from the South Campground to Canyon Junction, Pa'rus

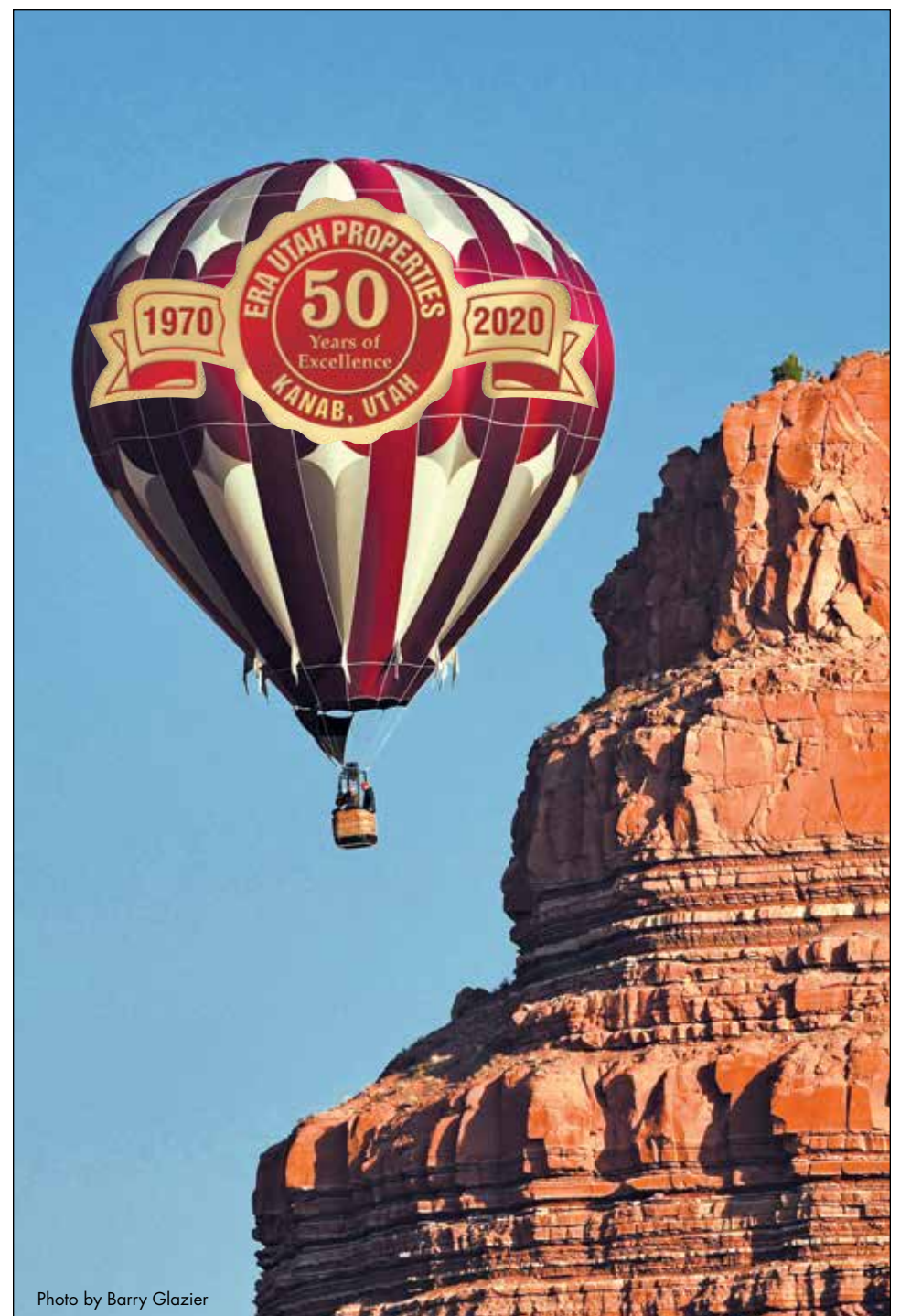


Photo by Barry Glazier

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- Jackson Flat Reservoir & Sherry Belle Trail
- Family History Center
- Heritage House
- Kanab Heritage Museum
- Kanab City Library
- Grand Staircase Escalante Visitor Center

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EAST ZION & KANAB'S FEATURED RESTAURANTS FROM ZION GUIDE

Restaurants (Listed Alphabetically)	Address	Phone	Drinks/Vegan <i>(W)ine, (B)eer, (M)ixed Drinks, (E)spresso, (V)egan items on menu</i>	Hours	WI-FI
15 Asava Juice & Smoothies.....	176 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-2637	V	9am-6pm Mon-Sun	Yes
12 Jakey Leigh's	4 E Center St, Kanab	(435) 644-8191	E, V	7am-2pm Mon-Fri, Sat & Sun 8am-Noon	Yes
7 Peekaboo Restaurant.....	233 W Center St, Kanab.....	(435) 689-1959	W, B, M, E, V	11:30am-2:30pm & 5-9pm daily	Yes
6 Segoe Restaurant	190 N 300 W, Kanab	(435) 644-5680	W, B, M, E, V	6-10pm Tues-Sat	Yes
16 Wild Thyme	198 S 100 E, Kanab.....	(435) 644-2848	W, B, M, V	5pm-9pm Tues-Sun	Yes
17 Willow Canyon Outdoor.....	263 S 100 E, Kanab.....	(435) 644-8884	E	7:30am-7pm daily	Yes

EAST ZION & KANAB'S FEATURED SERVICES, SHOPS & GALLERIES FROM ZION GUIDE

FOR EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

Services (Listed Alphabetically)

1 Best Friends Animal Sanctuary	5001 Angel Canyon Rd, Kanab	(435) 644-2001
27 Blacksmith Adventures	2450 South Hwy 89, Kanab	(575) 313-4650
5 The Canyons Collection	190 N 300 W, Kanab	(435) 644-8660
24 Dreamland Safari Tours	Serving the greater Kanab area	(435-644-5506
11 ERA Utah Properties	7 West Center, Kanab	(435-644-2606
25 GarKane Energy	1802 S Hwy 89A, Kanab	(435) 644-5026
13 Kanab City	37 North 100 East, Kanab	(435) 644-2534
9 Kanab Realty	93 West Center, Kanab	(435) 229-6911
14 Kane County Visitors Bureau	78 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-5033
23 Kanab Tour Company	681 Chnle Dr, Kanab	(435) 644-5525
1 Maynard Dixon Museum	2200 State St, Mt Carmel	(435) 648-2652
26 Red Rock Homes	1875 South Hwy 89, Kanab	(435) 644-3225

Shops (Listed Alphabetically)

18 Glazier's Market	264 S 100 E, Kanab	(435) 644-5029
22 Honey's Marketplace	260 E 300 S, Kanab	(435) 644-5877
8 Kanab Drug	176 W Center, Kanab	(435) 644-3401
11 Kanab Natural Market	11 W Center, Kanab	(435) 644-5575
4 Moqui Cave	4581 US-89	(435) 644-8525
29 Pioneer Creations	55 North Main, Fredonia	(928) 643-7020
10 Terry's Photo Shop	19 W Center St, Kanab	(435) 689-0443
1 The Rock Stop	385 W State St, Orderville	(435) 648-2747
2 White Mountain Trading Post	10 W Hwy 9, Mt Carmel	(435) 648-2030

To get your business on this map and directory please call Josh at 435-632-1555 for details.

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Amazing Earthfest - May
Sighthound Shivoo - May
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Summer Concerts - Summer
Jacob Hamblin Days - June
July 4th Celebration
Canyons Folk Festival - August
Western Legends - August
Red Rocktoberfest Art Walk - October



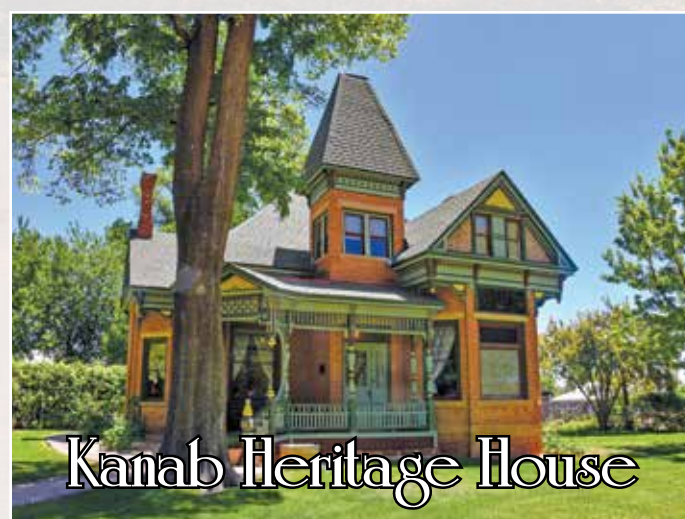
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- Jackson Flat Reservoir
- Jacob Hamblin Park



Seasonal Attractions

- The Splash Pad @ Hamblin Park
- Cowboy Watering Hole Pool
- Heritage Museum
- Heritage House Museum (See Below)



Kanab Heritage House

The Kanab Heritage House is a glimpse into the history of Kanab and it's people. Free guided tours Monday-Saturday.

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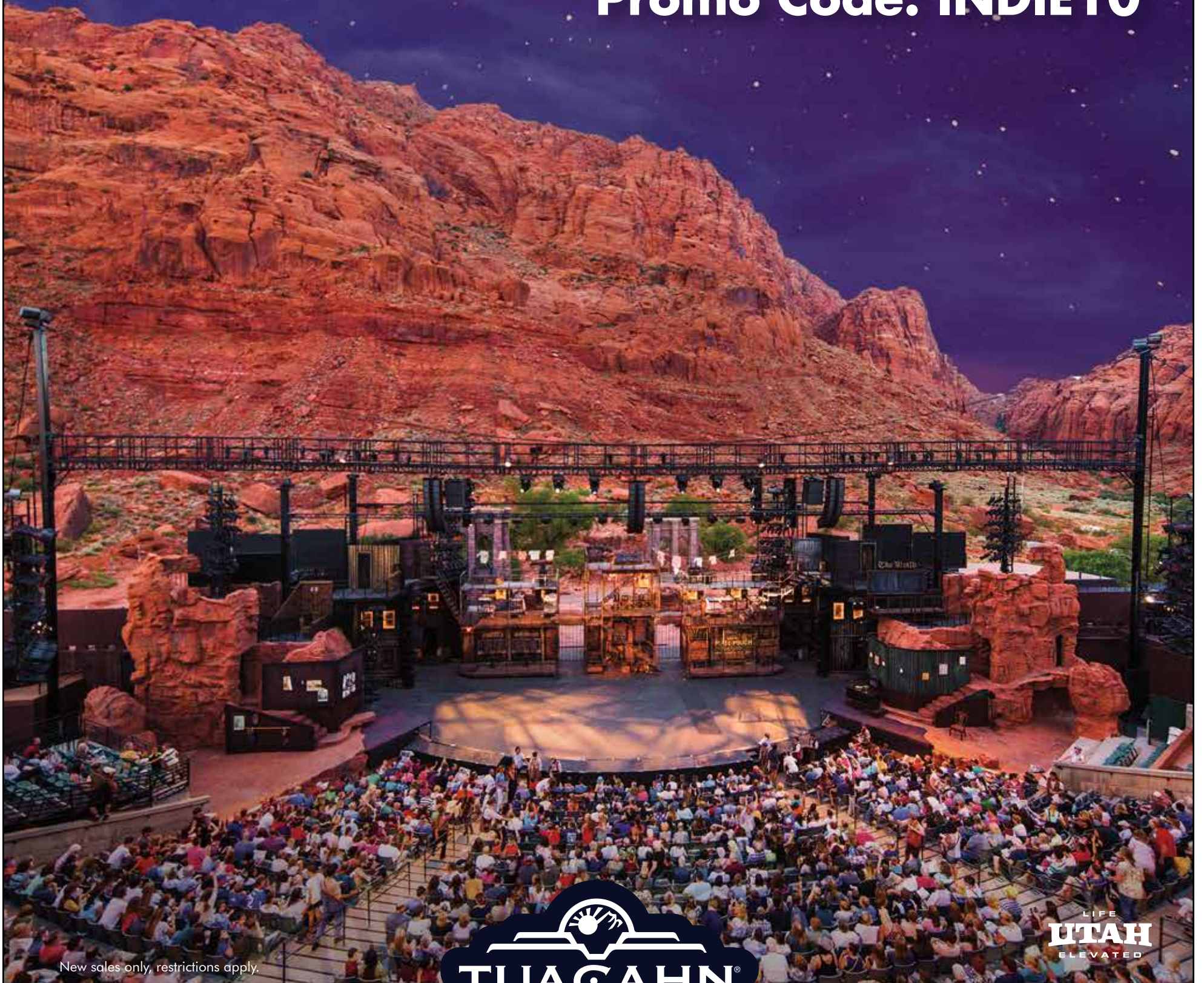
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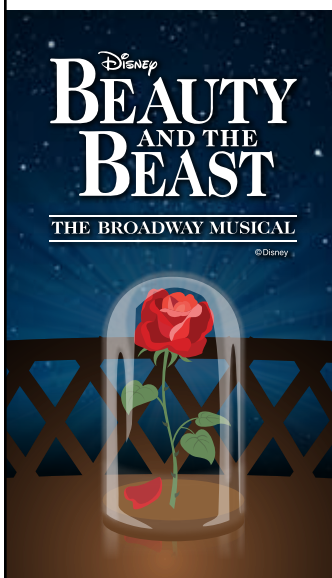
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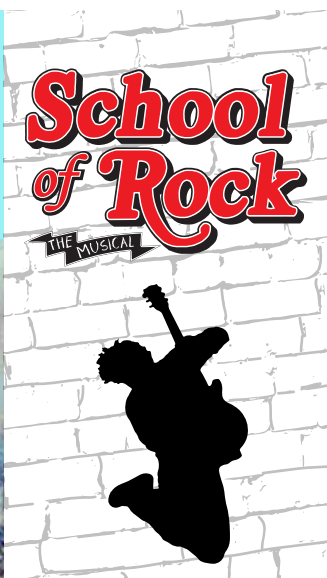
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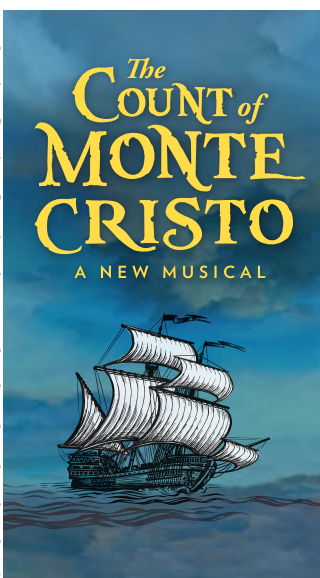
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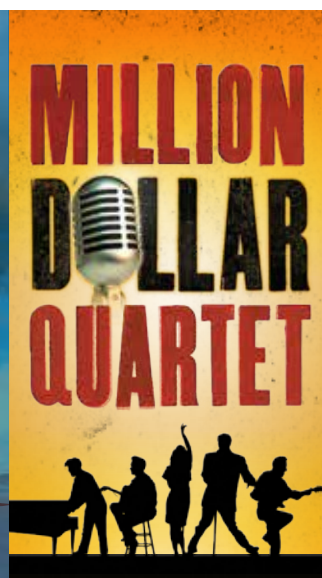
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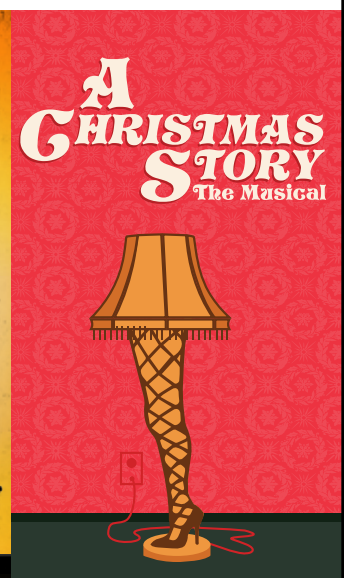
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